	Scrapbook No. 16 1947 – 1948
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2.	Buffalo Stamp Co. Re: Adams, thru the lines
3.	Dr. Ralph W. Payne Re: 3¢ 1851 reliefs
4.	Winthrop S. Boggs Re: 1847 Steel plates
5.	C.S. Hitchins Re: N.Y. Carrier cancel
6.	George A. Weiler Re: Envelopes, early uses
7.	Prescott H. Thorp Re: U.S. stamped envelopes
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10.	H.W. Stark Re: 10¢ 1855 block
11.	H.W. Stark Re: French rates
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17.	Clifford C. Cole, Jr. Re: Article in *Gossip*
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28.	H.L. Lindquist Re: Pony Expess, Lichtenstein collection
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40.	Col. Harrie S. Mueller

INDEXED

Feb. 6th, 1948.

Mr. Philip H. Ward, Jr.,
1616 Walnut St.,
Philadelphia 3, Pa.

Dear Phil:

I am in receipt of yours of the 3rd.

What is that old saying about people who live in glass houses shouldn't throw stones? I refer to your criticism of the Brookman book. You really should not criticise Les when you pulled one, which, in my opinion, is a darn sight worse. Your mention of careless reporting reminds me that the one you pulled in the current Mekeel's, (Feb. 2, 1948), is terrible. I refer to your comments on the 3¢ plus 1¢ compound. You quoted the remarks of the P.M.G. and added, quote:

"It will, therefore, be seen that the carrier fee paid the postage from the box to the post office. Many students are of the opinion that the fee could also pay for the carrier service from the post office to the addressee." (end)

Why may I ask, did you only quote a part of the remarks of the P.M.G.? Why didn't you quote all of his remarks on the compound? These remarks were contained in his annual report of 1860. If you haven't a copy of his report I suggest that you refer to the "Stamp Specialist" India Book, page 100. Read all of page 100 and especially note that P.M.G. Holt stated, in his comments on the 3¢ plus 1¢ compound:

"This envelope will also be used by those who, when addressing their city correspondents, desire to relieve them from payment of the carrier's fee for delivering their letters at their domicil."

You stated that "some students were of the opinion etc." That sort of reporting is sure terrible. In other words, if you are going to comment on such items as the "compound" don't you think that you owe it to your readers to give them the facts and not a lot of guess-work, especially when you have the facts right in your own library?

I'll wager that Perry got quite a kick when he read your stuff. No doubt he considered that you were in perfect agreement with his crack-pot ideas. What in the hell could be more absurd than a contention that the P.O.D. would permit a person to prepay a carrier fee to a post office, and refuse to permit the prepayment of the delivery fee from a post office to a street address?

You stated that you had never seen the compound used from any

office but New York. Well, you see, you are not posted on this subject, because uses are known from Baltimore, Boston and Chicago, and I have heard that uses have been reported in the past from Philadelphia and Washington, but I have never been able to locate any from the latter two offices.

Used and unused compounds show up in auctions every once in awhile and I suppose there has been a dozen or so in the past five years.

You also mentioned that you had never seen one used with adhesive stamps. My old friend Carhart had one and I had him buy it. It was in a Keffer sale back in 1941. It had a 1¢ 57 and two 3¢ 57 to California from New York (10¢ plus 1¢) - all stamps nicely tied by the Ocean Mail. I illustrated this cover in one of my articles on the 3¢ plus 1¢, but offhand I do not recall which article it was.

Now Phil, I advise you to go easy in criticising the Brookman book, because it is sometimes dangerous for people who live in glass houses to throw stones. If you want to pick on anyone, pick on lice like Konwiser and Steve Rich, and if you get real hard up, take a crack at Perry, but bear in mind that Les is a real guy and well liked and he has a host of friends all over the country.

What difference does it make if one does not receive proper credit for philatelic discoveries? Fifty years from now who will remember who discovered this or that? They will probably have no knowledge whatsoever as to who it was who really debunked the silly Luff fairy tale about the "Premieres Gravures" and had them removed from stamp catalogues. Few will recall that such things ever existed, much less that they sold for big money in the dim and distant past.

I note that ever so often you try to kid yourself that the "Premieres" are bound to recover in value. That sure is whistling in the dark, because I really doubt if few will want them after they are dropped from all the catalogues. Did you know that the first step in this direction will be taken by the British Gibbons catalogue?

With best regards -

Sincerely yours,

PRESIDENT
HARRY C. FLIERL
432 VERMONT ST.
VICE PRESIDENT
ROLLIN E. FLOWER
259 WARDMAN ROAD
KENMORE, N. Y.
SECRETARY-TREASURER
ROBERT H. ZAHM
134 W. EAGLE ST.

Buffalo Stamp Club

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

A. P. S. CHAPTER 37 A. P. S. LIFE CHAPTER 16

MEETS EVERY FRIDAY, 8:00 P. M. AT HOTEL STATLER

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
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DAI H. LEWIS JR.
JOHN B. MORTON
CAMILLE E. NEWMAN
ROBERT H. ZAHM

October 23rd.,1945

Dear Mr.Ashbrook:

I am enclosing three photos of covers I recently ran across,and thought you might be interested in them,and could tell me of their use.

Some time ago I had a stamped envelope cancelled "Louisville,July 23rd. 1861" used by the Adams Express Co.to carry mail across the lines from the North,and wondered if these were the same,but as they have no date on them I could not tell.

The one from the Manhattan Bank is on white paper,the other two are on buff.The Harnden's Express is a green cancellation,the other two are in black.

These came from the famous Cleage find made in Athens,Tenn.about 40 years ago.This man' grandson was a friend of mine,being a member of the Buffalo Stamp Club some years ago.He was a chemical engineer at one of the big dye plants here in Buffalo,and two years agomurdered his wife and son and killed himself here in this city.

If possible,I would appreciate your giving me the value of these covers, as I will offer them for sale.You need not return the photos as I have several sets.

Thanking you in advance,and with best personal regards,I remain

Sincerely yours

H. C. Flierl

124 Tillinghast Pl.

Buffalo 16,N.Y.

Oct. 24, 1945.

Mr. H. C. Flierl,
124 Tillinghast Place,
Buffalo 16, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Flierl:

Yours of the 23rd with the three photographs received.

These three covers represent items which were carried entirely outside of the mail by express. Thus they haven't the same philatelic interest as those that were carried partly by mail and partly by express.

Regarding the dates, about the only thing that we can be sure about is that the uses were subsequent to September 1860, because it was in that month that the Star Die envelopes were issued.

The cover with the corner card of the New York Bank shows a date of Jun 29 and I believe that this use was doubtless June 29, 1861. If so, then the letter was carried all the way from New York by Adams Express to Knoxville and by Adams from Knoxville to Athens, Tenn. The postal service between the north and south had been discontinued as of June 1, 1861, but carriage of mail by express was not ordered discontinued until the middle of August 1861.

It would be rather wild guessing to try to figure the dates of the other two covers but nevertheless I'll give you a couple of guesses. I think that the Dec 4 may have been Dec 4 1861 and the May 4, May 4, 1862.

By Act of the Confederate Congress, Express Companies were permitted to carry mail, "outside of the mail", and the only restriction was that the Express Companies account to a post office for postages that would have been charged had the letters been carried in the C.S.A. regular mail. I suppose both of the covers "May 4" and "Dec 4" contained valuable papers, hence were intrusted to the Adams Express Co., for delivery. The C.S.A. Postal System never had a Registration system. In the case of the two above covers the Star Die stamp had no significance whatsoever as I believe that both of these covers originated in the C.S.A. and were delivered in the C.S.A.

The other cover is different in this respect as it doubtless originated in Federal territory (the corner card is the

only proof) hence the Express Company complied with the Federal law in using a U. S. envelope.

In the case of the other two, the Star Dies were no longer of any value except as plain envelopes.

Regarding the "HARNDEN'S". As far as I am aware a Harnden marking is quite scarce. I have seen one of Savannah, but I never saw one of the Macon, Ga. office. However, in this respect may I modestly remark that there are countless philatelic items that I have never seen.

I happen to have a good friend who is interested in Express items and I believe he would be interested in buying these three covers. If these covers belonged to me and if I were pricing them to him, I believe I would make the figures as follows:

Cover June 29	$40.00
" May 4	20.00
" Dec. 4	10.00

If my ideas of value do not coincide with yours I'll be glad to mark them at your figures if you care to send them to me to submit to him.

In the "Stamp Specialist" - Black Book Edition - I illustrated and described some express covers in the Brooks collection. If you have a copy, note Fig. 13 on page 43. Here is a very valuable cover as it has one of the rare 10¢ Nashville P.M. Provisionals. However, this cover as well as the one as per Fig. 12 were both carried entirely outside of the mail. Covers that show the "Louisville" marking surely had a U. S. origin. These covers show how an accounting was made to the C.S.A. P.O.D., but your cover was a month earlier (?) and no doubt, just an "account" was kept of sums due. In other words, no memo of the Confederate postage was made on the envelope, unless the figures 35 over 1 might mean 10¢ for C.S.A. postage and 25¢ for the express fee. Naturally this is just a guess.

Note the Brooks cover - Fig. 12. Here was a single rate, and it has a small "2" in pen. This meant "two bits" or 25¢. (nigger talk). The other was a double, hence the "4" or four bits.

The Cleage find was a veritable gold mine and I have seen many a gem from that marvelous lot. I never heard of any the details as to who discovered the treasure and who distributed the lot.

So the grandson of old David Cleage had a very tragic end. How terrible.

Thanks so much for your kind letter.

I am leaving on Tuesday morning and will be away the balance of the week, just in case you would like to communicate with me

before I leave.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

~~PRESIDENT~~
HARRY C. FLIERL
~~452 VERMONT ST.~~

VICE PRESIDENT
ROLLIN E. FLOWER
259 WARDMAN ROAD
KENMORE, N. Y.

SECRETARY-TREASURER
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November 6th.,1945

Dear Mr.Ashbrook:

I received your kind letter regarding the three covers,and thank you very much for the information,and for your evaluation of them.I purposely refrained from writing you while at Chicago,as I knew you would be busy with other things.

We have had two offers from local collectors over the prices mentioned in your letter,and have decided to wait awhile before selling them, and expect to secure some more Confederate covers from a local collector.

Trusting that you had a pleasant time at the Chicago affair,and thanking you again for your information,I remain

Sincerely yours

H.C.Flierl

124 Tillinghast Place.

TRACY W. SIMPSON
783 N.W. EVERETT STREET
PORTLAND, OREGON

INDEXED

2903 Forest Ave.,
Berkeley, Calif.

(Date About 1937-or 1938)

Mr. Stanley Ashbrook,
Fort Mitchell, Ky.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

Mr. Jessup said that you had inquired of him what I thought about Mr. Perry's theory that the three reliefs for the 3c. 1851 were on one roller and that the upper one, the "C", was used as a guide for positioning the roller for rocking in the "A" and "B" directly below, by the plan of placing the "C" in the recess vacated by the last rocked "B" position.

So far as I have been able to determine, and I have not had time to check clear through on this, there is a great deal to support his opinion in the evidence of the stamps themselves. It is almost a certainty that Plate 6 was prepared in this way as it is evident that pressure was placed on the C relief to a reasonable degree, at least in some positions, because ALL of the misplaced C's that occur in the body of that plate -- there being 15 of them -- are in positions that normally would contain the B relief. It is therefore clear that it must have been used as a guide by having it entered in the last rocked B location. There are no C reliefs in places ordinarily occupied by A reliefs.

Plate 6 was the first of a group of plates that was made after the lapse of quite a while -- nearly a year after Plate 4 was made. It is not unreasonable to suppose that the maker forgot that pressure was not to be applied to the C, but he evidently remembered it in making the next plates 7 and 8 because there is only one "misplaced" relief C in the body of Plate 7 and none in Plate 8 -- and the one in Plate 7 is in a location ordinarily occupied by the B relief, as is to be expected. In fact of the 22 misplaced C reliefs that occur in the body of the plates, all but 2 occur in positions normally occupied by B reliefs. The two which do not conform are on Plate 5 (late state) and as this was a re-entry job the rule would not necessarily apply.

I have studied the vertical spacing of the bottom edge of the B reliefs to the top edge of the next below A reliefs and there is no lack of uniformity that cannot be explained by a slight rolling of the metal. The entire vertical spacing is so marvelous all through this set of plates that it is hard to conceive how it could be so good unless the C was on the same roller and was used as a guide -- no pressure being applied except by accident -or possibly due to forgetfulness in the single case of the numerous C's in the body of Plate 6. The relatively poor horizontal spacing was apparently due to the nature of the rolling process according to which it was difficult to get the roller started properly but it is still conceivable that the guide dots were made for the purpose of controlling horizontal spacing instead of vertical spacing as we have heretofore believed. In studying the vertical spacing, I have tried to see if it was any less uniform between the bottom of the B and the top of the A relief than between the bottom of the A and the top of the B and I find the former as as uniform as the latter. My multiple piece showing is not very great but I have plenty of singles in my reconstructed plates that show portion of next stamp so it was possible to make a fair check of all of the plates.

Sometime when you are writing to Mr. Jessup, the favor will be appreciated if you will let us know the present owner of the First Day Cover of the Three Cent, as illustrated. Leo Shaughnessy has a beauty with Hartford Magenta. Clara DeWindt has one, the nature of which I do not know. One was offered me last year but examination showedit to be a July 3 instead of a 1. Clara DeWindt's came from Goerner's lot when it was broken up. Dr. Chase lists 10 known covers.

Should you be interested in any late news as to the 3, Leo Shaughnessy located the missing link -- plate number 12, proving it to be of the Plate 10 group with discontinuous side lines. You may recall I have a fine cover showing orange brown shade of plate 3 dated Jan.17, '52 supporting Dr. Chase supposition as stated in his first paragraph on page 96 of his book. I sent this to you last year from Portland. My showing is very modest but I have had the good fortune to run on to a few things that are new,some of which Dr. Chase put in his book after the APS articles, and a few noted since, principally that 4 RO is a triple transfer, showing on early printed copies. This is verified by two copies in my collection and by two from elsewhere, though neither Cabeen or Shaughnessy have early enough copies to show more than a trace of it. I am not actively buying threes at the present time and I never did go for show multiple pieces preferring to reconstruct plates by comparison with Mr. Shaughnessy or Mr. Cabeen, but I am interest in knowing of any plate numbers that are for sale other than 2,3, and 4, though I would probably not buy them at present.

I appreciate your remembering me and inquiring in your letter to Mr. Jessup, and if I can be of any service to you at any time, I am yours to command.

Yours very truly

Tracy W. Simpson

DR. RALPH W. PAYNE
GREENFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook Feb-27-1947

Fort Thomas

Ky.

Dear Stan:

Made a rather interesting find last week. I call it "The Higginson" find.

Stephen Higginson of Boston was the Grandfather and the letters were addressed to him and to his family, Frank, later the Admiral, Louis and Anne.s.

Among the letters I found one that may interest you. It is a block of four 1c 61 margin copy, sent from Springfield Mass to Boston. Three of the four covered the rate and the forth is a carrier. The block is on the back of the cover and so is the Postmark and is beautifully tied with straight Paids.

Your article in the Stamp Specialist made me think you might be interested.

Dont think there are many blocks of four 1c 69s known on small covers.

Too bad that Mr. Lichtenstein had to go, he did a lot for Philately. Elliot Perry has lost a grand friend.

If you want to see the cover let me know.

Sincerely

"Doc" Payne

THE TRAVELERS
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT

FROM Doc Payne

TO Stan Ashbrook

SUBJECT:

Greenfield Mass
Mar-3d-1947
CITY OR TOWN

Dear Stan:

Hereis the cover. Of course this cover originated in Springfield. Notice the Paids, they are not Boston Paids as the other inclosed cover will show.

If you think you can use it or know of some one that can I want $125.00 for it.

Am writing this in haste so as to get it off to-night.

Sincerely
Doc Payne

The Travelers maintains in each branch office in the United States, under the jurisdiction of the Cashier, a **WAR SERVICE BUREAU** *to furnish information and render such assistance as may be possible in matters affecting the interests of our policyholders, employees and friends in military service, and their dependents at home.*

★

FOR COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN HOME OFFICE, BRANCHES AND AGENTS ONLY.

March 10, 1947.

Dr. Ralph W. Payne,
Greenfield, Mass.

Dear Doc:

Please pardon the delay in returning these two covers to you. Both are extremely interesting. I suppose that some might claim that the 4¢ was a prepaid Way into Springfield but I feel sure that it was a prepaid delivery in Boston.

Do you know whether the Royal Ins. Co. had an office in Springfield in 1862 or 1863? If so, it would be good evidence that the letter originated there.

I am sorry but I do not know of anyone at present who might be interested in acquiring this item. You are quite right, blocks of four used thus are very scarce.

Regarding the other cover - have you any idea where this originated?

It is quite odd and instead of being a 3¢ plus 1¢ I am wondering if it was not a 2¢ plus 2¢, that is, a prepaid Ship Drop? Origin unknown but brought into Boston by a private ship with the 2¢ ship fee and Drop rate prepaid. It looks very much like such an item and if so it is far more rare than a 3¢ plus 1¢.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

xxxxxxxxxxx 33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.,

Sept. 19, 1946.

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

Dear Win:

I have been studying your new book on Canada and I wish to sincerely congratulate you on such a fine piece of work. I can fully appreciate what an enormous amount of work this required and you have given the collectors of B.N.A. a truly wonderful book.

I would like further light on several subjects, hence please consider the following remarks as such and in no manner a criticism.

I believe that I am right in my conclusions and if I am wrong perhaps you can set me right.

First - Note Figures 15 and 16 in Volume #1 of your book, pages 67 and 68. What is the difference between these two? Why no stamp on one and a 10¢ 47 on the other? If a faker put two 10¢ stamps on cover #15 would it not be the same as cover #16? Figure #16 was a White cover and I always suspected the 10¢ stamp had been added and I still am of that opinion. I have a large photo of this particular cover and the 10¢ stamp is not tied. I also have a photo of an almost exact duplicate with date of use Sep. 10, 1847. This cover has a 10¢ 1847 in the upper right corner but it is also not tied. The cancel is a grid, evidently a U. S. marking.

On the White cover, the cancel is a 17 bar grid - 19½ MM with 1 MM spacing. I note that you state "16 lines grid." Karl Burroughs was the last person that I know of who owned the "White" cover. He wrote me back in 1942 that he thought it was genuine and that he had never seen a Dorwin (Box 160) that did not have 10¢ 1847 stamps. Your cover 15 is a Dorwin Box, but its date was June 4, 1847.

I have heard it stated in the past that it was Negren who had the Kennedy covers and it was Negren who was suspected of adding 10¢ 1847 stamps to a lot of them.

Have you ever seen a Box 160 cover with use after July 15, 1847 that did not have 10¢ 1847 stamps?

#2. Mr. Winthrop S. Boggs, Sept. 19, 1946.

In Vol. 2 - page 4 - D under #5 - in referring to the U.S.-British Treaty you stated that the articles arranging the details of the treaty were signed by the Earl of Clanricarde, (the British Minister), H. Bourne and Hobbie, etc. The fact is that Clanricarde was not the British Minister but rather the Postmaster General of Great Britain. S.R.Hobbie was the First Asst. P.M.G. of the U. S. and no doubt "H. Bourne" was the British Minister at Washington. The details for carrying the 1848 treaty into effect were signed by Hobbie and Bourne at Washington on May 14, 1849 and the agreement was "approved" by J. Collamer, the P.M.G. of the U. S.

The articles were ratified at London on May 31, 1849 and signed by "Clanricarde, Postmaster General." In this ratification it was stated that "Henry Bourne Esq" represented the British P.O.D. and signed the 24 additional articles on May 14, 1849. It is possible he was not a diplomat but merely a representative of the British Post Office Department.

In this connection you indicate that the articles XIII and XIV of the U.S.-British Treaty did not go into effect until "May 14, 1849" and I am wondering if you were under the impression that the treaty itself did not go into effect until that date. The fact is the treaty itself went into effect on February 15, 1849, and Article XXIII of the May 14, 1849 "Details" certainly did not carry into effect Articles XIII and XIV of the original 1849 treaty but on the contrary "postponed" the carrying into effect of these articles. You will find a notation in the official text of the "Details" opposite Article XXIII which reads:

"Articles XIII and XIV of the Convention of Dec. 15, 1848 postponed."

In my opinion these articles were postponed, and as far as I am aware were never actually put into effect, that is, in the exact intent of the original treaty. The reason was, because Canada's rates at that time were according to distance and if each country was entitled to the postage within its own borders, it was found impracticable to even attempt to put the articles in the original treaty into effect.

On page 52 - under Fifth, I think that you give the impression that Articles XIII and XIV were put into effect, whereas they actually were not. You stated, "Fifth, If between May 15, 1849 and April 5, 1851, inclusive, the letter could be prepaid through or not at all, etc."

Please note your second paraggraph on page45. I know of no arrangement whereby a person, for example, could have fully prepaid a letter to Montreal with

10¢ U. S. plus
4½ pence Canadian.

I know of no provision or exchange marking whereby the 4½ Canadian payment at New York could have been credited to the Canadian P.O.D.

#3. Mr. Winthrop S. Boggs, Sept. 19th, 1946.

I suppose it would have required entirely too much bookkeeping to figure out the credits on fully paid letters to all the post offices in Canada, hence the Articles XIII and XIV were never put into effect. It is true that a letter at that period from Montreal (for example) to the U. S. could have been fully prepaid by the use of a U. S. 10¢ 1847 stamp.

Further, I fail to note a single cover in your illustrations which shows a letter to Canada that was fully prepaid from the U. S. to destination in accordance with articles XIII and XIV of the 1849 U. S. - British Treaty.

One more point. Please note cover #34 on page 77. This cover changed hands thru me a year ago and the price was $1,350.00. For this reason I was rather chagrined to note the valuation that you placed on it. The owner of this cover informed me that he paid $1,000 for the cover many years ago. It is true that the cover was supposed to have sold in a Bartels sale some three or four years ago but it was a wash sale and the cover did not change hands. I consider this cover one of the rarest and most desirable of 5¢ 1847 covers and consider that as such it is not worth a penny less than $2,500. I sure would like to buy a dozen or two at your appraisal.

I will appreciate comments on the above. Incidentally I noted your remarks about the 1847 steel plates. I dare say that I have far more evidence on this subject than the guess work expressed by your friend "Doctor" Brazer. Why a book on Canada should discuss a very controversial subject on 19th U. S. is rather beyond my comprehension, but I suppose your remarks will please the great "Doctor."

Sincerely yours,

xxxxxxxxxxxx 33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.,

Sept. 23, 1946.

Mr. Winthrop Boggs,
% The Philatelic Foundation,
Collectors Club,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Win:

I am sure that you will not mind if I make notes to call to your attention on your book from time to time. In fact, I am sure that you will welcome such.

Note the last paragraph on page 43 of your Vol. 1. I note that you were of the opinion that the Stayner order of Oct. 25, 1847 was the direct result of our issuance of the 1847 stamps, whereas such a suggestion is in error, as our 1847 stamps had no relation to that order. In your Vol. 2 - page 2 - D you quoted the order of 26 Oct. 1847 - (#4). You will note that Stayner was issuing the instructions on "orders" received from the British P.M.G.

I have searched your two books for the real explanation as to why the P.M.G. issued the order but have failed to find same. Perhaps I have overlooked it and if so will you be so kind as to give me the reference?

I am enjoying your book very much, as I am sure all are who have so far been fortunate enough to obtain copies.

Sincerely yours,

xxxxxxxxxxx 33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.,

Nov. 5, 1946.

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

Dear Win:

Under dates of Sept. 19th and 23rd I addressed two letters to you regarding your new book on Canada.

I really think that you could do me the courtesy of acknowledging same.

Very truly yours,

THE PHILATELIC FOUNDATION
22 EAST 35TH STREET
NEW YORK 16, N.Y.

MURRAY HILL 3-~~0559~~ XXXX
5667

ALFRED F. LICHTENSTEIN
CHAIRMAN
THEODORE E. STEINWAY
TREASURER
ROBERT L. GRAHAM, JR.
SECRETARY

November 4,1946.

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

Dear Stan:-

Many thanks for your kind remarks concerning my work on Canada. You are one of the few people who appreciate what a difficult task it is to write a serious study of any philatelic problem,and how endless the subject seems to be.

As soon as I have a moment I will answer your letters in detail. In the meantime I want to assure you that I appreciate your questionings,as it is only by such discussion that we can eventually arrive at a true picture of the events of those by gone times.

Enclosed is a cover which the Expert Committee would appreciate having your valued opinion on. Would it be possible to get this back to me by Monday the 11th,Special Delivery if necessary?

If you know of anyone who would like a copy of my book would you let me know so that I might contact him to see if he is still interested.

Looking forward to hearing from you soon,I am

Sincerely yours,

Wm.

wsb/b
encl.

xxxxxxxxxx 33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.,

Nov. 6, 1946.

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

Dear Win:

I am returning herewith the 24¢ 1869 cover to Peru. Naturally I cannot express any opinion on it one way or the other, and if you or the Committee desire to know why, I am sure that A.F.L. could explain. Without his permission I could not do so.

However, please do not construe the above as having anything to do with whether the cover is good or is bad. If it would not betray any confidence on your part, who may I enquire does the Committee consider perfectly competent to pass on items such as this?

If anyone expressed an opinion on a cover such as this, the opinion should be backed up with facts. It should not be based on whether the cover "looked" good or "looked" bad. Such opinions are absolutely worthless in many cases.

Regarding your new book. I wrote you yesterday regarding my letters of last September and I would greatly appreciate an expression from you regarding the various points that I brought up. There are several other points that I would like to discuss with you later on.

One point I have in mind is the "Ferriage rate." On page 45 you stated that the special Ferriage rate (of 1851) was a continuation of a practice that had been in use for many years. Would it not be better to state that it was a re-introduction of an old practice that was dropped in 1837? And didn't the old rate apply only to Upper Canada?

I am wondering if you ever saw a cover showing the 1851 rate of 2¢? Either to Canada or from Canada. I have one and I value it very highly - I was delighted to find in your book that the 2¢ rate went back to 1851. I had no idea of such a thing. I found two covers some years ago showing the rate and I was at a loss to account for such odd payments, and only by chance did I run across mention of such a rate in a Government publication of 1873. I figured that the rate dated from 1868 and was, therefore, greatly surprised at the data contained in your book.

I sure would love to see such a cover with a pair of 1¢ 1851.

Sincerely yours,

Winthrop S. Boggs
Philatelist

December 10, 1946

Dear Stan:

At last I have cleared up enough of the backlog of material that had accumulated on my desk to sit down and answer your letters of September 18th, 23rd and November 6th respectively, concerning some of the questions you raised in reading my Canada book.

First, let me say that criticisms from you are always in order as I know of no one who has a wider or more comprehensive knowledge of these rates and their importance to philately. I am sure that you and I are going to have many interesting discussions and I am quite certain that wherever we disagree it will be in the most friendly manner. My sole purpose is to find out the facts and to place them before students so that they may use them advantageously or go on to future studies which will clarify many obscure points and, in the long run, help the grand, old hobby that means so much to us.

In regard to the specific criticisms, let me take them up as nearly in order as you discuss them, as possible:

On pages 67 and 68 your question is - If a stamp was placed on cover, illustrated in figure 15, what would be the difference between that and figure 16?

Of course, a stamp on the cover illustrated in figure 15 would be an obvious anachronism because, as you know, the 1847 United States stamps were not in existence in June of that year. You mention that the White cover had a 17 bar grid and I said 16. Since I worked from a photograph I may have miscounted the bars. While I have heard it stated that Negreen was suspected of adding 1847 stamps to some of the Kennedy covers, I am of the opinion that many of the 1847 stamps on Canada covers have been unjustly condemned as being bad. In view of the fact that we know that certain postmasters in Canada were also postmasters for the United States post office, it seems quite logical that the use of 10¢ '47 stamps in Canada was well understood at that time.

You asked me if I have ever seen a Box 160 cover used

after July 15, 1847, that did not have an 1847 stamp. It is quite possible that the box owner had 10¢ 1847s and used them on his correspondence. I may be obtuse, but I can't quite follow your line of reasoning in regard to the Box 160 covers.

In regard to Vol. 2, page 4D, #5, referring to the United States British Treaty, I may say that I am glad to know that articles 13 and 14 of the Convention of December 15, 1848, were postponed and I quite agree with you that because Canada rates were according to distance, the bookkeeping problem would have been colossal. As a matter of fact, even from the Canadian side the bookkeeping problem was extremely complex. On page 52 under the "Fifth" where I said a letter could be prepaid through or not at all, I was thinking of the mail from Canada to the United States. You will not find a letter from the United States to Canada prepaid to its destination because there were no Canadian offices in the United States, whereas the United States did have agents in Canada. This was a matter which annoyed our Canadian friends considerably. In regard to the cover illustrated on page 77 figure 34, may I say that if you were chagrined to see my price of $500, I was equally chagrined to see that the typographical error got by when I had it down for $1500. If Chambers ever finishes printing the addenda and corrigenda you will find that cover corrected to $1500.

In your letter of September 23rd, you refer to the last paragraph on page 43, of Volume 1, I am of the opinion that Stayner's order of October 25, 1847, was the direct result of our issuing the 1847 stamps. You refer me to my quotation on Vol. 2, page 2D, where I say that Stayner issued instructions on orders received from the British Post Master General. Mr. Stayner was practically autonomous and his issuance of the instructions on orders received from the Post Master General in London was a mere formality. When the 1847 stamps were issued Stayner immediately realized the importance of this situation and communicated with the Post Master General, in London, as to the steps that he deemed advisable to take to meet this situation and all the Post Master General did was to confirm Mr. Stayner's ideas and issue the necessary orders.

In your letter of November 6, you refer to the fact that on page 45 I state that the special Ferriage rate of 1851 was a continuation of a practice that had been in use for many years. I am still of that opinion because in a report of the

Winthrop S. Boggs
Philatelist

No. 3

Royal Commission, issued in 1846, there is a discussion of Ferriage rates and the fact that it varied with the different offices. While your idea that it applied only to upper Canada is probably correct, ~~although~~ the official documents say that it applied west of Montreal. For instance, Kingston Ferriage was 3 pence in 1846 while the other border towns the rate was 2 pence. I have never seen a United States cover showing the 2¢ Ferriage rate and if you have a photo of one I certainly would appreciate seeing it. As far as having a pair of 1¢ 1851s on cover paying the Ferriage rate, I would say that it makes a very pleasant dream but I doubt if either you or I will live long enough to see such a thing. Of course, if you really want the impossible it would be to have the 2¢ rate paid by a pair of 1¢ 1851s one of which would be 7RIE!

I have just had a discussion with a gentleman who showed me a number of covers from Montreal to Vermont where the rate was 6 pence prior to 1837 and became 4½ pence thereafter. He calls attention to my cover illustrated on page 60 figure 3, where he points out the rate on that cover is 6 pence not 4½ as it appears to be. This is a point that we are investigating, and the explanation will no doubt be comparatively simple if we can but hit the right answer.

As far as my making remarks about steel plates being used for the 1847 stamps, in my Appendix H, I would say that they are expressions of my opinion and since Rawdon, Wright, Hatch & Edson produced the 1847 stamps and also all the Canadian stamps from 1851 to 1868, any correspondence or documents which shows how that firm operated is of tremendous interest to United States students. As for pleasing Clarence Brazer or not pleasing him, is merely incidental. I can assure you there were a number of things in the book that do not please Mr. Brazer and there are a number of things in the book that probably do not please you.

If you will refer to my preface, page vii, you will find therein a sentence, "As we do not collect, nor have any personal interest in the stamps of Canada beyond the study of them, our approach has been without any preconceived theories or notions to defend. We have been motivated solely by a desire to examine the facts as we have found them and to present these facts, with such conclusions as can be reasonably drawn from them. Where we conflict with other students such disagreement is based solely on the evidence and is in no way influenced by personal feelings."

Winthrop S. Boggs
Philatelist

No. 4

I note in your letter about the 1869 cover which appeared before the Committee and suspected from its construction that it was your cover. May I say in my humble opinion that I thought the cover was good, partly on the reasoning that you gave Mr. Lichtenstein and partly because of certain other factors which Mr. Kershner brought out in his report. I don't think much of the covers appearance but I do know that the question of rates is extremely complex and because a table says that a rate is effective on a certain date does not necessarily mean that such is actually the case. Here again is a case of where I feel that covers have been unjustly condemned because they don't look right. If you will recall there was another 24¢ cover which had been before the Royal and which they sent to Mr. Caspary to examine and which I had the pleasure of looking at. This cover was addressed to Spain and had "4 Rls" in red on it and the stamp was tied by a red New York cancellation. That cover in my opinion and in the opinion of several well-known men, was a stampless cover from Brazil to Spain which had never passed through a United States postoffice, the 24¢ stamp applied and a fake New York cancel struck on it. I might say that the answer to that one was easy and, no doubt, you have a photo of it.

Are you by any chance coming to New York in the near future? If so, I would feel hurt if you did not at least have lunch with me while you are here and we can talk over many of the points that interest us so greatly.

I was delighted to hear that Mr. Newberry purchased the 1847 literature from the Coopersmith Collection and placed it at your disposal to use in your forthcoming work on the 1847 stamp. Needless to say, I am anxious to secure a copy when it comes out and I most certainly want your autograph on it.

I hope this finds you in good health and with every wish for a pleasant Christmas and a Happy New Year, I am

Sincerely yours,

THE PHILATELIC FOUNDATION

Winthrop S. Boggs

Winthrop S. Boggs
Director

wsb/l

Dec. 16, 1946.

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

Dear Win:

I was pleased to receive yours of the 10th, and to learn that you were agreeable to a discussion of some of the problems concerning U.S.-Canadian mail of the period of the late forties and early fifties. I believe that we can discuss certain subjects to our mutual advantage.

Re - Figures 15 and 16, pages 67 and 68. I should have been more specific, for example, suppose the date on #15 was July or August, then wouldn't #15 be the same as #16 so far as all markings are concerned? In my opinion #16 was a stampless exactly the same as #15 and that the 10¢ did not originate on the cover.

Consider #16. If the 10¢ stamp was actually used on this cover then there was no necessity for the marking, "U. States Postage Paid," The writer put "Pd to New York chg Box 160." I believe that there was no intention here to prepay the U. S. postage by a U. S. stamp but rather to prepay it by charging same to "Box 160." The notation is very plain, viz: Paid to New York with the entire thru postage to be charged to Box 160. The P.M. used the big circular handstamp, "U.STATES-POSTAGE-PAID." Was that not sufficient evidence that the U.S. postage had been paid? Surely the P.M. would not have wasted a 10¢ stamp when the handstamp answered the same purpose. In addition had he done so would he not have sacrificed his 20% commission? I firmly believe that the handstamp, "U.STATES-POSTAGE-PAID" was used only on mail such as cover #15, that is, where the U. S. postage was paid in Canada by a charge account. This marking is scarce and the reason is, that it was not used after Nov. 16, 1847.

The markings on #16 are placed in the same positions as on #15, and had #15 been dated during the life of the 1847 stamps, then there was a nice blank space down in the lower left corner for some faker - years after - to affix a 10¢ stamp. Had #16 been fixed up abroad they would have gone to a bit more trouble, that is, he would have tied the stamp to #16. You know, of course, that American collectors prefer to have stamps tied, and well tied, to covers and the foreign fakers go to great pains to do that very thing in a most artistic and efficient manner.

Mr. Winthrop S. Boggs, Dec. 16, 1946.

Your #16 shows a Montreal date of Sep. 3, 1847. I have a photograph of a mate to this - same rate - etc. - with Montreal date of Sep. 10, 1847. It has a 10¢ 1847 in upper right corner - not tied - canceled with a red grid. The notation is a bit diffarent and reads,

"To N.Y. - pd Chg. Box 160"

This cover does not have the "money-letter" marking. The "fixer" was compelled to put his stamp in a crowded spot in upper right corner because the lower left corner had a circular Montreal postmark.

Again re - the marking "U.STATES-POSTAGE-PAID." I repeat, that I do not believe that this marking was used on letters which actually had the U. S. postage paid by U. S. postage stamps. Why should it have been? I asked the question if you ever saw a "Box 160 cover" with use after July 15, 1847 that did not have 10¢ 1847 stamps?

I'll admit the query was terrible but no doubt you can realize what I had in mind, viz: the combination of charging the U. S. postage to Box 160 and then prepaying same by 10¢ 1847 stamps. What I meant was this: Did you ever see a cover between July 15, 1847 and Nov. 16, 1847 with "charge Box 160," that did not have a 10¢ 1847 stamp? In other words, did they fix all the genuine Kennedy covers of this period? Yes, my query as worded was terrible.

I insist and I can assure you that the issuance of our 1847 stamps had nothing to do with the Stayner order of Oct. 25, 1847. I think this is a very important point and I suggest that we settle it with direct evidence. You stated: "When the 1847 stamps were issued Stayner immediately realized the importance of this situation and communicated with the PostmMaser General, in London, as to the steps that he deemed advisable to take to meet this situation and all the Postmaster General did was to confirm Mr. Styyner's ideas and issue the necessary orders."

Have you any evidence or facts that prove the above or is the statement just merely a conclusion that you reached? It really is a very important point and one that I believe that you overlooked. It is important because prior to the Stayner order, it was possible to prepay the U. S. postage on mail to the U.S., but afte that date, it was not possible. Why? November 1847 was an important mile stone in the postal relations between Canada and the U.S. and it is a date to remember. Does it seem reasonable to suppose that because we issued adhesive stamps in July 1847, that our adoption of these labels as evidence of postage prepayment, would have caused Stayner to issue his order? His order, in effect prohibited Canadian postmasters acting as agents of the U.S. P.O.D.

Re - Ferriage rates. I have noted very carefully your remarks and I will discuss this subject with you later on.

Mr. Winthrop S. Boggs, Dec. 16, 1946.

I am enclosing herewith two photos of covers from Houlton, Me. to Woodstock, N.B. Will you kindly return these? I own the cover dated "Apr 30" and the other one was in a friend's collection. I think it has since been sold and I do not know where it is at the present time. Inasmuch as this rate dates back to 1851, a cover with a pair of 1¢ 1851's is possible. I sure would like to locate one.

I am also enclosing a photo of a cover with a 1¢ 1857 from New York in 1859. A circular rate, such as this paid with a 1¢ 1851 or a 1¢ 1857, must be very, very rare. I have seen very, very few.

Again regarding your reference to steel plates for our 1847 stamps. I think that your reference on page 9-H was not only uncalled for but was very unfair. For example, I quote:

"Students of United States stamps should also refer to letters #1, #22 and #35, and study this contract. We feel that it contains some evidence that the 1847 issue of the United States was also printed from Steel Plates."

Before discussing this subject permit me to state that I have no desire to prove that the 1847 plates were copper, but rather to try and solve this problem and give the collecting public the truth. Only a damn jackass and a louse would prefer to jam some theory of his own down the throats of collectors rather than to establish the truth. Therefore, believe it or not, I am not wedded to copper plates for the 1847's, but I am not fool enough to discard all the evidence that points to copper and adopt steel just because an egotistical ass (Brazer) claims that the plates were steel. The funny part is that Brazer considers himself competent to express himself as an authority on the subject.

You have listened to your friend Brazer and he has evidently convinced you that the 1847 plates were steel, hence, no doubt you thought you were making a contribution to American philatelic research work by inserting your opinion on this highly controversial subject in a study of Canada.

I might add that I have made more progress in the plating of the 5¢ 1847 than any other person, past or present. That is far from a boast, but a simple statement of fact. In this respect I have announced publicly that after 25 years of plating work on the 5¢ 1847 I have never been able to find more than 8 corner positions. Naturally this points to only one plate. We know there were 22,000 impressions. Would one copper plate produce 22,000 impressions? The Great Brazer would say, "No." Hence, in his opinion, the plates could not have been copper. But did he ever produce any such evidence to prove his assertion as the above? For all he knew from his own research work there might have been two or a dozen 5¢ 1847 plates, but from what he had read, he was told there were two plates and in his egotistical opinion, two copper plates could not have produced 22,000 impressions.

Mr. Winthrop S. Boggs, Dec. 16, 1946.

No one questions the fact that the 3 pence Beaver was printed from a steel plate, but do you think that any 5¢ 1847 that you ever saw or examined looks anything like a Beaver, so far as the impression is concerned? The engraved lines of a Beaver are razor sharp, perfectly typical of steel engraving - cold and hard lines. In comparison, the 5¢ 1847 engraved lines are fuzzy - not sharp - the impressions are soft and warm and quite similar to the first issue of Belgium, which no one will deny came from copper plates.

Egotistical asses like Brazer jump to conclusions, and make positive statements which are based solely on their personal opinions, and with no actual proof to back up their claims. And if anyone differs with them they do their utmost to damn them in every way possible.

As to whether the 1847 plates were copper or steel I am sure I do not know - I only wish that I did - but with all the study that I have devoted to this subject, and I have endeavored to weigh carefully all the bits of evidence pro and con, I do have to laugh at those who have not made any serious study of the subject, yet notwithstanding, feel themselves competent to express an authoritative opinion.

The "evidence" that you presented bears dates of 1851. The 1847 plates were made four years previous - in 1847. You called attention to Letter #1 on page 1-H of your Vol. 2 - Wherein, may I inquire, does the wording, "on the same conditions as we have furnished United States Post Office stamps," have any reference to copper or steel plates? I do not get the connection.

You referred to Letter #12 on page 5-H as evidence of steel plates for the 1847's - I think that you certainly assumed too much in reading into this letter any evidence whatsoever that the 1847 plates were steel. This letter referred to furnishing dies and plates without charge for same, and also to the charge to be made for furnishing stamps at the rate of 1000. It was specified that the Canadian stamps were to be printed from steel plates but all references in the two letters #1 and #12 could very easily have referred to copper plates for the U. S. 1847's and steel plates for the Canadian stamps.

Regarding #16. Can you point out one bit of evidence in this contract that indicates that the 1847 plates were steel? Is there any reason to suppose that because the Canadian plates were specified in the contract to be steel, that the 1847 plates were also steel? There is not one bit of evidence in this contract that our 1847 stamps were printed from steel plates. You stated that you "feel that it contains some evidence that the 1847 issue xxxxx was also printed from steel plates". And I asked the very simple question - WHERE?

You couldn't possibly be half as much interested as I am in proving the truth of this very controversial problem, and believe it or not, all I want to prove is the truth, not whether I was right,

or Brazer was wrong. Someday I hope to do that very thing. Several years ago word came to me from several sources that you had discovered some evidence which proved that the 1847 stamps were printed from steel plates. In fact, I was told that Brazer was gloating over your discovery.

Re - your Fig. 25, page 72. You may wish to correct the statement, that from May 15, 1849 letters could be prepaid through, etc. They could by stamps, but only by stamps, as you are aware.

Re - your Fig. 32 - Jan. 14, 1851. Is your analysis wrong? Paid to the lines Box 13 referred only to the payment of the Canadian postage. The "10" was the sum due from Kennedy at New York.

Re - your Fig. 33. Your analysis is correct but to be more explicit the Beaver paid the Canadian postage to the lines and the 1847 paid the 24¢ rate from the U. S. to London - a 1¢ overpay (not mentioned). What about the "3?"

Re - Fig. 34 - This is one of the finest combinations that I have ever seen. In my opinion, it ranks second only to Fig. 33, which is tops. One from Canada - the other to Canada. Incidentally the #33 was in Senator Ackerman's collection for many years and went from Ackerman to Gibson.

Sincerely yours,

xxxxxxxxxxx 33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.,

Sept. 18, 1946.

Mr. L. G. Brookman,
121 Loeb Arcade,
Minneapolis, Minn.

Dear Les:

Re - the Boggs book - see Vol. 2 - page 9H, the top of the page, with reference to steel plates for the 1847's.

Please bear in mind that Boggs is a very close friend to "Dr" Brazer - in fact a pal, hence he would "yes" Brazer on every point as all his pals do - such as Rich, Perry and others.

I have studied all the Boggs evidence on the Rawdon plates and to be perfectly fair, I wonder if he had any right to insert in his book on Canada a controversial subject on U.S.? While I am inclined now to believe that the 1847 plates were steel and who can deny that I have more evidence on that subject than anyone else, even including "Dr" Brazer and his stooges and yes-men, Boggs, Rich and Perry, do you think that Boggs introduced any new and workhwhile evidence that the 1847 plates were steel? Bear in mind, that in 1851 they could have charged Canada as much for postage stamps from steel plates as they charged the U.S. for stamps from copper plates (?) in 1847.

His #35 on page 14H is perhaps the best bit of evidence but it is by no means conclusive. I want to be fair and to give Boggs all the credit possible in spite of the fact I think that he is a dad.

Regards -

Yours etc.,

xxxxxxxxxxx 33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.,

Sept. 19, 1946.

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

Dear Win:

I have been studying your new book on Canada and I wish to sincerely congratulate you on such a fine piece of work. I can fully appreciate what an enormous amount of work this required and you have given the collectors of B.N.A. a truly wonderful book.

I would like further light on several subjects, hence please consider the following remarks as such and in no manner a criticism.

I believe that I am right in my conclusions and if I am wrong perhaps you can set me right.

First - Note Figures 15 and 16 in Volume #1 of your book, pages 67 and 68. What is the difference between these two? Why no stamp on one and a 10¢ 47 on the other? If a faker put two 10¢ stamps on cover #15 would it not be the same as cover #16? Figure #16 was a White cover and I always suspected the 10¢ stamp had been added and I still am of that opinion. I have a large photo of this particular cover and the 10¢ stamp is not tied. I also have a photo of an almost exact duplicate with date of use Sep. 10, 1847. This cover has a 10¢ 1847 in the upper right corner but it is also not tied. The cancel is a grid, evidently a U. S. marking.

On the White cover, the cancel is a 17 bar grid - 19½ MM with 1 MM spacing. I note that you state "16 lines grid." Karl Burroughs was the last person that I know of who owned the "White" cover. He wrote me back in 1942 that he thought it was genuine and that he had never seen a Dorwin (Box 160) that did not have 10¢ 1847 stamps. Your cover 15 is a Dorwin Box, but its date was June 4, 1847.

I have heard it stated in the past that it was Negren who had the Kennedy covers and it was Negren who was suspected of adding 10¢ 1847 stamps to a lot of them.

Have you ever seen a Box 160 cover with use after July 15, 1847 that did not have 10¢ 1847 stamps?

One more point. Please note cover #34 on page 77. This cover changed hands thru me a year ago and the price was $1,350.00. For this reason I was rather chagrined to note the valuation that you placed on it. The owner of this cover informed me that he paid $1,000 for the cover many years ago. It is true that the cover was supposed to have sold in a Bartels sale some three or four years ago but it was a wash sale and the cover did not change hands. I consider this cover one of the rarest and most desirable of 5¢ 1847 covers and consider that as such it is not worth a penny less than $2,500. I sure would like to buy a dozen or two at your appraisal.

I will appreciate comments on the above. Incidentally I noted your remarks about the 1847 steel plates. I dare say that I have far more evidence on this subject than the guess work expressed by your friend "Doctor" Brazer. Why a book on Canada should discuss a very controversial subject on 19th U. S. is rather beyond my comprehension, but I suppose your remarks will please the great "Doctor."

Sincerely yours,

H. L. LINDQUIST
PUBLICATIONS
2 WEST 46th STREET, NEW YORK 19, N. Y.

September 24, 1946

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

Dear Stan:

You brought out a lot of interesting information in your letter to Boggs, and I'll be interested in his reply for I doubt if he can give the answers to any of thequestions that you have proposed.

Just why he would want to drag in the subject of steel plates in a book on Canada is beyond me. Boggs is a lightweight in many ways and doesn't always use the best of judgment.

I have only seen an unbound copy of his first volume and the regular editions haven't reached us as yet, although I have had orders in for a quantity of them for some time.

Sincerely,

Harry

HLL/g

Phone: MEdallion 3-3715 Cable Address: LINDPUBS

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121 LOEB ARCADE
FIFTH ST. AND HENNEPIN AVE.
MINNEAPOLIS 2, MINN.

October 2, 1946

Dear Stan:

The Canada books finally arrived and I have hastily skimmed thru them. Boggs seems to have done a good job although the going may be too heavy for most collectors.

I consider that his information about the 1847 plates to belong in the Canadian book but I never will forgive his witholding this information from you. If he was a gentleman he would have immediately communicated this information to you as soon as he found it. Furthermore, we know that he has had this information a long time as it is unquestionably what Brazer hinted to me at the time of the West Sale. Brazer said he had been sworn to secrecy and never told me just what the information was except that Boggs had some information about the plates.which indicated that they were of steel.

I started this letter at 9.30A.M. and it is now 9.30 P.M. and I'm still at the office. Swamped with work but will soon get out of here and go home.

I enclose a letter just received from Lidman--- haven't answered it yet and won't until I hear from you. Please return it. There is absolutely no question in my mind but that you should write this for Lidman and ff you will give me permission I will suggest this to him and make him aware of the fact that you are working on a real '47 book. If he knew that he undoubtedly would have written you instead of me for you have forgotten more about them than I ever will know.

Too damned tired to write another line tonight.

Best regards,

Lea

33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.

Oct. 4, 1946.

Mr. Harry L. Lindquist,
2 W. 46th St.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Harry:

I am enclosing copy of a letter from Lidman to Brookman, which I thought would be of interest to you. Please treat this as strictly confidential.

If you have a copy of the Boggs book, please turn to Vol. 2, page 9 - H - top of page and then read letters #1, #12 and #35. See whether you think that the evidence set forth is proof conclusive that the 1847 plates were of steel. I would like an unbiased opinion from you and know that that is what you would give me.

I always did think that Boggs was a louse. He intimated on several occasions to me that he had <u>proof</u> that the 1847 plates were steel and that he would produce the proof when his book on Canada was published. Well here is his proof -

Here is Brookman's reaction, quote from his letter of Oct. 2nd:

"I consider that his information about the 1847 plates to belong in the Canadian book but I never will forgive his withholding this information from you. If he was a gentleman he would have immediately communicated this information to you as soon as he found it. Furthermore, we know that he has had this information a long time as it is unquestionably what Brazer hinted to me at the time of the West Sale. Brazer said he had been sworn to secrecy and never told me just what the information was except that Boggs had some information about the plates, which indicated that they were of steel." (end)

What do you think?

So far I have had no reply to my two letters to Boggs.

I have just re-read the "proof" as presented by Boggs on the 1847 plates. I consider that it is not conclusive because Rawdon Wright could have charged Canada the same as they charged the U. S., viz., "20¢ per 1000," and the U. S. stamps could have come from other than steel plates.

Letter #1 specifies at the rate of 20¢ per 1000 stamps, and (quote); "on the same conditions as we have furnished the United States Post Office stamps."

Would you construe the above as proof that the 1847 plates were steel?

Letter #12 - There is nothing here to prove steel plates for the 1847's. "The same terms" could have referred to the price per 1000 without reference to whether the 1847 plates were copper or steel.

Letter #35 - was written in 1854 and there is no proof here that the 1847 plates were steel.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

H. L. LINDQUIST
PUBLICATIONS
2 WEST 46th STREET, NEW YORK 19, N. Y.

Sept. 18, 1946.

Dear Stan,-

I think your idea to go through the Souren Photos at the club will be the best way to get what you want. They have no relation to the sales but Souren attempted to copy the Knapp collection exactly as he had mounted it and all of the books are the same sizes and shapes that Knapp had used. Mitzi says there are probably more than I said but the weight is not as much and they could be packed in a large carton or two. You ought to have a reason to come to New York before long, maybe when the Emeson stuff is sold and can go over it then.

Too bad Les had such a cold when he visited you but I am glad that he got the material he required. From his letters he apparantly has made good progress in getting the material together so we can begin to get some action on it. Johl has the copy for his Commemorative volume practically completed but it was fairly easy as it is mostly a condensation of his eariler books.

Saul has been having quite a cough in Atlantic City and is already fed up on the place. He returns to Chicago on Friday but no doubt he has written you about this himself. Mike was out to lunch with me yesterday on his way back from New England.

Boggs brought me in a copy of the first volume of his book - unbound - for review purposes. However, I am getting the review from a group of the BNA boys who are doing it for their own journal. That $12.50 is a stiff price but I dougtif they will cover all expenses even at that. The edition is small though so they ought to be absorbed. I've taken 300 myself and have about 100 sold before even starting to advertise it. Those that want them order without effort but once this demand is filled the others go very slowly.

I agree with you about the poor taste in many instances but the boy is really a rank amateur.

Best wishes,

Harry

Phone: MEdallion 3-3715 Cable Address: LINDPUBS

Feb. 2, 1947.

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

Dear Winn:

The enclosed cover came in yesterday and I thought you would like to see it. Inasmuch as it does not belong to me will you please send it back by return mail.

What is your analysis of this nifty little item?

May I remind you that I wrote you at length under date of Dec. 16th last but so far I have not received any reply. Do you wish me to get sore?

With regards -

Yours etc.,

SBA cover — 1£ 1857
to St Catharines Canada
in 1861 See Photo made
— Carrier Pick up

FEB - 2 1947

Hale

THE PHILATELIC FOUNDATION

22 EAST 35TH STREET
NEW YORK 16, N.Y.

MURRAY HILL 3-~~0559~~ 5667

ALFRED F. LICHTENSTEIN
CHAIRMAN
THEODORE E. STEINWAY
TREASURER
ROBERT L. GRAHAM, JR.
SECRETARY

February 6, 1947

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

Dear Stan:

I return herewith the cover you so kindly sent me together with the photographs you enclosed in your letter of December 16th. Would it be possible for me to have a copy of the 1¢ 1857 photo with the ½ struck on it.

You should know by now not to get sore at my tardy answers as I really am under considerable pressure to keep Foundation affairs moving.

To return to the cover you enclosed, I think it most interesting as apparently the fellow ~~sent~~ put on the 1¢ stamp as carrier fee to the New York post office from whence it was sent to Canada unpaid, and being over half an ounce, postage was collected. This probably went through Buffalo as it is similar to my Type IA on page 48. I would appreciate a photostat or photograph of this cover as I am filing material away in my Canada files in case I ever revise my little brochure.

Are you by any chance coming to town before the Exhibition? It would be a pleasure to see you. In any event be sure of my kindest personal regards and I am always glad to hear from you with your ~~prudent~~ prudent comments.

Sincerely yours,

THE PHILATELIC FOUNDATION

Winthrop S. Boggs
Director

wsb/l
encl.

P.S. Your letter of December 16th I will try to answer a little later.

Feb. 11, 1947.

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

Dear Win:

Herewith I am sending you a print of the 1¢ circular rate cover to Canada. This is the only 1¢ 1857 cover in this class that I have ever seen.

I am also enclosing a cover with a 10¢ 1847 that was in the Brown sale, I have no doubt whatsoever but what this cover is perfectly O.K.

I am also enclosing two covers of 1862-1863 with per Express Mail, which I judge simply meant that both of these were instructed to go via rail from Boston.

I thought maybe that I would fool you on that 1¢ cover that I sent you but you surprised me. It is the only one I have ever seen and as a carrier I think it is a peach. I have seen 24¢ plus 1¢ to England and 10¢ plus 1¢ to California and even an unpaid plus 1¢ to Prussia as well as a 30¢ plus 1¢, but never an "unpaid plus 1¢" to Canada. Later when I make some prints I will send you one.

I doubt very much if I will get down east anytime soon, but if I do I will pay you a call.

Under date of Dec. 16th I wrote you about the Kershner photos and report on a 34¢ cover to Peru - no reply - anything doing?

Yours etc.,

THE PHILATELIC FOUNDATION
22 EAST 35TH STREET
NEW YORK 16, N.Y.
MURRAY HILL 3-0559 5667

ALFRED F. LICHTENSTEIN
CHAIRMAN
THEODORE E. STEINWAY
TREASURER
ROBERT L. GRAHAM, JR.
SECRETARY

March 17, 1947

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

Dear Stan:

Thank you for your card of the 12th and I wish to say that we do appreciate your sending us prints of various prize items for our files and also your assistance and comments on the various items which we have occasion to discuss.

As you can readily realize, the death of our friend, Alfred Lichtenstein, is a grievous loss to philately and, naturally, it will be difficult to fill his place as he was one of the last of the great men of the old school who had a magnificent knowledge of all the world's stamps.

I have your letter of December 2nd to Mr. Lichtenstein concerning that cover from Mr. Richey and I think that you are correct in your conclusions. Nevertheless, the Committee bases its opinions on the evidence before it and it depends upon men of your standing and knowledge to assist it. The committee turned the cover down on the grounds that the postmark was fraudulent, however, it was turned down by two or three other consultants. Of course, if in time, sufficient evidence can be produced to prove that it is good, the committee will consider such evidence.

The work of the Foundation is continuing to increase and as the show is approaching, the next months are likely to be rather hectic. I expect to have two exhibits myself, and I am in charge of the Lecture Hall in addition to handling material for the Expert Committee and my class in philately. Furthermore, I do like, once in a while to do something other than stamp collecting.

I would suggest that you line up any questions you may have on the Canada material for your next visit and then we can sit down and talk matters over personally and cover a great deal more ground, quickly, than by correspondence, at the present moment. I am quite sure you appreciate the position I am in at the time and, later when the picture clears and

THE PHILATELIC FOUNDATION
22 EAST 35TH STREET
NEW YORK 16, N.Y.

MURRAY HILL 3-0559

ALFRED F. LICHTENSTEIN
CHAIRMAN
THEODORE E. STEINWAY
TREASURER
ROBERT L. GRAHAM, JR.
SECRETARY

the show is over, we hope things will resume a more placid and even tenor.

Looking forward to seeing you and thanking you again for any photographs that you may care to send us, and with kindest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

THE PHILATELIC FOUNDATION

Winthrop S. Boggs

wsb/l

Winthrop S. Boggs
Director

1337	**KONWISER-CAMPBELL, Canada & Newfoundland stampless cover catalogue, 1946 edition.** **Retail**	**2.00**
1338	Specialized catalogue of Canadian Airmails by Ian C. Morgan.	——
1339	Catalogue of Canadian Railroad cancellations by T. P. G. Shaw.	——
1340	Catalogue of Revenue stamps of Canada. Canada Revenue Society.	——
1341	Boggs Postage Stamps & Postal History of Canada ,some original information.	——

END OF SESSION

THANK YOU

NEXT SESSION THIS AFTERNOON AT 1:30 P. M.

Sale By Sissons & Wegg
Mar 28 - 29 - 1947
Toronto Canada

1313 ○	— **5c red,** May 10, 1860 registered & **"TOO LATE"** pmks, slight crease, fine.	(EN1)	E 10.00
1314 ★	— **10c black brown, superb, mint, entire.**	**(EN2)**	**E 17.50**
1315 ★	**1877–99.** 12 mint entires, complete, very fine.		E 6.00
1316 ★	**1893–99.** 10 letter cards complete, very fine ,mint.		E 7.00
1317 ★	**1899.** Letter cards normal surcharge & "Capital C" variety.	(L9, L9a)	10.00
1318 ★	**1875–98.** 6 Victoria wrappers, complete, very fine mint.	(W1–6)	E 5.00
1319 ★	**1903.** 1c, 2c & 1c on 2c wrappers, very fine.	(W7, 8, &10)	H 7.50
1320 ★	— 1c on 3c, very fine mint.	(W11)	H 15.00

SEMI OFFICIAL AIRS

1321 ★⊞	**1926.** Elliot Fairchild 25 red, very fine block.	(San 311)	6.00
1322 ★⊞	— Elliot Fairchild 25c blue ,fine block.	(San 312)	5.00
1323 ★⊞	— **25c blue,** tete-beche block, very fine.	(San 314)	4.00
1324 ★⊞	Commercial Airways, 10c air fee, very fine block.	(San 342)	5.00
1325 ★⊞	Canadian Airways orange & blue, very fine block.	(San 348)	4.00
1326 ★	Canada collection 16 different sem-official airmails.		E 20.00

COLLECTIONS

1327 ★○	**CANADA,** 185 used, 146 mint, 22 used blocks, 1 2mint blocks; 76 **Rhodesia,** 206 **South Africa,** 61 miscellaneous colonies, mostly mint.		C 85.00
1328	120 Canada Revenues & cut-squares.		E 3.00
1329 ○	Canada collection over 800 different pre-cancels.		Over 100.00

CANADA PRESENTATION BOOKLETS

1330 ★	**1926. Booklet bound in red Morocco, includes Geo. V 1c, 2c, 3c, 4c, 5c, 7c, 8c, 10c, 20c, 50c & $1, postage dues 1c, 2c & 5c. Special delivery 20c., scarce.**		——
1331 ★	**1940. American Airmail Society booklet includes Geo. VI & pictorials to $1, Airmail, Special Delivery & Postage Dues.**		**E 7.50**

LITERATURE

1332	**JARRETT, Standard B. N. A. Catalogue, 1929 edition scarce.**		**E 30.00**
1333	JARRETT, **1926 edition,** brown cover, scarce.		E 10.00
1334	**HOLMES,** Canada & B. N. A., 1945 Edition.		E 6.00
1335	GEO. A. LOWE, Standard Catalogue of the stamps of British North America, 1925 edition.		——
1336	Canadian stamps by Patrick Hamilton.		——

H. L. LINDQUIST
PUBLICATIONS
2 WEST 46th STREET, NEW YORK 19, N. Y.

April 4, 1947

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

Dear Stan:

That certainly was a rather direct slam at Boggs in the Sissons & Wegg catalog, and I am returning the page that you sent me herewith.

The boys on the Expert Committee seem to feel that Boggs is doing an indispensable job for them for he does gather together all the information very effectively, and relieves the committee of all detail work. However, he certainly made a mistake in getting out his book with the lack of credits. I'll show your letter to Theodore Steinway and one or two others so it will at least put them wise to what is going on.

As you have probably heard by this time, Admiral Frederic R. Harris has been elected the President of the Foundation, and has accepted. Alfred Caspary has been named as head of the Expert Committee, but up to the present time, this has not been accepted, although there has not been time for him to do so. We also elected some additional trustees for we have quite ambitious plans for publications during the coming year. Admiral Harris has donated $5000 for the publication of a handbook on Hawaii, which is one of our projects.

Sincerely yours,

Harry

HLL/G

Phone: MEdallion 3-3715 Cable Address: LINDPUBS

C. S. HITCHINS, M. D.
59 TRUMBULL STREET
NEW HAVEN 10, CONN.

November 27, 1946

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Enclosed please find a photograph of a cover that I recently acquired. Harry Keffer thinks that you might like this photo for your files.

Harry Konwiser intends to illustrate and discuss this cover in one of the journals in the near future. He gives the following as a possible explanation for the 3¢ stamp:

1¢ to ship's captain for delivery to the post office
1¢ local rate
1¢ carrier

I hope that this will be of some slight interest to you.

Sincerely,

C. S. Hitchins, M. D.

CSH¾mk

xxxxxxxxxxx 33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.,

Nov. 29, 1946.

Dr. C. S. Hitchins,
59 Trumbull St.,
New Haven 10, Conn.

Dear Doctor:

Thanks very much for your kindness in sending me the photograph of the 3¢ 1857 cover with the New York Carrier postmark.

In my opinion this is an overpaid local delivery rate and a One Cent 1857 would have accomplished the same purpose.

I do not know Mr. Konwiser but if he publishes his explanation that you mentioned, I believe that he will make himself rather ridiculous.

While overpays such as this are uncommon, I doubt if they can be considered as rare, but nevertheless they are quite interesting and desirable.

Of course, I have no idea as to what Mr. Konwiser could write about this cover but there are certain features which could be brought out in an article which would no doubt be quite interesting and which would not do the cover any harm.

Will you be so kind as to thank my good friend Harry Keffer for me and to convey to him my regards.

Sincerely yours,

Feb. 1, 1947.

Dr. C. S. Hitchins,
59 Trumball St.,
New Haven 10, Conn.

Dear Doctor:

Referring to our correspondence of last November I noted the Konwiser article in Mekeel's of Jan. 13th, regarding your cover. The illustration was miserable and as I expected, Konwiser failed to bring out the interesting feature regarding the cover.

May I inquire if you would be willing to trade or sell this cover to me as I would like to add it to my reference collection.

Sincerely yours,

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JAMES SEARLES

Auctioneer
ARTHUR HEAD

February 4, 1947

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:-

Thank you for your letter of February 1.

I regret that the cover referred to in Konwiser's article in Mekeel's of Jan. 13 is not for sale since I am keeping it in my collection.

Covers of this period are of extreme interest to me and I am always anxious to augment my poor fund of knowledge. Any information that you would care to give me or any reference to current or past philatelic literature would be greatly appreciated. (I have read carefully all of your books and articles -- at least, all I have been able to obtain).

Sincerely,

C.S.Hitchins, M.D.,
59 Trumbull Street,
New Haven 10, Conn.

Regards from Harry Keffer

Feb. 7, 1947.

Dr. C. S. Hitchins,
59 Trumbull St.,
New Haven 10, Conn.

Dear Doctor:

Thanks very much for your kind letter of the 4th and of course I can appreciate that you would not care to part with the cover. May I inquire if you would have any objection if I would write an article about this cover for the A.P. and illustrate it?

May I also inquire if you would care to see some similar items which I have for sale, and by any chance would you be interested in 3¢ plus 1¢ covers similar to some that I illustrated in my recent article in the "Stamp Specialist."

Sincerely yours,

C. S. HITCHINS, M. D.
59 TRUMBULL STREET
NEW HAVEN 10, CONN.

February 11, 1947

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Thank you for your letter of the 7th. You have my permission to write about my cover and use the cut for illustration any way that you choose. I would appreciate your crediting the photograph to the photographer, whose name is on the back of the picture.

I would be pleased to see any of the covers that you have for sale.

Sincerely,

C. S. Hitchins, M. D.

CSH/mk

Feb. 17, 1947.

Dr. C. S. Hitchins,
59 Trumbull St.,
New Haven 10, Conn.

Dear Doctor:

Thanks very much for your kind letter of the 11th. I am preparing an article on your cover which I will have published in "Stamps." I will be pleased to give credit to Mr. Kravitt for the photography.

Incidentally your cover was simply an Overpaid Drop Rate. In other words, rate of 1¢ was paid with a 3¢ stamp. The interesting part about your cover was the notation at the end which of course tells us the story. The notation indicates that the letter was brought into New York by the "Baltic" and was mailed as a Drop on April 27, 1861. The Baltic was a very famous ship of the fifties and was originally a Collins liner. When the Collins Company went into receivership in 1858 the ship was laid up and remained tied up until the approach of the Civil War. She was taken over by the U. S. Navy to be used as a transport early in 1861. In the spring of 1861 the Baltic was sent from New York together with the "Pawnee," "Pocahontas" and "Harriet Lane" with reenforcements and provisions for Major Anderson's small garrison at Fort Sumter. The fleet arrived just in time to witness the bombardment and surrender of the Fort and it was the Baltic that carried Major Anderson and garrison back to New York after the surrender on April 14, 1861. I have little doubt that your cover traveled back to New York on that very voyage.

Thus in my opinion, the interest in your cover is not especially in the fact that a 3¢ stamp was used when a 1¢ would have been sufficient but rather its historical connection. This feature was entirely overlooked by the individual who wrote the article in Mekeel's.

I am enclosing a little batch of covers herewith among which is a similar overpaid Drop on a 3¢ 1861 envelope. At one time I had a number of these as I was in the habit of hunting for them but I do not seem to be able to find but this one. I am also enclosing some carriers and some unusual items, which I thought perhaps you would like to see.

Sincerely yours,

Enclosed:
List herewith.

#1041 - New York Overpaid Drop - 3¢ 1861 Pink envelope - canceled with carrier marking in red "Paid 1ct" - Price $7.50.

#83 - 3¢ 1861 plus 1¢ 1861 - tied by the scarce N.Y. carrier in red - this marking on a 3¢ plus 1¢ is most unusual - Price $15.00

#1066 - 3¢ 1851 plus 1¢ 1851 Type II used at Charleston, S.C. - to Washington - Probably a Prepaid WAY but a use that is very rare - Price $17.50.

#1068 - 3¢ 1857 plus Eagle Carrier used at Cincinnati - Late use - very unusual - Price $20.00.

#1071 - 6¢ plus 1¢ - double rate - two 3¢ 1861 plus 1¢ 1861 to Washington - a collection fee or a prepaid delivery fee? Price $15.00.

#1072 - 3¢ plus 2¢ - Prepaid Ship Rate into New York to Caldwell, N.J. A very rare use - 3¢ 1861 plus 2¢ B.Jack. Price $50.00.

#1073 - 3¢ Plus 2¢ - Prepaid Ship Fee into New York to Paterson, N.J. - rare use - 3¢ 1861 plus two 1¢ 1861 - Price $35.00.

#1074 - 3¢ with the Carrier Collection Fee Due - Here is a cover that was dropped in a box with the carrier fee unpaid - Boston forwarded and rated as Due 1 Cent. Evidently this was contrary to Regulations and was ordered to stop - very rare with three 1¢ 1857 - Price $50.00.

#1075 - 3¢ Plus 2¢ - 3¢ 1861 plus two 1¢ 1861 - from Rulland, Vt. to Providence, R.I. Why 5¢? - a rare use - Price $35.00.

#1003 - 3¢ 1857 - plus 1¢ 1857 - collection fee at New York - Price $7.50.

#1004 - 3¢ 1861 plus 1¢ 1861 - collection fee at New York - Price $7.50.

#1007 - 3¢ 1851 - Way cover - to Baltimore - Price $6.50.

C. S. HITCHINS, M. D.
59 TRUMBULL STREET
NEW HAVEN 10, CONN.

February 21, 1947

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Thank you for the interesting lot of covers that you sent me. It is a pleasure to have had the privilege of inspecting them. No. 1072 is particularly interesting to me, but I am afraid it is a little too rich for my blood.

Sincerely,

C. S. Hitchins, M. D.

CSH/mk

New York Carrier Marked Cover

BY HARRY M. KONWISER

The act of Congress approved on April 3, 1860, removed the One-Cent drop letter rate—that is on drop letters delivered by carriers. A section of the act of Congress, June 15, 1860, created the One-Cent carrier fee, and this act apparently vacated the discretionary powers given on carrier service by the 1836 legislation on carriers and their fees.

Cover collectors, hobbyists interested in markings, and postal history minded philatelists know of course that the United States Post Office issued the Franklin Carrier in 1851, as well as the Eagle Carrier stamp. No doubt, someday, someone will suggest that stamp catalogues should really list stamps in chronological order, whereupon the carrier stamps, (issued by the U. S. P. O.) will attain proper placement. Perhaps most of us "don't care" since the Franklin Carrier stamp is in the higher brackets, insofar as the great majority of stamp collectors are concerned.

These "regular stamps" - quite properly eligible for listing under "General Issues" were presumed to be used up to 1863. Not many of the Franklin Carriers were, seemingly, used at New York, and while the record indicates the Franklin Carrier stamp was sent to Boston, Cincinnati, New Orleans, and Philadelphia, those that were used have not made their appearance in large numbers among collectors.

On the other hand, the Eagle Carrier, on and off cover, used principally in Philadelphia, according to the record, had a more extensive usage, judging from their rating in the philatelic market place. Incidently, reprints of the original Carrier stamps were made for the Centennial Exposition of 1876.

The cover illustrated herewith from the collection of Dr. C. S. Hitchins of New Haven, President of the New Haven Philatelic Society, shows the New York Carrier Handstamp, as found used from May 29, 1860 to Sept. 30, 1861, according to the erudite Elliott Perry, on 1857 and 1861 issue stamps, likewise on U. S. stamped envelopes. The mark is known to Larry Mason on a

3-cent adhesive on cover, and this is rated as "overpayment."

Collectors who have seen the Hitchins cover (illustrated) believe the letter, originally in the envelope, was written aboard ship (the Baltic, per notation) and the writer had a U. S. stamp which he placed on the envelope, which in due time was placed in the City Delivery Division of the New York Post Office. In one word: Overpayment.

One cover collector offered an opinion on this cover that might send students of shipmarks to the library. He opined it might have been the proper postage fee, three cents, broken down to two-cents fee because it was a *Ship Letter* and the remaining value in the stamp paid for the carrier service.

The 1866 Post Office Regulations, Chapter XXI, defines Ship and Steamboat Letters as those brought into the United States from foreign countries. One section of this chapter on ship letters reads, "If the letters be delivered to the post offce by a passenger or sailor, and not in behalf of the master, nothing is to be paid for them; they are, nevertheless, to be charged with the ship letter postage."

So, was the Hitchins cover with its three-cent adhesive paying the ship fee *and the carrier fee?* The 1856 regulations might be construed as indicating that possibility, since letters brought by ships were subject to various fees, the least of which was two cents on letters delivered in port of delivery. (There was a 6-cent ship rate at this time, and this with the added domestic fee of two cents, created an eight cent handstamp, known best employed in Southern waters, in the 1856-66 period).

The two-cent ship letter rate, that is for service in port of entry, was effected by the act of Congress, Feb. 27, 1861, as can be seen by reference to the George S. Hill compilation in Scott's Monthly Journal for May 1937.

Have you an opinion? Is it based on some postal law of the period?

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Byrd	753	.15	.60	4.00	4.25	3.75
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Foreign New Issues

Please send all New Issue Stamps and News to Foreign Issue Editor, *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News*, Box 1660, Portland, Maine.

Belgium—*Scarce Provisionals*—when the Belgian Government ordered to reduce the postage rate of 10% —(Minus 10% issue), some of the stamps were overprinted with the *exact reduced denomination* instead of the overprint *"Minus* 10%—the quantity issued of the following 3 stamps, as shown in the official records of the Postmaster, is *less than* 10.000: We chronicle the 1.35 on 1.50fr, Leopold Victory-Sct. #335, —A 2,00 cruzeiros bicolor light blue with slate blue frame honors the Fifth Congress of the Postal Union of the Americas.

Brazil—*Commemorative Postage* —A 40c blue postage value commemorates the 50th Anniversary of the Brazilian Literary Academy.

China—*Northeastern Provinces*—The recently issued National Assembly commemoratives have been surcharged for use in the Northeastern Provinces: $2 on $20, $3 on $30, $5 on $50, $10 on $100.

Formosa — The same set has been surcharged for use in Formosa 70 cents on $20, $1 on $30, $2 on $50, $3 on $100. —*N. Y. Times*

(*Continued on Page* 33)

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Guatemala, Ind. Ann. airpost	(4)	.60
Italy, Pol. Leg. Roosev't ovr.	(5)	.42
Luxembourg, John the Blind SP	(4)	.60
Monaco, Roosevelt compl.	(9)	1.30
North Borneo, BMA overpt.	(12)	3.50
Compl. set incl. $5.00	(15)	42.50
Sarawak BMA overprt.	(13)	7.50
Compl. set incl. $10.00	(20)	58.50
Limited supply only.		
Switzerland, 1946 Pro Juven.	(4)	.38

Mail Orders Only
Postage Ex. for Orders Under $1.00.
YOUR STAMP SERVICE
2540 Hudson Blvd., Jersey City4, N.J.

Re - Mississippi -

S. S. Dallas was a Collins Liner

- When the Company went

into receivership in 1858 -

the Ship was laid up and

remained laid up until

Civil War when she was

taken over by the Navy

Dept to be used as a

Transport - In the Spring

of 1861 she was sent from

New York together with the

"Pawnee" - , "~~Pocahontas~~ Pocahontas"

and "Harriet Lane" and her

ships crew provisions and

reinforcements, for

Major Anderson's Little Garrison

at Fort Sumter -

See Vol 6 - Page 93 - Civil War

She carried Major Anderson's Garrison to New York

Fort Sumter surrendered Apr 14 1861

See Barbers book -
Pages 84 - 85

Mrs A M Ward

Ward & Co

Wall St

New York

If this photograph is reproduced in any manner, credit must be given to:

PHOTOGRAPH BY

SAMUEL KRAVITT

New Haven, Connecticut

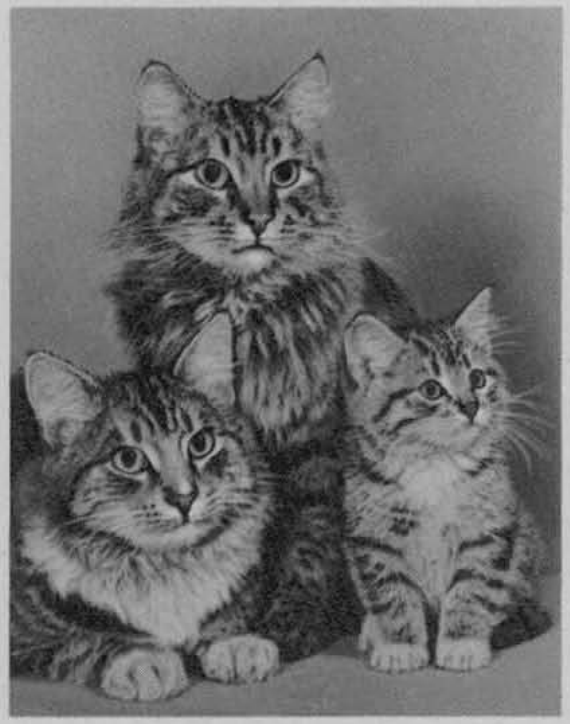
Photo Made Dec 4 1946

Mrs A M Ward

Ward & Co

Wall St

New York



Beverly Hills, Calif.
Dec. 22nd, 1947.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook;-

Recently, I came across your article of Nov. 15th in a friend's copy of "Stamps" and am reminded that I never acknowledged your letter of June 16th. For this, I owe you an apology.

The facts are that I have been postponing this until I submitted my ChooChoo cover to Mr. Jessup, regarding which we corresponded. I wrote him in August, but he was away in the spring and all summer. Finally he wrote me and

now has several of my covers. He said he thought there is one of these covers mailed from San Francisco. When I get his final reply, I will write you again.

Relative to your article which is most interesting, I have a Mulready envelope which is of the same form as that illustrated in Fig. 1. It is cut to shape all around and the flaps are held by a wax seal (no gum) stamped "Cam Vicarage", probably from a minister and his wife named "Harriet & George" per M/S notation. Red postmark on the back states "Dursley Au 21. 1840". I have seen another Mulready which is a letter sheet, maybe they were made to use either way. The killer on the front is red.

The late Jerome Kern had a little white envelope in his collection sent by the poet Longfellow to his mother in Portland, Me. It has a beautiful copy of the 5¢ 1847 tied in red, with "Cambridge, Mass." postmark.

My wife is very fond of cats of which we have two. I have taken the liberty of using her paper at this Holiday Season and extend to you and yours our best wishes for both Christmas and the New Year.

Sincerely yours,

Charles F. Thompson

Dec 2, 1947

Dear Mr. Ashbrook —

Your exceedingly prompt return received Monday — thanks —

My references to APS - Perry articles were correct —

Pls. see Amer. Philatelist for Dec. 1936 - Vol 50 No 3. Pages 128 thru 129., and the reference therein to his previous article of January 1936. I would be glad to send you the Dec. 1936 issue [but do not have the January 1936 one.] Just ask!

Awaiting your next published article.

Yours

APS #14091

NEW YORK, N.Y.
DEC 3
6 30PM
1947

THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

GRAND CENTRAL
STATION

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.
Fort Thomas, Ky.

GEORGE A. WEILER
ATTORNEY AND COUNSELOR AT LAW
180 EAST 79TH STREET
NEW YORK 21, N. Y.

BUTTERFIELD 8-6662

November 22, 1947

My Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

Your article in STAMPS of November 15th was so interestingly presented that I found it impossible to lay it aside without examining my odd accumulation of old U.S. covers and stampless.

Naturally I suppose that you have read the articles in AMERICAN PHILATELIST OF January and December 1936. These were written by Thomas D. Perry, then of 361 West Second St., Moorestown, New Jersey. "Early envelopes postally used". I have only the latter issue myself. Have you taken over his then-expressed research?

For your examination - and return to me, when you are finished - no rush - I am forwarding:

1 - N.Y.City to Pittsford Vt - UNDATED - Certainly this seems a handmade.

2 - Annapolis to Prince George,Md. 1848

3 - Unknown to "Orizaba,Mexico" This came in a large lot of covers at a Barr auction about 10 yrs ago. Could be fake but I doubt it. Raynolds was the first man to record an ascent of Mt. Orizaba in 1848. He was a Major in the Union Army (Bretet B.G.) in 1865. So I doubt fakery. (All the Army was out of Mexico by May 1848)

4 - Boston to N.Y.City - to ship Cleopatra Date Unknown yet Interesting since the only early type envelop I have seen with a Manufacturer's name embossed thereon. See "MARION" at lower left. Appears next to"27 South St"

All the other early envelopes are of 1850 ff. dates and without makers names.

Sorry I couldn't be of more help. I'm sure that if collectors cooperate with you you can amass an impressive amount of data/ I await with interest another article mn this subject by you.

Very truly yours,

George A. Weiler

APS 14091

Dec. 8, 1947.

Mr. George A. Weiler,
180 East 79th St.,
New York 21, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Weiler:

Thanks for your card of the 2nd.

I have copies of the A.P. for January and December 1936 and managed to find the two Perry articles. Since my letter to you I have received one from Thos. Perry in which he called my attention to his article on the same subject in the book of the Third Philatelic Congress (1937). This I have now read with much interest. I evidently did not read it at the time it appeared.

in I wondered why the American public was so slow/adopting the use of envelopes before 1846. Perry, in his A.P. article of December 1936 gives the explanation.

Perhaps the penalty for the use of envelopes may have had something to do with the revision of our postal laws in 1845. That thought had never occurred to me before.

Sincerely yours,

Dear Mr. Ashbrook: 12.20.47

Ran across some data in Collectors Club Philatelist that may interest you on your envelope article. The CCP of July 1947 - article of E. Tudor Gross- cites a "Startling Discovery" thru courtesy of Dr. Carroll Chase of an early window envelope 1849 (France) and then research-data is given. It seems that Marion of Paris(remember the makers name on my Orizaba cover ?) patented the window feature in 1846 and a case to hold his envelopes in Dec. 1844. Thus we can conclude that envelopes were popular in France in 1844 or before. Much can be done in this direction. If I find more on this I'll write.

HOLIDAY GREETINGS

Les A. Foster

180 East 79th St,NY21

THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK
33 North Ft. Thomas Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Post Card DEC 27 1947

Mr Geo A Meiler
180 East 79th St New York 21 N.Y.

Dear Mr Meiler

Thanks for your card. My Article must have attracted attention because I have received so many letters regarding it, Even one from England.

I have the Gross article and will read it again Thanks

Very Sincerely
Candace

Jan. 23, 1948.

Mr. W. C. Peterman,
80 Cranberry St.,
Brooklyn 2, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Peterman:

Thanks very much for your kind letter of the 19th.

Early this week, I forwarded to "Stamps" a follow-up article to the one I published last November and in it I emphasized the reason why both the British and American publics were so slow in adopting the use of envelopes. The reason - the extra postage penalty. I believe that very few collectors realize this feature.

I am sorry that I did not have the data that you sent me so that I could have included it in the article, but if it is not too late, I will try and have it inserted, giving you full credit for same.

Again my sincere thanks for your kind letter.

Cordially yours,

80 Cranberry St.,
Brooklyn 2, N.Y.
January 19, 1948.

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

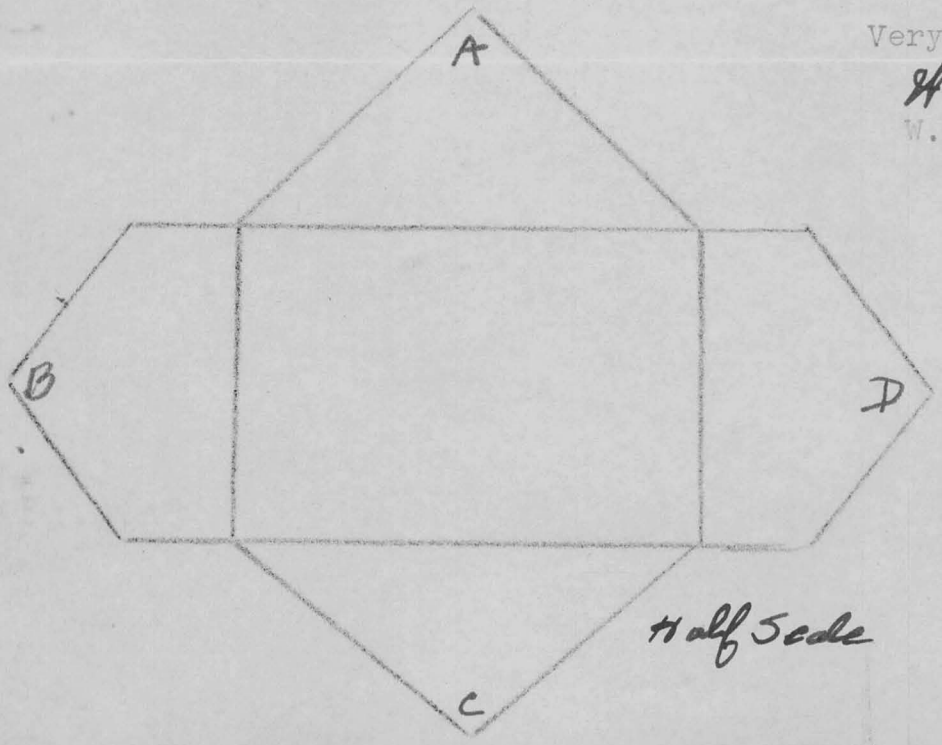
Dear Mr. Ashbrook:-

In reference to your article on "Envelopes" in the November 15th issue of STAMPS, I thought that you might be interested the following from the New York Herald Tribune of June 2, 1945 under the heading "One hundred years ago in the New York Tribune" This was taken from the Tribune as near as possible to the same date in 1845.

> "ENVELOPES FOR LETTERS- the subscribers have just received a large supply of buff-colored envelopes to enclose letters, suitable to be used under the new Post Office Law, whereby several letters can be forwarded under one cover, and considerable postage saved. Jansen & Bell, 158 Nassau St., Tribune Bldg.- Advt."

Evidently, Jansen & Bell were alert to the business possibilities of the law of March 3rd which went into effect on July 1st.

I have an envelope, evidently hand-cut as there are slight irregularities in the cutting and folding, which was used in England between London and somewhere in Exeter in 1835. It is postmarked with a crowned double circle - FREE - 2 JU 2 - 1835. The "form" is shown in the sketch below. The flaps B C and D were glued together only at the point where they met. The envelope was closed by sealing with a wax wafer. Since this was a "free" letter the cost of two sheets was of no consideration.



Very truly yours,

W. C. Peterman, APS #16737

W.C. Peterman

"Stonehaven"
West Bay
Bridport (Dorset)

December 3.

Stanley B.Ashbrook
33 N.Ft.Thomas Ave.
Fort Thomas Kentucky.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

First of all, I'm at last a civilian; but too late, because I'm out of the frying pan and into the fire, after my release leave is up (next March) I'm due for 'directed labour' and must work at what I'm ordered to do!! God, what a country. So all my schemes about my own business are out, and I d be better offin the army after all!

And now, about envelopes. I've collected envelopes as a sideline for many years and find them fascinating. The earliest manufactured ones come from France dating back to the 17th, cent. 18th cent ones are frequently met with. The envelope was not used much in Englamd until 1832, because the use of an envelope would have incurred doubled postage right away - postage being charged per sheet. I have several English ones dating from 1832 - also a few delightful ornamental coloured ones (postally used) from the continent dating from 1832.

Enclosed is a duplicate I have - French which dates from 1741 - 1743 the period in which the postmark was used. Unfortunately the marking is very indistinct. It is the fleur-de - lis, with P.P and a small crown. (My own copy is clear) I can offer you this cover at $2.00 - because such early made envelopes are difficult to come by.

The origin of '~~enveople~~ envelope' is due to the large seals in use on the Continent dating from the 16th cent and getting bigger throughout the years. These seals were imprinted on a large square piece of parchment so that when the letter was folded, this square enveloped the whole, and was waxed on the back. I have a few to spare, entire letters written by people of importance (demi-Royalties) beautful to look at and in good condition, dating from the early 17th cent. I'm asking £2.guineas each for them ($10 about) according to their importance. I've also a few dated 1544 with smaller seals 'enveloping' from Italy in good condition which I can offer at $5 each. Shall be very pleased to offer you a selection.

Once when I was in New York, I showed my envelope collection to the Collectors Club, and it caused great interest, becasue few had ever seen such early examples. At that time however I had none of the early Continental ones.

Anyway, congratulations on a most interesting article.

Yours sincerely

Frank Staff

I recommend you to read Dendy Marshalls book "The British Post Office" – he tells a lot about envelopes –

I possess a copy of "Almanach du Philatéliste" – Paris 1927 – where the complete story of early envelops is given, with many pictures – the earliest depicted is from Geneva 1615.

Jan. 5, 1948.

Capt. Frank W. Staff,
"Stonehaven"
West Bay,
Bridgeport (Dorset)
England.

Dear Captain:

Thanks very much for your kind letter of December 3rd. Congratulations on being in civilian life once more, but I regret to hear that you will be unable to lead the sort of life that you would prefer. Wars are supposed to correct evils but they seldom accomplish that end. How can the world ever forgive the Germans for what they started in 1914 and 1939.

In my article in "Stamps" I should have emphasized one very important point - The explanation as to why G.B. was slow to adopt the manufactured envelope and likewise why we were so slow in doing so over here. Not until after my article appeared did I realize the cause - double postage.

I am returning the item that you sent me as I really haven't any use for it. Thanks just the same.

Several friends mentioned the Dendy Marshall book, but I have never seen a copy. Do you suppose you could obtain one for me?

In a former letter you mentioned that you had some stampless covers of the "U.S.Express Mail" of 1836-1839. If you have any that you will sell, I would be very glad to acquire them. Also any covers showing the Reprisal Rate of 1847-1848 - either to G.B. or to the U.S.

Wishing you a Very Prosperous and Happy New Year, I am

Cordially yours,

Dec. 1, 1947.

Mr. Prescott H. Thorp,
Netcong, N.J.

Dear Prescott:

In "Stamps" issue of November 15th, I had an article on early uses of envelopes. Perhaps you noticed it.

I understand that envelopes became very popular in England in 1840 and 1841. If one asked the question - Why? I suppose the answer would be - because of the Mulready - but that is not the real answer. Being very much interested in envelopes no doubt you will agree.

If envelopes were used to a large extent in England in the early forties why were we, in this country, so slow to adopt them? I never realized until recently the correct answer to that question. I am sure that you know the correct answer but may I inquire if you know whether or not it was every emphasized in any philatelic article published within the past decade?

You will doubtless recall that a few years ago I raised the question as to "Why Stamped Envelopes Were First Used." It appeared to be a point that had been completely overlooked by specialists in U. S. Entires. It was quite interesting. I think the question - Why, was the adoption of envelopes in the U. S. so slow prior to the late or middle eighteen forties, is well worth considering.

I am also writing Tom Perry a brief note on this subject.

Sincerely yours,

PRESCOTT HOLDEN THORP

NETCONG, NEW JERSEY

Dear Stanley;

I did note your artical in Stamps and had set it aside to read carefully only to have this issue mislaid.

However, I am not well aquainted with early use of envelopes and could probably not contribute much to your own knowledge of the subject. Its my understanding, (rather casual, to be sure) that envelopes first came to this country along about 1842 as the "new idea from France." I do not think the Mulready, so-called, envelope contributed much to the popularity of using envelopes for, as I understand it, the Mulready itself proved so unpopular that it was withdrawn from issue during the first year of its advent. Beleive it lasted only nine months.

However, if one wants to go back to the very first envelope I have recollection of running across a reference to Sargon I, which was some 3800 years B.C. This reference indicated that messages carved on stone were wrapped in clay that was baked around them and the whole thing impressed with a clay seal to indicate its private character.

That, of course, even if true, has little if any relation to the paper envelope as we know it today.

As to why envelopes were adopted in this country I have some recollection of a reference that indicated envelopes proved popular because they were an added advantage in preventing people from spying into the mail. As you know spying was quite prevelent in the forties and fifties and most people didn't trust their private affiars to the post. The art of removing wax seals had been developed to a fine degree and the seals were of littke use in preventing spying. Just why a gummed envelope should prevent opening seems obtuse to me so I've never put much stock in the "spying" story. There may, however, be something to it.

You flatter me when you say that you are

PRESCOTT HOLDEN THORP

NETCONG, NEW JERSEY

sure that I know the correct answer as to why envelopes became so popular. And I am sure that any artical you might write on the subject would prove very interesting and would t row much light on an otherwise dark subject.

Incidentally, it would be a lot easier to explain why government envelopes have to this day been frowned upon as incorrect for personal correspondence. Obvioulsy this aversion has been propagandised by envelope manufacturers who figured they might loose much of their business if everyone started using government stamped envelopes.

Strangely enough they might have spared their fears. Few people think of buying a supply of stamped envelopes for their correspondence and the surprising feature (to me, at least) is that so many stamped envelopes are used. Even I, who should certainly use government stampe envelopes, never seem to have the required cash to buy them by the box - which, of course, I should do. When I have a large mailing I undertake to purchase a couple of boxes, but even then I often refrain as there is not sufficient time to get them imprinted with my name and address.

In any event you will gather from this letter how poverty stricken my knowledge is concerning the subject you have brought up.

Regards

Pep.

PHT/h

Dec. 11, 1947.

Mr. Prescott Holden Thorp,
Netcong, N.J.

Dear Prescott:

Thanks very much for your interesting letter. When I wrote you I thought that I had a new idea, but I have since found out that my good friend Tom Perry mentioned the subject ten years ago in a paper that he prepared for the Philatelic Congress of 1937, on the subject of early uses of envelopes.

I do not recall that I read the article at the time. He also had an article on the same subject in the December 1936 issue of the American Philatelist. I doubt if I read it, but if I did, the facts therein didn't register with me.

What I thought might be a new idea was that the reason why the use of envelopes was not adopted in this country prior to July 1, 1845 was because the use of same doubled the postage rate. As you will recall, rates of postage prior to that date, were based on, (1) distance and (2) the number of sheets of paper comprising the letter. A letter for a distance of over 400 miles was taxed 25¢, but if enclosed in an envelope the rate was 50¢. No wonder the envelopes used in this country prior to July 1, 1845 are practically unknown to those who have made a long study of the subject. No doubt you have a copy of Tom Perry's article for the Third Philatelic Congress. If so, may I call it to your attention.

Before making mention of the above interesting point in print, I wanted to give due credit to anyone who had heretofore mentioned it, and that is the reason why I wrote you. The average collector really doesn't pay much attention to rates, hence I thought it possible that the point may have been overlooked.

It does seem possible that the wide spread use of envelopes in Great Britain in the early forties might have had some influence in the change in our Postal Laws as per the Act of March 3, 1845. That is, to rate letters by weight, as per the British system, rather than the old system which had been in vogue here for so many years.

I believe that you are right about the Mulready, but I suppose there is little question but what it paved the way for the later adoption of envelopes because I have seen it stated that by 1942 nearly one-half of the letters passing thru the British Post Office were enclosed in envelopes, and that by 1850 the rate had

increased to about 90%.. What a contrast this is to conditions in the U.S.

Yes, it is strange that stamped envelopes are not used more extensively for private correspondence as well as by business concerns.

Regarding stamped envelopes. The S.U.S. states that our first envelopes were issued July 1, 1853. Do you know whether there is any authority for that statement? Mr. Bartels wrote me in 1939 that the earliest use he had ever seen was July 7, 1853. Back in the old Philatelic Gazette Dr. Berthold ran an article in 1915 in which he illustrated a cover and the letter which was enclosed. The 3¢ entire was postmarked "Boston Jun 17" and the letter was dated "Boston June 16th, 1853." This envelope did not have the Nesbit seal. I am wondering if it was later proved that this envelope was a fake, or was not actually used in 1853?

The S.U.S. gives practically no information on the dates of issue of U.S. envelopes, for example, the "Star Dies" are simply listed "1860-61." I wonder why specialists in "Envelopes" do not insist that the catalogue furnish such worthwhile information?

In the Thorp catalogue, it is stated that the Star Dies (3¢ - 6¢ - 10¢) were issued in October 1860. In 1939, Mr. Bartels wrote me that the earliest 3¢ Star Die he had seen was Sep. 7, 1860, and a use of Sep. 13, 1860 was reported in the Philatelic Press some years later. I have a record of a use of the 6¢ Star Die on Sep. 14, 1860.

Regarding the 10¢ Star Die. May I inquire if you have any record of a use in September or October of 1860? In my time I have not seen many used 10¢ covers but I suppose the majority that are in existence were 10¢ rates to and from California. Quite a bit of mail in those days went to Havana, requiring a 10¢ rate but I have never run across such a 10¢ Star Die. I wm wondering if you have any record of unusual uses of this envelope.

The earliest use that I have seen of a compound was in Feb. 1861. Have you any record of an earlier use? The compound is a very wonderful item in my opinion and I wonder if used entires are not very much more rare than generally supposed. Evidently supplies were only sent to a comparatively few large post offices. And this reminds me of the 3¢ Star Die used with a 1¢ 1857. Such covers are not common and I think the only uses that I have seen were at Boston, New York and Philadelphia. Apparently the latter is very rare.

May I apologize for the length of this letter.

With kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

PRESCOTT HOLDEN THORP

NETCONG, NEW JERSEY

Dear Stanley;

Thanks for calling to my attention an interesting fact concerning the use of stamped envelopes. If I had known about the rates of postage being based on sheets of paper and later changed to a base of weights - I had failed to connect it with the issue of stamped envelopes. I suspose I had known these facts but just hadn't connected the two things together. You are, of course, absolutely right.

Regarding the earliest use of a government stamped envelope; There are, so far as I am aware, no known facts on the subject. Tiffany, Bogert and Rechert go into the matter quite extensively and it is from their work that the date of July 1st, 1853 has been taken. This, despite the fact that TB&R go to much length to point out that the July 1st date is entirely problematical. In fact, they introduce evidence that envelopes, a considerable quantity of them, were distributed to Postmasters "in June" of 1853. I do not know of the "Boston Jun 17" envelope and the fact that it was without the Nesbitt Crest is difficult to understand. Berthold was unquestionably a great student of stamped envelopes but I am inclined to think he was on occasion inclined to be over enthusiastic. As witness his own hand notes on envelope bands stating "only copy known" on items that have become quite prevelent and, often, common. He wrote such notes when he was first shown an envelope he had not previously seen - I think these notes were sales talk for benifit of Worthington and, of course, GW would not destroy the band with Berthold's writing on it and the darn things stick around to this day to plague us. Apparantly Berthold's interest would drop as soon as others were discovered and he would not attempt to correct his written records. Thus, I beleive, he often "thought out loud" in print about things in an effort to scare up information on a subject in which he was interested. Occasionally, when the information he sought had been forth coming he would write a follow-up artical that would be published. Often, as not, I beleive, he would satisfy himself on the subject and neglect to correct the printed record.

However, this is not to say that we can blithly

PRESCOTT HOLDEN THORP

NETCONG, NEW JERSEY

overlook anything the late Dr. V. B. wrote on envelopes. If there is one thing I have learned these padt twenty-five years it is that the older I grow the less I know about stamps. I have great respect fpr these masters of the past and if, occasionaly, I discover where they have errd it only cautions me that the masters were human and could make mistakes so Thorp better be doubly carefully for he is far from being a master or even a good student.

Your reference to a used 6¢ star Die is interesting - this is a howling rarity - I doubt that more than a half-dozen or so could be located. I know of only one - at least I beleive that Marcus White has one in his collection.

Strangely en ugh envelope collectors have shown very little interest in used covers. Probably this is because the used is, very often, so extremely difficult to obtain. Also, I suspect, the arly collectors became interested in the Die varieties and these could best be see on the unused. In any event the use of envelopes is an interesting and strange thing.

For instance, Dies 1, 2, 3, and 4, of the Nesbitt issue are quite common when used but all of them are extremely rare unused. The Die 5 is on the other hand common enough in either condition. Now when I say "rare" i mean just that. I would go so far as to say that fine unused entires (without address on the face) of the first 4 Dies are damn near impossible!

Now take the 6¢ Nexbitts (1st issue) The 6¢ green is quite common used but the 6¢ red is again one of those very scarce items used. The 10¢ are very coomon used but "difficult" to "rare" when unused.

As for the "Star Die" issue the 6¢ either unused or used is one of the most difficult of all stamped envelopes with the used being infinately the rarer. As for the 10 centers the used is by far the most common.

These inconsistances probably can be explained by rates of postage - there being (?) a greater demand for the 10¢ than the 6¢. But this would not explain the phenomen regarding the 6¢ greens and the 6¢ reds of the 1st issue.

PRESCOTT HOLDEN THORP

NETCONG, NEW JERSEY

I must admit my ignorance as to dates of use of any envelopes - have only the vaguest ideas on the subject. Compounds were used from several cities but how early I do not know. Beleive these to have been use in New York, Charlestown (?), Chicago (M.W. has one) and Baltimore. Ward has been looking for one used from Philadelphia but I do not know that he has ever turned one up. Don't recall why I think Charlestown was one of the cities of use and even as I wrote the name of this city I wondered about it because compounds were never demonitize and were used for a considerable time during the Civil War. My impression for this was that none of the compounds had been distributured to Confed post offices so it was not thought necessary to withdraw them. If this is so then how come Charlestown? I'm probably wrong about it. Beleive Boston should be included in the list also but am not sure.

I have never heard of any of these letters going to Havana under a 10c stamped envelope nor do I recall ever having seen any early Nesbitt so used. Am sure that I would have noticed such a cover if one had ever come my way.

Sorry that I can not give more concrete information but I am happy indeed that you have taken up the subject.

Regards

Pep

Jan. 5, 1948.

Mr. Prescott H. Thorp,
Netcong, N.J.

Dear Prescott:

Thanks very much for your recent letter which I assure you was most welcome. Due to the holidays this is the first opportunity that I have had to acknowledge it.

Regarding the early envelope that Berthold reported in the old Philatelic Gazette. I am at a loss to account for the fact that apparently no recognition has ever been accorded this item. I cannot see from the illustrations why it should be questioned. He illustrated the cover and also half of the letter which is very plainly written:

Boston June 16th, 1853

The envelope is postmarked -

BOSTON
JUN
17

Berthold stated:

"It will certainly interest the envelope collector to hear that this buff envelope does not bear a Nesbitt tress on the point of the flap."

In this article Berthold gave a list of the ten earliest uses known to him, and of the ten only three had the seal. His list follows:

1 -	June	16,	1853	no seal
2 -	July	22,	"	seal
3 -	"	30,	"	seal
4 -	Aug.	1,	"	no seal
5 -	"	8,	"	" "
6 -	Sep.	6,	"	" "
7 -	Nov.	9,	"	seal
8 -	"	10,	"	no seal
9 -	Dec.	1,	"	" "
10 -	"	29,	"	" "

He gave descriptions of each of the envelopes. I am wondering if the above is of special interest to you and if so perhaps his

entire article might be worth your attention. It appeared in the June 15th Philatelic Gazette - Vol. V - No. 6. No doubt the C.C. Library has a copy, but if not, I will be glad to loan you mine.

Re - the 6¢ Star Die. Marcus White wrote me back in 1943 that he had one used from Oxford, N.Y. on "Sep. 14." This would have been quite late for 1861, so no doubt the use was 1860.

What about Barkhausen? He must own several of the 6¢. I spent an hour or so with him in his office when I was in Chicago last October, but I did not think to ask him about the 6¢.

He has some nice things in used envelopes and he acquired from me several very desirable "Westerns," including a "Fort Bridger, U.T." (straight line), which some of the precancel lunatics call a "Precancel." Rich for example. Also another unrecognized envelope rarity - a frank of the Central Overland California and Pikes Peak Express Co. - eastbound. Barkhausen is a darn nice chap. I suppose you know him quite well.

It is too bad that more collectors don't go in for used envelopes.

Do you run across many 3¢ plus 1¢? I don't mean the compound but 3¢ envelopes with 1¢ 1857 or 1861. If you have any 3¢ Star Die plus 1¢ 1857 for sale will you please submit. I am also interested in 3¢ Star Dies which show "Old Stamps Not Recognized."

I do not doubt that fine early unused entires are very rare. I imagine there is more satisfaction in owning such items than unused early adhesives with "O.G."

It seems odd to me that an unused entire 6¢ Star is apparently so very much more rare than the compound. One would imagine it would be the reverse because southern post offices were surely stocked with the 6¢ but none had any compounds. I have long had an ambition to turn up a 6¢ used in the south after June 1, 1861, showing Confederate usage, (postage paid in cash or stamps).

Re - the compound. I have records of uses at:

New York
Boston
Baltimore
Chicago

I have heard that supplies were also sent to Philadelphia and Washington, but I have no record of any covers from these two offices. I never heard of a use at Charleston, S.C.

Again the 3¢ Star Die. Tom Perry has a cover used from New York on Aug. 29, 1860 which is the earliest known use in my record. Tom also has a 3¢ 1853 which was apparently used from Philadelphia on July 6, 1853 which is a day earlier than the Bartels records.

#3. Mr. Prescott H. Thorp, Jan. 5, 1848.

Again re - the Compound. Perhaps the use you mentioned was "CHARLESTOWN MASS." It could have been used there as 3¢ plus 1¢ uses are known from that office. I never saw a 3¢ plus 1¢ "carrier" use at Charleston, S.C., but I have seen "Prepaid Way" uses of 3¢ plus 1¢ into that office.

I am very anxious to see all and any 3¢ plus 1¢ uses on Stamped Envelopes.

I am preparing an article for "STAMPS" and I'll probably mention some of the above mentioned items.

With best wishes for the New Year -

Cordially yours,

PRESCOTT HOLDEN THORP

NETCONG, NEW JERSEY

Jan 8, 1948

Dear Stanley;

Your interesting letter of the 5th at hand.

First let me hasten to explain that when we discuss dates of use of envelopes I am getting into deep water. Somehow I am of the opinion that I had seen a compound - either entire or cut - that had been used at Charlestown, S.C. Prehaps not, but one thing is sure my testimony in this instance is so unsound as to be of ilttle use for an artical. Charlestown, S.C. is common enough on the Star Die 3 centers and is often encountered on early envelopes - that much I do know. In fact I inclose a 3c star die so postmarked.

Now as to the 6c star die. The only used copy I know of is the one you mention that Marcus White has. This comes pretty close to being a unique item. If, as suggested in your letter, the 6¢ star die was distribute in the South then surely the supply was very meager. In addition to the used entire owned by Marcus here is the total list of all the 6¢ star dies I have any knowledge of;

on buff - unused corner (poor) Raymond Weil stock

Entires

Marcus White - pair unused - buff used

W. Parsons Todd pair unused

Boston Collector - pair unused

Barkhausen - pair unused (prehaps he also has a used copy but I doubt it.)

Also, there was a pair unused in the Arthur Weil collection.

No doubt there are others but beleive me they are few and far between. They are among the rarest of U.S. postage issues either adhesive or envelope.

PRESCOTT HOLDEN THORP

NETCONG, NEW JERSEY

I have a complete set of the Philatelic Gazzette and now that you mention it I vaguely recall reading the Berthold artical you mention. At the time I complied my catalogue I did a prodigious amount of research but, of course, noted down only the facts that I though might fit into the work I was preparing.

As to the Nesbitt seals, or "tresses" these we know were discontinued almost immediately after the envelopes ahd been introduced. My cata states the date as probably July 7th. (Ref. D,B & R). So, in my opinion, the finding of an early usage of a Nesbitt without the seal, while interesting, would not be anything more than a novelty. If Berthold's Jun 16th date is 1853 (and not 1854) then the none tress envelope used would be conclusive proof that the seals had been discontinued much earlier than was suspected. - Or would it? - Prehaps the addition of the Crest was an inspiration Nesbitt had after he had manufactured some of the envelopes? Does Tom Perry's 3c used July 6, 1853 have the tress?

It is a damnable shame that the early envelope specialists - of which there were many (Harrison, Tiffany, Bogart, Durbin, -even Berthold - paid so little attention to usage. They merely had the Acts of Congress and did little to investigate further. Mostly they were interested in envelopes , a starnge twist for a philatelist - and gave great importance to the reshaping of a "knife" letting historical philatelic data slide as of little interest. In fact the early catalogues were made up according to envelopes and even the stam s were relegated to a secondary consideration. Now the great stocks and collections have been dissapated so there are many many facts we probably never shall learn.

One thing is certain, up to this very day the envelope collector cares little for the used item and it would almost seem that envelope collectors are a thing apart from philately for we almost never run across worthwhile used material in the collections and lots we purchase. Used items with Western Franks have long since been carefully segregated for the WF collector. Combination stamped envelopes (those with adhesives attached) have likewise be relegated to the "cover" collector who, in turn, spurns used envelopes as being something out of his field even as the envelope collector spurns the combination cover as something unacceptable to him. It is, indeed a strange

PRESCOTT HOLDEN THORP

NETCONG, NEW JERSEY

situation. The highlights of each field are denied to each group of collectors as being "out of their territory." Hence you will not find any "envelope" collection containg anything but occasional used items - and you will not find any adhesive collection containing any but occasional unused items. Even the great Barkhausen collection (he is indeed a "peech") contains unused envelopes - and his Western Frank collection is a thing apart from the envelope collection. AFL's Western Franks were just that and he never bothered his head about collecting envelopes. Of course he took some outstanding used item but the rest of the lot was of no interest to him. I recall having two handsome Bmmmmmmm Bloods with the first issue Nesbitt stamps on the opposite corners. These were really "gems" and were beautifully cancelled, a thing to treasure. But of course they went to an adhesive collector for I knew of no envelope collector who would be interested.

Incidentally youmask me for combination star dies (adhesives plus envelopes) sorry non have come my way. I do inclose an unused combination 1¢ (Scott's 63) plus a 1c star Die envelope. This is last of a lot that turned up in the Bogart Durbin sale. As I recall there were some thory or more of these clearly indicating that the Post Office clerks had attached the adhesives in order to use up an over supply, or an obsolete, envelope in stock. Even as is often done to this day.

Anyhow I written a lot about nothing.

New Year Greetimgs.

Cordially

Pep

Jan. 17, 1948.

Mr. Prescott Holden Thorp,
Netcong, N.J.

Dear Prescott:

Your letter of the 8th was read with much interest. Herewith I am returning the two Star Die covers.

I note that the Charleston is an "Independent State", that is, used in South Carolina after secession, but before formation of the C.S.A. No doubt you are aware that Confed collectors go after such items but they seldom pay much of a premium for the feature. I have seen a lot of 3¢ Star Die uses from Charleston, S.C. Evidently a big supply was sent there and it appears that stamped envelopes were popular in that city. In this respect, I recall that the C.S.A. Congress authorized the P.M.G. to issue stamped envelopes but he was never able to do so.

Regarding the combination cover. The rate on local letters at offices with carrier delivery was raised to 2¢ on July 1, 1863, and circular mail was also raised to 2¢. Thus there were two uses for a 2¢ rate. It is possible, of course, that P.O. clerks may have prepared combinations such as yours but I doubt it. It seems more probable that 1¢ stamps were added by the public to supplies of 1¢ envelopes on hand.

The 1¢ star die and the compound were never demonetized so the supplies in southern post offices must have been very small. Perhaps very few of the former and none of the latter.

Please pardon the repetition of what you are fully aware.

Regarding the 6¢ Star Die. While I knew that it was quite rare, I had no idea that it was as rare as you stated. I certainly was glad to get the data.

Re - Tom Perry's early use of July 6, 1853. Yes, this has the Nesbitt seal on the back flap.

I am preparing a follow-up article for "Stamps" on my envelope notes of last November. Would you have any objection if I made reference to several points regarding stamped envelopes as contained in your letter?

With kindest regards - Cordially yours,

Jan. 25, 1948.

Mr. Prescott H. Thorp,
Hetcong, N.J.

Dear Prescott:

My thanks for the additional data on the 6¢ star die. It is all most interesting. Also thanks for your permission to make reference in a forthcoming article to various interesting points contained in your recent letters.

By the way, regarding that 1¢ star die envelope of yours with the 1¢ 1851. I really had forgotten that Luff mentioned such an item in his book until I stumbled across it yesterday. See page 82 in his book and his quote from an article in the "Stamp Collectors Magazine" for August 1867.

So the postal clerks really did prepare in advance envelopes like yours. That surely adds value to your cover.

I had a long letter from Hughie Clark several days ago, the most optomistic word that I have received in many months.

With best regards -

Cordially yours,

Nov. 24, 1947.

Mr. L. H. Barkhausen,
231 S. La Salle St.,
Chicago 4, Ills.

My dear Mr. Barkhausen:

Here I am to bother you once again. Would it be too much trouble to ask you to look over your

10¢ Star covers,

and see if by any chance you have any real early uses? I think that the 10¢ was issued as early as September 1860, but I have no record of such a use, or, in fact, of a use even in October 1860.

Further, will you please give me a list of any 3¢ Star Die covers showing carrier usage - that is, a 3¢ plus 1¢, the 1¢ a 1¢ 1857, Type V. Recently I heard of a 3¢ star die with a 1¢ 1861, (3¢ plus 1¢) and I am trying to trace it. The envelope was being demonetized at the same time the 1¢ stamp came into use, so such a combination is most unusual.

Most of the 3¢ star die plus 1¢ 1857 that I have seen were used at Boston.

I have two 10¢ star die - entires - both Wells Fargo franks - one is a "paste-up" - no address on face - with two strikes of the large W.F. & Co. San Francisco marking (blue) of "1 Mar (1861?)." The cover is a buff with a brown-red frank. The other is addressed to New York and has the San Francisco W.F. & Co. blue marking of "10 Aug" (1861). The stamp is canceled by this and also a black grid, but there is no New York or other postmark. The cover is a buff with a carmine frank.

I'll be glad to send these to you if you would care to see them.

My best regards to you.

Cordially yours,

THOMAS DOANE PERRY
ENGINEER IN WOOD WORK
301 EAST MAIN STREET
MOORESTOWN, NEW JERSEY
TELEPHONE 9-0613

DECEMBER 2ND, 1947

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK, ESQ.,
33 NORTH ST. THOMAS AVENUE,
FORT THOMAS, KENTUCKY

DEAR STANLEY;

I HAVE YOURS OF THE 29TH REGARDING EARLY ENVELOPES. I STUDIED THIS RATHER CAREFULLY WHEN I PREPARED MY AM.PHIL.CONGRESS PAPER FOR CHICAGO IN 1937, WHICH WAS PRINTED. I HAVE AN EXTRA COPY I CAN LOAN MOU IF YOU HAVEN'T ONE. I ALSO HAVE A PHOTOSTAT OF THE DENDY MARSHALL ARTICLE IN GIBBONS, SEPTEMBER 1933, THAT YOU MAY BORROW IF YOU DO NOT HAVE IT AVAILABLE.

MY A.P.C. ARTICLE WAS RATHER BRIEF, AN INTRODUCTION TO AN APPEAL FOR COLLECTING STAMPED ENVELOPES, AND WAS NOT IN YOUR THOROUGH STYLE, BUT I FOUND ORIGINAL DATA ON ENVELOPES MOST ELUSIVE EVEN IN THE NYC PUBLIC LIBRARY. I HAVE TRIED TO LOCATE ENVELOPES POSTALLY USED BEFORE JULY 1, 1845, AND HAVE NEVER TURNED UP ANY, EXCEPT AS USED FOR OFFICIAL MAIL, "FREE" ETC., WHERE THE ADDED SHEET OF PAPER INVOLVED NO EXTRA POSTAGE PAYMENT. IF YOU CAN TURN UP ANY I'LL BE DELIGHTED TO HAVE PHOTOSTATS AND DESCRIPTIONS.

I DID NOT FOLLOW UP THE ENGLISH USE OF ENVELOPES, WHERE THEY BECAME NOT TOO UNUSUAL AFTER THE MULREADY, ALTHOUGH THAT WAS HARDLY A REAL ENVELOPE, SINCE SO FAR AS I KNOW IT HAD NO GUMMED FLAPS AND REQUIRED A WAX OR GUMMED SEAL FOR CLOSURE. IT WAS UNDOUBTEDLY THE FORERUNNER. I HAVE AN 1839 ENGLISH ENVELOPE, A "PIP", WHICH I ENCLOSE. NOTE IT HAS NO GUM ON THE FLAPS, ANY OF THEM. AM SENDING A BROCHURE OF THE U.S.ENVELOPE CO., UNFORTUNATELY NOT DATED, BUT PROBABLY AROUND 1910 TO 20. UNDER SEPARATE CPVER, PLEASE RETURN.

ALSO I HAVE A FISTFULL OF EARLY HAND MADE ENVELOPES, 1845-1853, WHICH I HAD LAID BY FOR A POSSIBLE ENVELOPE ARTICLE SOMEDAY, MAYBE. THERE IS NO CHANCE THAT I CAN GET AT IT FOR MONTHS OR YEARS AHEAD, AND IF YOU WANT TO GO AHEAD AND WRITE IT UP, YOU HAVE MY BLESSING, AND I'LL GLADLY LOAN YOU WHAT CORRESPONDENCE AND ARTICLES THAT I HAVE. THIS OFFER IS SINCERE AND I WOULD BE GLAD TO HAVE IT DONE IN YOUR THOROUGH STLYE, AS IT ALL ADDS ZEST TO ENVELOPE COLLECTING.

CORDIALLY,

TOM

CC PHT

Nov. 29, 1947.

Mr. Thos. D. Perry,
301 E. Main St.,
Moorestown, N.J.

Dear Tom:

In "Stamps" issue of November 15th, I had an article on early uses of envelopes. A friend wrote me that you published an article on the same subject several years ago. Will you please inform me where your article appeared?

I understand that envelopes became very popular in England in 1840 and 1841. If I asked the question - Why? I suppose the answer would be - because of the Mulready - but that is not the real answer.

If envelopes were used to a large extent in England in the early forties why were we so slow to adopt them in this country? I never realized until recently the correct answer to that question. I am sure that you know the correct answer but may I inquire if you know whether or not it was ever emphasized in any philatelic article published within the past decade?

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

Dec. 6, 1947.

Mr. Thomas D. Perry,
301 E. Main St.,
Moorestown, N.J.

Dear Tom:

Thanks very much for your kind letter and also for the loan of the little booklet which I am returning herewith. A copy of this same booklet was sent to me several weeks ago by a man in Springfield, Mass., who is with the U. S. Envelope Co. I made copious notes from it before I returned it to him.

I have a copy of the 1937 Congress and I have read your fine article with much interest. I note that you brought out the idea that I had in mind. It seemed strange to me that the American public was so slow to adopt the use of envelopes and then it occurred to me that the real reason was the way in which mail was rated prior to July 1, 1845. You explained this fully in your article but I doubt if the point has been emphasized in the past. I recall that Konwiser has written quite a lot in the past on the earliest uses of envelopes but I do not recall that he ever mentioned why they are so scarce prior to July 1, 1845.

I certainly appreciate your offer of co-operation in case I would decide to write at length on the subject, but I have no intentionssalong that line, as my knowledge is very meager and I haven't the time to devote to the research work that would be required.

I am also returning the English envelope of 1839. It sure is a fine item and it is earlier than anything like it that I have ever seen.

I was surprised at the interest that was shown in my recent article in "Stamps" and if I can find the time I intend to follow it up, with emphasis laid on, "why we were slow in adopting envelopes." I will not fail to especially mention your Congress paper.

Perhaps you can give me some information on the following:

First - The S.U.S. states that our first envelopes were issued July 1, 1853. Do you know whether there is any authority for that statement? Mr. Bartels wrote me in 1939 that the earliest use he had ever seen was July 7, 1853. Back in the old Philatelic Gazette Dr. Berthold ran an article in 1915 in which he illustrated a cover and the entire letter. The 3¢ entire was postmarked "Boston Jun 17" and the letter was dated "Boston June 16th, 1853." This envelope did not have the Nesbit seal. I am wondering if it was later proved that this envelope was a fake, or was not actually used in 1853?

The S.U.S. gives practically no information on the dates of issue of U. S. envelopes, for example, the "Star Dies" are simply listed "1860-61." I wonder why specialists in "Envelopes" do not insist that the catalogue furnish such worthwhile information?

In the Thorp Bartels catalogue, it is stated that the Star Dies (3¢ - 6¢ - 10¢) were issued in October 1860. Can it be possible that the compiler never heard of uses in September. In 1939, Mr. Bartels wrote me that the earliest 3¢ Star Die he had seen was Sept. 7, 1860, and a use of Sep. 13, 1860 was reported in the Philatelic Press some years later.

Regarding the 10¢ Star Die. May I inquire if you have any record of a use in September or October of 1860? In my time I have not seen many used 10¢ covers but I suppose the majority that are in existence were 10¢ rates to and from California. Quite a bit of mail in those days went to Havana, requiring a 10¢ rate but I have never run across such a 10¢ Star Die. I am wondering if you have any record of unusual uses of this envelope.

The earliest use that I have seen of a compound was in Feb.1861. Have you any record of an earlier use?

I am wondering if the collecting of U. S. envelopes would not be helped if more information, such as the above, was included in the catalogue.

Several years ago Marcus White of Worcester, Mass. was quite active in envelopes. Is he still around?

With kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

Nov. 2, 1947.

Mr. Marcus W. White,
15 Sherburne Ave.,
Worcester, Mass.

Dear Mr. White:

Several years ago you were kind enough to give me some information regarding U. S. envelopes and here I am back once more asking several more questions:

A First - The S.U.S. states that our first envelopes were issued July 1, 1853. Do you know whether there is any authority for that statement? Mr. Bartels wrote me in 1939 that the earliest use he had ever seen was July 7, 1853. Back in the old Philatelic Gazette Dr. Berthold ran an article in 1915 in which he illustrated a cover and the ~~enclosed~~ letter which was enclosed. The 3¢ entire was postmarked "Boston Jun 17" and the letter was dated "Boston June 16th 1853." This envelope did not have the Nesbit seal. I am wondering if it was later proved that this envelope was a fake, or was not actually used in 1853?

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B Regarding the 10¢ Star Die. May I inquire if you have any record of a use in September or October of 1860? In my time I have not seen many used 10¢ covers but I suppose the majority that are in existence were 10¢ rates to and from California. Quite a bit of mail in those days went to Havana, requiring a 10¢ rate but I have never run across such a 10¢ Star Die. I am wondering if you have any record of unusual uses of this envelope.

The earliest use that I have seen of a compound was in Feb. 1861. Have you any record of an earlier use?

I never collected U. S. envelopes, hence my knowledge of them is very, very limited, but they are a very important part of our postal history and I am very much interested in such subjects as I have mentioned above.

I was up to Chicago several weeks ago to the exhibit and clebration of the Chicago Philatelic Society and while there I paid Mr. Barkhausen a visit and spent a very enjoyable hour with him.

I note that you are a member of the S.P.A., but not of the A.P.S., and I wondered if there was any reason for the latter.

With apologies for this lengthy letter, I am

Sincerely yours,

Sept. 30, 1947.

Mr. L. H. Barkhausen,
231 S. LaSalle St.,
Chicago 4, Ill.

Dear Mr. Barkhausen:

I have two very rare and unusual "Westerns" and I am wondering if you would be interested in them. They are covers carried by the stage from Denver City - the "Central Overland California & Pikes Peak Express Co." The unusual part about them is that they are Franks, that is, 3¢ U. S. stamped envelopes which were prepared in advance and sold to the public, such franked envelopes prepaying the U. S. postage and the Express Co. fee for carriage to Saint Joseph.

For example, the Company advertised in the "Rocky Mountain News" of Nov. 15, 1860 - (in part):

"Letters taken through from any point in the mountains to St. Joseph and Leavenworth for ten (10) cents each, Newspapers five (5) cents each. Government stamped envelopes, bearing our express stamp, for sale at our offices in Denver and the mountains." (end).

I have never seen these franks written up or even mentioned in the philatelic press or auction catalogues and I really doubt if more than a half a dozen are known. I doubt if more than several collectors are aware of their importance.

The usual run of express covers from Denver bear 3¢ 1857 stamps - U.S.Entires are rare and Express Franks are very rare.

The owner wants $200.00 for the two, subjedt to prior sale. Would you be interested? If so, I will be glad to forward them to you.

Sincerely yours,

L. H. Barkhausen
231 SO. LASALLE STREET
Chicago 4

October 1, 1947

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

I have yours of the 30th, and would naturally like to see the items you mention. If you will send them to me; I will return them promptly, if I can not use them.

I do not recall seeing anything in writing on Western Franks. This whole period, pre-railway, is the most interesting epoch in stamp covers to me. There is certainly a shortage of knowledge, or record on the entire subject.

I understood some one to say that you would be in Chicago at the time of the Chicago Philatelic Society Exhibit on the 17th instance. If so I would be very glad to have you get in touch with me.

I would value your opinion on certain things, and I would like to go over them with you.

Very truly yours,

L H Barkhausen

LHB:LC

Oct. 2nd, 1947.

Mr. L. H. Barkhausen,
231 S. La Salle St.,
Chicago 4, Ill.

My dear Mr. Barkhausen:

Thanks very much for your prompt reply to my letter of the 30th. I am enclosing herewith the two covers mentioned in my letter. You will note that both have the "Express stamp," (mentioned in the advertisement) on the back flap. One is without date and the other has simply "JAN." There is practically no doubt whatsoever that this back stamping was the Company's frank. For example, the one with "JAN" was received by the Express Co. at Denver on Feb. 14. The buff envelope has a blank and this is the way these franks usually occur, that is, that is the way I think they usually occur, based on the few that I have seen.

My old friend Ned Knapp had two of these franks but I do not believe that he ever was aware of the significance of the back stamping. If he did, he left no memo explaining same when he passed away. I must confess that the great importance of the stamps on the back did not occur to me until recently when this important discovery was called to my attention by the owner of these two covers.

The Company advertised that they would carry letters for ten cents, which sum was in addition to the U. S. postage, (originally the fee was 25¢ plus Covernment postage).

The buff envelope shows a pencil memo on the back of "Nov. 28 to 30 - 61, but Iddoubt if this is correct as I think that the use of this cover was Dec. 1860, not 1861. I think that the use of the white cover was Feb. 1861 rather than a possible 1862 use.

You will note that both are marked "Due 3," which in my opinion indicates that both were double rates, paid as singles. I considered the possibility of uses late in 1861 and 1862 after these stamped envelopes had become invalid but I am rather positive such a supposition is wrong.

You will note that both covers were from the same person and addressed to the same street address in New York. The white envelope is signed "Walker" on the back-I am wondering if this was the Express Agent at Denver?

As far as I am aware, nothing has ever appeared in the philatelic press regarding a C.O.C. & P.P.E. CO. franked envelope in spite of the fact that the company advertised that they had such items for sale. It is strange how we overlook such points but turning up new things all the time in research work is what makes the avocation so fascinating.

With these two covers I am enclosing a 3¢ 1853 Entire - Fort Bridger. As you are aware this well known rarity has been called a "precancel" by the precancel crowd, but in my opinion it is an army cancelation, that was used on an important Express that left for the east on March 1, 1858. Covers are known with this same marking tying singles of the 3¢ 1857 and one cover is known bearing a horizontal pair of the 3¢ 1857.

My theory is that the Army carried a small printing press on which army orders were printed and that this small press was used to cancel the mail going east by the military express of March 1, 1858. It seems most unlikely that envelopes for that mail were prepared in advance and sold to the soldiers. Only in that way could these straight line Fort Bridgers be classed as "precancels."

The price on this cover is $200 and while I may be wrong I believe that this cover is unique. That is, it is the only such entire known.

I agree with you that western covers of the whole pre-railway period are among the most interesting of Philatelic Americana. In addition, there is no better investment. They haven't made any such items since pre-Civil War days and being part and parcel of the history of our great nation they are bound to become more and more valuable as the years slip by.

I have a reservation at the Morrison to attend the C.P.S. show on the 17th - 18th and 19th and I will certainly make it a point to meet you personally if possible.

Sincerely yours,

L. H. Barkhausen
231 SO. LA SALLE STREET
Chicago 4

October 3, 1947

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

Dear Friend Ashbrook:

I received today three items that you sent me under date of the 2nd. I must confess that it never occurred to me what the express stamps without the date meant on the back flap.

I have two of these Westerns you speak of from Knapp. They are both with blank dates. Undoubtedly your explanation is correct. I doubt whether they would be remainder envelopes after 1861, because in both instances they are stamped with the month only, and not the date of the month.

I am enclosing you my check for $200.00, to cover the two items that you sent me, as I would like to add these to my collection.

In reference to the Fort Bridger item, I would like to know a little more about this. It is a very interesting piece, but I do not feel like paying such a price, if there is any question of its being dated at some later date. It would seem easy enough to over print this Nesbitt envelope. I have never seen an example of like printing.

I shall hold the piece for a few days, awaiting your further reply. I agree with you that it could not possibly be a pre cancel. Some such explanation as you make could fit it.

I shall be very glad to see you the week of the 17th.

I am, very truly yours,

L H Barkhausen

LHB:LC
ENC. (1)

Oct. 6, 1947.

Mr. L. H. Barkhausen,
231 S. La Salle St.,
Chicago 4, Ill.

My dear Mr. Barkhausen:

Thanks very much for yours of the 3rd with check for the two Express covers. More on the subject of them later, but first regarding the "Fort Bridger" cover. I thought perhaps you were probably familiar with the marking, as it has been written up in the philatelic press at various times in the past twenty-five years. For years it has been argued pro and con that it was a precancel, and of course the precancel fans were over-eager to adopt it as one of their own. From what facts we have I am of the opinion that there is little doubt of the fact that it was an army postmark and only applied on mail from the army that went east by an "Express" on March 1, 1858. I believe that such army mails were always referred to in those days as an "Express."

As you will recall, those were the days of the "Mormon War" when Gen'l Albert Sidney Johnston's army was sent to Utah in 1857 soon after the infamous Mountain Meadows Massacre. Johnston's army left Fort Leavenworth about the middle of July 1857 and headed for Salt Lake City.

Fort Bridger was occupied, and later Salt Lake City, but the army of occupation later made their headquarters at "Camp Floyd." Incidentally this Camp was no doubt named for the then Secretary of War who was mixed up with Wm. H. Russell in the disappearance of a million dollars worth of bonds and who, at the outbreak of the Civil War, became a general in the Confederate Army.

One of the officers stationed at Fort Bridger was a Capt. J. A. Gove of Concord, N.H. and fortunately his letters to his wife were preserved and are today the property of the New Hampshire Historical Society. I am enclosing a photograph of a cover from Capt. Gove to his wife. This cover has been owned for many years by D. A. Brosnan and Brosnan has written several interesting articles regarding Capt. Gove and the Utah Expedition. This was the only cover in the Gove correspondence with this straight-line marking and this cover, in my opinion, proves that it was a cancelation as well as a postmark and was not, as claimed. a precancel.

Capt. Gove served in the Mexican War and in 1857 was a member of the 10th Infantry. At the outbreak of the Civil War he

was placed in command of the 22nd Massachusetts Volunteers. He was shot thru the heart at the Battle of Gaines' Mills on June 27, 1862.

Several years ago a small lot of the correspondence of Gen'l Fitz Porter was placed on the market and in the lot was one cover (and one only) with this rare straight-line marking. I am enclosing a photograph of this cover. It is in the collection of Emmerson C. Krug of Birmingham.

Gen'l Fitz-John Porter was a captain in Johnston's army and in the spring of 1858 he was stationed at Fort Bridger. This envelope contained a letter from him to his wife and it traveled east by the army "Express" of March 1, 1858. Porter was a great friend of McClellan, but in spite of this he was charged with disobeying orders at the second battle of Bull Run, was court-martialed and cashiered from the army in January 1863. After Fort Bridger he was stationed at Camp Floyd and the lot of Porter covers contained a number from that post.

I was under the impression that only one U. S. Entire was known showing this Fort Bridger marking but in going thru my records I found an old letter from Mr. Brosnan from which I quote as follows:

"In 1924 a 3¢ 1857 stamped envelope was reported to me. Two years later the owner reported it was stolen from him. He sent a drawing of the postmark as he remembered it which was fairly accurate. He wrote that the cover was addressed to -

BRIGADIER GEN'L H.D. BARTO
Trumansburg, N.Y."

Incidentally the above is the only record that I have of a second entire.

Regarding Brosnan. He is now quite an old man - past eighty I believe. He was a dealer in Boston for many years and way back in the nineteens he acquired some of the Gove covers direct from the Historical Society for work that he did on the collection. He collected and compiled a great deal of data concerning the history of Fort Bridger, the Utah Expedition and the life story of Captain Gove.

Regarding the cover now in your possession. Mr. Brosnan gave me the history of this cover as far back as his record goes. When he first learned of its existence in the early nineteen twenties it belonged to the late Fred Schmalzriedt of Detroit. In 1929 (?) it passed to Mr. H. S. Ackerman and from Ackerman to Allan R. Brown. I acquired it from Mr. Brown.

Three or four years ago I wrote an article for "STAMPS" about the Porter cover, and illustrated it. I requested information regarding the existende of other covers but no advice was forthcoming.

#3. Mr. L. H. Barkhausen, Oct. 6, 1947.

Regarding the other photographs which I am enclosing - You will note two Porter covers from Camp Floyd - the #68 is dated April 1, which was 1859, as the #62 was Feb. 11, 1859. The one marked #35 is dated June 27, 1858, so it was probably carried by some messenger over to Fort Laramie and placed in the U. S. Mail at that post.

The "Squire Gove" cover is dated Sep. 2, 1859 and was from Capt. Gove to his father. This circular marking was probably put into use after the establishment of a regular civilian post office at the post. The Price cover shows a much later use of it.

After Porter was dismissed from the army he went out west and spent several years in Colorado as there were covers in the correspondence of that period from him to Mrs. Porter from various Colorado post offices.

The Gove cover with the pair of 3¢ 1851 has in the upper left "Rec'd April 8." This Express could have been timed so as to connect up with the regular mail leaving Fort Laramie, but I am inclined to believe that it was sent by a regular Military Express direct to Fort Leavenworth where it went east by the regular U.S. Mail.

In the event you decide to retain the Fort Bridger cover, kindly accept the enclosed prints with my compliments.

Now regarding the C.O.C. & P.P.Ex. franks. I note from your letter that you own two of these that came from Knapp, so I judge that these are the two that were in the Knapp sale. Lots 1561 and 1562 were listed as addressed to Milwaukee. I suppose both went to "Mrs. P.C.Hale." I would like very much to make photographs of these two covers, front and back, and if you will loan them to me, I will greatly appreciate the favor. I will return them the same day of receipt.

Regarding the C.O.C. & P.P. Ex. Co. The finest history that has ever been written about the Pikes Peak Express Companies appeared serially in the Journal of the Kansas State Historical Society several years ago. It was by George A. Root and R.K. Hickman and was a gem of research work. If you have never seen it, I will be glad to loan you my copy.

I find that a very fine article by Brosnan appeared in "STAMPS" Issue of August 21, 1943, entitled: "The Utah Expedition - 1857-1858."

I trust that you will pardon the length of this letter.

Cordially yours,

Oct. 6, 1947.

Mr. Fred R. Schmalzreidt,
1442 Majestic Bldg.,
Detroit 26, Mich.

My dear Fred:

I am wondering if you can give me a bit of information. I own a 3¢ 1853 envelope postmarked with the straight-line "FORT BRIDGER - March 1, 1858." It is addressed to Richmond, Va.

My old friend D. A. Brosnan informed me several years ago that he knew something of the history of this particular cover and that he believed that at one time it belonged to you and that from you it passed to Herbert Ackerman down in Ridgewood, N.J. back in about 1929.

All that I would like to know is this - Did you ever own such a cover and if so have you any recollection where and when you obtained it?

With kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

L. H. Barkhausen
231 SO. LA SALLE STREET
Chicago 4

October 7, 1947

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

Dear Friend Ashbrook:

I acknowledge receipt of yours of the 6th. I am enclosing herewith my check to your order for $200.00, to cover the Fort Bridger item.

Your explanation was exceedingly interesting. I am very glad to have it so in detail. As I see it from your letter, this Fort Bridger item is one of a possible two that exist on envelopes.

I also am enclosing you the two items that you asked for. I believe, only one of them, however, is from the Knapp collection. I am not certain what auction yielded the other one.

At any rate any time you would like to look at certain items that may be in my collection, I shall be very pleased to submit them to you.

I am very glad to have the photographic copies, which you sent me, of the Fort Bridger items.

Very truly yours,

L H B.

LHB:LC
ENC. (3)

L. H. Barkhausen
231 SO. LA SALLE STREET
Chicago 4

November 25, 1947

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

Dear Friend Ashbrook:

I have your letter of the 24th, which came in just as I was leaving for a weeks trip.

I will be unable to answer you until I return about the 5th or 6th of December.

Very truly yours,

LHB

LHB:LC

KARL BURROUGHS

COPY

Loc Please return

46 Langdon Ave.,
Watertown 72, Mass.
Sept. 18, 1947.

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

I have never seen the Dot in "U" plate proof. That is the proof illustrated by Brookman.

In so far as my observations go I could not check, out from stamps, any constant Dot in "U" variety.

Often the plate proofs have superfluous ink not due to any mark on the plate. This is a frequent occurrence on the brown plate proofs.

I recall having discussed the alleged variety with the late Percy Doane, who was most emphatic and stated "That you will not be able to prove the Dot in "U" a constant variety."

There are stamps with marks in the left leg of "U" but they do not coincide on the stamps or with those on the pair which you photographed or with the mark in the "U" seen on Brazer's 4 block black "SPECIMEN" proofs.

All that I can say is that if such a variety exists I have utterly failed to locate or determine it.

With best regards, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

(signed) Karl Burroughs.

Sept. 11, 1947.

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

Dear Dan:

Re - the S.U.S. listing of the 5¢ 1847 variety, the "Dot in U." This was first listed in the first edition of the S.U.S. and I judge it was taken from the Chase article of 1916 in the old Philatelic Gazette.

Have you any data on this variety? Do you ever recall seeing a copy? The reason I inquire is because I doubt if you will find that such a stamp was offered in any of the following prominent sales:

Emerson, Rust, Knapp, West, Gibson and Sweet.

Further - I never owned a copy that I can recall.

I am preparing a special article on the 5¢ 1847 in which I am making special mention of this listed variety, and I will appreciate any information that you can give me.

I am also writing to Stern, Hatcher, Cole, and Ward regarding the "variety."

With regards -

Cordially yours,

Return Air Mail 6¢ Stamps enclosed

DANIEL F. KELLEHER

DANIEL F. KELLEHER
WILLIAM F. KELLEHER

Postage Stamps for Collectors

B. L. DREW & CO.
EST. 1885
7 WATER STREET · BOSTON · MASS.

TELEPHONE
LAFAYETTE 3676

Sept. 16, 1947

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

Dear Stan:

I gave up examining 5¢ '47s for the dot in "U" years ago. I have seen spots in various parts of the "U", but never constant as in the "5" variety.

Re- Durst, I know that there is not a stamp now in his collection marked dot in "U"

Not having mentioned Steve Brown in your letter, I hunted through his sale without finding a copy described with dot in "U"

Best regards,

Sincerely
Dan Kelleher.

sylvester colby
505 FIFTH AVENUE · NEW YORK 17

UNITED STATES STAMPS - COVERS - DEPARTMENTS - REVENUES - ACCESSORIES - AUCTIONS - PHILATELIC LITERATURE - APPRAISALS - DEPARTMENTS - COVERS - UNITED STATES STAMPS

The New KONWISER AMERICAN PHILATELIC Dictionary
Now Ready - $2.75

22 September 1947

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

Dear Stan:

33's This may seem to be a tardy answer to your letter of 31 August but I was away for a belated vacation and am only now getting around to answering you. I will do what I can to see if I can make any progress in securing express mail covers. Of course you know that the fact that you have been advertising for them so steadily will create a suspicion. However, I will see what I can do. It may take time.

33's Best regards.

Sincerely,

SC:br

SYLVESTER COLBY

Sept. 24, 1947.

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

Dear Sy:

Thanks for yours of the 22nd.

No doubt my advertising would be a tip-off but of course I am not the only one who collects such things. At any rate, do the best that you can and I assure you in advance that he will never know that anything from him went into my collection.

By the way, your friend Coopersmith was quite a student of the 1847's but he never got in touch with me. Can you tell me if he thought the plates were copper? Did he think that there were two plates? If he thought the plates were steel how did he account for the worn plate copies of 1850? Also did he ever see the S.U.S. listed variety - "Dot in U" - or did you ever see one?

Sincerely yours,

sylvester colby
505 FIFTH AVENUE · NEW YORK 17

ITED STATES STAMPS - COVERS - DEPARTMENTS - REVENUES - ACCESSORIES - AUCTIONS - PHILATELIC LITERATURE - APPRAISALS - DEPARTMENTS - COVERS - UNITED STATES STAMPS

The New KONWISER AMERICAN PHILATELIC Dictionary
Now Ready - $2.75

29 September 1947

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

Dear Stan:

33's Thank you for your letter. With reference to your last paragraph I have sent a copy of it to Doc Coopersmith who incidentally has just moved to Texas to take up a professorship at the University. I feel sure he will get around to answering you some time soon.

33's Best regards.

Sincerely,

SC:br

SYLVESTER COLBY

Sept. 11, 1947.

Mr. S. Newbury,
38 South Dearborn St.,
Chicago 3, Ill.

My dear Mr. Newbury:

The S.U.S. has for years listed a variety of the 5¢ 1847 known as the "Dot in U." As near as I can recall, Chase was the first to mention this "variety" and he did so in his article on the 1847 Issue in the old "Philatelic Gazette" back in 1916. I furnished Les with a photograph of a plate proof copy of the 5¢ which was supposed to be the variety.

I do not believe that you have such a stamp in your collection - to be perfectly frank - I do not know of anyone who has a copy. If not too much trouble will you look thru your 5¢ 1847's and see if you have a "Dot in U" copy? If so, will you please send it down so that I can make a photo.

My best regards -

As ever yours,

S. NEWBURY
38 SOUTH DEARBORN STREET
CHICAGO 3

Sept. 12, 1947.

My dear Stan:

Am at the moment in receipt of yours of Sept. 11th in which you give yourself a worry about the dot in U on the 5¢ 47. I have looked up my holdings in the collection and I find that I am the possessor of about 27 5¢ stamps that have some kind of a dot in the U. If it isn't a dot in the U it is something else. Would suggest that when you come up to Chicago you sit in the corner with that album and have all the fun you want finding dots or anything else that you miss. In the meantime I will keep the list here and turn it over to you when you come up, so at least you won't have much trouble in finding what I think might be different kinds of dots or fly specks.

Have a line from E.R.J. notifying me that they will leave the lake on the 19th.

It does not look at all probable that Harry will want to come out for the exhibition, as he is figuring on a trip later on down to Central America. I think you will like the space that will be allotted to you at the Morrison, as the manager is giving this his personal attention.

Sincerely,

SN

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

SN*MH

Sept. 16, 1947.

Mr. S. Newbury,
38 South Dearborn St.,
Chicago 3, Ill.

My dear Mr. Newbury:

Thanks so much for yours of the 12th.

I thought perhaps you could run thru your 5¢ 1847's and if you had such a variety that Ernie would have it labeled "Dot in U." I didn't want you to go hunting with a glass for any pin-point dots. If you have a copy of the Brookman book, note page 31, fig. 31. Here is an illustration of what is supposed to be the variety that is listed in the S.U.S. Since I wrote you I have come to the conclusion that it is almost a cinch that you don't own such a stamp, that is, as per the plate proof illustration, Fig. 31 (above), for the simple reason that I doubt if such a variety actually exists.n Now wouldn't it be a joke if I was right? That variety has been listed in the S.U.S. since 1923 and the listing evidently came from the Chase article which was published in 1916. Fig. 31 is an illustration of part of a horizontal pair of a plate proof, and said pair belonged to Chase when he wrote his 1916 article.

I am expecting Les Wednesday night at 8 P.M., and no doubt he will spend some time in Chicago tomorrow. If so, please tell him to get his dinner on the plane and that we will meet him at the airport. I made a reservation for him at the Hotel Sinton for Wednesday night only. Nothing obtainable at the Plaza. If Les has the time I wish he would glance thru your 5¢ 1847's and see if by any chance you have a "Dot in the U," stamp. Also ask him to pick out the finest example in your collection of an early impression - preferably a single copy - off cover - lightly canceled - Bring it down with him so that I can make an enlarged photograph - I want the earliest print you have - one that shows razor sharp lines.

I hope all of the above is not too much trouble to you.

With best of wishes - As ever yours,

Reply Received

Sept. 11, 1947.

Mr. Philip H. Ward, Jr.,
1616 Walnut St.,
Philadelphia 3, Pa.

Dear Phil:

Re - the S.U.S. listing of the 5¢ 1847 variety, the "Dot in U." This was first listed in the first edition of the S.U.S. and I judge it was taken from the Chase article of 1916 in the old Philatelic Gazette.

Have you any data on this variety? Do you ever recall seeing a copy? The reason I inquire is because I doubt if you will find that such a stamp was offered in any of the following prominent sales:

Emerson, Rust, Knapp, West, Gibson and Sweet.

Further - I never owned a copy that I can recall.

I am preparing a special article on the 5¢ 1847 in which I am making special mention of this listed variety, and I will appreciate any information that you can give me.

I am also writing to Stern, Hatcher, Cole, and Kelleher regarding the "variety."

With regards -

Cordially yours,

PHILIP H. WARD, JR.
1616 WALNUT STREET
PHILADELPHIA 3

September 12, 1947

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

Dear Stan:

In reply to your letter of the 11th would advise that I have possibly looked over a thousand 5¢ 1847 and have never seen the "Dot in U". I purchased 400 or 500 at one time and in mounting and pricing these I looked at every one for every variety mentioned in the catalogue. I believe you saw one of these booklets later on at the time you were after corner copies. Why not write Dr. Chase and he will possibly tell you why he listed the variety.

If you are writing an article on the 5¢ 1847 I trust my block of 16 will be illustrated. This kind of publicity, I think, helps my collection so that when I pass to the great beyond, either up or down, most of my outstanding items will be philatelically well known. I am indeed glad to learn you are preparing an article on this stamp and certainly hope you will follow with the 10¢. I am sure that through Harry, the Collectors Club, Admiral Harris and one or two others that you will be able to obtain the loan of the Miller Reconstruction. A further book of yours on our first two stamps would certainly be a welcomed edition to our early literature and I know of no other publication I would rather have.

I have gotten ~~several~~ sufficient copies of the 5¢ New York for Gibson to plate this stamp and I believe he is going to write a booklet illustrating each stamp with a full page illustration. He states that the Hatfield book does not show the variations sufficiently clear for one to simply plate from the book of illustrations. I have asked him two or three times about the photographs of the 10¢ 1847, which he had taken in Perry's behalf, and states he has hunted high and low and cannot find them.

Thanks greatly for the Norona article on Express Mails. I do not know why I missed this but am very glad to have it for my files.

I would like to see the stampless cover from the Pacific to the Atlantic states as early as November 16, 1847. It indeed must be interesting, almost as interesting as that letter, of which you sent me a photostat copy, written by some miner on his way East travelling on a ship around the Horn with the "lovely lady".

Sincerely yours,

PHILIP H. WARD, JR.

PHW,JR:rmw

Sept. 11, 1947.

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

Dear Ez:

Re - the S.U.S. listing of the 5¢ 1847 variety, the "Dot in U." This was first listed in the first edition of the S.U.S. and I judge it was taken from the Chase article of 1916 in the old Philatelic Gazette.

Have you any data on this variety? Do you ever recall seeing a copy? The reason I inquire is because I doubt if you will find that such a stamp was offered in any of the following prominent sales:

Emerson, Rust, Knapp, West, Gibson and Sweet.

Further - I never owned a copy that I can recall.

I am preparing a special article on the 5¢ 1847 in which I am making special mention of this listed variety, and I will appreciate any information that you can give me.

I am also writing to Stern, Hatcher, Cole, Kelleher and Ward regafding the "variety."

With regards -

Cordially yours,

AMERICAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY
COLLECTORS CLUB

COMMISSIONS EXECUTED
APPRAISALS

EZRA D. COLE RARE POSTAGE STAMPS
NYACK, N. Y. - - - Telephone Nyack 964

September 16, 1947

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
A.P.S. 2497
33 N. Ft. Thomas Avenue
Ft. Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Stan:

Your letter of September 11th, I hope it has cooled off in Cincinnati, it has here and maybe I will be able to get some work done now.

That "Dot in U" in the 5¢ 1847 is a peculiar variety.

I have a recollection of seeing two or three copies I know that I have bought one or two at auctions, but all of them as "Sleepers". In all the catalogs I have here at hand I could not locate any listed with this variety.

I am not sure that it is a real variety either. There are lots of marks which appear on this stamp and it is possible to find spots of ink almost anywhere. They are not constant, so it is more than likely that the variety I thought I had was just ink or rust sports.

I am quite sure I sold Earl Hamilton one that I thought was correct but where the others went to I cannot tell.

Sunday I examined a collection of 1847's. The man has about 150 both on and off covers. He has three with the "Dot in S" and one which he thought was the "Dot in U" but on careful examination this is just a rust spot and no plate variety.

Let me know what you find out for I am curious about this and if I can dig up anything else I will shoot it along.

Sincerely,

EZRA D. COLE

EDC:r

* HAVE A NEW SECRETARY WHO THOUGHT THIS WAS PART OF YOUR ADDRESS

EZ.

Sept. 22, 1947.

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

Dear Ezra:

Thanks for yours of the 16th relative to the Dot in U, 5¢ 1847.

I am practically positive - say 99% - that there never was a stamp like the plate proof - Fig. 5h inthethe Brookman book. I think that I have conclusive proof that the listing was made from the plate proof. Lots of people think they have had Dot in U stamps but I cannot believe that the items they had were from the proof position.

You are quite right - no Dot in U stamp was offered in any of the Emerson sales, the Brown, Rust or Knapp sales. This fact alone is very odd to say the least.

I will write Earl Hamilton.

Thanks - bear it in mind. Please get busy on that PHILA 15CTS -

Yours etc.,

Sept. 5, 1947.

Mr. M. H. Judd,
Dalton, Ga.

Dear Judge Judd:

I am wondering if you will do me a little favor?

I want to borrow a 5¢ 1847 cover that was used at any time in the last six months of 1849 with the stamp exhibiting a fine example of the "worn state" of the plate. Can you loan me such a cover?

The S.U.S. lists a 5¢ variety - "Dot in U." Have you a copy in your collection either on or off cover? If so, will you loan it to me?

It was nice to meet you personally at the Show and I trust to have the pleasure of seeing you again in the future.

With kindest regards -

Sincerely yours,

Dalton, Ga.
Sept. 7th, 1947

Dear Colonel Ashbrook:

Your letter of recent date received and contents noted.
Feel much flattered that you should request the loan of any items in my collection.
The only Dot in "V" variety in my collection is enclosed. It is not exactly what you requested, but perhaps it might aid you in surmising some of your "Black magic" in the philatelic world.
The Dot in "V" variety has been a very illusive item as far as my collecting activity is concerned. Scott seems to be all wet in pricing the Dot in "V" and Dot in "S". I have seen Dot in "S" running all the way from a faint dot to an

extremely strong dot. The stamps with "dot in "S" come in several shades and force room plate to freely clear impressions.
Hope the enclosed will be of some interest and help. Enclosed please find return postage and registration.
Sorry I did not get to see more of you in New York, but know you had many fish to fry.
If you get realy hungry this winter, come visit me on the farm. With the very best of wishes;

Sincerely,
W. Hubert Judd

Sept. 11, 1947.

Mr. M. Hubert Judd,
Drawer 253,
Dalton, Ga.

Dear Colonel Judd:

Thanks so much for your cordial letter of the 7th.

Regarding the Dot in "U" variety. The first S.U.S. came out in 1923, and it listed this variety. It had not been listed in the catalogue before that date.

Chase in his fine article on the 1847's published in 1916 recorded the variety as "a very plain dot near the top of the left half of the U of U.S.," and stated further: "This is the variety usually referred to as with "Dot in U" - Thus the variety must have been known prior to 1910.

When Les Brookman published his 1847 book several years ago I furnished him with a photograph of a plate proof showing the supposed variety. As far as I can recall I never saw an actual stamp with the variety, though Steve Brown had a photograph of a stamp that had a sort of smudge similar to the plate proof. However, the two came from different plate positions and I doubt if the stamp itself was anconsistent variety.

The stamp on your cover has two short lines in the right arm of the "U" and it is what I call the "E" shift - thought I do not think it is a double transfer. I furnished Brookman with a drawing of this variety - see his book - page 39, figure 48.

I noted this copy in your collection some years ago and made a photograph of it. You will find that in Brookman's description he mentioned that I had seen a use of this stamp in 1848. That referred to this cover of yours as my notes show. However, since that time I discovered a cover with this "E" variety used on July 23, 1847, showing that the variety came from the earliest state of the plate.

I wonder who put the notation on the back of your cover, viz., "Black Brown Shade - Variety Dot in U?" It looks somewhat like the printing of our mutual friend Ernie Jacobs.

Further - If you will go thru the catalogues of the Emerson, Brown, Knapp, West and Rust sales, I doubt if you will find a 5¢ 47 listed as the Dot in "U" variety.

#2 - Mr. M. Hubert, Judd, Sept. 11, 1947.

In the late ninettens, I had over 1200 of the 5¢ 1847, (on and off cover) in my collection but I never owned a "Dot in U", so far as I can recall at this late date.

So much for that. I intend to follow up this investigation and publish an article in "Stamps."

In my letter of the 5th, I mentioned that I would like to borrow a cover used at anytime in the last six months of 1849 which had a fine example of a "worn plate." If you haven't such an item will you send me the best example that you have of a 5¢ 1847 worn plate - in fact, several, if not too much trouble. I want examples showing the greatest wear.

I certainly appreciate your kind co-operation.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

P. S.--It was nice of you to offer to stand the postage both ways but when one asks a favor the drinks should be on him.

S.

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

Dear Colonel Ashbrook;

Cover and set of mint stamps received. The drinks are on me this time, so please do not return postage and registration.

Hope, Mr. Jacobs did not write up the cover. We amateurs like to make our own mistakes and give the real students a good chuckle.

Have already erased the notation, "Dot in 'V'" and will replace same with correct write-up after reading your article in "Stamps." Can see the "Dot in 'V'" variety

fading away mighty fast. Anyhow, rather like your designation "E" shift.

How did you ever part with those twelve hundred copies of the 5¢ 1847. I have never parted with one myself. It is hoped the enclosed items will be of some value in your study of the 5¢ 1847. A most fascinating stamp. Looking forward to that article in "Stamps" and with very best wishes,

Sincerely,
W. Hubert Judd

P. S.

Have just gone over the Stephen Brown Catalogue and there are no 5¢ 1847 described with dot in "U." There are about a dozen with dot in "S."

Sept. 11, 1947.

Mr. E. N. Costales,
99 Nassau St.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Gene:

Re - the S.U.S. listing of the 5¢ 1847 variety, the "Dot in U." This was first listed in the first edition of the S.U.S. and I judge it was taken from the Chase article of 1916 in the old Philatelic Gazette.

Have you any data on this variety? Do you ever recall seeing a copy? The reason I inquire is because I doubt if you will find that such a stamp was offered in any of the following prominent sales:

Emerson, Rust, Knapp, West, Gibson and Sweet.

Further - I never owned a copy that I can recall.

I am preparing a special article on the 5¢ 1847 in which I am making special mention of this listed variety, and I will appreciate any information that you can give me.

I am also writing to Stern, Hatcher, Cole, Kelleher and Ward regarding the "variety."

With regards -

Cordially yours,

6¢ Air Envelope enclosed

TELEPHONE
CORTLANDT 7-5536

EUGENE N. COSTALES
POSTAGE STAMPS FOR COLLECTORS
99 NASSAU STREET
NEW YORK 7, N. Y.

MEMBER
AMERICAN AIR MAIL SOCIETY
AMERICAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY
AMERICAN STAMP DEALERS ASSN.
ASSOC. STAMP EXHIBITIONS
SOC. PHILATELIC AMERICANS
BROOKLYN STAMP SOCIETY
BUREAU ISSUES ASSN.
COLLECTORS CLUB, N. Y.
N. Y. PHILATELIC SOCIETY

September 15, 1947

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

Dear Stan:

I have your letter of September 11th in regard to the variety of the 5c 1847 "Dot in U".

All of my material pertaining to the original issue of the U.S. Specialized Catalog was filed away in the attic of my garage. It has been so hot that I hesitated to go up there and pore through the numerous records to ascertain if I had any definite information about this variety. As soon as the weather cools a bit, I shall be very glad to search my records.

I do, however, recollect having a copy of this variety many years ago, but I do not recall to whom it was sold. It was a long time ago, prdably in the early 1920's.

I am sorry I cannot at this time give you any more information about the variety, but I assure you I will check through the records at the first opportunity.

With kindest regards,

Yours very truly,

Gene

EUGENE N. COSTALES

ENC:fk

Sept. 17, 1947.

Mr. E. N. Costales,
99 Nassau St.,
New York 7, N.Y.

Dear Gene:

Thanks very much for yours of the 15th.

I believe that the first listing (1923) in the S.U.S. came from the Chase 1916 article. Fig. 31 - page 31 - Brookman book - shows the left position of a horizontal pair of plate proofs. At the time Doc wrote his article this pair was in his collection. Doc recently wrote me that he surely must have had, or had seen, a stamp like the plate proof - to be exact from the same position, but that he was not sure. Inasmuch as I do not recall ever seeing a "Dot in U" stamp I wonder if Doc did not list the variety from his proof pair??

If such a stamp exists, that is, from this proof position, then it must have occurred only on a few(?) of the very first impressions. It could have been noted and corrected (that is, burnished out), on the plate. The plate was either a copper alloy or unhardened steel so such a "defect" could easily have been corrected. If such a variety exists, it is an extremely rare stamp because so far, I have not been able to locate anybody who is familiar with it.

If you can find any data on it in your records I surely will appreciate advice. If no such a variety exists, then it should be delisted. We have anough minor varieties listed in the S.U.S. without including any that do not exist.

With best regards -

Cordially yours,

Sept. 11, 1947.

Mr. John A. Fox,
116 Nassau St.,
New York 7, N.Y.

Dear John:

Re -the S.U.S. listing of the 5¢ 1847 variety, the "Dot in U." This was first listed in the first edition of the S.U.S. and I judge it was taken from the Chase article of 1916 in the old Philatelic Gazette.

Have you any data on this variety? Do you ever recall seeing a copy? The reason I inquire is because I doubt if you will find that such a stamp was offered in any of the following prominent sales:

Emerson, Rust, Knapp, West, Gibson and Sweet.

Further - I never owned a copy that I can recall.

I am preparing a special article on the 5¢ 1847 in which I am making special mention of this listed variety, and I will appreciate any information that you can give me.

I am also writing to Hatcher, Cole, Costales Kelleher and Ward regarding the "variety."

With regards -

Cordially yours,

6¢ Air Mail enclosed

JOHN A. FOX
116 NASSAU STREET
NEW YORK 7, N. Y.
BEEKMAN 3-5443

STAMPS
COVERS
~~
RETAIL
WHOLESALE
AUCTIONS
APPRAISALS

September 15th, 1947

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

Dear Stan:

Thank you for your letter of September 11th. Regarding the listing of the 5¢ 1847 variety "Dot in U", I am not familiar with this variety. To the best of my knowledge I have never seen a copy nor have I any recollection of seeing a copy listed in any of the large auction sales. I have inquired as to this variety and mentioned it to Don Malcolm and several of the other boys and none of them recall ever having seen a copy. If further questioning brings to light any information I will communicate with you immediately.

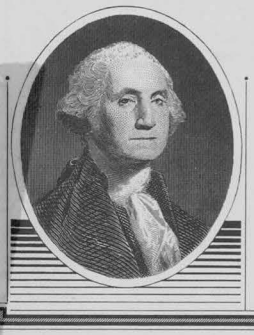
With kind personal regards,

Sincerely,

John

JAF:ff

AMERICAN BANK NOTE CO. LITHO



UNITED STATES AND FOREIGN
POSTAGE STAMPS FOR COLLECTIONS

Economist
STAMP CO., INC.

TELEPHONE
CORTLANDT 7-2028

CABLE ADDRESS "ECONOMIST," NEW YORK

EDWARD STERN, PRESIDENT.
SIDNEY F. BARRETT, TREASURER.

EIGHTY-SEVEN NASSAU STREET
NEW YORK 7, N.Y.

Sept. 22, 1947

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

Dear Stanley:

I have just returned and find your letter under date of the 11th instant and that was the day I left and the reason why it has not been answered sooner.

In regard to the 5¢ 1847 dot in "U" variety, I believe I remember when it was put in the catalog, about the same time the dot in the "S" appeared. They are slight varieties, and of course, the "S" is more prominent than the "U". I am enclosing herewith a copy that I happen to find in stock and thought you would like to see it. It may be better if you eliminated it as it is so insignificant.

Again apologizing for the delay and with kindest regards, I am,

Sincerely yours,

EDWARD STERN

ES:RP
ENC.

Sept. 23, 1947.

Mr. Edw. Stern,
87 Nassau St.,
New York 7, N.Y.

My dear Ed:

Thanks for your welcome letter of the 22nd.

I am sorry Ed that your copy is not the mythical variety as your copy shows a fine pin-dot in the right arm of the "U," whereas the supposed variety should show a rather big dot in the upper part of the left arm of the "U." As near as I can learn the first mention that was made of this "variety" was in the Chase article in the old Philatelic Gazette back in 1916. When Clark published the first S.U.S. in 1923, he listed the variety from the Chase article. Now the question arises, where did Chase get the idea? Well, at that time, he had a H.P. of plate proofs, and the left stamp shows a Dot in "U." As near as I can figure it all out, Doc thought the variety was consistent and so listed it, that is, from the plate proof. He has no recollection of ever seeing an actual stamp. That damn variety has been in the S.U.S. ever since. Can you beat it?

You can go thru all the auction catalogues - Emerson, Knapp, Brown, Rust, Gibson, etc. etc. etc. and you will not find a single Dot in "U" stamp offered.

I have photographs of the original Chase plate proof pair and I loaned one to Brookman when he wrote his 1847 book - Look it up - on page 31 - Fig. 31. I had to send him a proof because I had never seen such a stamp.

The only way in which I could be wrong is that an actual stamp exists (or several) which are exactly like the above Fig. 31, that is, from the same proof position on the plate. Such a possibility would mean that the proof marking was consistent. But this I doubt. If perchance, it was consistent, then probably only a few impressions were struck and the flaw was corrected on the plate. But I cannot believe this theory is true. You and I have seen a lot of 5¢ 1847's in our time but neither one of us has ever seen a stamp like Brookman's Fig. 31. Needless to state it should be delisted. The copy you sent to me, I am holding. What is the price? I would like to buy it.

Cordially yours,

AMERICAN BANK NOTE CO. LITHO

UNITED STATES AND FOREIGN
POSTAGE STAMPS FOR COLLECTIONS

Economist
STAMP CO., INC.
CABLE ADDRESS "ECONOMIST," NEW YORK

TELEPHONE
COrtlandt 7-2028

EDWARD STERN, PRESIDENT.
SIDNEY F. BARRETT, TREASURER.

EIGHTY-SEVEN NASSAU STREET
NEW YORK 7, N.Y.

Sept. 25, 1947

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

Dear Stanley:

I have yours of the 23rd instant to hand and have carefully noted. I likewise do not recall any collection that has been dispersed within recent years that had this dot in "U" variety included. I have looked over a number of recent auction catalogs, and the illustrations do not show it. Nevertheless, it must exist if the plate proofs show it. If I learn anymore about it, I shall surely let you know.

As to the copy submitted, I had this priced at $65.00, being an orange brown, and it is a fairly nice copy. If you would like to have it, the price to you would be $50.00. I trust this will be satisfactory.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

Ed

ES:RP

EDWARD STERN

Gosh when I look back I used to sell these damned ✓ at 50 each shade varieties made no difference and I have to charge this price for them. But I can't do anything about it. ✓
U.S. Steel stock was about 2. a share at that same time

Sept. 29, 1947.

Mr. Edw. Stern,
% Economist Stamp Co.,
87 Nassau St.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Ed:

Re - yours of the 25th. I have a friend who wants a fine 5¢ '47 so I'll submit your copy to him. Will advise later.

As I recal, there was an old saying in the stock market to the effect that those who looked back would die of remorse. That could as well apply to prices for U. S.

The other day I ran across a short article that I ran in Mekeel's in 1920. I stated that I had 1600 of the 1847's in my collection - divided 1200 of the 5¢ and 400 of the 10¢. Perhaps among my 1200 there were few that were superb. I suppose they came mostly from the Lord corner. I recall what Chase got for his 1847 collection after he returned from France. It would be worth a nice sum today.

Re - the "Dot in U." I am convinced that the listing was originally made from a plate proof - further - no actual stamp is known like the proof - hence the only conclusion is that the proof variety was not consistent.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

H. L. LINDQUIST
PUBLICATIONS
2 WEST 46th STREET, NEW YORK 19, N. Y.

October 2, 1947

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

Dear Stan:

I'm glad that article by Fergus met with your approval, and as desired, I am sending you two extra copies of the September 20 issue under separate cover. I met Lee Fergus at some of the meetings in Chicago, and he seems to be a nice fellow, as well as a thorough student. Outside of that, I have practically no other information concerning him, although he is quite active in local affairs in Chicago, and I imagine that Ernie would know him very well, if you want further information.

I had forgotten all about that effort to plate the 5c '47, back in 1911, but was just looking up my old copies of the Collector's Journal concerning the proposition. Following the announcement that you mention, there was one in a later issue, advising that we had secured a lot of cooperation, including two large panes, one containing seventy-seven stamps, and another containing fifty-eight. We stated at that time that this proved conclusively that the two plates at least existed, although John Luff had stated that only one plate had been made.

I fear we did not get very far with the work for nothing was ever definitely published on it, and I had forgotten all the details. I am under the impression that the specialist referred to is William L. Stevenson, who was very much interested in the issue at that time.

Saul and I were to the two World Series on Tuesday and Wednesday, and he seemed to enjoy them very much. We were all out to the theatre last night, following his presentation of the Indian Hunter at the Collectors Club. He made a swell showing of his Bull's Eye stamps, and everyone got quite a kick out of them.

In fact, he just called me up to tell me that Caspary wanted to look over them today, and he has granted him that permission.

I know you are going to have a good time at the C.P.S. in October, but I fear that my own trip to Guatemala is coming so shortly after that that I won't be able to get away for it.

With best personal wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Harry

HLL/G

Phone: MEdallion 3-3715 Cable Address: LINDPUBS

Oct. 7, 1947.

Mr. Harry L. Lindquist,
2 W. 46th St.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Harry:

Thanks for yours of the 2nd. I was indeed interested in your reference to the 5¢ '47 panes of 77 and 58. Of course, you referred to plate proof panes and if you can, I would like to have further details. Would it be too much trouble to have a copy made for me?

I never heard of any plate proof blocks that big. There is no record of such in Doc's file. He listed a "reconstructed block" of fifty which he thought came from the bottom half of a pane and he made a record of each of the supposed positions of 51 to 100, but his plating was wrong. I judge that there was something wrong with the reconstruction. Does your editorial give any details as to color, shape of the blocks etc.? I'll greatly appreciate further details.

Here is rather an absurd situation. The first S.U.S. was published in 1923 and it was edited by Gene Costales. In the first edition was listed for the first time a 5¢ 1847 variety - "DOT IN U." For years I have wondered about such a variety as I have never seen such a stamp. When Les wrote his 1847 book and wanted a photograph of the variety the best I could do was to send him a photograph of a plate proof. Recent investigation on my part has been rather extensive with the following result:

(1) Costales listed such a variety in 1923 from a reference to same made in the Chase article of 1916.

(2) The only item showing such a variety that Chase can recall was a pair of plate proofs. He thought the variety was consistent.

(3) I do not believe that the variety on the proof was a consistent plate variety, hence:

(4) For 24 years the S.U.S. has listed year in and year out a variety that actually never existed. Can you imagine such a thing?

I intend to write this up and you shall have the story for

#2. Mr. Harry L. Lindquist, Oct. 7, 1947.

"STAMPS."

Thanks for the information on Fergus. I wrote him a letter of appreciation and I'll try and meet him at the C.P.S. Show.

With best regards -

Cordially yours,

Sept. 3, 1947.

Mr. L. S. Brookman,
121 Loeb Arcade,
Minneapolis, Minn.

Dear Les:

Yours of the 28th with photo prints received. The package arrived in bad condition but I doubt if any were lost. If you used all the illustrations you sure will have a swell book. I believe that in most any kind of a philatelic study that "pictures" are almost important as the text. Do you get any word as to how soon the book will appear? I suppose Vol. 1 will come out long before Vol. 2 - correct?

Re - your 1847 book. I believe that we pulled a slight boner, and I am more to blame than you. For example, the S.U.S. has long listed a "Dot in U" variety. On page 31, Fig. 31, (odd 31 on 31) you illustrated a plate proof copy. You have this labeled "Photo by Ashbrook." As I recall, I didn't make this photo, but it is one that was in a batch I got from Steve Brown. He had it labeled "Dot in S" variety.

Have you ever seen an actual stamp like this? I haven't, or at least I have no such a variety in my record. The variety has been listed for many, many years in the catalogue, and it has just occurred to me that it did not originally refer to Fig. 31 but rather to Fig. 48, page 39. It is too bad I didn't catch this before so that the correction could have been made in your new book.

Steve Brown sent me a photo of a stamp that was supposed to be like your Fig. 39 and I simply assumed that both came from the same position. Brown's stamp may not have been even a consistent variety as I have never found a duplicate.

At any rate, I am positive the catalogue listing refers to Fig. 48 as the "dot" on this position is very strong - in fact, two strong horizontal lines close together. I now doubt if Fig. 48 is any sort of a D.T. - If it was a D.T. where did the lines in "U" and "T" come from? Actually, they seem to be foreign to any part of the design.

Why not write Perry and ask him if he thinks your Fig. 39 illustrates the listed variety. Inquire if he ever saw a stamp like #39. Don't suggest that #48 is the correct variety because I have a faint recollection that he wrote me at the time that I discovered #48 that it was new to him.

Also enlighten me on the following:

#2. Mr. L. G. Brookman, Sept. 3, 1947.

(1) You and I both agree 100% (correct?) that the 5¢ 1847 "worn plates copies" of 1849 are not worn plate examples but are dirty plate examples. In other words, the ink was a pasty substance like putty and it filled up the plate and produced very poor impressions. These look exactly like worn impressions. Is that correct? Who originated this solution? Was it you or was it me? I think that you first suggested i - Am I right? Do you recall that anyone else ever suggested it? For example, Brazer - Perry? I think Brazer is too damn dumb.

Did you ever ask Perry how he accounted for the worn plate copies of 1849? If not, why not ask him if he thinks a steel plate would have shown such wear. (as the 1849 copies exhibit).

I note your further remarks on the 24¢ 1861. I can borrow the Brooks violet cover at any time, also his cover (used in Oct. 1861) with a very fine steel blue. His violet is not a fine color but it is positively the violet - it is a bit dull - the bloom is missing - but it is no changeling, nor does it show any trace of gray or blue - that is, as near as I can remember.

Rather than a "violet" showing traces of a "steel blue," I believe that most any, (if not all??) steel blues will show traces of the violet.

A friend of mine down here has a collection which is for sale - U.S. and foreign. He says he was offered $400 for it. I told him that I would get in touch with him the next time you come down.

With regards -

Yours etc.,

Sept. 4, 1947.

Mr. L. G. Brookman,
121 Loeb Arcade,
Minneapolis, Minn.

Dear Les:

I guess I was wrong about that "Dot in U" variety. When I wrote you I had forgotten that Chase described it in his 1916 article. It was evidently known before that time, perhaps catalogued, as Chase describes it as a dot in the upper part of the left-hand side of the "U," and "known as the Dot in U variety."

Maybe Perry can give you some dope.

I am enclosing you a little batch of U.S. Can you make me a decent bid on the lot?

Yours etc.,

L. G. BROOKMAN

BRIDGEPORT 2969

Brookman Stamp Company *Stamps and Philatelic Supplies*

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121 LOEB ARCADE
FIFTH ST. AND HENNEPIN AVE.
MINNEAPOLIS 2, MINN.

September 5, 1947

Dear Stan:

I doubt if we have pulled a boner on the "Dot in U" variety because it seems to me that the photo you sent proves that such a variety exists. Now there is no doubt, if I read the photograph correctly, but that the stamp you have photographed is from a different plate position than the "Specimen" that shows the "Dot in the U". I believe you will find a trace of the left frame line of the stamp to the right of the stamp pictured and you can see that this stamp was entered higher on the plate than the stamp to the left of the "Specimen" stamp. Further, as you have of course noticed, the position dot is different on these two items. As to the dot itself, there is a great similarity to the dot in the U of each of these items and I think we have a parellel between this and the "Dot in the S" variety. Just as one illustration will suffice to illustrate the "Dot in the S" variety, since it is so nearly identical on each of the positions on which it occurs, so probably does the illustration of the position of the "Specimen" stamp illustrate quite fairly the "Dot in the U" variety.

Clark

In my own mind I am satisfied that this is the "Dot in the U" variety as listed in the catalog because ~~they~~ would have been more inclined, I believe, to have listed your "U" variety as "Lines thru the "U" and "T". By the way, these lines appear to possibly have come from a very poorly positioned original entry—the lines thru the U from the top of the U and the lines thru the T from the frame line. I am more inclined to guess that they are just accidental scratches on the plate.

L. G. BROOKMAN BRIDGEPORT 2969

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121 LOEB ARCADE
FIFTH ST. AND HENNEPIN AVE.
MINNEAPOLIS 2, MINN.

Sept. 5, 1947 (2)

1/ I obtained the photo of the "Specimen" from you and assumed that you shot it.

I don't want to write Perry about anything as I think he is a bit "owly" (sp?) about my writing a 19th Century book. I spoke to him at the Centenary and told him that I would send him a copy of my book when it was ready and he snapped back that he could write a better one with his eyes closed. Well--I will agree with him on that point but the remark was completely uncalled for. I figured, and still figure, that I owe him a book for the help he gave me in the past (I never asked him a thing during the writing of my forthcoming books and that may be what gripped him). Frankly, I expect him to land on the books with both feet but I don't much care because Perry has certainly lost 90% of his stature with the New York crowd--his actions before the Centenary just about cooked his goose. He has done much for me and I appreciate it but I don't have to take a dose of his Irish temper in the bargain! All of this strictly between you and I.

I don't know where I got the idea about the pigment of the 5¢ plugging up the plate but I believe I suggested it to you. I think if we would check back in our old correspondence that it would be found that I mentioned this some years ago. Brazer once suggested to me that the poor impressions were due to poor presswork--by that I think he indicated a poor degree of tension between the plate and the paper. I don't recall that he ever brought the poor ink deal into the picture and I feel certain that I never discussed this with Perry or that Perry ever suggested it to me. Should you ever write along this line I hope you will let me see your mns. before you go to press.

We will try to knock off that collection. If I go to N.Y. in the next couple of weeks, which I may do, I will see if I can't go by the way of Cincinnati. I think I'll drop Mr. Newbury a line telling him that you want to see me and that I'd like to drop in on him for

L. G. BROOKMAN BRIDGEPORT 2969

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121 LOEB ARCADE
FIFTH ST. AND HENNEPIN AVE.
MINNEAPOLIS 2, MINN.

a day on the way down. Maybe I could borrow one or two of his best "Steel Blue" copies for our examination.

I haven't heard anything more about the book. As far as I know everything is all set and ready and I shouldn't have to touch it again. I wrote to Stowell yesterday asking him to please let me know the status quo and hope to hear from him in a few days. It doesn't seem to me that Harry is pushing very hard but maybe he knows best how to handle this whole matter. I've just about ~~fitting~~ quit fighting on this deal. If by any chance Stowell might have a few copies of Volume One off the press by the 18th or 19th of the month I would like to go down to N.Y. to see Harry. He has written me regarding running a short article in the Specialist that would merely be a condensation of some part of the new book. This would be an advertising deal for the new book. I haven't committed myself on this as yet but have told him that I definitely would not even consider this until Volume One is in my hands. It would merely be a pastepot and scissors deal on some one 19th century issue as discussed in the book.

The U.S. lot is worth $6.50 to me. Most of it, as you know, is junk. Advise me.

I really hope I can see you soon.

Best regards,

Les

Sept. 9, 1947.

Mr. L. G. Brookman,
121 Loeb Arcade,
Minneapolis, Minn.

Dear Les:

Yours of the 5th received.

I really was amazed at the story about Perry. He surely must be off his nut and no mistake. I can hardly imagine a person making such a lousy remark. Some people think that they can do a better job than someone else but very frequently they are sorely mistaken. I am sure that in this case Perry is mistaken. Why? The answer is very simple. Perry cannot write anything any more without injecting a lot of sour stuff - smart-Aleck - and wisecracks. Perry has the deluded notion that in 19th U. S. he is tops, hence if anything is to be written, he should write it. To which I say NUTS. Well Les, forget his lousy remark and remember that it was very mild in comparison to all the bricks that he hurled my way. And lastly, don't present him with any copies of your new book. If he wants one, make him buy a copy. And ask Harry to do the same. Perry is absolutely wrong in supposing he could have produced a better book - even with his eyes open - and that I can easily prove, viz., where would he have been able to obtain such illustrations? You know darn well he could not have gotten them fromm me for any price. Just imagine me, permitting Perry to use any of my photographs. Well I sppke to the poor fellow at Cipex but I only did it to be a bit decent. After all, he hurt himself far more than he did me. I may be kidding myself but I believe that the collecting public - 19th U.S. - would prefer an Ashbrook opinion to one by Perry.

Re - the Dot in "U" variety. That Brown photo came to me several years after Steve's death. He had it labeled Dot in "U." He had the photo made. I never saw the stamp. I judge that the mark in the "U" is consistent but how can one tell from a photo? Steve evidently borrowed this copy, because there was no Dot in "U" copy in his sale. Also there was no "Dot in U" copy in the Knapp sale. How come? In the Emerson sale last November there was a big lot of 5¢ 47 but no Dot in "U" variety. What is the answer? I am sure that I do not know. Perhaps Chase can give me some dope. I will write him.

You have a good eye Les - congratulations. I didn't mention that the position to right proves that the stamp does not come from the "Specimen" position. Steve Brown was too keen not

to have noticed this and I wondered at the time why he had both prints labeled "Dot in U." Chase didn't attempt to illustrate the variety in his 1916 article.

Hugh Clark had very little knowledge of varieties, hence I feel sure that he did not know the actual stamp to which his S.U.S. listing referred.

Ré - 5¢ worn plates. I agree with you that it was you who first suggested the theory that the plates were dirty instead of worn. It seems to be the correct answer to some very puzzling problems.

If Brazer is so darn sure that the 5¢ plate was steel I would like to ask him how he can account for the worn plate copies so fully described by Chase in his 1916 article. Have you read the Chase article recently?

Re - the little lot of U. S. that I sent you. I am sorry but the owner thinks they are worth more so please return.

With regards -

Yours etc.,

P.S.--If I write anything additional on Copper Vs Steel I will send you copy before publication.

S.

Sept. 22, 1947.

Mr. L. G. Brookman,
121 Loeb Arcade,
Minneapolis, Minn.

Dear Les:

After you left we decided not to disappoint the Starks so we left early Friday. Had a nice trip and beat the storm back. Had quite a blow last night and this A.M. it dropped to 56. Fine. Hope you didn't feel the blow returning to Chicago but no doubt you did. It blew hard all the way home yesterday - exactly 300 miles and a hard trip (600 miles round trip).

I enclose reply from Karl Burroughs, also copy of mine in reply. In my opinion his letter just about settles the argument. I have great respect for Burroughs as a very keen philatelic student. Further, he is a scholar and a gentleman - no mill-hand with an exaggerated ego and a poison pen.

Regards -

Hastily,

L. G. BROOKMAN BRIDGEPORT 2969

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121 LOEB ARCADE
FIFTH ST. AND HENNEPIN AVE.
MINNEAPOLIS 2, MINN.

Tuesday, Sept. 23rd, 1947

Dear Stan:

Your letter from Burroughs was most interesting and appears to clinch your case on the "Dot in the U". You are a regular bloodhound.

Just on the chance that Stowell would still be able to get it in the book I phoned him a moment ago and requested him to place the following in the book:

> "There is now good reason to doubt that the "Dot in the U" is an actual plate variety. Ashbrook has informed us that he as well as Karl Burroughs, Percy Doane, and other students of note have been unable to find any trace of a stamp with this variety."

I am certain that you will be glad that the above statement has been included and that you will not feel that I am trying to " steal your thunder" since I have stated that "Ashbrook has informed us" and no doubt you will have this in print long before the book will come out. I am very happy that we have been able (thru you) to keep this error out of the book.

Stowell told me that the book is on the press and that they were printing the second signature now. I have a scheme in mind to have one especially bound to give to Mr. N. at the time of the Chicago show (I'll see you there) and Stowell has just told me that he will, even if he has to put the forms on the press just to run half a dozen copies, get me a completed volume in time to have a copy bound for Mr. N. Of course I want this as a surprise for him.

You certainly hit it on the head when you wondered if I hit the storm Sunday night. I CERTAINLY DID. We ran into a terrible storm between Youngstown

and Cleveland and had to turn around and run ahead of the storm back to Pittsburgh where we were grounded 4½ hours. When we hit the storm we rose at a truly frightful speed--the plane was literally thrown straight up in the air at the rate of 4,000 feet per minute and then we would fall equally fast. It was the worst the pilot (one of the best on the system) had ever seen and the stewardesses were plenty scared. I really expected the wings to break right off under the terrific strain but it is now obvious that they can stand almost any conceivable pressure. We got back to Pittsburgh at about 7.30 and left about Midnight. Quite rough most of the way back to Minneapolis but nothing unusual. Despite the above experience I will of course continue to fly for I am now certain that 99% of any weather that I will run into will be better than that of last Sunday night! As a matter of fact I may fly back to N.Y. in about a week as I have a possible deal on with John Fox. If the Cleveland storm couldn't make me sick I guess I must have a cast iron stomach! Peshaps Mildred's biscuits put me in good condition.

I felt O.K. in N.Y. --no cold or headaches at all. Beautiful flying from Cincinnatti to N.Y.

Had a nice visit with Harry--he is a prince of a host.

One last thing about the storm--the Co-pilot's belt broke under the strain and he was thrown right out of his seat. One of the passengers was trying to get to his seat from the men's room and he literally flew thru the air and hit his head on the ceiling. So you can see we really had fun for a time.

Best regards,

Lex

Sept. 11, 1947.

Dr. Carroll Chase,
R.F.D. 1,
Milford, N.H.

Dear Doc:

Re - 5¢ 1847 - variety "Dot in U" - (S.U.S.). Can you give me any information on this variety? The first mention that I can find of it was in your 1916 article and you stated that it was a dot near the top of the left arm of the "U." You also stated that the variety was known as the Dot in U from which I judge that it was known before your 1916 article.

Although I had over 1200 of the 5¢ 1847 in my collection in the late nineteens, I never owned a "Dot in U" stamp. It was first listed in the first edition of the S.U.S. - 1923, and the listing was undoubtedly taken from your article. In the sales of the following collections no such a variety was offered, viz., Emerson sales in 1937 - 1938 - Emerson Deluxe recent sales - Brown sale - Rust sale - Knapp sale - West sale - Gibson sale.

When Les Brookman wrote his book on the 1847's, I supplied a photograph of a plate proof showing the alleged "Dot in U" - see Fig. 31 - page 31. This photograph came to me from Steve Brown and it is the only example of this position that I have ever seen. Steve also had a photograph of a stamp - not from this position - which showed a "smudge" near the top of the left arm of the U. One could hardly call it a "dot." I do not know if this was a consistent variety, as I never saw other than the photograph.

I am wondering, considering all of the above evidence, if the original listing of this variety came from the plate proof? (fig. 31, Brookman book). Have you still got your original card index file on the 1847's? If so perhaps you have definite data on the variety.

Best regards -

Cordially yours,

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

Sept 13 1947

Dear Sam :-

Thanks for yours of the 11th. Regarding that "Dot in O". It hardly seems likely, at least, on general principles, that I would have called it if I hadn't seen two identical ones. I can't remember — after all, it was a comparatively minor detail some 20 odd years — no 30 years ago.

Did I tell you that a few months ago someone wanted me to write up the 47's in hand-book form? You may believe I turned it down. In fact, I guess it is a pretty sure thing that I'll never do any more work on that particular issue all the disjointed dope I can find on the "Dot in O" is that I have a record of having had a hairpin hair of plate proofs in my collection that showed this variety in the stamp at left. I wonder if I hadn't better send you all my dope on the 47's. Give a look at it & it might contain here & there something of value. What do you say?

I think this is the hottest summer I ever lived through anywhere — and it's still hot & humid. Dog gone such weather!

Best
as ever
C.C.

Sept. 16, 1947.

Dr. Carroll Chase,
R.F.D. #1,
Milford, N.H.

Dear Doc:

Thanks for yours of the 13th re - the 5¢ 1847 "Dot in U." The photograph that Steve Brown had of the plate proof was a horizontal pair with the stamp to left showing a Dot in "U." I suppose there is little doubt but what this is a photograph of the pair that you owned and my guess is that you probably listed the variety from this proof. If you had a duplicate of the proof position in an actual stamp then my guess would be that the stamp came from one of the earliest of impressions and that the defect(?) was noticed and corrected on the plate. If this variety actually exists in a stamp, that is, a stamp from the proof position then it is certainly an extremely rare item.

I have examined the photograph (fig. 31 - page 31 - Brookman book) of the proof under my binocular microscope and I have some doubt that the "dot" was actually a consistent plate variety.

I surely would like to have a look at all your records on the 1847's, and I'll take excellent care of same and return the material to you. Send it to me by express, with the charges collect.

There is a chap down east by the name of Dr. Coopersmith who compiled quite a bit of data on the 1847 issue - His collection last winter was sold by Colby and Mr. Newbury purchased for me all the Coopersmith data - It was quite a mass - auction catalogues, photographs, etc., etc., etc. I doubt if there is much in the lot that I didn't have. Probably the most valuable item was actual photographs, page by page of the old record book at Washington showing all the deliveries of the 1847's. This is really nice. From this record, the Doctor made up a card index by states showing the deliveries, dates, etc., to each post office.

Did you ever meet the Doctor? I never did, nor have I ever had any correspondence with him.

A handbook by Chase on the 1847's would go over big and if you ever change your mind, you can have anything that

you want from my files. I have enough material to write a two volume book, and while such a job is just about as delightful a way to starve to death that I can imagine, I don't especially care about such a slow way to pass out.

It was down to 50 here this A.M. so I guess it is even more delightfully cool up your way.

With best wishes -

Yours etc.,

Sept. 22, 1947.

Dr. Carroll Chase,
R.F.D. #1,
Milford, N.H.

Dear Doc:

Please note and return enclosed. Did you ever meet Burroughs? He has done some fine work on the 1847's and is really a very keen student, though I understand he has given up his philatelic work on account of some trouble with his eyes.

I have been unable so far to locate anyone who has ever seen a Dot in U stamp. I cannot help but suspect that you must have listed it from your plate proof pair, and I now have reason to doubt that the marking on the proof was actually consistent.

In a bunch of photos you sent me was one of your old photo prints of the proof pair.

With regards -

Yours etc.,

P.S. It was 56 here this A.M.

Sept. 11, 1947.

Mr. Edw. Stern,
87 Nassau St.,
New York, N.Y.

My dear Ed:

Re - the S.U.S. listing of the 5¢ 1847 variety, the "Dot in U." This was first listed in the first edition of the S.U.S. and I judge it was taken from the Chase article of 1916 in the old Philatelic Gazette.

Have you any data on this variety? Do you ever recall seeing a copy? The reason I inquire is because I doubt if you will find that such a stamp was offered in any of the following prominent sales:

Emerson, Rust, Knapp, West, Gibson and Sweet.

Further - I never owned a copy that I can recall.

I am preparing a special article on the 5¢ 1847 in which I am making special mention of this listed variety, and I will appreciate any information that you can give me.

I am also writing to Hatcher, Cole, Costales, and Kelleher regarding the "variety."

With regards -

Cordially yours,

Return 6¢ Air Mail enclosed

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

Sept 25 47

Dear Stan :-

I return herewith Karl Burroughs letter. Yes, he is a good student. Sorry he has trouble with his eyes.

I don't know what more to say about the dot in V. I have no way of checking. It is quite possible that you are right — that the dot is not a real plate variety.

The express package is on its way to you and I hope you find a little dope that is of interest.

Cool weather at last.

Best regards

Sincerely

C.C.

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

Oct 1 47

Dear Stan :-

I'm glad the 47 dope arrived safely. You are probably right about the "dot in U".

Regarding the block of 50 5¢ plate proofs. I had considerable correspondence about this with Burroughs & had to decide that I made an error in saying that the block of 50 was from the bottom of the sheet, as it evidently was a few rows higher. I had the block in question all around, but I guess it was cut up. Did I ever tell you that I lost it because I got caught on a confinement case when the 1st came up in one of SCMs sales & I couldn't get there? The old man was nasty about it & I couldn't even phone. I never did like Julius Caesar M. though many accuse me of considering him somewhat of a Jewish God.

Best

wishes

C.C.

Sept. 11, 1947.

Mr. Jas. B. Hatcher,
% Scott Publications, Inc.,
1 West 47th St.,
New York 19, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Hatcher:

Re - S.U.S. listing "Dot in U in upper left corner." This was first listed in the first edition of the S.U.S.

I am wondering if you have any records on file regarding this listing? I judge it came from the Chase article of 1916 - in the old Philatelic Gazette.

By any chance do you recall ever having seen the variety?

When do you expect Gordon back from England.

Sincerely yours,

SCOTT PUBLICATIONS, Inc.

POSTAGE STAMP CATALOGUES
ALBUMS AND BOOKS

One West Forty-seventh Street
New York 19, N. Y.

BRYANT 9-1277

GORDON R. HARMER, President & Treasurer
GREGORY F. NOONAN, ... Secretary
ARTHUR C. ZIMMERMANN, Assistant Treasurer

September 17, 1947

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

Dear Stan:

Your letter of September 11th has been referred to me for answer.

Regarding the listing of "Dot in U in upper left corner", I have talked to our Mr. Thatcher who has seen it and believes we have sold them though not absolutely certain.

However, Gene Costales was the compiler of the 1st edition of the Specialized and he might recall the full facts.

Got back from England the day after Labor Day.

With kind regards, I remain

Sincerely yours,

SCOTT PUBLICATIONS, Inc.

GORDON R. HARMER

GRH:JK

Sept. 22, 1947.

Mr. Gordon Harmer,
% Scott Publications, Inc.,
1 W. 47th St.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Gordon:

Thanks for yours of the 17th.

Is it too late to remove the listing of the "Dot in U" from the 1848 S.U.S.? I really think that this should be done because I am almost positive that no such a stamp exists. I do not doubt that Mr. Hatcher has seen or handled a stamp that he thought was the Dot in U but I am sure it was not a copy of the listed variety. You see the listed variety is as per Fig. 31 in the Brookman book and this marking is unknown on an actual stamp - in my opinion.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

SCOTT PUBLICATIONS, Inc.

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BRYANT 9-1277

GORDON R. HARMER, *President & Treasurer*
GREGORY F. NOONAN, ... *Secretary*
ARTHUR C. ZIMMERMANN, *Assistant Treasurer*

September 29, 1947

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

Dear Stan:

Thanks for your letter of the 22nd. Note what you say regarding "Dot in 'U'" but I want to say very definitely that I am much averse to removing anything from the Catalogue unless I am 100% convinced that it is an error in listing. If it can be proved to me satisfactorily that it does not exist, I will be only too glad to make the correction, but an opinion is not sufficient. I believe Hugh was very particular in only listing items he had seen, a policy which I follow with very rare exceptions.

I have referred to the first edition of the Specialized Catalogue, published in 1923, and find this variety listed so obviously this was an item which Costales had approved. As I said before, you might be able to get information on it from him.

With kind regards, I remain

Very truly yours,

SCOTT PUBLICATIONS, Inc.

GORDON R. HARMER

GRH:JK

Oct. 6, 1947.

Mr. Gordon Harmer,
℅ Scott Publications, Inc.,
1 W. 47th St.,
New York 19, N.Y.

Dear Gordon:

I am in receipt of yours of the 29th.

I wish to assure you that it is absolutely immaterial to me what you put into the S.U.S. or what you take out. I am fully aware that the "Dot in U" variety was first listed by Costales back in 1923 and in those days both Clark and Costales did rely a great deal on Chase, as well as myself as to what was listed in the 19th section of the catalogue. I was not responsible for the "Dot in U" but I am sure that Chase was, and I am practically certain that the listing was made from a plate proof copy on which the variety was not consistent. Here we have an absurd situation, a "variety" that never did exist, which has been listed in the S.U.S. for 24 years.

The only reason that I mentioned the matter to you was because I thought it was about time that the listing was called to the attention of the Editor, because it is so ridiculous. However, it is not any more so than a number of items that are included in the S.U.S., as for example, the "1860 Imperforates," the "1861 Premieres Gravures," the "3¢ 1861 Lake," the "3¢ 1862 Scarlet" and many other items which have been totally discredited. What could be more absurd than #66? The catalogue states that #66 "was not regularly issued." That is a positive statement. Could you prove that it was never regularly issued? Could I prove that it was not? Of course I cannot, and neither could you or anyone else. I could no more prove that #66 was not issued than I could prove that the 5¢ 1847 was not issued in a blue color, or that the 10¢ 1847 was not issued perforated. The fact is, that we are quite positive that #66 was never regularly issued, hence #66 has no legitimate right to be listed in any stamp catalogue, much less in the S.U.S., which should be considered as honest and unbiased.

I have no axe to grind as to what is listed in the S.U.S. My only interest is that collectors be given the truth, believe it or not. I wouldn't profit to the extent of a penny if you removed the "Dot in U" listing, because there is no way that I know of to sell such items short.

Perhaps it would be absolutely impossible to prove that

there never was a "Dot in U" stamp, but my idea of such a listing is, that before such an item should ever be listed, it should be proved that it actually existed. I am sure that Costales would admit that he listed it from the Chase article, and there is little doubt, as Chase will admit, that the only such item that he ever saw was a plate proof. I am positive that no person living or dead could prove that there was such a variety.

In this respect I might add that Luff or no one else ever produced any proof that the "Premieres Gravures" were ever "regularly issued." For years I have challenged anyone to produce any proof that they were.

I believe that stamp catalogues should give the public facts and should not list any "sucker items" or any items that are questionable. For example, the "Premieres" - Today no serious student of our postal history believes for one instant that these "essays" were issued to the public. If they were not, they certainly have no right to be included in the section that they now occupy in the S.U.S. They should be removed, and if it could ever be proved that they are not "essays" but actual stamps, then they could legitimately be listed.

Sincerely yours,

SCOTT PUBLICATIONS, Inc.

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GORDON R. HARMER, President & Treasurer
GREGORY F. NOONAN, ... Secretary
ARTHUR C. ZIMMERMANN, Assistant Treasurer

October 9, 1947

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

Dear Stan:

Many thanks for your letter of the 6th. The matters you raise are hardly those that really can be dealt with satisfactorily by correspondence. I am hesitant in removing anything from the Catalogue that has been in the book unless I am absolutely certain that is the wisest course and that I am entirely justified in withdrawing same.

In regard to the "Dot in 'U'" variety, you, yourself, will only state that it is your opinion and I would want more than an opinion. I agree that it is difficult to be proved. I honestly don't think that the listing is ridiculous because normally it would be very fair to assume that the variety on the plate occurred on the actual issued stamp.

There are just a few points that occur to me as I write and in regard to the August issue, the note following the issue is pretty plain. Then, again, what could be more to the point than the note following #72 regarding stamps 66 and 66a?

As I say, the points raised in your letter really constitute a question of policy and that is a thing that has to be decided . Without going into the matter very carefully, I do not see the harm in perpetuating them in the Catalogue with the proper notes. As far as I am concerned, I have no axes to grind and certainly want to do what is best for the hobby in general and I prefer my policy to be a constructive one.

With best personal wishes, I remain

Sincerely yours,

SCOTT PUBLICATIONS, Inc.

GORDON R. HARMER

GRH:JK

Oct. 7, 1947.

Mr. L. G. Brookman,
121 Loeb Arcade,
Minneapolis, Minn.

Dear Les:

My local friend turned me down on the U.S. collection but at the same time my out of town friend wrote me that he would take it @ $90.00, so I'll get it back to him today or tomorrow.

I sent you a copy of my letter to Gordon. I fully intended not to make any reply but I couldn't resist the temptation. I haven't the slightest hope that I will get anywhere, anytime soon. Someday all the crap will drop out of the S.U.S. and I will be vindicated. I doubt if I will live to see it though. I am going to write an article on the "Dot in U" and of course I'll not fail to mention my pet-peeves. I'll just keep hammering away and if I can use a bit of sweetened ridicule I'll do so.

I thought Gordon Harmer would make a fine editor but I guess he is just another damn Britisher. Damn them all anyway - they want us to support them - they get on their knees and beg for food and clothes - not to dman proud to beg money from us but too damn proud to even associate with an American "Duchess." Not that I have any use for "Wally" but at least the heels could invite her to the marriage this fall of the "Princess." What a lot of damn foolishness it is to have Dukes, and Princes in this day and age. I boil over every time my thoughts wander to Sir John Wilson.

I guess we can thank the great Lichtenstein for having a Britisher the editor of our catalogge. He was one of those Americans who thought it marvelous to even associate with the "Fellows" of the Royal. Do you recall the CIPEX dinner and all the crap that was passed out about Alfred - and there at the table next to S.N.'s was Alfred's widow alongside of "Sir John."

Yes, I'll keep plugging away on the "Premieres" and eventually they will be quietly dropped. I thought that they would be dropped when Luff died but now it seems that we will have to wait until Clark dies. I wonder if the Harmer policy was not dictated by Clark?

Yours etc.,

L. G. BROOKMAN BRIDGEPORT 2969

Brookman Stamp Company *Stamps and Philatelic Supplies*

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121 LOEB ARCADE
FIFTH ST. AND HENNEPIN AVE.
MINNEAPOLIS 2, MINN.

Oct. 3, 1947

Dear Stan:

GOOD GOD! We apparantly are doomed to stay in the DARK AGES so far as the catalog is concerned for it appears that the old theory of "Prove that it never existed" is still with us.

I propose that we come out and claim that we have found a tete beche pair of the 5¢ '47 and challenge Gordon to prove that it doesn't exist.

Since this theory is so utterly stupid it is wide open to one of the most powerful weapons of all--and that is the weapon of RIDICULE. It should be possible to laugh this theory out of court.

Go to it on the small U.S. lot--any deal you make is O.K. with me.

Don't let this "Dot in the U" deal get under your hide--just say a few prayers for Gordon and hope that he gets religion!

Best regards,

July 5, 1947.

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

Dear Dan:

At the Cipex dinner Mike Newbury remarked to me: "I understand that you handled a nice 10¢ 1855 block - why didn't you show it to S.N." My reply was, that I didn't think that he would have been interested and that Ernie felt the same way. I do not know who told Mike but I suppose it was Ward.

Harold Stark agreed to buy it provided I could make a commission. Ward agreed to pay me 10%. Therefore, I had Stark make a check to Ward for $1,500.00 so that he would know I wasn't selling to Newbury and was not getting over $1,500.00. Ward paid me $150.00. There is the whole story.

Stark sent the block to me this week and I made a photograph of it. Stark agreed to let me have it back at any time if I could make some money on it. I think that the piece is easily worth $2,500.00 and if you think you can place it I'll send you a print.

Ward must have told everyone he met at Cipex about it so that no one would have a chance to get more than what was paid him.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

July 5, 1947.

Mr. S. Newbury,
38 South Dearborn St.,
Chicago 3, Ill.

My dear Mr. Newbury:

At the Cipex, Ward had a used block of ten(10) of the 10¢ 1855 which he sold to Harold Stark of Detroit, for $1,500.00. I advised Harold to purchase it and Harold agreed to, provided Ward paid me a commission. Harold made a check to Ward for $1,500 and Ward paid me $150.00.

At the Cipex dinner, Mike remarked to me that he heard I had handled a nice 10¢ piece and inquired why I didn't show it to you. I told him the reason was quite obvious, that you would not have been interested.

Harold sent the block to me today to photograph and I was reminded of my conversation with Mike. Later on I will send you a print, but in the meantime I am enclosing a diagram of the item. You will note that it was a block of ten (10) with all of the four imperforate types. In other words,

Two (2) Type I
Three (3) " II
Three (3) " III
Two (2) " IV

Ernie saw the block but did not think it would be of interest to you.

Will you please show this letter to Mike.

With best of wishes -

As ever yours,

PHONE UNIVERSITY 1-4399

H. W. STARK & CO.
18652 BIRCHCREST DRIVE
DETROIT 21, MICH.

June 8, 1947.

Dear Stan,

Received both your letters. Too busy during the week to answer either. Plan to contact N.A. Woodworth. I know quite a bit about hime but have never seen his stamp collection. Understand he has a nice collection.

Jack was over during the week and he is not completely convinced of your interpretation of the 1¢ block, which you said was from plate 12. I would not know anything about it, thus I am on the side lines.

When you get around to it send the dope on the Pony Express cover to Scotland. You mentioned you had written an article on this cover.

Still have the block of 10 of the 10¢ stamps. Whenever you are ready for it, let me know and I will send same. You mentioned you wanted to photograph it. The other offer still stands also; namely, if you can sell it to Newbury for 2500.00, it is OK by me. Have Newbury write the check to me and I will pay you $1000 commission. Hope he dont want it as I have got a bit attached to it. You should write a short article about it.

All we hage been having is rain and more rain. Got a nice cold and still have it.

Sonny comes home from Culver next Tuesday. Ruth is in a jitter and plans mountains of things to do for him. I tell her to mind her own business and let him paddle his own canoe.

Expect to see you folks at the cottage soon. Let me know when. You are always welcome.

Best of wishes to you and yours,

Sincerely,

Harold

June 11, 1947.

Mr. Harold W. Stark,
18652 Birchcrest Drive,
Detroit 21, Mich.

Dear Harold:

Was pleased to receive yours of the 8th.

Re - your 10¢ block. Stamp collectors are a gossipy lot and news travels fast. For example, Ward had to tell everyone that he sold the 10¢ block to me and of course he wanted it known what I paid him. He even had to give all the details to Mr. Newbury and Mike. At the banquet Friday night Mike put me on the spot by remarking that he heard that I got an exceptional piece from Ward and turned it over to you - "Why didn't you show it to S.N.?"

Some people in this game will never learn anything about stamps even if they live to be a couple of hundred. Bob Emerson was that way and so is Ward. Just imagine a person like Ward in this game since 1910 and even today cannot spot a 10¢ 1855 Type I - darn strange. I really would feel terribly ashamed to ever take that block away from you - so don't worry - I'll not make any effort unless you get tired of it and request me to find a buyer. I hope Jack don't feel bad because I did not absolutely insist that he purchase it.

Jack is sure a card and he amuses me at times. I do not recall that I ever gave him any information on the One Cent 1851-57 which was wrong, but I suppose anyone has a right to question a person's opinion if they have reason to differ. However in this case, I plated Jack's block by the big Newbury piece and there is no question but what the plating is correct.

Regarding the article on the Pony Express cover. Back in 1936 I had a column in the A.P. under the heading of "The Specialist" I cut the short series of articles out at the time and bound them together. I thought I had a duplicate copy that I could give you but find that I haven't except in my regular A.P. file. I am today mailing to you under separate cover the series of articles which please return at your convenience. The notes on this Pony cover ran in the June 1936 number and if you would like a copy of this number it is barely possible that I could obtain one for you from Ralph Kimble. Let me know.

I note that I failed to explain at the time that the letter was sent by an American Packet and that the "21" was our debit to

the British and that the sum due in Glasgow was "one shilling" as marked in pen on face. Pony covers that were carried by the original company are far rarer and more desirable than those which were carried by the Company after it fell under the Wells Fargo & Co. management. See my chapter on the "Pony Express" in my Vol. 2.

Whenever it is convenient to you I wish that you would send me the 10¢ 1855 block. I want to photograph it and write an article about it. Back in the late nineteens I would have given my eye-tooth for just a look at this block. It would have saved me countless hours of work when I was reconstructing the plate. I do not know who owned it at that time.

We have also been having nothing but rain for months. Mildred and I often remark that we have had nothing but disagreeable weather since the day we all left Fort Thomas for Florida. Last Saturday night we had the most severe electrical storm that I ever experienced. Today it is hot as the very devil, and especially so up in my sky-parlor.

By the way Harold, I wonder if Hutch would be interested in buying my collection of the "U.S.Express Mail of 1836-1839?" Will you ask him? It is beautifully mounted, hand-lettered and described - and is in two volumes. In all there are 82 covers, some very rare. I want $850.00 net for it. It makes a beautiful showing and is in shape to be exhibited any time at any stamp exhibition. Some of the covers in the lot are very rare and valuable - in fact - I figure that three are very outstanding and are alone worth from $150.00 to $200.00. These old Express Mail covers are very rare and so far as I am aware I have more than anyone else. Whoever acquires this collection should use it as a foundation on which to build it up and he should run an ad in "Stamps" to buy additional covers. The only reason I am selling is because I have to have the money. If Hutch would like to see it I will ship it up by express. It really makes a fine showing.

I guess Ruth is no different from Mildred. Mothers have a way of treating grown boys like babies. Always mothering them - babying them and watching over them like an old hen over a bunch of young chicks.

Stan Jr. will be out of school tomorrow - says he is going to get a job and go to work - but first he would like to spend a day with Harold at Clear Lake - so we may drop in on you sometime before the end of the month.

Gosh what a long letter -

Regards to all the Stark family.

Cordially yours,

If not delivered in _____ days return

to _____

By Dr Bacher

PAID

Wells, Fargo &

OVER OUR CALIFORNIA AND COAST R

Blue
SAN ANDREAS
Cal

NEW YORK
JUL
3
10

N.Y.B.K.
JUL
3
10

Blacic

To England From California 1859

July 18, 1947.

Mr. Harold W. Stark,
18652 Birchcrest Drive,
Detroit, Mich.

Dear Harold:

Here are two covers that were sent to me by my friend Dr. Bacher of London. They are quite interesting and before returning them I thought you would like to see them. Bacher wants $140.00 for the pair which of course is much too much.

Note the one from San Francisco in October 1859. It shows the 29¢ rate from California to England and the combination is nice. This traveled by the Overland Mail Stage and the "3" shows it went by "American Packet." I always thought that this large "3" was applied at Boston, but I cannot recall any sailing of American packets out of Boston in the latter part of 1859. It should show a postmark of the port of departure but this was frequently omitted. Note the imperf 3¢ 1851.

Note the other cover. This originated at San Andreas, Calif. (Calaveras Co.), and was prepaid at the 29¢ rate from California, (1¢ overpay). It was carried east by Wells Fargo messenger and mailed at New York. It was first rated as a single (19 cr.), then as a double, with "SHORT PAID," with a "10" debit. In London it should have been rated at 58¢ due (2 x 29), or two shillings four pence, because the rate from California was 29¢ not 24¢. It looks like New York disregarded the proper rate when it made the debit 10¢.

Should we make Bacher an offer for these two items? It is too bad the condition is not better.

How are you and what is new?

Best of regards -

Cordially yours,

PHONE UNIVERSITY 1-4399

H. W. STARK & CO.
18652 BIRCHCREST DRIVE
DETROIT 21, MICH.

July 21, 1947.

Dear Stan,

Enclosed are the two Wells-Fargo covers to England. They are interesting covers, but are valued terribly high for their condition. I really believe $40.00 plenty for the two. I have that one from British Columbia, thru San Francisco with our stamps on and thence to England. Face only but the complete story on the face and I only paid $20.00 for it.

On the cover marked short paid I believe the markings are correct. The cover evidently was a double rate letter. However the 30¢ in stamps on it should be treated then as having paid the 10¢ rate from California to New York with the other 10¢ as overpayment. It would then be leaving New York strictly as a double rate unpaid letter with 48¢ due. This explanation is further borne out by the Pony Express cover I bought from you during the show in New York. It bears a 10¢ stamp carrying it to New York and as a unpaid letter from there to Glasgow. The letter evidently was intended to prepay the single rate all the way thru to England and when found to be a double rate was handled very fairly by the post office. Dont you think this is correct?

Have been busy on a proposition with Jack Fleckenstein and Sherson to take over a corporation in Adrian. We might go thru with it. Dont know yet. My new small Electro Arc Mfg. Co. is coming along pretty good. That has taken some time also. Have that pretty well under control now and on its way to make some money. Have been out to the cottage during the week ends and have looked in vain for you. Perhaps things will change shortly and you will make the visit.

Was over to N.A. Woodworth's house and saw some of his collection. He is OK and I like him. We are going to see more of each other and I intend to introduce him to the gang. Will put his name in for the D.P.S., altho the ranks are filled at present. That will put him in line if some one resigns or otherwise. He is seriously studying his stamps and I believe will naturally go into covers. He will if he hangs around me much. I showed him some of my covers and his interest sure mounted. Said he had never seen covers like that. You should do your best to start him on covers and in that way along the real line of Postal Americana. In the future I believe he is going to have more time for his and our hobby.

Best of wishes to all from all.

Harold

July 25, 1947.

Mr. Harold W. Stark,
18652 Birchcrest Drive,
Detroit 21, Mich.

Dear Harold:

Yours of the 21st received.

I am enclosing herewith a photograph of one of those Bacher Wells Fargo covers (SHORT PAID). It looks as though both of us muffed this cover. Well, I guess that is why the study of covers is so darn interesting, much more so than working crossword puzzles or playing hearts.

In my former letter I assumed that New York should have rated it as a "double" with 2 x 29¢ due, but instead, they rated it as a "double" with 2 x 24¢ due. The "10" debit shows that the New York office rated it as a double letter requiring 48¢ in postage from New York. As it only contained 30¢ it was marked "SHORT PAID" and the 30¢ paid was disregarded. The British also rated it as a double with two shillings due. I am wondering if the real solution is not as follows:

First - the cover did not show any year date. Because of the 30¢ payment I assumed that the writer thought it was a single, hence required 29¢ from California. Perhaps the only mistake he made was that it was a double rate not a single. Note the month dates!?! Perhaps it originated in California in June 1863, at which time the single rate was 29¢. But it was mailed in New York on July 3 (1863 ?) at which time the rate to England was 24¢, both from California and New York.

This is different from your Pony cover. The latter was carried east "outside of the mail" and the law required the Express Company to accept only mail that had the U.S.postage prepaid.

The Pony cover first entered the U. S. Mail at Saint Joseph, Mo., and the rate from there to Scotland was 24¢. You see if the writer of your Pony cover had paid the entire rate it would only have been 29¢. But he chose to pay only the rate required for a letter carried by the Express Co. Of course the 10¢ stamp carried the letter to New York, but from there it was rated as an unpaid to Scotland. It is this point, among others that makes your Pony cover so interesting. In fact, unique, so far as I am aware. The total rate was 34¢ on the Pony cover, but if it had been prepaid, it would have been only 29¢.

I suppose you saw Harry's mention of "Mildred and Stan" in the current "STAMPS." It would appear that we have been visiting but such is not the case. I talked with Brooks today and Purves is due there tonight. Harold wanted me to come up but we cannot leave at present. I wish that you could meet Purves. Maybe I can persuade Harold to drive him over to Clear Lake. He is a real student and you would like him immensely.

I note that the new E.A.M. Co. is coming along fine. Here is wishing it all the success possible.

I was also pleased to learn that you had paid Woodworth a visit. He seemed like an awful nice chap and we must try and get him interested in covers.

Hutch sent me a check from Boston for that Cole cover.

Mildred joins me in regards to Ruth, you and all the family.

Cordially yours,

P.S. On second thought I am enclosing a print of the other Bacher cover. Note that "3" credit. Have you any covers with this big "3?" I doubt it. I suppose it was used at New York but I am wondering if it could have been Boston.

July 25, 1947.

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18652 Birchcrest Drive,
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A

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B

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Sept. 23, 1947.

Mr. Harold W. Stark,
18652 Birchcrest Drive,
Detroit, Mich.

Dear Harold:

I guess we must have gone thru the center of that Florida storm as the wind almost blew us off the road at times. It blew all the way down, and in addition, it was darn hot. We got home at 4:30, in plenty of time to beat a big storm which broke here around 8 P.M., with hard rain and high wind, which did a lot of damage to some of the Cincinnati suburbs.

We had an enjoyable visit and Mildred joins me in thanks to Ruth and you for such a good time. Your party was a success from every angle.

I am returning herewith your 1847 cover with the vertical pair. I opened it up and found that the use was in 1851. This color is the typical 1850 color, hence I judge that this pair surely came from the second state of the plate. The color is somewhat off - partly oxidized - what should be done is to remove the pair from the cover and give it a bath in peroxide - and replace it - It would look far more beautiful - and it would show what the original color was like. I enclose a photo of it so that you can see the plating marks. This was the first piece that enabled me to tie 20R to 10R. I was almost sure that my 20R plating was correct but this proved it. Therefore, I was more than glad to add this to my record.

I had a letter from Carroll Chase today stating that he was shipping me all his records, data, etc., etc., on the 1847 issue. His study dates back to 1909. I am to keep the entire lot, hence the Chase-Ashbrook records will be consolidated. Is this not a fine thing for my old pal to do?

I am enclosing a photo of a stampless cover. This cover is dated inside San Francisco July 31, 1850. It is quite a study and if you can figure it out, you are certainly good. Foreign rate stampless covers are very interesting - many provide difficult problems. This cover belongs to Jessup and it is nice.

If you have a catalogue of the Harmer Rooke sale of next Oct. 15-16 - note Lot 17 - a 5¢ 1847 cover with the Madison & I. R.R.

#2. Mr. Harold W. Stark, Sept. 23, 1947.

Re - your cover with a big corner copy of the 5¢ 1847 with pen marks - this is the stamp I marked as 10L1 - It has a dot in the margin over the "S." Just above the U.R. corner there are two diagonal dots on 10L1. A pen stroke covers up these dots on your copy. I found that I have a fine enlarged photo of your stamp. The cover was sent to me by Eugene Klein on Aug. 8, 1942. The letter is dated Washington Aug. 1, 1849. The sheet at top measures 14 MM which is quite large. Chase stated in his 1916 article that he had seen a bottom sheet of 16 MM, but that 9½ MM was the widest top he had run across.

You doubtless have Brookman's book on the 1847 issue. If so, refer to page 29. Here you will find the Chase list of year colors. The only inaccurate part of this list is that Doc listed some "changeling" colors, oxidizedccopies, etc.

Hold the photo enclosed (stampless) and write me your solution.

Mildred joins me in best wishes to all the family.

Cordially yours,

AMB. CALAIS B
10 JUIL

PAID
JY 12

JUN
29

Monsieur Leger

Fromentin

France

By H.W.S.
1872-

By H.W.S. – 2od
Rate. No Credit
Why ? N.Y. AUG 31.72

LONDON
8
PAID
SP 12

NEW YORK
AUG
31
BRI TRANSIT

ANGL.
11
SEPT.
72
AMB. CALAIS

Hotel Stats Unis

Napoli

LONDON B PAID A AP 74

DREXEL HARJES & CO PARIS AVRIL 7 1874

7 AVRIL 74 TAITBOUT

By H.W.S. APR 1874

for in 10 days, return to
ER, AIKENS & CRAMER,
Milwaukee, Wis.

Gen. John Meredith Reade
Consulate General
66 Rue de Chateaudun
Paris, France

Personal

BY
HWS

Madame

Mme de Barbe

Matignon par Essay

Dépt de l'Orne

France.

MADISON
WIS
OCT 1871.

HWS

France
Red
Red
LONDON
PAID
LONDON
SEP 8 1870
FACE
HWS
Black
Red
12

Professor J. Macherot A.M.

215, West 7th

Wilmington (Delaware)

Etats-Unis d'Amérique

10d U.S. Canceled
In France Hence
10d Due In U.S.
By H.W.S.

Wm Samuel B Ruggles

Care of Munroe & Co —

Rue Scribe

à Paris. France

N.Y. JULY 2
1870 — 6cr
By H.W.S.

GB
4D
On BACK LONDON
FE 1 71 -
By H.W.S.
5
POSTAGE
TWO 2 CENTS
POSTAGE
TWO 2 CENTS
A.F.C.
FEVR
AMERICA
JAN

"Holsatia"
19 april
GB
Miss Ella Strubs
Care Miss Jas W Shekell
No 3 Rue Scribe
Paris France
NEW YORK
TWO CENTS
on BACIC - LONDON
APR 30 - 70 -
By. H.W.S.

Boudtmann
N.Y.
Patent
Cancel
With
Punch
Dot
POSTAGE
ONE CENT
POSTAGE
THREE
3
109
Monsieur
A Bordtmann
Black
N.G.R.
22
JUIL.
7 S
AMB. CALAIS B
HWS
JUL
22
1871
10
Lyon
Black
JUL
11
Red
AGOETTEL & Co
NEW YORK

U.S. POSTAGE
SEVEN CENTS
U.S. POSTAGE
THREE CENTS
GB
40c
APR
73
Paid by Drexel Harjes & Co. Paris

Paid

on Back
London My 2-70

Mr E. H. Bradford

Villa Dupuis

— May 3 1870

No. 611

Early Use

15
Decimes
Due

Pau Basses Pyrénées

France

BY H.W.S
N.Y. AP. 21 - 1870 ⟶

PHONE UNIVERSITY 1-4399

H. W. STARK & CO.
18652 BIRCHCREST DRIVE
DETROIT 21, MICH.

March 31, 1947.

Dear Stan,

The $17.50 refund for the bad Swedish cover is OK with me. Apply this money to the Research group.

Am enclosing some additional covers to and from France from 1870 on. This is an interesting study and I believe you should write an article covering this phase of foreign mail usage. I am getting interested in this phase and believe I will make a separate book on it. It is so unusual. I certainly would like to get a registered cover used when registry was permissable.

Among the enclosures are four covers showing the "GB 40c". By the way, was this put on in England and is it a control marking of some kind or is it a due amount to England. 40 centimes should be around 8¢ and this seems high for England's share, or was the French currency depreciated due to the Franco-Prussian war. What do you know about this specific marking. I believe I have a cover some place that shows a multiple of this marking. Cant find it now but will run across it one of these days. Perhaps the cover does not come within this period and would have no connection. Getting back to the covers---two of the covers (pair 2¢ 1869 and pair 2¢ 1870 have the same relative markings and show a 5 decimes due, on delivery. This should be approx. 10¢ and is for 1/4oz. I believe. These covers are Am. Pkt. so why so much to France? Was it a question of currency depreciation? The third cover in this group is evidently a double 4¢ rate. (2¢ 1869 and 6¢ 1870). This letter must have been over 1/4oz but under 1/2 oz. since the British marking is still "GB40c". However the French marking appears to be 15 decimes, which would mean 1/2--3/4 oz. to be consistent. If this is so, then the letter would have been based on 4¢ per 1/2oz. prepaid and the British marking of "GB40c" would not necessarily be a British due marking per letter, but might be a general bulk rate marking. In fact this is what I would like to know more about. Now the fourth cover of this group shows 10¢ paid, with the same "GB40c" and French xxxx due marking of 10 decimes. 10 decimes was 1Fr and equivalent to 20¢ our money. Cover shows 1Fr paid by Drexel Harjes & Co., Paris. Would this be classed as double 4¢ rate with 2¢ overpaid. Dont believe this is the 10¢ per 1/3oz. rate. Note it is in 1873 and appears to be a late use of the 4¢ rate.

Now we go into the 10¢ per 1/3 oz. rates. There are three covers that show 6 decimes, Changed my mind on that--the 6 are in red and should mean a credit to France of 6¢. This would make it conform to the 4¢ rate to England or 10¢ rate per 1/3 oz. fully paid to France. The only difference is one (4¢ rate) is based on 1/4oz. and 10¢ rate based on 1/3oz.

PHONE UNIVERSITY 1-4399

H. W. STARK & CO.
18652 BIRCHCREST DRIVE
DETROIT 21, MICH.

Am I right on this? Am writing this letter as I go along and maybe I am rambling around too much. Now note the 10¢ 1869 used in 1870 and with a blue "8". This is direct to Cherbourg. I am stumped on this one. Why blue "8". It did not go to England, so no channel charge. The cover with the 3¢, 7¢ and 10¢ shows the 20¢ rate, but why no credit to France ratings as on the previous covers. The cover with three 10¢ is in 1872 and according to the markings was a 20¢ rate with 10¢ overpayment. Perhaps the person put on double the old 15¢ rate, not knowing it had been obsoleted.

The last cover is one from France and I believe might be classed as rare. The stamps were evidently put on in France and paid the French plus U.S. amounts. 50 centimes would be 10¢ and our 10¢ would make 20¢. Would this be classed as a 20¢ rate.

Well now you have seen all the covers I can find in my collect pertaining to the 1870 period French rates. I might have some more and if further interested will send them along. Also if you want the ones I have sent, will send them also.

The weather here has been beastly. No doubt you have been having a taste of it. We sure have been snow bound. Family have been getting over the Flu. Ruth was in bed for around a week. Luckily I did not catch anything.

Wont be long, I hope, before I wend my way to the cottage and get it in shape for the summer, when I expect you to spend some time with your family.

Guess I have pestered you enough for this time. Best of wishes to all from all.

Sincerely,

Harold

April 16, 1947.

Mr. Harold W. Stark,
18652 Birchcrest Drive,
Detroit 21, Mich.

Dear Harold:

As I wrote you in my last I have been working on the Brooks Exhibit for Cipex and it has been quite a big job. I have been anxious to get it finished in plenty of time, hence have laid aside everything else that was not urgent.

Re - U.S.French - mail after January 1, 1870. You are quite right - this is a most interesting subject and I have devoted quite a lot of study to it. As you are aware, the U.S.-French Treaty expired as of Dec. 31, 1869 and a new one did not go into effect until August 1, 1874. During that period we had a treaty with G.B. and G.B. had a treaty with France, hence it was possible to send mail prepaid thru England, that is, via the Franco - British Treaty. I realize that you are fully aware of all this but mention same nevertheless.

There are a number of problems which I have never been able to solve. For example, an arrangement was made with England to send prepaid mail thru England. I have never been able to find out if this arrangement was made by the P.O.D. or the State Dept., and this in spite of the fact that I hired a person in Washington at a cost of $70.00 to try and get the information for me.

Our rate to England was 6¢ and this was supposed to be - 2¢ U.S. - 2¢ sea and 2¢ G.B. - Thus a letter sent to France with 4¢ via England only prepaid it to the British frontier.

Rates of 10¢ with a 6¢ credit to G.B. are quite common after 1870 - but we find credits of 8¢ early in 1870. When did the 10¢ rate with 6¢ credit go into effect? As near as I can figure it was on July 1, 1870. I have never noted an 8¢ credit after July 1, 1870.

Evidently the rate from England to France was cut from four pence to three pence early in 1870 and our "arrangement" with England must have been made early in 1870 whereby the 3 pence rate from England to France could be prepaid in this country - hence the 6¢ credit. But as stated I have been unable to find any record of such "arrangement" or whether it was made by the P.O.D. or the State Dept.

Naturally the 10¢ rate with credit of 6¢ was 1/3 ounce (10 grammes).

Re - the marking "G.B. 40c." This and similar ones were applied in England on mail to France. Similar markings were applied in France with F.R. instead of G.B. on mail from France. Hendy stated in his book published in 1909 that such markings were applied in G.B. to "show the rate at which the dispatching office shall have delivered those letters to the other office." He also stated that this provision was part of Article XXXII of the Franco British Postal Treaty of Sep. 24, 1856. He further stated that an "agreement with France" went into effect on Jan.1,1855, whereby the minimum postage rate was reduced to a uniform one of four pence, if prepaid, a double rate being levied upon unpaid letters. This arrangement (he stated) was eventually embodied in a postal Convention between the two countries, dated Sep. 24, 1856 (as above).

Again referring to Article XXXII of this treaty, Hendy stated, quote: "It was agreed that all ordinary unpaid correspondence, charged with transit or sea rates, which should be exchanged in the mails between the two countries shall receive, in some conspicuous part of the address, the impression in black ink of a stamp intended to show the rate at which the dispatching office shall have delivered those letters to the other office." (as above).

I have never seen a copy of the above postal treaty, in fact, I have practically no data on the postal arrangements between England and France.

Hendy stated above that double postage was charged on unpaid mail. Whether this provision was in force in the 1860's and 1870's I really do not know.

Re - Registered Mail. The 1873 P.L. & R. quoted the "Via British Mail" rates as follows (as you are aware):

10 - 16 - 20 - 26

It also quotes the registered rates to France as follows:

16 - 28 - 32 - 44.

I have no record of such a registered letter.

Regarding your covers herewith in envelope #1 - here we have all marked with the "G.B. 40c" and the French Due markings are:

5 decimes - 10¢ (U.S.Paid 4¢).
10 " - 20¢ (" " 10¢)
15 " - 30¢ (" " 8¢).

I cannot explain these covers. In the Knapp sale (2nd) Lot 1686 had a 3¢ and 1¢ 1861 - from New York on Apr. 13, 1870 - It was marked "Insufficiently Paid" and the French Due was "16" decimes - Your cover with "15" due is dated N.Y. Apr. 21, 1870. Why 16 and 15?

Please note

Inasmuch as we had no treaty with France, the credits were to England.

Re - the combination cover - No, this could not be classed as the 20¢ rate because it was Direct mail - not thru England. I have noted covers coming to the U. S. in this class - Direct, with 50 centimes paid, also with 100 centimes paid - and both with "Steamship 10," so I judge the 50 centimes rate was not over 10 grammes (1/3 oz.).

From the above it appears that the difference in prepaid 50 centimes (10) and "8" decimes due (15¢) was because the former was prepaid, whereas the latter was not - that is, Due. I doubt if there was any "4" decimes due rate. If so, I never saw one so I doubt if it was weight but rather the 50% penalty on unpaid mail.

Question

While I have no direct proof I think that the first "arrangement" might have been a 12¢ rate with 8¢ credit - this when the Franco - British rate was 8¢. It seems that this supposed 12¢ rate of mine was generally paid by 15¢ in the U. S. but I believe that all 15¢ rates (Jan. 1, 1870 - July 1, 1870) were 3¢ overpays. My reason is this - If we credited 8¢ on 15¢ we had left 7¢ - Why 7¢ when all we were entitled to was 2¢ plus 2¢?

Incidentally I doubt if you ever saw one of the 15¢ Paid with 8¢ credit "thru England" covers. They are very scarce. I am enclosing a photo of one from Eufaula, Ala. May 18, 1870 - thru London on June 6, 1870. They always have the big red "8" of New York. I have seen covers paid by the 15¢ 1866 and by 12¢ 1869 plus 3¢ Green. If the latter was an overpay, the writer perhaps was not aware of the correct rate.

I wish I had all the answers to the problems of this period but I haven't -

With best regards -

Yours etc.,

April 18, 1947.

Mr. Harold W. Stark,
18652 Birchcrest Drive,
Detroit 21, Mich.

Dear Harold:

Herewith the "Treaty" cover of 1875 - Here is some data. I call the Treaty - Apr. 28 - 1874, it went into effect on Aug. 1, 1874. The rate 9¢ per ½ ounce (15 grammes). The French rate was 50 centimes per 10 grammes. U.S.Registered 10¢ (9¢ plus 10¢) French Registered 50 centimes (50c plus 50c).

The U.P.U. became effective July 1, 1875, but France held back and was not ready to join until Jan. 1, 1876. Thus the Treaty rate was only in effect from Aug. 1, 1874 to Jan. 1, 1876.

My guess is that the 9¢ rate covers are not common, but are rather scarce.

The full text of the Treaty is in the P.M.G.Report dated 1874. I will loan you my copy if you wish to see it. By the way, let me know if you have a P.M.G. Report of 1863. I am offered "a nicely bound copy @ $5.00." Perhaps Hutch might be interested if you have a copy.

I am also enclosing a 3¢ Green which came in to me several days ago. The owner thinks that it is a rare plate variety but in my opinion it is simply an ink variety and is not consistent. However, you know this stamp far better than I do so I will appreciate your opinion.

Regarding the Brooks cover. In mounting this, I made no mention of the error and inasmuch as so very few people have any knowedge of this subject I doubt if anyone will notice it. For example - you could show this cover to Elliott Perry and inquire - What is wrong? He wouldn't know. If you doubt this you can try it at the Cipex. Chase would not know - neither would Jacobs and most anyone you could name. A chap in Boston by the name of Blake would know.

I rather imagine that the fine weather recently pulled you out to the Lake. After all the bad weather since Jan. 13th, we should have a little warmth and sunshine from now on.

By the way, Mrs. Alispaw of Fort Pierce got all her $400.00 back from that pair of crooks. I rather imagine that I helped quite a bit in the recovery.

Thanks for the check for the 1847 cover -

With regards -

Cordially yours,

April 28, 1947.

Mr. Harold W. Stark,
18652 Birchcrest Drive,
Detroit 21, Mich.

Dear Harold:

Yours of the 25th received with return of the 3¢ Green - thanks.

You made no mention of my letter of the 18th regarding the French mail. Have you any comments?

I wrote Chase for a translation of the reference to the "G.B." markings in a French publication listing postal markings. Here was the wording, quote: "Postmarks used to aid in keeping the accounts made necessary by letters sent unpaid from abroad and coming by the way of Great Britain (or France). These markings are rarely found on the letters themselves." (end of quote).

Chase commented as follows:

"The French say that sometimes these markings are for individual letters but more often for package of letters - sometimes so much per kilogramme. PK - Per Kilogramme. G.B. - Grande Bretagne. Again I understand - or rather have been told that the top letter only in a package may sometimes have shown this marking! Sounds darned complicated to me.

I don't know how to find the text of the postal treaty between France & England 1855-1856. That is I wouldn't know where to look for it or whom to ask in France to find it. I think the best bet is from the English end. There is a man named E.F.Hurt (who writes for the A.P.) who might be able to help you. I know him slightly by correspondence but I do not like him at all - so if you write him it might be better not to mention my name. If you don't get anywhere in England I'll see what I can do in France." (end)

Every 4¢ rate cover that I have seen (to France) had a "G B - 40c" marking on it. While this class of markings may have been applied to top letters in a bundle on certain classes of mail - the "G.B. - 40¢" marking was evidently applied to all 4¢ rates to France via England from the U.S.

Chase sent me four covers with several types of these

markings and I am enclosing them herewith for your inspection.

I do not recall that I ever saw the marking on the cover from India. Nice little item - Chase marked it on back as a "Due," but the due was "18" decimes. It looks like "I Fr. - 62 - 4/10 c."

We have had few warm days so far - in fact it was down to 38 this A.M., but warmer weather is promised. I am hoping that all the bad weather that we have had will bring some nice weather in New York during Cipex.

I had a letter from Jack last week stating that he might bundle the family in the car and drive down.

Best regards -

Yours etc.,

PHONE UNIVERSITY 1-4399

H. W. STARK & CO.
18652 BIRCHCREST DRIVE
DETROIT 21, MICH.

May 6, 1947.

Dear Stan.

To begin with, enclosed is 2¢ Cont. Issue. Believe the Pre-Paid. is a British type marking. Note the JY (July) has the date ahead of the Month. There appears to have been a slight indistinct previous cancellation. In other words the Pre-Paid is not the original. Appears to be a modern cancel of some kind. Dont think much of it.

Am still studying up on the French rates of the 1870 period. Havent got all the markings quite settled in my mind. Your letter of the 18th cleared up some points. Am taking a little rest from it to let things clear up, besides have been busy on a new project. Bought an interest in a Tool Co. and am getting it re-organized.

I have not seen a 4¢ cover to France without the G.B. - 40c marking. In fact I have a cover with 2¢ 1869 and 6¢ Bank Note, paying double 4¢ rate, which also has G.B. - 40c. Dont get the crayon markings, which I assume are French. Will tabulate these and give you the picture shortly.

Plan to fly to N.Y. Sunday afternoon. Mac, Hutch, Fred, etc. are taking the train either Sat. or Sunday. Give me a ring at the Roosevelt. All but Hutch are at the Roosevelt. Thanks for information on the stampless covers. Am returning Chase's. Have made notes

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H. W. STARK & CO.
18652 BIRCHCREST DRIVE
DETROIT 21, MICH.

of them and their markings.

Be seeing you at the show. Weather rainy and chilly here.

Best of wishes to all.

Sincerely,
Harold.

April 28, 1947.

Dr. Carroll Chase,
R.F.D. 1,
Milford, N.H.

Dear Doc:

Yours of the 22nd received.

Thanks very much for the translation. It seems fairly certain that the markings refer to bulk mail rather than to individual letters. On the other hand, the one with "G.B. 40C" is common on 4¢ rates to France - thru England - from the U. S. after Jan. 1, 1870. I have a record of quite a number of such covers and that marking is on every one. A payment in this country of 4¢ simply paid the letter to the British frontier and in the early part of 1870 I believe that the British rate to France was four pence (prepaid). On such mail the French due was 5 decimes (perhaps a penalty for unpaid). We also find 4¢ covers with 10 decimes due, but I suppose those with "5" due were not over ½ ounce whereas those of "10" due were over ½ but not over ¾ ounce.

I have never had any correspondence with Hurt but I will take a chance and write him.

Several months ago I asked Godden to get some data for me on some British markings and he sent me a letter regarding same that he had received from a George Brumell of Bournemouth. This man seemed to know his stuff. Did you ever hear of him.

Today I received a letter from a U. S. collector named T. H. Wilcox of Liverpool. Did you ever hear of him? Last October I illustrated a New York marking (with "19") in "Stamps" and this man Hopkins loaned me six covers with different examples. From his letter he seems like quite a nice chap.

Thanks for sending me the four covers. I have sent them up to my friend Stark for a look. I really haven't any use for them but he might like to have them. I will advise you later.

All I know about the Cipex publicity quarrel is what I read in "PHILATELY." I have been so busy for a month I haven't looked at Linn's or the W.S.C. Perhaps Linn started the fuss. Not a word from Harry on the subject.

Here is some dope that is very confidential - Back in

January when A.F.L. decided to go to Haiti he hired Perry to take charge of the "Court of Honor" I think Perry worked like a dog - did a devil of a lot of work - then A.F.L. died before he paid Perry a cent - Perry put in his claim with the Estate and they told him to go roll his hoop - that they didn't know anything about it and wouldn't pay him. He made a claim on the Cipex and they informed him that they were all giving their services free and had no money to pay him and couldn't - so Perry got into a big row and has pulled out - and withdrawn from all participation in the Show. My opinion is that if the damn fool had had any brains he wouldn't have had anything to do with it in the first place. It is odd that Mrs. L. refused to pay his claim - maybe she never did like him. Keep this strictly confidential as few in N.Y. know about it. If Perry never comes near the Show it will suit me fine.

I have never used any F.D.R. stamps on my mail unless it was some that were sent in for return postage. I'll not buy any of the Pulitzer.

When will you arrive in New York? Will Jean come down with you?

Regards -

Yours etc.,

FOR

EARLY ATTENTION

What do you think of this "STEAM SHIP" cover from US.S. Lancaster. Note New York Packet marking.

H. STARK

FOR

EARLY ATTENTION

What do you think of this strip of 8. Supposed to be the Brown-Violet shade.

What do you think it is worth?

Fellow asked me to make a bid.

H. STARK

Stark — Postal

NOV 17 1947

Dear Harold —

Re - mine of Nov 14th.

I forgot to inquire if your house dwg. blocks or strips showing

the Combination of
SUS # 187 and # 188
Genuine

Nov. 14, 1947.

Mr. Harold W. Stark,
18652 Birchcrest Drive,
Detroit, Mich.

Dear Harold:

In the current number of the S.P.A. Journal is an article by a writer by the name of John Latta on the 10¢ 1879. I am wondering if you read it. If so, what is your opinion? I suppose you are familiar with what Perry has written on this subject, also Brookman.

I had a note today from Hutch who was at the Roney Plaza in Miami Beach.

Regards -

Yours etc.,

[redacted]

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H. W. STARK & CO.
18652 BIRCHCREST DRIVE
DETROIT 21, MICH.

Nov. 19, 1947.

Dear Stan,

Was getting ready to answer your letter regarding the article on the 10¢ with and without secret marks, when your post card arrived. Was going to send you what I had anyway. I have never seen anything like the strip of five I am enclosing. It shows the marking as follows from left to right: faint secret mark; faint secret mark; no secret mark; no secret mark and faint secret mark.

I just dont know what to comment on his article. One finds the secret mark on singles and no secret mark on singles, all on the soft paper. There seems to be not enough pairs or strips that show both. I have not seen a pair or strip that shows the "no secret mark" and at the same time shows the "secret mark" pronouncely. It always appears to be showing as a faint fine mark. It could be that the transfer roll broke, however I am inclined to believe that one of the plates got mighty dirty and this mark was filled up or partially filled up.

I have noted this condition on some of the American issue 3¢ greens. The secret mark in the lower left ribbon either got filled up with ink or dirt or something and thus produced what some call a National issue on soft paper. Dont believe National ever issued any soft paper varieties. I have these so-called National soft papers on cover and they are always in the 1880's when American was producing the 3¢ stamps on soft paper. We do know Continental was experimenting with soft paper before the American took over. I have some soft paper Continentals on cover before the American took over.

Neither the Continental or American produced the fine printing that the National did. I believe National kept their plates sharp and nice by re-entering the transfer roll ever so often. Believe the plates were soft. National issue is full of double transfers, some huge and others slight. Continental and American appear to be hardened plates that were occasionally cleaned by acid. Under the micro they are crummy compared to National. There are few real double transfers in the Continental issue and even less in the American issue.

That is my theory of the thing and perhaps is not worth a damn, but whats the difference.

Another theory that might enter someones head is the fact that National put these secret marks on their own die to protect themselves before they surrendered them. Since

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DETROIT 21, MICH.

Believe this is weakness in Latta article. They were not engraved.

the die was hard they evidently etched these secret marks in with acid. They could be broad but not necessarily deep. Not like when originally engraving. The transfer roll would not show these high like from engraving and consequently they could be shallow on the plate. If the plate wore much these secret marks would disappear quickly.

Now you choose what you like best for a theory. Perhaps worn plates and dirty plates is the explanation, in combination for causes.

I believe Bookman wrong when he mentions possible use of National plates. I believe all plates and transfer rolls were destroyed by National. They turned over the Die after etching a secret mark. That would be just good business. What you had printed was yours and what the other fellow did was to be his,--thus secret mark.

Hutch is back in town. Have a date with him at the University Club tomorrow noon for lunch. Jack just called and is on his way up.

Showed the 10¢ 1847 cover to Sheirson and told him that should be in his collection. He will re-imburse you direct. He should have more old U.S. covers. He is a very fine fellow and personal friend. He is also interested in Electro Arc Mfg. Co. with me.

Will close for present. If you can make anything out of my rambling relative to the 10¢ you are lucky.

Best wishes to all.

Sincerely,

Harold

Nov. 24, 1947.

Mr. Harold W. Stark,
18652 Birchcrest Drive,
Detroit 21, Mich.

Dear Harold:

Thanks for yours of the 19th, enclosing your combination strip of five of the 187-188. As you are well aware, I am no authority in any way, shape or form on the Bank Notes. They were always a little too late for me to get around to. The fact is, that about all that I know is "what I have read in the papers."

The combinations of 187-188 form a very interesting study and I have an idea that the solution of the problem is rather simple.

Your strip of five is indeed nice and I am returning it herewith, together with the following:

(1) A Richey strip of four
(2) " " " " three
(3) A pair belonging to Ezra Cole.

Regarding #1 - Note the stamp to right - here is a very distinct secret mark. This strip from right to left shows:

(1) A strong mark
(2) Trace of left half of mark
(3) No trace of the mark
(4) Trace of left half of mark.

The most desirable and surely the rarest combination is:

(1) A very strong mark, like any fine copy of the #161
(2) No trace of the mark, like any fine copy of #150.

Among copies of #188 we find three outstanding varieties:

(1) A strong mark
(2) A faint hair-line mark
(3) Left half only of mark and faint.

Regarding the latter. My theory is that this part of the mark was cut deeper on the die than the right side.

Re - the Richey strip of three - This shows from right to left:

(1) - Hair-line mark

(2) - Hair-line mark
(3) - Hair-line mark - right side fainter than left.

Re - the Cole pair - This shows from right to left:

(1) Only part of left side of mark
(2) Faint hair-line mark.

Here is my theory to account for the combinations from the same plate.

One or both of the Continental plates was re-entered by the A.B.N.Co., with the National design. Some would state that an old National roller was used, but a new roll could have been made with the National design. However, the point is immaterial - The main point being that the roller used for the re-entering did not have the secret mark. All positions were not re-entered - thus these continued to show the secret mark. Postitions that were re-entered furnished the stamps that show no traces of the mark and various hair-line traces. In other words, the re-entry of the relief obliterated the mark on re-entered positions. The degree of the obliteration depended on two main factors, viz:

1 - Depth of the re-entry
2 - Degree of hardness of the plate surface at point of mark.

I mentioned above that the left side of the mark was cut deeper than the right, thus many of the re-entries show only half of the mark.

I think that the Richey strip of four furnishes excellent proof of my theory - for example - the stamp to right which has a strong mark looks different from the stamp to its left, the reason being that the former position was not re-entered whereas the latter was. Note the vertical background lines at upper right and left in the design - these are much more clearly defined on the re-entered position than one the position with the strong mark.

Consider your strip of five. Every one of these stamps show evidence of re-entry - each one shows a minor double transfer.

The re-entry of the relief did not entirely eliminate the secret mark, but rather just the surface of the plate, the mark still remained as little pockets beneath the surface. The degree to which the walls of these pockets were brought together at the surface account for the hair-lines. In fact Harold, if you figure all this out very carefully, there is no other theory that could accurately account for the fine hair-lines. A worn plate or a dirty plate is entirely out and as for a broken relief - well that is too silly to even consider.

In the early life of the re-entered plate certain positions did not show any trace of even a hair-line but as the plate was used and the surface was worn the little pockets opened up - at first just hair-lines, later - more distinct lines.

Would you like to acquire the two Richey strips? If so, what do you think they are worth? What are they worth to you?

Cole sent his pair to me priced @ $20.00. I think this is too high but if you want it let me know what you think it is worth and I'll try to obtain it for you. Of course, if you are not interested in any of the three just shoot them back to me.

Regarding the broken relief theory. It is silly for these reasons: (1) While the mark was cut deep on the die it was not cut as deep as other parts of the design - hence why should it break off - when other deep lines - (high on relief) did not break? Why should the only break on the relief occur at the point of the secret mark? If it broke off - why do we find complete hair-line secret marks - the hair-line marks themselves prove that such a theory is absurd.

Re - the dirty plate theory - consider the two right hand stamps in the Richey strip. I think that this combination disproves the two theories of (1) dirty plate
(2) worn plate.

Dirty plates are dirty all over - not just at one and the same place on a number of positions on a plate. As to worn plate theory why should the only worn place on the Richey second stamp from right be at the point of the secret mark? This whole stamp is a sharper impression than the stamp to its right. It shows scarcely any evidence of a worn plate so surely the faintness of the secret mark on this copy cannot be attributed to a worn plate.

Re - dies, rolls and plates. All the stamp contracts after the 1847 with Rawdon stipulated that all dies, transfer rolls, plates, etc. etc., be turned over to the Government. I believe that this was done and that all the National and Continental dies, rolls and plates eventually came into the possession of the American when they took over the contract. They (A.B.N.) could have used the old National roller when they made Plates 377 and 378 in 1881. These plates had National designs - no traces of the secret mark. They could have made a new roller from a National design. Such could have come from a National lay down, (duplicate die).

So Hutch is back from Florida. I wrote him, directing same to the Roney Plaza. I wanted him to drop in and meet my brother.

Thanks very much for turning over the 1847 cover to Sheirson. Yes, I agree with you that he is fine. I liked him ever so much. I hope that he becomes very much interested in early U. S. - I am sure that you and Jack can influence him in that direction. I'll certainly not forget to send up anything attractive that comes along.

Let me know what you think of my solution of the combination 187-88.

Read my chapter on the 1¢ 1851 Inverted Transfers in my Volume 1. There is a great similarity. Don't you agree?

I am also enclosing a neat little cover that just came in from my friend over in "Kobenhavn" Denmark. He wants me to obtain $20.00 for it. The 5¢ stamp is especially nice - don't you think so? Perhpas this would be a neat little item for Sheirson - All the way from San Francisco to France in March 1861.

With regards - Cordially yours,

Sent Stark NOV 24 1947

(A) Returned his Strip of four - 10¢ 1879 OK

(B) Packing Strip of four returned 1879 —

(C) " " " Three returned

(D) Cole pair " " returned.

Cover 10¢ Type V
5¢ 1857 Brown Type II Sold
& France from S.F. APR 1 1861 Hutch
N.Y. apr 24 - French rate
7 May 61 Price $20.00
Tendelsko

Slavin — Enclosed

(1) Photo U.S. City D. Post Cover ~~Returned~~

(2) 10¢ 1847 Cover From Tallahassee
belongs to C. L. Huntley ~~Returned~~ Price $200.00

(3) Two SBA 5¢ 1847 ~~Covers~~
Black New York P. ~~Returned~~

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK
A. P. S. 2497
100 HENRY COURT
FT. THOMAS, KY.

Nov. 28, 1947.

Mr. Harold W. Stark,
18652 Birchcrest Drive,
Detroit, Mich.

Dear Harold:

I suppose you are familiar with the history of the U. S. City Despatch Post - see S.U.S. 1947 - Carriers - page 236 - the 3¢ 6LB1.

As explained, Greig's City Despatch Post was taken over by the U.S. P.O.D. as of Aug. 16, 1842, and Greig was employed as a letter-carrier. At first, Greig's stamps with "CITY DESPATCH POST" were used - continued in use - until they were superceded by stamps with "United States City Despatch Post." The first are, therefore, Provisionals used by the U.S. P.O.D. They are in fact the first U. S. postage stamps.

I have a cover for sale which was used on the first day of operation by the U.S., viz., Aug. 16, 1842. It is, therefore, the tops of all first day U.S. covers, and I am wondering if it is something that might well fit into your collection.

I don't profess to be an expert of any sort on such material so I wouldn't let this cover go thru my hands without a certificate of the Expert Committee of the Philadelic Foundation.

You might let me know if you would be interested, that is, if the price was within reason. The owner so far has not set a price.

This cover has been known for many years. In the nineties, there was a very prominent collector (and student) in New York by the name of Hunter. His collection was sold along about 1900 and this cover was in that sale. It bears his signature on the back.

I am enclosing another 10¢ 1847 cover which belongs to C. L. Huntley of Chicago. His price is $200.00 and he advises me that the cover is so desirable that he can only allow me 15%. This cover has the black postmark and black grid of Tallahassee, Fla. Florida uses of the 1847's are scarce - the above office received 400 of the 10¢ on Oct. 13, 1847 - 500 on Jan. 1, 1849 and 500 on Nov. 1, 1850, so covers from that office can't be very common. I think Huntley's price is high so send the cover back if you agree with me. Tell Mr. S. if he will send me a check for the other cover I'll appreciate same as I imagine that Huntley is wondering why I don't pay him.

I am also enclosing two 5¢ 1847 covers which I believe are unique. Never before have I ever seen a 5¢ 1847 tied by a black New York postmark and I sure have seen a lot of 1847 covers in my time. These covers are good as gold and while there is no year date on either I think the explanation of black is quite obvious - don't you? I have to get a whale of a price for these two 5¢. By any chance would you be interested? The owner tells me they came out of an original find that he made and I have no reason to doubt his word.

I am enclosing a photograph of the first day cover which please return.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

PHONE UNIVERSITY 1-4399

H. W. STARK & CO.
18652 BIRCHCREST DRIVE
DETROIT 21, MICH.

Dec. 4, 1947.

Dear Stan,

Will reply to both your letters in one typing. Hutch took the cover from your Denmark friend and will send you the $20 or return the cover.

Am very much interested in the City Despatch cover if he does not want too much. Certainly would want it expertized as suggested by you. I know nothing about this stamp.

The two 5¢ from (black) New York are interesting but I do not think they are worth anymore than a 5¢ 1847 on cover is worth. The stamps are not very good, in fact one is in very bad shape. Dont know too much about this black marking but could hazard three guesses. The first one and I do not think it correct is:-If used up to July 1st, 1851 the rate to Ohio would have been 10¢. Could have been paid half in money and half in stamps or it could have been part paid and part due. But why no due markings. Second guess and I believe the best would be that it was used after the 3¢ rate was in effect. The obsolete stamps should have been caught. I have the black New York marking on 3¢ 1851 covers. Now, if this is so and the postmaster had stamped "Obsolete stamp not recognized" or something similar and let the cover go thru with Due 5¢ or better yet had a 3¢ stamp attached, one would have a very, very interesting and probably unique cover. My third guess and I believe it could happen, would be if it was a 3¢ rate and a 2¢ ship letter. Of course the stamp would be illegally used but might have slipped by. In other words a prepaid ship letter from some close by island such as Long Island. What is your theory.

I believe the 10¢ 1847 on cover too high.

Now as to your theory regarding the secret marking on the 10¢ Amer. issue. I believe you are on the right track absolutely. They certainly were re-entered. However, if a national transfer roll was used I do not believe the original continental or American plate with the secret mark would lose the secret mark or partially lose it by re-entering. There would be no reason for the metal to squeeze in and obliterate this mark and I do not believe the plate was hammered from the underside to obliterate this secret mark. Also if National Bank Note put the secret mark on the original die any transfer roll or plate made subsequently would show this mark. Now since these plates were the last ones before the new ReEngraved plates would it not be logical if there was one or two old National plates in fair condition to remove the National Imprint

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In consideration of the premium hereinafter named, and other conditions stipulated in the Policy from which this certificate has been detached, hereby insures the property contained in the package or described in the invoice, with which this certificate is mailed, against loss or damage, including theft, pilferage and breakage, as provided in the Policy. Loss, if any, payable to Insured named in the above mentioned Policy.

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HAZARDS INSURED AGAINST

Fire
Earthquake
Automobile
Sprinkler Leakage
Riot and Civil Commotion
Ocean & Inland Marine
Tornado
Explosion
All Risks
Tourist Baggage
Aircraft

Fidelity & Surety Bonds
Casualty

HAZARDS INSURED AGAINST

Fire
Earthquake
Automobile
Sprinkler Leakage
Riot and Civil Commotion
Ocean & Inland Marine
Tornado
Explosion
All Risks
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Ocean & Inland Marine
Tornado
Explosion
All Risks
Tourist Baggage
Aircraft

Fidelity & Surety Bonds
Casualty

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H. W. STARK & CO.
18652 BIRCHCREST DRIVE
DETROIT 21, MICH.

and put the American Imprint together with a new number. Use this plate until it showed too much wear and then re-enter some positions with a roll that obviously would show the secret mark. The steel under pressure would allow some of the secret mark to be impressed and if the plate was not uniformly hard to allow variations in the depth of this secret mark even up to the point of showing it complete. How does this strike you.

The Congress Show starts tomorrow. Are you coming up to see it. Always room at the house for you and Mildred.

Did Sheirson send you the $200. Told me he was going to.

Well, enough for now. Say, almost forgot; that strip of five of 10¢ showing secret mark and not showings I bought for $2.50. However, man did not know about the secret marks. I bought it for the Territorial cancel. Seriously, I do not believe these pairs or strips are so rare. If pains were taken I believe plenty would show up. Might be wrong though. Believe your two strips to be worth around $10.00 and Cole's $2.00. Could use yours but do not care for Cole's pair.

Best of wishes to all from all.

Sincerely,

Harold.

Dec. 10, 1947.

Mr. Harold W. Stark,
Detroit, Mich.

Dear Harold:

Herewith by return mail the strip and cover as per yours of the 9th. The strip is the 70A, the brown lilac. It is O.K. perhaps to also call it a brown violet. At any rate this color is darn scarce and I think it came into use late in 1861 or in January 1862. It is really scarce on cover. The earliest record of a use that I have is February 1862. If this strip belonged to me and I was pricing it, I would tag it @ $75.00. The condition is not altogether desirable but a large multiple of the stamp is quite rare. I never saw a piece this large. If you don't want it to get away from you I think you would be safe in paying up to $100, but I wouldn't put any more into it. Why make a bid on it? Request the owner to name his price, Lots of times, such bids are used to obtain a better price.

Re - the cover. I judge that this was picked up by a U. S. mail ship at Panama or Cuba. It was probably brought there (K) by some private ship and placed in the U.S. mail. The N.Y. packet marking was struck thru error, as this p.m. was used on mail from Europe, and I feel sure this cover didn't come from across the Atlantic.

With regards -

Yours etc.,

Dec. 10, 1947.

Mr. Harold W. Stark,
18652 Birchcrest Drive,
Detroit 21, Mich.

Dear Harold:

Yours of the 4th duly received with enclosures. Also Hutch sent me a check for the 15¢ cover to France. Thanks very much for your kindness.

Re - the "City Despatch Post." The description in the catalogue is very good, but if you would like a complete history of the Post I'll send you a copy of the A.P.S. handbook by Elliott Perry, entitled,

"100 Years Ago -
February, 1842, August
Centenary
of the
First Adhesive Postage Stamps
in the
United States."

The story is intensely interesting and it is a chapter in our postal history of which few philatelists have much knowledge. Incidentally the Brooks cover is illustrated in this booklet. If you have never seen this study I will send you a copy with my compliments. Hutch would also enjoy reading it, I am sure.

Regarding the two 5¢ 1847 covers tied by black postmarks. I am satisfied that the solution is that they were used after July 1, 1851, at a time when the rate to Ohio was 3¢ instead of 10¢, (incidentally - this was some reduction). As you are aware, the P.M.G. announced that the 1847 stamps would not be valid for sue after June 30, 1851. It is very doubtful if he had the legal authority to issue such a ruling. Perhaps the New York postmaster doubted that the P.M.G. had any such authority and hence permitted mail franked with 1847 stamps to go thru O.K. after June 30, 1851.

These two covers are outstanding because the stamps are tied in black with New York postmarks, a feature that seems to make them unique. Chase advised me that he had never seen such an item, and other prominent specialists are students have likewise advised me.

Further - here are two covers which show 5¢/5¢ rates to Ohio from New York, etc., whereas such a rate never existed - (prepaid ship 3¢ plus 2¢ after June 30, 1851, excepted). One can take their

coice - viz:

(1) an underpaid rate prior to July 1, 1851 that went thru in error -

(2) an overpaid rate after June 30, 1851, the payment by a stamp that was not valid for postage (according to a P.M.G. ruling).

If the use was before July 1, 1851, and each was a case of half-paid in cash and half in stamps I believe that the New York office would have made some notation on the covers of the cash payment.

If the use was after June 30, 1851 (which is doubtless correct), it is odd that both the New York and Chillicothe offices recognized the use of "invalid" stamps.

I think that it is the "unusual" that gives added value to covers in this class.

I doubt if these were "prepaid ship" of 3¢ plus 2¢, i.e., paid by "invalid" stamps.

Re - the 1879 combinations. I believe that the correct explanation is, a partial re-entry of the National design on Continental designs. I think that it could be easily proved that such a re-entry would eliminate or partially eliminate the secret mark. I believe that this is the only process which could have produced the thin hair lines of the secret mark. The re-entry of a National relief closed up the mark at the surface of the plate. As the plate wore down (after the re-entry) traces of the secret marks again gradually re-appeared. Thus we can explain all the varieties that we find in these combination stamps, viz., half arcs, hair lines, etc. If one denies the above process then one cannot accept the explanation that I gave of the 1¢ 1851 Inverted Transfers of 71L1 - 81L1 and 91L1.

I suggest that you read those chapters in my One Cent book, Vol. 1, very carefully. I certainly do not believe that the Continental put the secret mark on the original die of the National, but rather on a duplicate die or "laydown." Transfer rolls to enter plates are not made direct from original dies but from "laydowns."

No, Harold, I do not believe that the American used any of the old National plates, but that when they took over the Continental contract, they continued in use the Continental plates 302 - 303 (one or both). As these Contanenal plates became worn they re-entered them (or partially re-entered) with a relief without the secret mark. It could have been the old and original National roller, or it could have been a new roller without mark made for the purpose.

Re - the scarcity of pairs, strips, or blocks showing the two stamps. I am sure that I don't know how scarce such items are but from inquiries I have made among eastern dealers, it appears that multiples are really rare. For example, Eddie Stern is one of the oldest dealers in Nassau St. He wrote me recently that he had seen

very few multiples in his time, and that as far back as he can remember, pairs and strips were recognized as desirable, but that they were scarce.

I am going to write my old friends the Burger Bros., about this feature.

I think that the most desirable pairs are those that show - one stamp with a very plain mark, and the other stamp with no trace of the mark at all.

I am enclosing herewith a photograph of such a pair. This pair is sure wonderful.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

P.S. I am getting in awfully bad with Huntley on that 10¢ 1847 cover. Will you please remind our good friend Shierson. I am afraid that Huntley will not send me any other items to sell any time soon.

S.

Steamer
Atlantic
Madame
12, Rue de
U.S. POSTAGE
TWELVE CENTS

COPY

xxxxxxxxxxxxx 100 Henry Court

Dec. 12, 1944.

Mr. Harold W. Stark,
18625 Birchcrest Drive,
Detroit 21, Mich.

Dear Mr. Stark:

Herewith the 12¢ 1857 cover. The date of "Aug. 24, 1857" in the catalogue is from my records. It does not mean the date of issue but rather the earliest use that I have ever been able to locate of a 12¢ perforated stamp. Thus you can appreciate that we are liable to find earlier uses at any time. From a rather superficial examination of this cover I hardly know what to say about it, as there are several features which are very peculiar.

For example, the letter is marked "SHORT PAID." If the use was actually in August 1857 then the rate would have been according to the U.S.-French Treaty which went into effect on April 1, 1857. Had 63¢ been paid and this payment was "Short" then the actual rate must have been 75¢ or higher - (single ½ oz. was 15¢).

Had the rate been 75¢ then the French due would have been 39 (or 40) decimes. The French figures to left of the New York postmark are "24" or 24 decimes. This was approximately 45¢ in our money and agrees with the 45 marked in conjunction with the "Short Paid." This raises a question as to whether the stamps were actually used on this cover. If you will examine the postmarks tying the stamps you will note that these have at least been retouched with a red ink or paint. The town was apparently "Plainfield Mass." This could have been a stampless cover with the stamps added, but I must admit that in spite of the "painting" the stamps do look like they originated on this cover.

There were no such rates as 21¢, 42¢ or 63¢ to France in July and August of 1857 and surely the postmaster at Plainfield must have been aware of the correct rate which was 15¢ per ½ ounce. Previous to April 1, 1857, there had been a rate of 21¢ per ½ ounce by American packet (Collins Line) to England, but such a rate only represented payment to the British frontier. On such mail, 8 decimes was due in France, or 24 decimes on a triple rate (3 X 21). The 63¢ paid and the "24" due in France seem to be O.K. but they are not in agreement with an August 1857 use, and if the use was during the pre-treaty period the perforated stamps could not have been used at such an early date.

The cover is marked "Steamer Atlantic," which was a Collins Liner. (American Packet).

Please note my Vol. 2 - page 339. Fig. 56W illustrates a single 21¢ rate with "8" decimes due. On page 341, Fig. 56AA illustrates a double rate with "16" decimes due. Several more points. (1) The "Atlantic" was in service as a mail ship in 1857 but not in August of 1858. (2) Under the treaty, a "short paid" rate was treated as "entirely unpaid," and no part payments were recognized, the full treaty rate being due on delivery regardless of any sum paid by cash or stamps. Therefore, if this use was in July - August of 1857, the "24" decimes could have represented an unpaid triple rate of 3 X 15¢. The "Short Paid" and "45" could have meant a payment in this country, either in cash or stamps, of less than 45¢, the "45" in such a case representing the actual rate. But such an analysis could only mean that the stamps were not used as we see them.

I would greatly appreciate your comments on the above, as the cover certainly has me baffled. If not too much trouble could you return the cover to me as I would like to show it to my good friend Doctor Chase.

Sincerely yours,

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK
FORT THOMAS, KY.

xxxxxxxxxxxx 100 Henry Court

Jan. 2, 1945.

Mr. Harold W. Stark,
18625 Birchcrest Drive,
Detroit 21, Mich.

Dear Mr. Stark:

Herewith your 12¢ 1857 cover, which I sent to Doctor Chase for a look. The following is an extract from his reply:

"Now in regard to that 12c cover dated July 30, 1857. Of course you know a good deal more about the rates than I do but I am very much inclined to think it is O.K. I believe the stamps grew on the cover and I do not believe they have been added. The red in the town postmark may or may not have been added and it seems to me it makes very little difference one way or the other. Unless I am mistaken, the pair of 12c at the left makes a block of four with the pair next to it going above it. Of course one thing you must figure on is that one end of the envelope is gone - I judge perhaps an inch and one half of it - so I suppose there is a possibility there was something on that end of the envelope which might have helped had it been present. I note what you say regarding the rates and I cannot help wondering if the man who sent the letter didn't think that the single rate was still 21c and that the postmaster in the Massachusetts town might not have thought the same or taken his word for it. July 30, 1857 doesn't sound like an impossible date to me for a perforated 12c stamp. Personally I would be tempted to list it as the record early date of use. I hardly know what more I can say about it." (end of quote).

I must confess that I cannot figure this cover, but it is quite possible that the cut-off end might have contained the answer. Will you please take another look at those three postmarks with your binocular microscope. I enclose a diagram of the cover, and suggest that you especially note the lines at "A." Here we have doubled lines and I do not believe that these were handstamped. They have, in my opinion, been retouched. Also note the red line at "B." Surly this is not a "stamped" line but one that was painted. Also note at "C" where the lines look <u>drawn</u> instead of stamped.

If the stamps originated on this cover as we now see them, I believe that someone retouched the three postmarks. I agree with Chase that a <u>July 30, 1857</u> use of the 12¢ perforated would not be at all out of line. We have July 1857 uses of the 1¢ - 3¢ and 10¢ and an August use of the 5¢.

As stated in my letter of the 12th, the French due on this letter was "<u>24</u>" decimes or approximately 45¢. There is no way in which I can reconcile this with the 63¢ paid in stamps. I will be interested in hearing if you can turn up anything futher after an examination with your glasses.

Sincerely yours,

xxxxxxxxxxxxx 100 Henry Court

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18625 Birchcrest Drive,
Detroit 21, Mich.

Dear Mr. Stark:

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Sincerely yours,

PHONE UNIVERSITY 1-4399

H. W. STARK & CO.
18652 BIRCHCREST DRIVE
DETROIT 21, MICH.

Jan. 4, 1945.

Stanley B. Ashbrook,
Ft. Thomas, Ky.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

Received the cover this morning and have re-inspected it as you suggested both with the binocular microscope at 5, 15 and 25 mag. and with the large inverted at 100 mag. and some spots at 500 mag. Here are the results: The red appears to be consistant on all three town strikes. Its shows up more on some strikes than on others. There is red in the town name and also the date. Now where red shows in one cancel, it will show in some degree in the other two. Where there is no red it will show no red in all three cancels. This is especially noticable under high power thru out the town and date portion. It appears that the outside circle was at one time a thin double circle and has broken down with use. The red appears to be located between these two lines as if the stamper had been used for a long time with red ink. The stamper was probably wiped off and black ink used or it could be that black ink had been used for some time and the red gradually coming out and mixing in. There appears to be more total red in the right hand cancel, decreasing as the canceller moved to the ~~right~~ left.

Under the high power the manscript "24" and "16" appear to have been from the same ink. Also "Short Paid" and "45" appear to be from the same ink. Thus two distinct inks for these markings. What does the "16" mean?

All the pertinent markings appear to be concentrated in a close area so I do not believe the portion of the cover that is missing was important, however, one is never sure.

The cover has me stumped with the little knowledge I have of these markings, mostly obtained from you. If you care to examine the cover further, let me know and I will send it along.

Sincerely,
Harold Stark

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK
A. P. S. 2497
100 HENRY COURT
FT. THOMAS, KY.

Aug. 11, 1945.

Mr. Harold W. Stark,
18652 Birchcrest Drive,
Detroit, Mich.

Dear Harold:

Under separate cover, by first-class mail, I am sending you a photo of a large block of the 12¢ 1857 from the scarce Plate 3. Doubtless you will recall that this plate was not made until 1860. This block is unused and without gum as I myself removed it in order to prevent the old gum from damaging such a rare block.

The owner of this piece has put a price on it of $1,000.00, but I have reason to believe that he would accept a bid of $750.00, provided I recommend same. It has not been offered to anyone else.

I thought perhaps that this superb block of 42 might appeal to you.

I haven't the piece on hand but if you desire to see it, I will obtain it and forward it to you.

Will you be so kind as to return the photograph?

With kindest regards -

Sincerely yours,

Stanley B. Ashbrook

Enclosed is Check for $750.00. Forward same if you obtain it at this price.

If possible would like a photo of same, if you have the negative.

PHONE UNIVERSITY 1-4399

H. W. STARK & CO.
18652 BIRCHCREST DRIVE
DETROIT 21, MICH.

August 10, 1945.

Stanley B. Ashbrook,
Ft. Thomas, Ky.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

Referring back to your letter of Dec. 12, 1944 regarding the cover with the 12¢ perforated and dated Aug 1, New York and Plainfield, Mass. July 30, 1857.

I have been puzzling over this cover and recently I purchased a cover that might throw some light on this earlier cover with the 12¢ perforated stamps. This recent cover is to Germany from Bristol, R.I. May 3, 1861. It was first marked in manuscript - red "30" (evidently as a stampless). However a 1857 30¢ stamp was affixed and the manuscript 30 pen scratched out and a "Paid" hand stamp cancelling this manuscript "30". The stamp is tied to the cover by the red New York, 7 Paid.

Now getting back to the 12¢ cover. Couldnt the "Short Paid 45 (in manuscript) have been put on by the post master and couldnt the mailer have come back and put the necessary stamps on, in this case the old 21¢ rate of a few months previous and could not the postmaster have sent the letter thru, unintentionally omitting to scratch out the short paid marking. The French post office, noting the "Short paid" notation might have charged the full 24 ~~xxx~~ decimes.

It appears to me that New York would have naturally put a credit charge when it passed thru their hands. Perhaps noting the stamps they paid no attention to the manuscript "Short Paid 45". Also above and touching the "Short Paid" is the manuscript word "Paid." Maybe the postmaster put this on after the stamps had been put on. This would make it similar to the 30 cover to Germany.

If you care to see these two covers or either of them again, let me know along with your comments.

Best wishes and pay us a visit anytime you are around this part of the country.

Sincerely,

Harry W. Stark.

August 15, 1945.

Mr. Harold W. Stark,
18652 Birchcrest Drive,
Detroit, Mich.

Dear Harold:

Yours with check for $750.00 received. The block referred to belongs to my good friend Emmerson C. Krug of Birmingham. I wired him this morning to please forward the block and I am mailing him my letter to you and have endorsed over to him your check. In addition, I have recommended that he accept the price and I have reason to believe that he will rely on my judgement. It will be O.K. with me for you to retain the photograph that I sent you as I have the negatives and can make new prints.

Regarding yours of the 10th, if not too much trouble I would like to see your 30¢ 1860 cover to Germany. After looking it over I will be glad to give you my reaction.

Please bear in mind that I am not "Mr." to you.

Give my regards to the family and here is hoping that we may get together in the near future. It is not far to Cincinnati so why not put the family in the car and come down in the near future - when gas is obtainable?

Cordially yours,

POST CARD

OSCAR P. NOE
20176 BRIARCLIFF
DETROIT, 21, MICH.

Dear Mr Noe

Thanks very much for yours of Mar 3rd with enclosures as stated. I have a folded Circular of Aug 19, 1851 with a 1¢ 1851 tied by a ~~red~~ bright red cents. Postmark [illegible] Price $8.00. Dare submit if you would like to see it.

Sincerely yours

Dec. 15, 1947.

Mr. Oscar P. Noe,
20176 Briarcliff Road,
Detroit 21, Mich.

Dear Mr. Noe:

Thanks very much for yours of the 12th with check for $10.00 for the Cincinnati Registered cover.

I will try to locate some further Cincinnati items for you just as soon as I can find time to locate them.

Re - your Express Mail cover. Mr. Albert C. Hutchinson of your city owns the finest collection of "U.S.Express Mail" covers in the country. He has the largest number in one lot that I know of.

If you do not know him I am sure that our mutual friend Donald MacGregor will be glad to put you in touch with him. I believe that you would be interested in seeing his collection.

I judge a cover such as yourmention is worth from $6.00 to $10.00 according to condition.

Sincerely yours,

PENINSULAR MACHINERY COMPANY

20176 Briarcliff Rd.
Detroit, 21, Mich.

Dec. 17, 1947

Dear Mr. Ashbrook -

Received Cin. registered
cover and enclose check. Having been born
and raised in Cin. I collect Cin. covers and
corner cards. Am also interested in U.S.
corner cards showing machinery, preferably
19th cent. - altho some early 20th may be
O.K. At present I have some 500 covers
but of course many are common variety.
If you have anything unusual to offer,
would be glad to hear from you.

I have ~~had~~ an Express mail cover -
stampless - New Orleans red circular P.M. -
letter dated March. 7, 1838 - paid 1.50 - addressed
to Middletown, O. and inscribed "Express mail
to Cincinnati, O." Can you give me any idea
as to probable value of this and as to where
I could find any published information

on this?

Sincerely yours,

Oscar P. Hoz

Dec. 9, 1947

Mr. Oscar P. Noe,
20176 Briarcliff Ave.,
Detroit 21, Mich.

Dear Mr. Noe:

As per your card of the 8th, I am enclosing herewith the Cincinnati Registered cover as mentioned in my letter of the 28th. Price $10.00.

Sincerely yours,

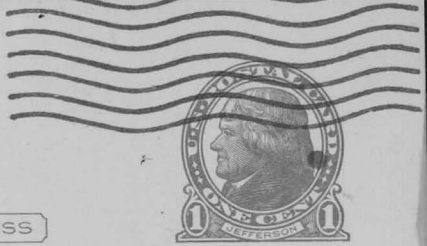
20176 Briarcliff Rd.
Detroit, 21, Mich.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook =

Received yours of the
28th ult. and in answer would say that
I would like to see the circ. registered cover.

Very truly yours,

Oscar P. Voz



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Nov. 28, 1947.

Mr. Oscar P. Noe,
20176 Briarcliff Ave.,
Detroit 21, Mich.

Dear Mr. Noe:

I recently showed my good friend Don MacGregor a folded cover - Registered - from Cincinnati Aug. 10, 1857. It is dated inside "Covington, Ky. Aug. 9, 1857," showing that it was taken "across the river" and registered. It has the large red "R" of the Cincinnati office, also the registered number etc. and is addressed to New York City. A 3¢ 1851 is tied by a blue Cincinnati postmark.

Don thought that you might be interested in acquiring this cover and if so I will be glad to submit it to you. The price is $10.00. If you wish you can advise me by return mail.

Sincerely yours,

GERALD E. WELLBURN
DEERHOLME, DUNCAN, B.C.

April 19, 1947.

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

Dear Mr Ashbrook:

I was pleased to receive your letter of April 10th which was forwarded to me by Mr McCready. My interest in early U.S. postal markings is due, in no small degree, to the reading and study of many of your fine articles.

No one else has written me regarding the covers you mentioned, but local Vancouver and Victoria collectors like to discuss them with me. I would be greatly interested ~~in~~ to hear~~ing~~ from you in regards to the 1858 cover from Victoria, and learn what additional information you can supply.

I might add that on May 8th I shall be leaving for the east and shall stay in New York (Shelton Hotel, Lexington Ave & 49th) between May 13th and 27th, and I am wondering if ~~they~~ there might be a possibility of meeting you in New York?

With kindest regards,

Sincerely

Gerald E. Wellburn

April 23, 1947.

Mr. Gerald E. Wellburn,
Deerholme,
Duncan, B.C.
Canada.

Dear Mr. Wellburn:

Thanks very much for your kind letter of the 19th.

Regarding the cover that you illustrated in the December issue of "Popular Stamps," I am wondering if the solution of this item is somewhat as follows: It was a "short paid" U.S. rate, hence when it reached Canada it was rated as unpaid with "9" pence due (15¢).

The U.S. rate to Canada from the Pacific Coast was 15¢, as you are aware, but this letter only had 13¢.

As I recall, it was provided in the treaty of 1851 that partial payments were not to be recognized. In other words, a short payment of the full rate was to be treated as wholly unpaid.

I believe that we find quite a few covers used in the 1850's, to Canada, with a single U. S. 3¢ 1851 or 3¢ 1857. Perhaps you will recall that such covers are rated in Canada as wholly unpaid with 6 pence due - (10 cents).

It seems to me that your cover must be in the same class because I doubt if a large partial payment was any better than a small one, by which I mean that your cover would have been rated just the same even if it had had only the 3¢ 1857 or in fact, no U. S. stamps at all. Prepayments was optional, with each country retaining all the postages collected.

You will note that the San Francisco postmark had a "15" at the bottom. This was a marking used on unpaid mail, and it was a combination postmark and rate marking, that is, its use indicated that 15¢ was due.

I feel sure that its use did not indicate that 15¢ had been paid, in fact, on mail that had been prepaid, a similar marking was used at this time, which read "15 PAID."

I plan to be in New York from the 16th to 25th inclusive and have a reservation at the Biltmore. The chances are that I

will make my headquarters at the booth of Philip H. Ward, Jr. I will be pleased to meet you personally. I recall that I stopped at the Shelton during the 1936 "Tipex."

Sincerely yours,

Aug. 15, 1947.

Mr. Gerald E. Wellburn,
Deerholme,
Duncan, B.C.,
Canada.

Dear Mr. Wellburne:

I note that I have had no reply from you to a letter that I wrote you under date of Apr. 23, last. I am wondering if you received it?

I am enclosing herewith a photograph of a cover from Houlton, Maine to Woodstock N.B., which kindly return.

I am wondering if you are familiar with this 2¢ rate and if so, have you seen other covers from Canada to this country. I have consulted a number of collectors of B.N.A. and they were totally ignorant of it.

I am indeed sorry that I failed to meet you at Cipex.

Sincerely yours,

April 10, 1947.

Mr. Gerald E. Wellburn,
% A. L. McCready,
Cobden,
Ontario, Canada.

Dear Mr. Wellburn:

My attention has been called to your two articles in "Popular Stamps" of December 1946 and March 1947. I read both of these articles with much interest and my compliments are yours on these two fine studies.

Regarding the cover that you discussed in the December issue, the one from Victoria in October 1858. I am wondering if any reader wrote you regarding this cover and gave you any additional information. I am very much interested in early U.S.-Canadian mail and postal history and if agreeable to you I would like to discuss the above mentioned cover with you.

Sincerely yours,

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

January 24,1948

Dear Stan:

Thanks for your letter of the 22nd. It is a queer thing but at first we couldn't sell any of the post office lists and now ~~five~~ six out of ten are gone. Mr. Blinn took two of them for $18.22 and $18.36 and now Mr. Putnam asks for 1822,1828,1831,1832 and 1843. What is more all of them are paid for. The only trouble is that one ordered by Mr. Blinn and already sent to him was also ordered by Mr. Putnam. Under the circumstances I am sending him the 1825 list with a check for $2.50, being the difference in the pirce of these two volumes. However, I made it very clear if this was not satisfactory for him that he was to send back the 1825 title and I was to repay him both for the book and the postage. It has certainly been very kind of you to arrange these sales for me. I am really very glad to be able to turn these back into cash.

I enclose a brief note on Canadian postal rates which was in the Emco monthly journal which you may not see. I don't suppose this amounts to anything but it will do no harm to send it. Tear it up if it is of no use.

So you are getting a little snow yourself. We can sympathize with you slightly as we have three or four feet on the ground with another promised for tonight.

With best

As ever,

C.C.

Jan. 22, 1948.

Dr. Carroll Chase,
R.F.D. 1,
Milford, N.H.

Dear Doc:

Here is a check from my friend Charley Putnam for the following items in your P.O. Lists:

1822 - 1828 - 1831 - 1832 & 1843

$7.50
5.00
5.00
2.50
3.00

$23.00

Will you please ship them to him. His address is (as you are aware) -

Mr. Chas. M. Putnam, Jr.,
Foot of Spring St.,
Peoria, Ill.

We are having snow and cold weather and I don't like either. Of course, it must be much worse up your way.

Regards -

Yours etc.,

1808. A list of post-offices in the United States; their names, counties and states, their distance from Washington City, rates of postage and distance from New York City, with the laws and regulations of the establishment .... by Calvin F. Stevens, Clerk of the Post Office, New York City. 15.

1822. Table of the post offices in the United States, with the names of the postmasters, the counties and states in which they are situated, etc...By direction of the Postmaster General, Washington City. 7.50

1825. Same title as the preceding, also printed in Washington. 5.

1828. Same title as the preceding, also printed in Washington. 5.

1831. " " plus an index to the whole..... By direction of the Postmaster General, printed in Washington. 5.

1831 (March 31) Letter from the Postmaster General transmitting a statement of the amount of postage accruing at each post office in each state and territory for the year ending the 31st of March, 1831. (This is an extract from a larger book). 2.50

1832 (March 31) Exactly the same title for the year ending the 31st of March, 1832. 2.50

1836. Table of the post offices in the United States on July 1, 1836, arranged in alphabetical order, etc. Printed in Washington, 1836. 3.00

1837. Exactly the same title, dated July 15, 1837. Also printed in Washington. 4.50

1843. A gazetteer containing a general view of the United States, etc. etc. to which is added a table of all the post offices in the United States and their net proceeds in 1841. The whole compiled from public documents. Published in Akron, Ohio. 3.00

3 items added the approximate cost price in pencil

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

November 15,1947

Dear Stan:

Yours of the 8th and 13th safely at hand. Many thanks for the nice dope on the express rates. I shall pass along the information which you give to my friend excepting that I shall say nothing about the Jones & Russell & Hinckley franks.

I return herewith the photographs you kindly sent.

In regard to the 5c 1847 with Tallahassee postmark. I don't know what more you can say than what you did. I wonder if Hardy still owns the cover or whether he has sold it.

I am glad that the bound auction catalogues are beginning to arrive. Many thanks for the check in payment for them. I trust you will get some little information out of the lot. By the way, one of the Morganthau sales containing the two very large blocks of 1847 plate proofs should be somewhere in one of the volumes.

On a separate sheet I give a more detailed list of the post office lists already mentioned. I think you were wise to ask for this. My own idea is that these are pretty readily saleable - at any rate good prices are asked for them. When you have gone over the list, do whatever you think best. If you wish I shall of course send the books themselves to you. They aren't very heavy.

With best regards,

As ever,

DR.

P.S.
→ do not belong to the Philatelic Library Assn.
→ belong to too damned many things as it is.

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

January 17,1948

Dear Stan:

Just a line to thank you for yours of the 13th. I had a letter from Mr. Putnam of Peoria but he said nothing about the post office lists. I shall write him and ask him if he is interested. I have no Illinois stampless at all. I also had a letter from Mr. Blinn asking about two of the lists and I have sent him the details.

Nothing else particularly new.

With best

As ever,

CR.

Jan. 13, 1948.

Dr. Carroll Chase,
R.F.D. #1,
Milford, N.H.

Dear Doc:

A friend of mine who noticed the "ad" requested me to submit the following: 1808 - 1822 - 1828 - 1831 and 1843. I am writing him that they belong to you and that you will not submit on approval, but that he can have same at your price to me, If agreeable, send his check to me and I will have you ship direct. I doubt if he will take all, perhaps only one or two. However, he has money. His name is Chas. Putnam, Jr. of Peoria, Ills. and I sell him Illinois stampless covers. If you have anythin in the way of Illinois stampless, please send them to me and maybe I can pass them on to Charley. Have you anything in stampless?

Thanks for calling my attention to the "1789" by Konwiser. Surely the louse is not so dumb as to imagine that there was a P.O. at Tulsa in 1789. Or is he? At any rate, I will call Harry's attention to the "error." (?)

After reading his remarks, the second time, maybe there is some catch. I'll investigate.

Glad your grippe is better.

With regards -

Yours etc.,

Post Card

Mr Thomas N Blinn
13716 Michegan Ave
Dearborn Mich

Dear Mr Blinn

Further reference to yours of
the 21st. Mr Shaw advises me
that his Price on the 1836 List
of Post offices is $3.00 All I know
is that it is simply An Alphabetical list of U. S. Post
Offices. I suppose it is ~~the~~ similar
to one that I have of 1837. It lists
Counties and Post masters and distances
from State Capital and Washington. No
Separate listings by States

Regards Sincerely yours

HOBBY INTERESTS
Michigan Postal History
Stamp Collecting
Member: Michigan Stamp Club
North West Stamp Society
Dearborn Stamp Club
V.A.M.P.S., S.P.A.,
A.P.S., P.S.P.S.
State Historical Society of Michigan
Detroit Historical Society
The Engineering Society of Detroit

Thomas W. Blinn
REGISTERED CIVIL ENGINEER
Residence:
13288 Lauder Avenue
Telephone: VErmont 7-3871
Detroit, 27, Michigan
Office:
13716 Michigan Avenue
Dearborn, Michigan

PHILATELIC LINES
Michigan Postal Markings
Private Perforations
Civil War Patriotic's
Old U. S. Covers
U. S. General
Denmark
Canada
Newfoundland

DETROIT,MICHIGAN.
DEC.,2I,I947.

Mr.Stanley B.Ashbrook,
P.O. Box 3I,
Fort Thomas,Ky.

Dear Mr.Ashbrook,

Your Ad in Stamps,Dec.20, listing U.S.Post Offices List I836 for sale with price on application,believe this list of the year I836 will list MICHIGAN TERRITORIALS,or towns in existence at that time. Will you let me know the price of same and describe it with reference to MICHIGAN,as I am of the opinion it may be useful to us in this period of time.

Yours sincerely,

Thomas W. Blinn

THOMAS W. BLINN.

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

November 24,1947

Dear Stan:

Many thanks for yours of the 19th. I am glad that the last of the auction catalogues arrived safely. I am rather surprised that you did not find the Morganthau blocks. They may possibly be in a 1916 or 1917 catalogue but more likely in an earlier one. If you can get them from the Collectors Club, you may find what you are looking for.

I am certainly very much obliged for the ad which you are going to run in STAMPS. I rather think you will get some serious replies. Let me know what to do with the list and I shall try to follow your instructions carefully. A little later, after I have finished the installments of the territorial article for Utah and New Mexico, I shall have a few more of these lists for sale. However, at the rate at which the installments are appearing in the American Philatelist, both Cabeen and I will be old,old men before it is finished.

Nothing else particularly new. Winter has started though the weather has not yet been very severe.

With best regards,

As ever,

CR.

Nov. 19, 1947.

Dr. Carroll Chase,
R.F.D. 1,
Milford, N.H.

Dear Doc:

Yours of the 15th received.

I enclose copy for an advertisement that I have sent to "Stamps" with instructions to run it three times in the classified section under "Publications." I doubt if it will appear before the middle of December as it generally takes about a month.

Re - the Tallahassee. As far as I am aware, Jim Hardy still owns it. I doubt if he would risk sending it to the P.F. or would pay a fee, hence my guess is that he has some sucker who is considering buying it and sent it to the Committee.

I sent you a postal card yesterday that I had received four of the auction books but that the fifth had not arrived. The first three came in good time. I just wanted to keep you advised. The missing one is 1916-17-18. I went thru the four that I have very carefully looking for listing of the 1847 plate proof blocks but was unable to find any mention. I think that I will write Mitzi to send me the Morgenthau auction catalogues for 1912. There was no memo in your 1847 records as to the year the block was sold. Can you give me any lead?

With regards -

Yours etc.,

P.S.--Since writing the above the 1916-18 auction book arrived safe and sound.

S.

Nov. 19th, 1947.

Miss Charlotte Downs,
℅ "Stamps"
1 W. 46th St.,
New York, N.Y.

My dear Miss Down:

Will you please run the enclosed copy for me in the classified section of "Stamps" under the heading of Publications. I would like to have it appear in three editions.

With my kindest regards -

Sincerely yours,

For Sale - Lists of U. S. Post Offices. An 1808 Edition, offices, Laws & Regulations, rare. 1822, 1825, 1828, 1831,1831 (different) 1832, 1836, 1837 and an 1843 Gazetteer with list of offices and P.O. data. Description of each and prices on application. A valuable lot for the student of our postal history.
Address Stanley B. Ashbrook, P.O. Box 31, Fort Thomas, Kentucky.

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

November 10,1947

Dear Stan:

Many thanks for yours of the 5th. I have already sent you four of the bound volumes of auction catalogues and will try to get the other one off tomorrow. I haven't much idea what these are worth. If I am not mistaken, I paid at least $3 apiece for having them bound but I don't know whether they are worth that to any one. However, if $15 for the lot suits you, it suits me very nicely. While I think of it, look at Lot 3 in the first sale in one of the books, dated March 5,1912. Sort of a sweet cover. Don't you think so? At any rate, I hope you get something out of these. If you think they aren't worth $15. send me whatever you think is right.

I, too, had correspondence with Tracy Simpson regarding the double transfers you mention. I think you and I feel about the same regarding his explanation. You ask if I have any very fine early impressions. The ones of which you made photographs were the best I had and I have found no better since then. So I doubt if I have anything that would help.

Regarding the post office guides. Perhaps this is the wrong description, perhaps they had better be called post office lists as only some of them are official - the others being private. Here is a little list of what I have with, as far as I can figure out and remember, what I paid for each one.

1808.	Cover defective. Contents complete. I believe it is rare.....	$15.00
1822.	Good condition . .	7.50
1825.	Contents good condition. Back cover missing .	5.00
1828.	Good condition . .	5.00
1831.	" "	5.00
1831 (March).	A list which seems to be part of a Postmaster General's report. Unbound .	2.50
1832.	Exactly the same (again) as the March,1831 except for the date .	2.50
1836.	Good condition . .	3.00
1837.	Very fine. Nicely bound . .	4.50
1841.	Cover defective. Contents complete .	3.00

I think this makes a total of $53. It seems to me as though I should get at least this much for them and perhaps somewhat more. I do not belong to the Philatelic Library Association. You suggest putting an ad in STAMPS in your own name. If you want to do this, I will either ship them out myself or send them to you. Under these circumstances I would want to pay you a commission for your bother. Perhaps you will want some of them yourself. If so, cost price is all right with me.

I see I failed to answer one or two questions regarding those Plate 10 shifts. All the copies I have seen excepting one were used. I suppose I have seen perhaps a dozen of each position all together. They plated on Plates 10¹ + 10⁴ but not on 10².

Please believe, Stan, that I much appreciate your kindness in offering to look after these post office lists.

With best regards,

CR.

Nov. 13, 1947.

Dr. Carroll Chase,
R.F.D. 1,
Milford, N.H.

Dear Doc:

Yours of the 10th received.

Three of the auction books arrived O.K. and I am handing you check herewith for the lot. I think your price was very fair and I was pleased to get these.

Re - the other books. If they are simply lists of post offices do you think that there would be much of a demand for them? I really do not know - that is why I inquire. Do many people go in for such things? My guess is that Konwiser would know.

I was surprised to learn that you were not a member of Philatelic Library Association. A chap by the name of Dan'l W. Vooys runs it. If you wish I'll write him and ask him if he thinks your list of items would sell readily. Can you give me a more detailed description? Are they of the following character:

> "Net amount of postage accruing at each post office in each state and territory for the year ending etc. etc."

It was customary for the P.M.G. to submit such a special report to Congress each year. I have some of these, my earliest being 1828.

Give me some more information and then we can decide what to do.

Re - that auction lot - a strip of the 10¢ 1847 from San Francisco to Tepic, Mexico. That town is quite a place in western Mexico and is in Nayarit state about 18 miles east of the old coastal town of San Blas. The latter town is south - not a great distance from Mazatlan. The mail steamers between San Francisco and Panama used to stop at Mazatlan. I don't understand the rate as it was only 20¢ from S.F. to Panama. It should have been the same to Mazatlan or Acapulco, where the mail steamers also stopped. It was 30¢ from Panama City to New York. Perhaps the auction cover was an overpay. The only use that I have ever seen of 1847's from California is the Jessup cover with H.S. of four of the 10¢. I refer to uses

during the life of the stamps. I sure would like to see the auction cover.

Thanks very much for sending me the little batch of tracings. I'll put them in my files.

With regards -

Yours etc.,

Chase — Postal

NOV 17 1947

Dear Doc —

Four of the Auchon books arrived o.k. but to date the fifth has not come in. Yours Ep

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

November 2,1947

Dear Stan:

I have been doing a little work recently on the books in my library and find that I no longer need my real early post office guides. Here are those which I have up to 1850:

1808,1822,1825,1828,1831 (2 different), 1832,1836,1837 and 1841.

I thought you might like to buy these for your own library or at any rate such of them as you lack. If you do not, I think I shall ship them down to Gene Costales to sell at auction. I am frank to say that I haven't much idea as to what these are worth but I know what I paid for some of them.

I find that I also have and no longer need five bound volumes of auction catalogues covering the following dates:

1906-1911, 1912-1913, 1914-1915, 1916-1918, 1919-1920.

I had these bound at my own expense and think the binder did a pretty good job. Do you want them at a reasonable figure? I think they cover an interesting period - when much rare material was being offered.

Please let me know what you think about all this.

Nothing else new up this way.

With best regards,

As ever,

CC

Nov. 5, 1947.

Doctor Carroll Chase,
R.F.D. #1,
Milford, N.H.

Dear Doc:

Re - yours of the 2nd. I sure would like to have all the items mentioned in your letter but at the present time I couldn't afford to buy them all, but I would like to have the bound auction catalogues, so ship them to me and charge me whatever you think they are worth. In other words, don't think you have to make me a special price but charge me with whatever price you think anyone else would pay you. I don't know what your set of Post Office Guides are worth but why not advertise them for sale in "Stamps" in a classified advertisement. Put a top price on each one and see if someone is not willing to pay the price. If you don't sell them, then put them in a Costales sale, but put a limit on each one so that they won't be sacrificed.

Do you belong to the Philatelic Library Association? It might be a good idea to offer the "Guides" in their publication. I don't think it would cost you anything to list them. Here is another suggestion. I could put an ad in "Stamps" and it wouldn't cost me anything. I could advertise them in my name and you could ship them.

I have had some correspondence recently with Tracy Simpson regarding the 3¢ 1857 - double transfers 61R10 - 98 R10. Way back in the twenties I made enlarged photos for you of parts of a pane that had these two positions. Was it a pane or a piece of a pane and did it belong to you? I never ran across any used copies of these two positions. Have you seen very many? Have you any fine early impressions? If so, will you loan them to me so that I can photograph them. Tracy has a very complicated explanation. I suppose it is O.K. but it is a little deep for me.

Regards -

Yours etc.,

Nov. 2, 1947.

Mr. Arthur F. Black,
144 Providence Road,
Charlotte, N.C.

Dear Mr. Black:

It was nice to hear from you again, but I was indeed sorry to learn that you hadebbenn having trouble with your eyes.

Thanks so much for your kindness in sending me the 3¢ Star Die plus 1¢ 1857. In former years I did not attempt to make a photo record of such items but I will try to record those that I can locate in the future. I doubt if very many actually exist.

Regarding the "Star Die." You wrote me about your Sep. 13, 1860 cover back in 1939, in fact, I believe that you loaned it to me. I also have a memo in my records of the mention of it in Perry's "PATS." Mr. Bartels wrote me in 1939 that his earliest record of a 3¢ was Sep. 7th, 1860, and that he had seen several that were used in the latter part of that month. Mr. Marcus White has a 6¢ used on Sep. 14, 1860. Incidentally, I note that Thorp in his recent book states that the "Star Dies" were issued in October.

The "S.U.S." fails to give any date other than "1860-1861." I may write something for "Stamps" on this subject. I have no record of an early use of the 10¢ but I suppose that they were also issued in September 1860. We see mighty few of the 10¢ used to and from California to pay the 10¢ rate, and I suppose a 10¢ to pay any other rate is exceedingly rare. For example, a 10¢ Star to Cuba.

You mentioned that you had two 3¢ plus 1¢ and that you gave one to a local friend. I do not want to put you to a lot of trouble but if you could borrow it for me I certainly would appreciate the favor.

With kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

Nov. 26, 1947.

Mr. E. C. Krug,
3201 Sterling Rd.,
Birmingham 5, Ala.

Dear Em:

Herewith the two 15¢ 1869 covers from the Fifield sale. Thanks very much for the look at these. You sure did pick up two bargains - Lot 150 is a wonderful color - and superbly centered. This use was Nov. 12, 1870.

Re - Lot 152 - As soon as I looked at this I thought the 10¢ was a grill - hold it to a strong light and look to right of head - there is sure a trace of a grill - I note that Fifield had this listed as 119 plus something he rubbed out which must have been #139" so he must have originally thought it was a grill. About the only way to be sure would be to take the stamp off the cover. The uqestion arises - why 15¢ on a use of Nov. 12, 1870 and 25¢ on a use of Oct 3 (1870?) - I judge this cover was 1870. The only explanation that I can give is that it was a registered letter of 15¢ plus 8¢ with 2¢ overpay - or - that the use was not 1870, but 1871 at which time the rate was 10¢. If so, then perhaps this 15¢ stamp did not originate on this cover, but my guess is that it did and that the cover is O.K. - I have no record of a sailing of the "Thuringa" in October 1870 - Note inside of this cover - some of the black ink was "oily" other strikes were not.

My friend down in Dallas, Dr. Aronson advises me that he does not own your 90¢ 1860 (Ex-West) but that he will try and find out who does.

I want to get this registered off this afternoon so I'll write more tomorrow.

Regards -

Yours etc.,

Sept. 11, 1947.

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

Dear Edson:

Re - the S.U.S. listing of the 5¢ 1847 variety, the "Dot in U." This was first listed in the first edition of the S.U.S. and I judge it was taken from the Chase article of 1916 in the old Philatelic Gazette.

Have you any data on this variety? Do you ever recall seeing a copy? The reason I inquire is because I doubt if you will find that such a stamp was offered in any of the following prominent sales:

Emerson, Rust, Knapp, West, Gibson and Sweet.

Further - I never owned a copy that I can recall.

I am preparing a special article on the 5¢ 1847 in which I am making special mention of this listed variety, and I will appreciate any information that you can give me.

I am also writing to Hatcher, Cole, Costales, Kelleher and Ward regarding the "variety."

With regards -

Cordially yours,

6¢ Air Mail enclosed

Oct. 15, 1947.

Mr. Arthur D. Norcross,
216 E. 18th St.,
New York 3, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Norcross:

Back in 1936 you were kind enough to loan me a 5¢ 1847 plate proof block of 16. I made a photograph of it at that time and this block has been of much assistance to me in my work on the 5¢. Six or seven years ago I suspected that I had discovered the key to the plate positions of your block and recently I discovered evidence that proved that my original plating was undoubtedly correct.

Perhaps you would be interested to learn that your block comes from the left pane and that the positions are 3lL1, etc.

At the time I borrowed your block I failed to make a careful record on diagram cards of all the plating marks and the exact locations of the guide dots. My photograph though quite good fails to show up the latter. May I inquire if you would be kind enough to again loan me the block for study, sometime later on this winter?

May I also inquire if you have acquired any further items in plate proofs and if so, would you be so kind as to loan them to me.

Sincerely yours,

Edson J Fifield

POSTAGE STAMPS OF THE WORLD FOR COLLECTORS

500 FIFTH AVENUE - - - NEW YORK 18, N. Y.

PENNSYLVANIA 6-6885

October 25, 1947

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

Dear Stan:

Mr. Norcross asked if I would reply to your letter of the 15th, as a matter of fact he usually refers letters written directly to him to me.

Mr. Norcross is a very peculiar gentleman. He really wishes to remain anonymous in the stamp field, and sometimes he is rather annoyed in receiving letters, although he is most cooperative. He has made a strict rule that such material as he has in his collection is not for display purposes in any way, and should any item be loaned to me that his name will not appear. With some effort, however, I can procure such items for research. I have done this for Mr. Brazer in the case of proofs, as a matter of fact I have assumed entire responsibility as to whom will receive material. Should you desire the block which you mention, I shall be very glad to et it for you, or any other items that may be in his collection.

I wonder if you would care to let me know just what your decision was on Type 1, 1c imperforate? I was the one who submitted it to the Foundation back in July for a certificate, as I wished to include it in my coming sale of next week. Due to various ifs, ands, etc., I withdrew it from the Foundation before their Expert Committee meeting. As you know, it is the Chase copy, the one pictured in your book. It is now owned by Mr. Lawrence of Sterling, Ill. I assure you your reply will be treated in the utmost confidence.

I did go over my customer's '47 collection for the dot in the "U" variety, which you mentioned a month or so ago, and must apologize for not answering your letter sooner, but I have been up to my neck in preparing auctions and have not had a chance to do anything. However, I found nothing along the line mentioned by you.

Mr. Norcross has added nothing to his proof material in quite some time, and he is quite complete along that line as far as he wishes to go. Should you have anything you believe would be interesting for his collection, I would be awfully glad to have you get in touch with me.

Best regards.

Sincerely,

Edson

EJF:GM

Oct. 27, 1947.

Mr. Edson J. Fifield,
500 Fifth Ave.,
New York 18, N.Y.

Dear Edson:

Yours of the 25th received.

First regarding the 7R1E, one cent 1851 copy. I find that this was sent to me by Boggs under date of August 11th last, with this request, quote: "The Committee would appreciate your opinion on this stamp, particularly, asto whether it is an unused copy."

I recall that I thought that this request was rather strange because they surely had plenty of equipment in the Luff room to determine whether such a copy was used or unused. Why should they ask me? Especially when I am expected not to make any charge for such an examination. The latter does require an expenditure of valuable time.

I made a pencil notation on the slip accompanying the stamp but I did not keep a copy. I recall that I ignored the request for my opinion as to whether the stamp was used or unused. In acknowledging the return of the stamp Boggs wrote : "I notice that you do not say that it is used or unused."

In my very humble opinion, I think that a copy such as this, without the original gum, should not be referred to as "unused" but rather - "without cancelation." I did put the stamp under my Hanovia lamp (no cheap type) and though my examination was brief, I did not note any sign of a removed cancel. I didn't make a note, but I seem to recall that the stamp had a bad thin spot, but my memory may be at fault on this point.

I have an idea that the Committee depends to quite a great extent on the Kershner photographs. I may be wrong but I think that this is a mistake, as many such tests are very misleading.

I had some correspondence with Mr. Norcross back in 1936 or 1937 and at that time he was kind enough to loan me his 5¢ 1847 plate proofs. When I wrote him recently I had no intention of going over your head in any way. If I transgressed in any manner I can assure you that same was not done intentionally.

Yes, I would like to borrow any plate proofs that he has in his collection, also if not requesting too much, all corner and

sheet margin copies of the 5¢. I really am doing some very important work on the 5¢ and have no hesitancy in stating that I have made far more progress than any other student.

My only reward for such work, is the privilege of passing the information on to future stucents and collectors, therefore, I do feel that I am entitled to all the assistance and co-operation that present day collectors can give me.

Regarding the Dot in "U" variety. Did it not occur to you as strange that this listed variety was not represented in the Norcross collection? Believe it or not, no such a variety exists, though it has been listed in the S.U.S. since the first edition in 1923. Rather odd don't you think?

Sincerely yours,

Nov. 7, 1947

Mr. Edson J. Fifield,
500 Fifth Ave.,
New York 18, N.Y.

Dear Edson:

Last December we had some correspondence re - the Newport, R.I. ultramarine on a 10¢ 1847. I have such a cover before me. It is a blue folded letter dated inside Newport, R.I. Aug. 14, 1850. It has a superb copy - four full margins - of the 10¢ tied by an ultramarine grid in upper right. In upper left is the postmark of Newport Aug. 14 R.I. also in ultramarine.

The owner of this cover paid Ernie Jacobs $200.00 for it and he has offered it to me @ $200.00 net. Would your friend be interested? If so, I'll be glad to turn it over to you. I will hold it until I hear from you.

Re - your sale of Nov. 20th. Will you please send me cover #207. I will return it same day of receipt.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

Phone PEnnsylvania 6-6885

New York 18, N. Y., 11/12/47

M. Stanley Ashbrook

EDSON J. FIFIELD
500 FIFTH AVENUE

~~For lots purchased at our~~ for inspection from Nov. 20-21 ..... auction sale, as per your instructions.

TERMS: NET CASH

LOT NO.	PRICE	LOT NO.	PRICE	LOT NO.	PRICE
207					

Issued

Painters are here + my place to be cleaned up for the next ten days —

Will answer your letter shortly

E J F

All stamps remain the property of Edson J. Fifield until paid for in full.

Nov. 24, 1947.

Mr. Edson J. Fifield,
500 Fifth Ave.,
New York 18, N.Y.

Dear Edson:

Did you ever see a 5¢ 1847 tied to cover by a black New York postmark? I am sure that I never saw or heard of such a thing - yet I have just acquired two such covers, both from the same person to the same address, and mailed within a week.

Both are genuine and from an original find. Inasmuch as there is no such an item in the Norcross collection, I thought you might be interested.

Did I mention to you several weeks ago that I had a cover with the 10¢ 1847 (superb) tied by the extremely rare Newport, R.I. ultramarine grid?

With regards -

Yours etc.,

Nov. 2, 1947.

Mr. Harry Weiss,
% Gossip,
Holton, Kansas.

Dear Harry:

I have been following the recent Cole articles on 19th Century U. S. in Gossip, and I note that he has been quite brazen in using material from my books with absolutely no credit to the author. I am wondering if he is aware of the fact that it is only decent and fair to give some credit to the original source for material that is literally lifted from the works of others and brazenly published as his very own.

In all my years in Philately I never heard of this fellow Cole, never had any correspondence with him, hence I judge that his only knowledge of our stamps that he possesses was derived from the studies of various students.

In the current "Gossip" of November 1st, he used material on the One Cent 1857-1860 that has never been published outside of my books on this stamp, yet there is not a word of credit. I think that such an unethical bit of pilfering is simply outrageous and I am disgusted with such a brazen display of bad taste. Never before have I had occasion to enter such a protest as this.

Sincerely yours,

Nov. 9, 1947.

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

Dear Ez:

Do you know Clifford C. Cole, Jr. of Atlanta, Ga. - A.P.S. 8725?

In recent weeks he has been running a column in "Gossip" on 19th and 20th U.S. He has used material from my books as his very own and without a bit of credit to original source. I understand that he also lifted material from the Johl books, almost word for word, without a bit of credit.

I have never had any correspondence with this chap, in fact, never heard of him until his articles appeared in Gossip. If he is the great student of U.S. 19th and 20th that he would have the readers of Gossip believe then he certainly has kept his talents hidden for many years.

Have you ever had any dealings with him?

If you have any "Retaliatory" rate covers will you please send them to me with lowest net prices - also any "Express Mail of 1836-1839" or anything unusual in stampless foreign rate covers.

Regards -

Yours etc.,

Nov. 9, 1947.

Mr. L. G. Brookman,
121 Loeb Arcade,
Minneapolis, Minn.

Dear Les:

I suppose you are a subscriber to Gossip. If so, have you noted the recent articles on 19th by a chap name Cole? Did you note how he used my stuff as his very own and without one word of credit? Harry wrote me that he also lifted material almost word for word from the Johl books. Do you know anything about this fellow?

I note that he is A.P.S. 8725 and resides in Atlanta, Ga. He is listed as a collector of "General 20th."

By the way, my last number of Perry's "Pats" is #49. Has there been any copies published recently?

Yours etc.,

WEEKLY PHILATELIC GOSSIP
KNOWN ROUND THE WORLD
"The Stamp Collectors Magazine"

GOSSIP
PUBLISHERS
and
PRINTERS
HOLTON, KANSAS

HOLTON KANS. 11/4/47

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

Friend Stanley:

Seeing that you gave a fellow a lift when a lift was needed on Mort Nienken's article,per haps you would be interested in having the cut we used with that article.

If so,a line requesting it,will have this cut on its way to you,but quick,with the compliments of our firm.

That was a swell job of plating and the illustration practically tells its own story.

With kind personal regards to you,
Sincerely

Harry

hw mm 2

WEEKLY PHILATELIC GOSSIP
KNOWN ROUND THE WORLD
"The Stamp Collectors Magazine"

GOSSIP
PUBLISHERS
and
PRINTERS
HOLTON, KANSAS

HOLTON KANS. 11/5/47

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

Dear Stanley:

Funny how things happen,here I wrote you yesterday about the Neinken plate and mail the letter and in the same moment along comes your letter.

Clifford C.Cole Jr.,is not an amatuer at writing.Where he gets his information from,I do not know.However as we know this man,he is not the kind of a fellow who would intentionally lift material without a credit line.

Recently on a Russian article I was blamed for writing,what the author thought,was a lift of his material.When the smoke cleared up,it came to light that we both got our information from the notes made by a party giving us both the same notes of his,never thinking either one would use it beyond their own collection.

As I know Mr.Cole,there is only one way to handle this matter.I am sending your letter and a copy of my letter to Mr.Cole.I am of the candid opinion that Mr.Cole can explain to you,either an oversight or the reason why,you were not quoted.

Mr.Cole has proven to be very versatile in his writings.I have respect for your both-a lot of it Stanley and I think it only fair that we hear Mr.Coles side of the story.I know you agree with me on this.

With kindest regards and best wishes
Sincerely

Harry

hw mm 3

Nov. 9, 1947.

Mr. Mortimer L. Neinken,
49 West 23rd St.,
New York 10, N.Y.

Dear Mort:

I have just read your article in the current issue of "Gossip." Congratulations.

In contrast is the article by Cole on page 298. It is quite evident that this chap obtained all the information contained in his article from my book yet he endeavors to give the impression that it is presented first hand.

I dare say that the only thing that he knows about the One Cent is what he has read.

I note that he thinks that the 12¢ 1860, Plate 3 stamps should be given a separate listing. How perfectly absurd. To make a comparison with the 1¢ III and IIIA demonstrates his lack of practical knowledge. His comparison to the 5¢ 1857 colors is even more absurd. Have you ever had any contact with this chap?

Yours etc.,

Nov. 7, 1947.

Mr. Harry Weiss,
% Gossip,
Holton, Kansas.

Dear Harry:

Your two letters received.

Re - the Neinken cut. Thanks very much for your kindness but I really do not know what I would do with the cut. I certainly appreciate the thought.

Re - the Cole matter. Before Mort Neinken wrote his articles for Gossip he inquired if I had any objection to his use of material from my various books. I gladly told him to go ahead and use anything he wished. I didn't think it was even necessary to ask him to give credit where credit was due. I figure that a chap who plays the game on the square does not need to be reminded of such things. God only knows I am not touchy on the use of my material by my friends or people who are known to me, but I never had any correspondence with Cole, in fact, never even heard of him that I recall, until his recent series of articles appeared in "Gossip."

To simply lift material from my One Cent Book, as he did in the last number of Gossip, and never give a bit of credit for the source is about as brazen a bit of placiarism as I have seen in a long while. The only way I can figure this unethical act is that he simply did not know any better. I am positive that you do not approve of such tactics.

We have too damn many writers in philately, and most of the stuff that is dished out is just pure bunk. For example, that greasy kyke Konwiser. He has the idea that he should have an article in each number of every philatelic journal published. And did you ever read any of his stuff that was worth a damn. Then there is his yiddish pal Rich, who attempts to write on subjects of which he has no first-hand knowledge whatsoever. He is one of those lunatics who thinks he can read what others have written on a controversial subject and then come up with the 100% correct solution.

Consider this last article by Cole. He gives the impression that he is familiar with the various plates of the One Cent 1857, yet I doubt if he could even identify the types of a great many stamps much less the plates from which they originate. It has been my experience that "compilers" are generally that way.

I wish someone would be so kind as to inform me as to just what is the object of such people. Why do they feel the urge to write? Why do "compilers" believe that they can tell a story better than the original sources of their material?

With regards -

Cordially yours,

Nov. 12, 1947.

Mr. Harry Weiss,
% Gossip,
Holton, Kansas.

Dear Harry:

I didn't think that I could be wrong about Cole. A person who would be brazen enough to steal material as he did without proper credit would be capable of writing a nasty letter like this.

It sort of reminds me of the stuff turned out by Steve Rich and Konwiser.

Naturally I will make no reply but please return it.

Sincerely yours,

WEEKLY PHILATELIC GOSSIP
KNOWN ROUND THE WORLD
"The Stamp Collectors Magazine"

GOSSIP
PUBLISHERS
and
PRINTERS
HOLTON, KANSAS

HOLTON KANS. 11/15/47

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

Dear Stanley:

Thank you for your letter with enclosure from Clifford C.Cole Jr.,to which I am making no comment.

I would be glad to have an article from you on that point,so well expressed by you in your recent letters and it could be entitled"Credit where Credit is due".

It could be impersonal-put over the thought- and land where it would do the most good.

Foreign journals need very little staffing- they just cop on to what appears in our publications and call it an issue.Great business we are in.

Best wishes to you
Sincerely

Harry

hw mm 2

Nov. 19, 1947.

Mr. Harry Weiss,
℅ Gossip,
Holton, Kansas.

My dear Harry:

Your two letters of the 11th and 15th received.

I will not make any reply to Mr. Cole as life is too short to get into arguments with his type. We have a lot of S.O.B.'s in this game and I try my best to steer clear of them. If he made any reference to my studies of the 1851-1857 issues then I failed to see the number. I made inquiry down East about Mr. Cole and the reports that I received were anything but flattering. Let us hope that the protest that I made will be a timely warning to him.

Thanks very much for your invitation to write an article as suggested, but I think it best that I stick to my knitting and avoid all subjects other than philatelic studies.

As Editor of Gossip, I think that you could write a far better "Credit where Credit is Due" than I could. You could avoid reference to the Cole matter but you could sound a timely warning to Philatelic plagrarism and that how utterly dishonorable such practices really are., I certainly wouldn't even mention American Philately in the same breath with Foreign Philately. On the Continnt it is and always has been about 90% a regular gyp game.

Regarding those two gutter-snipes down East. One is a mental case - just a fool - with a head shaped exactly like an egg. The other is not crazy by any means but vicious - just as vicious as his type can be. The Stern Gang for instance. Vicious in an underhanded sneaking way. He wouldn't dare to say to a man's face what he puts on paper. That pair is a disgrace to all that is fine and decent in American Philately.

Cordially yours,

WEEKLY PHILATELIC GOSSIP
KNOWN 'ROUND THE WORLD
"The Stamp Collectors Magazine"

GOSSIP
PUBLISHERS
and
PRINTERS
HOLTON, KANSAS

HOLTON KANS. 11/11/47

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

Dear Stanley:

I am in receipt of a letter from Clifford C.Cole,Jr.,which is rather short.The enclosed carbon copy of the letter to you,however,has been carefully noted.

Am inclined to think that in that particular case,he overlooked giving the credit to you,the source of his information.He has given you and others credit often,as you no doubt have noted.

I do hope you take Cole at his word.An oversight can easilly be made- and all collectors would know your finding,if they were translated in Hindustan!

The two Pigeons you mention(pardon the expression,Gentlemen is not a fitting word) have also gotten under my hide and have given me the itch!But I hold back,why work oneslf up into a lather?Life is too short!

Regarding your question as to why some people love to write when they know nothing about what they are writing about?Why is it that some people talk about some thing that they do not know what they are talking about? I nominate for the head of the class the two of"Gods chosen people"whom we have mentioned for some time past.

Why not do a script for us on the subject "It pays to be ignorant"Get a good mad on first to get yourself in the mood!Thats what I do to get a little local color-then give out.Sure we will run it!

And my kindest regards and best wishes to you Stanley.I have always admired your book,your writings and yourself.Philately needs men like you.

Cordially

Harry

hw mm 2

CLIFFORD C. COLE, JR.
2835 ARDEN ROAD, N. W.
ATLANTA, GEORGIA
Nov. 9, 1947.

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

Dear Sir;

Mr. Harry Weiss, Editor of "Weekly Philatelic Gossip" informs me that you have written him in regard to alleged use of some of your material on the 1¢ 1857-61 Issue without suitable acknowledgment. He encloses to me your letter and a copy of his answer to you.

I don't know the specific point that you accuse me of lifting, but I believe you are wrong in accusing me of failing to acknowledge you as a recognized authority on these issues, for I have done so specifically on seven occasions, as follows: The issue of "Gossip" for Aug. 9, 1947; Sept. 13, 1947; Sept. 27, 1947 (twice in the same article; Oct. 11, 1947 (twice in the same article); and the seventh time just to hand in the Nov. 8, 1947 issue.

You apparently have lost sight of the fact that my articles are continued from week to week, and if in discussing say the 1¢ 1851-57 I mention certain things in the first part of the article as coming from your research, I do not believe I should have to repeat this in the continuation of the article a week or two later.

That you have never heard of me and thus judge that I must get my information from the writings of other students is unfair as it implies that no one can study U. S. stamps without your hearing of him.

You specifically mention the Nov. 1, 1947 article, and I have painstakingly gone over this to identify my sources. Not that I feel in any way obliged to disclose these to you, I will nevertheless do so. The data on perforating came from the Stanley Gibbons, Ltd. Catalog. The data on Toppan, Carpenter & Co. regarding perforating is partly from Luff, partly from the wording of the contract between the Post Office Department and that company, and partly of study of the actual stamps in relation to the efforts of that engraving concern to overcome their difficulties with perforating. The point about a new transfer roll for the manufacture of Plate IV was from Mortimer Neinken's article which I duly acknowledged in the issue of Sept 13, 1947. The data on Plate IL, II and IV being issued perforated is from my own observations and the use of the Scott Catalog. The plate positions of the various types perforated is from the Scott United States Stamp Catalog. The data on the perforating wheels being spaced differently on the early perforating of Plate IV was

from observation of the write-up of Mr. Saul Newbury's collection containing the famous 1¢ Type IA and IC, positions 94, 95 and 96 from the right pane of Plate IV (and which information I also separately acknowledged), plus discussion of this stamp with Mr. M. Hubert Judd who also owns a superb copy of Type IA perforated with wide spacing, which stamp I have very carefully examined.

Thus there is nothing in the article of Nov. 1, 1947 which as far as I can see even requires acknowledgment to you.

Your statement that I have without proper credit "lifted from the works of others and brazenly published as his very own" is totally without justification, as in addition to you and Mr. Neinken I have repeatedly mentioned the works of Ward, Johl, Konwiser, Chase, Perry, Bartels, Luff, Brookman and others.

Whether you care to apologize to me is of little consequence as I am big enough to overlook small matters. But I believe you owe Mr. Weiss an apology for inferring that he would condone the writings of an associate editor as brazen and pilfering as you acuse me of being.

Yours very truly,

C. C. Cole, Jr.
A. P. S. 8725
Regional Governor.

cc to Mr. Harry Weiss.

Nov. 9, 1947.

Mr. Max G. Johl,
Trails Corner,
Groton, Conn.

Dear Max:

For the past month or so, a chap by the name of Clifford C. Cole, Jr. has been publishing a page in "Gossip" each week on 19th and 20th U.S.

This chap has based about 95% of his published notes on material lifted from my various books and published articles, without any permission from me or without a word of credit to the source of vast knowledge of United States stamps. I understand that he also lifted material practically word for word from your books and writings but I fail to note any credit to you, or for that matter to anyone else.

I am wondering if you know this chap? His picture in "Gossip" shows quite a pretty boy, in fact, one pretty enough to wear lace on his panties.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

MAX G. JOHL
Treasurer
P. O. Box 203
Groton, Conn.

1847 1947
CENTENARY
100
INTERNATIONAL
PHILATELIC
EXHIBITION

HEADQUARTERS
COLLECTORS CLUB BLDG.
22 EAST 35TH STREET
NEW YORK, 16, N. Y.
TEL. MURRAY HILL 3-0559

November 25, 1947

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

Dear Stan,

This will answer yours of November 9 in regard to the column in "Gossip" of Clifford C. Cole, Jr., in which you called my attention to the fact that he has lifted material from your books as well as mine. I have paid no attention to his column. I will do so however.

I don't know if there is anything we can do about it, but perhaps a letters from you to "Gossip" might cause them to check material. It is hard to tell what these magazines might do. If you should write to "Gossip please keep me informed.

The family joins me in sending regards to all of the Ashbrooks.

Sincerely yours,

Max G. Johl

MGJ:lm

Nov. 29, 1947.

Mr. Max G. Johl,
Trails Corner,
Groton, Conn.

Dear Max:

Yours received.

I seldom pay any attention to the chaps who are petty theives, and we have plenty of them, but when a fellow like Clifford Cole, Jr. takes it upon himself to simply help himself without any apology, or credit, I think he should be called down. From the brazen manner in which this fellow helped himself I assumed that he was simply a louse and, of course, I was 100% right. I wrote a strong protest to Harry Weiss, the Editor of "Gossip" and he sent my letter to Cole.

Instead of writing me an apology for his detestable plagarism he wrote me a nasty letter and had the nerve to demand an apology. His picture in "Gossip" is the pretty boy type, and pretty boys from Fairyland generally have detestable dispositions, write nasty letters, and have poison tongues. For example, the old poison-tongue crimson rambler from Boston. I always was leary of her.

Maybe the protest I made to Weiss will have some effect - We will see.

I note that I have written quite a lengthy note, but the gist of it is this - We, you and I, really should not let these pretty boys get away with such stuff.

Our regards and best wishes to the Johl family.

Cordially yours,

Monday, 2/3/47

Dear Stanley:

It was nice to hear from you again. At last accounts you were all tied up with house repairs with no hope in sight. I hope that your labors in that direction are finished satisfactorily.

Regarding the two covers from Freeport Ills. to Philadelphia, Pa. 1615 Chestnut St.

These appear to be in the same class as the two that I showed you,

[1] Boxford Mass., Sept. 3 (1862) 1¢ + 3¢ 1861
to Miss Isie F. Whitman
care of Mr. C. E Allyn
143 Washington St.,
Boston, Mass.

[2] Rockville Md. Oct. 23 (?) 1¢ + 3¢ 1861
to same address

The suggestion that these covers, the two that you describe and my two, represent Carrier Delivery Fee does not appeal to me. There is nothing on the cover to indicate to the postmaster at destination that the sender was prepaying the carrier delivery fee. How was the postmaster in Philadelphia to know that the 1¢ stamp had not done its service in Freeport Ills? It was canceled there! For all he knew the 1¢ stamp had paid a way or collection fee in Freeport. And how did the carrier in Philly get his penny for delivering the letter?

I agree that the "1615 Chestnut St." indicates that the letter was intended

to be delivered and probably was delivered but till but the carrier collected a penny from Lizzie.

I do not take the position that Carrier Delivery Fees could not be prepaid but I want better evidence that than the four covers under discussion.

I agree that prepaid carrier delivery is a possible explanation but it is not the only one. The covers prove nothing.

The Congress meeting in Boston was very pleasant. I met a number of collectors whom I had only known through correspondance. Whether or not I can get to the N.Y. Show is undecided. If you are planning to attend please let me

Know. That would be a real attraction

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Arthur

Feb. 7, 1947.

Mr. Arthur R. Davis,
76 Brooks St.,
West Medford, Mass.

Dear Arthnn:

Yours of the 3rd received and carefully noted. How is this for a thought to combat some of the doubts expressed in your letter.

Suppose for example, the P.O.D. at Washington in the sixties wished to provide the public with means to enable them to prepay a delivery fee on a letter, don't you suppose they would have found a way to do so?

No one so far has been able to produce a bit of evidence that the P.O.D. stated to the public:

"You can prepay a collection (box) fee - in fact you must do so, but don't you dare to try to prepay a delivery fee." And further, would it have been too much trouble for the postmaster at Freeport, Ill. to have put a memo on those two 3¢ plus 1¢ letters that were mailed at his office to this effect:

"To the P.M. at Philadelphia.
Please note this letter - this 1¢ stamp was put on to pay the delivery fee in your city."

We find no such a memo on covers, but there was evidently no regulation requiring postmasters to mark on letters that the one cent stamp prepaid a delivery fee.

Do you believe that the P.O.D. did not want the public to prepay carrier delivery fees? If so, then it would be rather hard to change your opinion. But if prepayment of postage was highly desirable why was it undesirable to have the carrier delivery fee also prepaid? I think that that is the big point and surely if it was desirable to have the delivery fee prepaid then my guess is that there were enough brains in the Department to provide ways and means that this could be done. I will appreciate your further comments.

Cordially yours,

ROBERT F. CHAMBERS
254 IRVING AVENUE
PROVIDENCE 6, R.I.

Jan 8/47

Dear Stan.

I have just read your 1860-63 article in the "Specialist" and want to congratulate on a very interesting and lucid article.

The only thing that troubles me is in respect to the second ¶ on Page 103. How did the postmaster in Bay Howell know whether the extra 1¢ had already paid the carrier fee in Chicago or was to pay the delivery fee in Towner? There must have been some way of telling and the only way I can think of is that such letters were made into a separate packet accompanied by a "way bill" stating that it was a

prepayment of the delivery fee.
This would be a very complicated and arduous task for the Chicago office and I don't believe it ever was done. What's your theory?

Your #1 cover is a dandy and is the first I have ever seen for 5¢ rate.

I endorse an item of no special consequence except that it shows that the 1¢ 1857 was apparently legal in Sept. on Sept 30, 1861. Return at your convenience.

Sincerely

Bob.

Jan. 10, 1947.

Mr. Robert F. Chambers,
254 Irving Ave.,
Providence 6, R.I.

Dear Bob:

Thanks so much for your kind letter of the 8th.

I need not tell you how much I value your opinion on any effort of mine for I have great respect for your philatelic knowledge.

I also had a nice letter from Tudor and I have just written him quite a long letter, a copy of which I am enclosing herewith. As I mentioned to Tudor I will welcome criticism of any thoughts expressed in the letter. You both have been of much assistance to me on this 3¢ plus 1¢ subject and I feel very strongly that we have the situation rather well in hand. My thanks to you both.

I was so pleased to see the cover you enclosed and which I am returning herewith. My guess is that rather than argue about the 1¢ 1857 they let it go as is, and thereby avoided the trouble of trying to collect another penny for Uncle Sam. After all, he had already been paid for this stamp so why let a few days make any particular difference. In addition it was addressed to a Minister of the Gospel and as it developed later it was from one, so in those dark days of 1861 why bother about a penny.

If this was put in a box in New York, then the 1¢ paid the collection fee, but on the other hand, what if it was taken to the New York P.O. and mailed like any ordinary 3¢ letter. In such an event, it doubtless would have paid the delivery fee, as I wrote Tudor. However, the chances are many to one (?) that it was a New York box letter, because there is no Baltimore street address.

Re - the second paragraph on page 103. I believe that the Hennan cover (Fig. 11) was a prepaid collection fee - and also that the Chicago "Compound" was in the same class.

Do you consider that the "A" and "B" explanation in my letter to Tudor might answer your query? As far as I know, I do not believe that 1¢ stamps were permitted to pay carrier fees in Lowell, but why, I cannot answer.

With best wishes for 1947, I am

Cordially yours,

~~MRS.~~ E. TUDOR GROSS 16 SOUTH ANGELL STREET PROVIDENCE 6, RHODE ISLAND

Tuesday Eve

Dear Stan

Just read your "3¢ Plus 1, 2 Plus 1¢" in the Stamp Specialist, loaned me by Bob this P.M. We both have been laid up with bad colds. I think you have done a swell job, and if I am not mistaken my article in Mekeels a few years ago touched off the powder. Certainly Elliott Perry didn't agree with me and later on he didn't agree with you.

There is one point that Bob & I have discussed frequently, and here is where the real nut of the cocanut comes in:

I suppose that two men, A & B, both residents of New York City,

would probably tell the Boston PM that the Extra, 2 stamps paid the carrier delivery fee in Boston, provided he hadn't carelessly over paid.)

Your covers in your article are most interesting, and I am honored to be included with the elect. I am enclosing 2 covers for your eagle eye. I am doubtful about the New Haven, although it came from a very old correspondent. The Brooklyn however, intrigues me. Never heard of a carrier from Brooklyn, but this looks ok by me.

What say?

Congratulations on your fine article.

Tudor "Leeds" Fox

wrote the same man in Boston, at his street address, on the same day. One, lets say "A," took his letter in person to the main Post Office and placed a 1¢ & 2¢ stamp on the cover. He 3¢ paid the postage and the 1¢ paid the delivery fee in Boston. Mr "B" was lazy and mailed his cover in a street box. He put on a 2¢ stamp for postage, a 1¢ stamp for collection fee, and another 1¢ stamp for the delivery fee in Boston.

How could the Boston post-master know that Mr "A" had not paid the collection fee, and that his 1¢ stamp was to pay the delivery fee? There would be nothing on the cover to show this.

In the case of Mr "B" it

Jan. 10, 1947.

Mr. E. Tudor Gross,
16 Angell St.,
Providence 6, R.I.

Dear Tudor:

Thanks very much for your welcome note of the 7th which I hasten to answer as I am leaving for the south to see my eldest brother who is not in good health. I will only be gone about ten days or two weeks.

First, let me thank you for your kind words about my article. This was written over a year ago and I really had to read it over to see what I thought about such problems a year ago. I found that I had not turned up very much additional evidence that was important.

Yes, I recollect that your article in Mekeels several years or more did start quite an argument. Perry became so provoked because I would not yes him that he got a trifle rough in print and as a result I simply cut him off my list. There is nothing that irritates me quite as much as the habit some people have of trying to belittle a person in print who does not agree with them, by the use of innuendos, wise-cracks and Smart-Aleck remarks. I do not know who is the worst offender of the trio of Rich, Perry and Konwiser.

With these personalities off my chest, here goes for some of the points raised in your letter.

I have given quite a lot of thought to the 3¢ plus 1¢ subject and the various problems concerning same, and I believe that the very meat of the subject is in the following:

Did the Post Office Department prohibit the public from prepaying the carrier delivery fee?

Those who agree with Elliott Perry would have to answer yes, while those who agree with me would have to answer no. First, regarding the Perry theory. Prepayment of the collection fee was required. If this was advantageous then why would it have been advantageous to prohibit the payment of the delivery fee? If it was more advantageous to have collections of regular postage made on delivery of same then why did the P.O.D. struggle for years to educate the public to prepay mail? I believe that if it was advantageous to the Department to have the public prepay regular postage that it was likewise most agreeable to them to have the public prepay the carrier delivery to domicle fee.

With the above thoughts in mind I can answer your "A" and "B" example in this way. If the P.O.D. preferred to have both the collection and delivery fees prepaid, then I judge they had some system to identify such prepayments.

I only wish I knew how such mail as you cite was actually handled but unfortunately we have no direct evidence at the present time. Perhaps in the future we will turn up some such evidence that will be conclusive and that hope is one reason why I try to keep this subject before the collecting public.

Believe me Tudor, I have no desire to prove that I am right or that Elliott is wrong but rather to prove the truth, and if I can help Elliott to prove the truth and prove that he was right and I was wrong, I can honestly state that I would be delighted to do so. After all, it is no disgrace to be wrong, provided that one was honest in believing that he was right.

It appears that the 1¢ stamp was only used in a few cities to pay carrier fees. For example, Cincinnati was a large city in the late fifties and early sixties, and had carrier service. I cannot understand why we do not see any Cincinnati covers with the 3¢ plus 1¢. Now I do not know the answer, I am sure, but there surely must be one. I mention this point because it may have some important bearing on the subject as a whole. It would appear that only in certain carrier cities that the 1¢ postage stamp was permitted to be used to pay the carrier fee. I wonder why?

Further regarding your two New York residents, known as "A" and "B". Both wrote to the same person at the same street address in Boston on the same day. "A" took his letter to the main P.O. in New York and placed a 3¢ plus 1¢ stamp on it. In this case it was deposited in the New York P.O. along with regular 3¢ mail to Boston, but perhaps the clerk noting that extra one cent realized, or knew very well, that it was purposely placed on the letter to prepay Boston carrier delivery, hence it was handled in such a way as to insure that service.

As compared to the above, suppose "A" had placed his Boston letter in a letter-box with a 3¢ plus 1¢. When it was turned into the Post Office it went along with the regular 3¢ mail to Boston. It was not put into a channel that would have informed the Boston office that the Boston carrier delivery had been prepaid. I sure do think that we always have to consider the human element, and to use some common sense. When a person advances the theory that while the collection fee had to be prepaid, the delivery fee was not permitted to be prepaid, I think that said person is not using common sense and it seems sort of senseless to argue with such. And further, I believe that if the Department desired people to prepay both fees, (collection and delivery) whenever possible, that they certainly provided the means whereby such service was carried out.

Regarding the two covers that you sent me and which I return herewith. I doubt very much if the New Haven cover is O.K. With neither stamp tied there is no way to judge how this cover was when it was mailed. Wouldn't it be nice if there was no such an animal as

a philatelic faker? They really cause me a lot of hard work.

3¢ plus 1¢ Brooklyn items are not exactly scarce as I have seen quite a few, I suppose. At any rate, I have not taken the trouble to photograph all that came under my observation. Taxing my memory, I suppose that Baltimore 3¢ plus 1¢ are actually more elusive than Brooklyn. See my One Cent Book - Vol. 2 - page 156 - Fig. 46 JJ. Your cover is perfectly good.

I am taking the liberty of sending Bob a copy of this letter as I am leaving Monday for a little vacation of ten days or two weeks and I am trying to clean my desk before I leave.

Needless to state I will gladly welcome criticism by you both, of any thoughts expressed in this letter.

Thanks so much for your kind words.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

E. TUDOR GROSS 16 SOUTH ANGELL STREET PROVIDENCE 6, RHODE ISLAND

Friday P.M.

Hey Stan.

Your last letter very interesting as the covers certainly have the earmarks of the earliest delivery fee. I assumed they were both written by the same person although about four months apart. Certainly Freeport, Ill. had no delivery or collection fee, as it was not big enough for either service by carriers. The 1857 was therefore not a collection fee to the post office in Freeport.

There is still the old argument that letters were sometimes mailed with over payment of postage, due to ignorance of the rate or sheer

penny-post ken here today? Of
course this harked back, as I said in
my article, to the days before July 1,
1863 (I wasn't born then) when
the letter carrier received one cent
for bringing the letter to our house.
I assume my mother paid him in
cash at the door. Before 1860 the
carrier would have received 2 cents,
the English equivalent of a penny.
When the rate was changed to one
cent, the old name of "penny-post"
still continued, and we all know that
we refer today to a copper cent as
"one penny". In other words our
penny or cent is worth only one
half of the English penny.

Your articles and mine have shown
photos of covers to domicile addressed,
having the 1¢ x 3 stamp very possibly
free collection fees, but sadly, by
the same token, were delivery fees.
It still remains unfortunate that

carelessness. We do know, however, that Philadelphia had a carrier system, which I construe was both for collection and delivery.

In my article in Stamps, March 27, 1943, I refer to Perry's account in your Vol II book, Page 147, in which he states that "it was not customary to prepay the (delivery) fee. The fee was collected in cash on delivery, or by charge account."

While I thoroughly agree with you that there appears to be no prohibition by the government, of paying the delivery fee in advance (and the correspondence plus 3 embossed envelopes from it) we do know that when we were boys the postman still was called the "penny-post". I remember well that my mother would frequently ask me, "Has the

there is nothing on these latter covers to designate a "delivery" fee. Your Freeport letters, to me, clearly show what we have both been driving at, and I think Miss Taylor, in getting her letters at 1615 Chestnut St., Philadelphia did not have to pay one cent to get them. That fee was undoubtedly paid in Freeport, and the Phila P. M. reimbursed the carrier out of his treasury. Here again comes up the old question of accounting to Washington, but I think, although we haven't been able to prove it, that it was perfectly possible. Some of the covers we have been studying raise a question, but the Freeport ones seem fairly clear. That's my reaction to date and we hope we can both dig out absolute proof if we keep on trying. See you in May, I hope.

Tudor

Feb. 5, 1947.

Mr. E. Tudor Gross,
16 South Angell St.,
Providence 6, R.I.

My dear Tudor:

I have read your letter of the 31st over several times and with much interest.

I am sure that if we keep on plugging we will be able to eventually establish the truth. Naturally I feel that I have been right and Perry has been wrong but who is right or wrong is entirely beside the point. What we want is the truth - the correct solution - and to me little else is of any concern. I really do not know of anyone who agrees with Perry but that is also immaterial. Inasmuch as the question was raised then I believe that the truth should be established, provided it is possible.

I was impressed with one point in your letter - that pertaining to the accounting, because we may be able to eventually obtain some very valuable evidence in copies of quarterly reports filed at Washington by postmasters of cities that had Carrier Delivery Service, such as Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington. I am listing offices where one cent stamps were permitted to pay Carrier fees.

In the Annual Report of the Postmaster General for 1862 (fiscal year end June 30th), a table is given which is headed,

NO.4

Stated of the number of letters, circulars, newspapers and pamphlets received and delivered by carriers, and the amount received and paid out for carriage, in cities named below for the year ending June 30, 1862.

The list of cities given in this table is as follows:

(1) New York, N.Y.
(2) Philadelphia
(3) Boston
(4) Baltimore
(5) Washington

We have covers showing 3¢ plus 1¢ 1861 from all of the above but I have never seen any from the balance of the list:

(6) St. Louis
(7) Kingston, Pa. (error for kensington, Pa.)
(8) Harrisburg, Pa.
(9) Lowell, Mass.
(10) Manchester, N.H.
(11) Providence, R.I.

I sure would like to see a 3¢ plus 1¢ 1861 cover from 6 - 8 - 9 - 10 and 11. I am not exactly sure whether I have seen one (3¢ '61 plus 1¢) from #7, but I have seen a cover with a 3¢ '57 plus 1¢ '57 from Kensington. As you are aware this town is now part of Philadelphia.

With best of wishes -

Cordially yours,

Heyliger and Clara de Windt
140 Beacon Street
Boston, Massachusetts

February 21 '47

Dear Stan -

Thanks for letter and check -

Regarding the second paragraph of your letter - I think you are full of prunes. In speaking of 3¢ plus 1¢ mailed in New York to a street address in Boston - both stamps cancelled in New York. Now in K- is the mailman in Boston to know whether the letter was mailed in the New York Post Office or in a letter box in New York? The stamps are

To be cancelled in New York and "done for" as far as Boston is concerned when the letter reaches the Boston post office —

If you want to be consistent — If the New York office had cancelled only the three cent stamp — and let the letter come here with the 1¢ unused — you might have something (except for the fact that I don't know how the Boston office would ever collect the 1¢ for delivering the letter — Took entries would eat up many times one cent!). I think you are going way out in left field and looking trouble.

Here's a beautiful "fake" cancel — want it for your reference collection - $3.50 Note those who genuinely cancelled mail had done as good a job.

Haven't you someone who will pay your figures for the TRIE?

Regards Hey

Feb. 12, 1947.

Mr. Heyliger de Windt,
140 Beacon St.,
Boston, Mass.

Dear Hey:

Yours of the 9th received.

Herewith check for $15.00. Thanks for the favor.

I am returning the 3¢ plus 1¢ as it would not help me. I note that it has a street address in Boston and this might be a bit of evidence that the 1¢ was intended to pay the delivery fee. I believe that if a letter like this was deposited in the New York P.O. (not in a letter-box), that the clerks would not be so dumb as to not realize that the extra penny was intended to prepay the delivery fee in Boston. This was a free country in those days and if a person wnated to do such a thing there was no law - or Post Office order - or reason, why he was not permitted to do so. I do not know how such mail was handled - I only wish that I did - but if the clerks at the N.Y. P.O. realized why the 1¢ stamp was attached and they thought that the Boston clerks were so dumb as to not realize the significance of the 1¢ prepayment, that they could have written a note stating: "This 1¢ stamp prepays the delivery fee."

There are a lot of dumb clucks in this game who do not appreciate the fact that if a certain system was desirable that ways and means could have been found to put such a system into effect by the P.O.D. Surely the prepayment of the delivery fee was highly desirable to the P.O.D. but there was no law to compell the public to do this.

The Express Mail of 1863-1839 was a "special service" - that is a Fast Mail, and triple postage was charged, but the Express Mail handstamps of the 1840's and 1850's referred to railroad mail and it was not a special service, hence no extra postage was charged. I suppose the term was used because the early R.R. mail was a fast mail. Such handstamps were used exclusively by postal clerks traveling certain R.R. mail routes, as for example, between New York and Boston and Albany and Buffalo.

I never knew that a postmaster could frank an Express

Mail (1836-1839) letter and I am not quite satisfied that he was permitted to do so. The only evidence that I have is the cover that you sent me. The town where the cover originated was not on the E.M. route, hence it had to go regular mail to St. Louis. Therefore, the question can well be raised - Did St. Louis send it via the E.M.?

Regards to you both.

Cordially yours,

Feb. 25, 1947.

Mr. Heyliger de Windt,
140 Beacon St.,
Boston, Mass.

Dear Hey:

I am returning the 1¢ 1857. Thanks but not interested.

Also thanks for the photo which I will return if you wish. It seems to me that if a person had as much as $1,000 to invest in a rare stamp that he would have enough brains to demand a copy that was not damaged, that is, with the most important part of the design missing. And one more comment. Perhaps I am full of prunes, (I had never thought of such a thing before), but even if I am, I doubt if it is at all welcome to be informed of the fact. In discussing the 3¢ plus 1¢ problem with you, I should have realized that I was discussing the matter with one who had really had little experience with the subject. It is a mistake that I will not repeat.

Yours etc.,

Photo Made
JAN 24 1947

David T. Beals, III
1401 Dunford Circle
Kansas City, Missouri

Jan 19th

Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

This morning I was going over one of my columns with Mr. W. C. Micheals, as I have done periodically ever since he introduced me to the hobby some 20 years ago when I was 10 yrs old.

Mr. Micheals had just finished reading your article in the "Stamp Specialist" on the 3¢ plus 1¢ rate. He was interested in the enclosed cover and asked that I send it for your inspection. I am happy to do this, and hope it may prove of interest.

We found that Montgomery County was doubtless Philadelphia, but couldn't locate Kensington. Unfortunately I have no recollection of how or where I acquired it. I'm sure we would both be interested in any remarks which you may have on it.

Sincerely,
David T. Beals III

xxxxxxxxxxx 33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.,

Dec. 23, 1946.

Mr. Edson J. Fifield,
500 Fifth Ave.,
New York 18, N.Y.

Dear Edson:

Thanks for your note of the 18th.

In the Knapp First Sale - Lot 2284 was a 5¢ plus 10¢ 1847 cover. Do you recall it? I am wondering if you have any idea there this cover is at present. I am wondering if you remember the cover and if you thought it was O.K.

With Holiday Greetings, I am

Cordially yours,

Edson J Fifield

POSTAGE STAMPS OF THE WORLD FOR COLLECTORS

500 FIFTH AVENUE - - - NEW YORK CITY

PENNSYLVANIA 6-6885

December 27, 1946

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

Stan:

Dear ~~Mr. Ashbrook~~:

Replying to your letter of the 23rd, I have checked on Lot No. 2284 in the Knapp sale, and frankly do not recall this item at all, but it does seem to me that some years back, right after the Brown sale, a cover on this order was offered to me at about $900. I am sorry my mind is not fresher as to the addressee.

Best holiday greetings.

Sincerely,

Edson

EJF:GM

PHILIP H. WARD, JR.
1616 WALNUT STREET
PHILADELPHIA 3

January 28, 1947

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

Dear Stan:

I am writing Souren again today regarding the photograph you want and I hope to have a reply very soon. I know he has been neglecting stamps entirely here of late and I do not believe he is doing much with his photograph business.

Sincerely yours,

PHILIP H. WARD, JR.

PHW,JR:rmw

Feb. 26, 1947.

Mr. Harry L. Lindquist,
2 W. 46th St.,
New York 19, N.Y.

Dear Harry:

Will you do me a favor? Will you write your friend George S. Hill and inquire if he ever saw a Philadelphia postmark like the one on the cover in the First Knapp Sale, Lot #2284. This marking reads,

PHILA PA
JUN
20
15CTS

Will you also publish in your Old Sleuth Column - that a reader of Stamps has written in and made the same inquiry. Mention that "Stamps" will welcome any information on the subject.

If you have a Knapp (1st sale) catalogue, look up the illustration - page 277 - This cover was a fake and the postmark was originally "5cts" and was painted in as "15cts," and a 10 1847 was added. The fake sold @ $325.00. Just imagine!! Knapp never doubted that it was O.K.

All of the above is confidential.

Thanks in advance.

Cordially yours,

March 4, 1947.

Mr. Harry L. Lindquist,
2 W. 46th St.,
New York 19, N.Y.

Dear Harry:

Your two letters of the 27th received.

I am enclosing an illustration of the Knapp cover, to which I referred. Originally this cover had a 5¢ 1847 - same being the regular 5¢ shore-to-ship fee. The Philadelphia p.m. read, "5CTS." Some crook added the 10¢ and painted a "1" before the "5CTS" converting it into "15CTS" and the cover sold @ $325.00. I am positive that Ned thought that this cover was absolutely good.

Several months ago I discovered a similar item in the Waterhouse collection but in that case the crook took a stampless cover with the "5CTS" postmark, added a 5¢ and 10¢ 1847 and put a "1" before the "5CTS." Waterhouse really got peeved when he found out that I questioned his cover and at last accounts I believe that he still claims that it is O.K.

As you are aware, all 19th U. S. items sent to the Royal are passed on to Sir N. and he is about as capable to pass on some items as Tony Russo in Chicago or Ezra Cole in New York. The latter thinks he is thoroughly competent but he is only kidding himself.

No, I did not bring this "15CTS" postmark to the attention of Konwiser in any way. I never refer anything to him even in a most indirect manner, as I have no respect whatsoever for his knowledge on any subject.

I was pleased to learn that Admiral Harris is taking over the chairmanship of the Jury. No better choice could possibly have been made.

I had a lot of correspondence with A.F.L. last summer and fall and he rather amazed me on certain bits of data that he had. Though he did not state where he had obtained his information I was quite suspicious that he was consulting with Perry. I suppose that he had that right but I thought he should have told me and not to have tried to lead me to believe that he was well posted on certain obscure points. He was awfully hard to convince that he was at times wrong in his opinions. How will his passing affect Boggs?

I sent the Colson Bulletin to Ward. After thinking the matter over I have decided that I will take your advice and not waste any time with a reply. Surely no one pays any attention to the old redhead any more, except possibly to laugh at him.

I would like to enter a subscription to the next four numbers of the "STAMP SPECIALIST" for the following:

MR. H. O. VENDELSKOV
Roligheds vej 22
Kobenhavn V
Denmark.

I do not know what the foreign rate is so let me know and I will remit. You can start the subscription with the India Book. Will you please write him and advise him that you are sending him the copy and that his subscription has been entered.

Also mention Brookman's new book and that I entered his order with you for a copy when published. Also mention the new Johl book and ask him if he would like to enter his order for a copy.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

Feb. 26, 1947.

Mr. Harry A. Dunsmoor,
Union Bldg.,
Syracuse, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Dunsmoor:

I am doing a rather important bit of research work on several Philadelphia postmarks, and I would like to borrow covers showing the type as per photograph herewith. Can you help me? If so, I will greatly appreciate the favor.

Incidentally did you ever see this particular type with "15cts" instead of "5cts?" It is said to exist but I doubt it.

With kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

March 3, 1947.

Mr. Philip H. Ward, Jr.,
1616 Walnut St.,
Philadelphia 3, Pa.

Dear Phil:

I find that you have failed to return my Express Mail cover with the 77¢ rate which I enclosed in my letter (insured) of Feb. 7th last. Perhaps you overlooked returning it. I value this cover very highly so I hope you have not misplaced it.

Returned
MAR 10 1947

Yours of the 28th received.

I note that H.L.J. did not give you the positions of the Pl. 3 vertical but if you can get the data later I would appreciate same. I think I know what they are but I have so little material to check with. I was rather positive that he would welcome the item as it comes from the 10th vertical row of the left pane and I imagine it tied in some doubtful positions for him.

Re - the Philadelphia postmark reading, "PHILA - 5CTS." I have never seen what I consider to be a genuine example of this type, but reading "15CTS," such as the Knapp cover, Lot 2284. The latter was surely a fake with the "5CTS" changed to "15CTS." I turned up another cover with a "15CTS" in the Waterhouse collection several months ago, but I have not seen the cover itself, only a rather poor photograph of it. Sir Nicholas was quite peeved at my opinion and does not believe that his cover is bad. However, I am rather positive that it is. I do not believe that there was ever a "PHILA" postmark with "15CTS," but I am searching high and low to try and prove my point. No such an item is listed in the stampless catalogue.

I will be more than pleased to examine all the covers that you can loan me with the "5CTS" as I would like to find out if there were more than one type.

I can use a "Jones & Russell" cover if you have one for sale.

With regards -

Yours etc.,

PHILIP H. WARD, JR.
1616 WALNUT STREET
PHILADELPHIA 3

February 28, 1947

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

Dear Stan:

Jefferys did not give me the plate position of the strip but I will wait a little while and then ask him for I believe he is coming in soon to see my early block collection. I was indeed glad to have his plating of my plate 3 block for I doubt whether I will ever have a chance to get another one. You know he never looked at the West stuff although he has made purchases in all of my other sales. I believe it was due to his run-in with you and he did not feel that he wanted to have any arguments on the early stamps. I never could understand his attitude for I conducted the sale and if there had been any dispute or argument, it would have been with me and not with you. However, I am just as well pleased today for otherwise I would have had to pay twice as much for my plate 3 block. I am proud of my early blocks for with exception of certain plates of the 3¢ I believe I have everything known. These 3¢ plates, such as plate I early, plate zero and I think two or three others are all still lacking but Doc Chase tells me he doubts whether unused blocks exist. I do not want to take singles as is necessary with plate 5 and 6 of the 1¢ unless I have to do so.

Regarding the Philadelphia covers, you have never asked me for this type although you did write me about the type with the figure outside. I have checked up on these outside figures with several and so far have seen two or three 10¢ and one 2¢. The owner told me that Hollowbush had checked on these and sent you the data. This man has never seen a 15¢, such as the one in the Knapp sale and the one you found. He has not located a 5¢. He had one cover with the 10¢ with the figure scratched out in manuscript and a figure "5" written with the same ink, no doubt an error which was corrected before being sent through.

Of the other type with figures in the circle I have a number of these in 5 cts. and 10 cts. and will send these to you. I have never seen a 15 cts. although judging from your remarks you evidently have one.

Sincerely yours,

PHILIP H. WARD, JR.

PHW,JR:rmw

March 2nd, 1950.

Mr. Philip H. Ward, Jr.,
1616 Walnut St.,
Philadelphia 3, Pa.

Dear Phil:

Yours of the 28th received.

Up to this writing the 1847 cover has not been submitted to me by the P.F. but I suppose you refer to the Knapp cover - First Sale - Lot 2284. I think that the Committee is a bit peeved at me because of some of my sarcastic remarks regarding some of their "experts." I haven't hesitated to let them know in no uncertain terms that I think they are making an absolute joke of philatelic research work.

I have it on excellent authority, though I cannot quote him, that the Linn Portsmouth cover was declared not a Provisional by (1) Caspary (2) Colson and (3) John Hall, and I might add (4) Ashbrook, though I will admit that the latter's opinion is not worth much when it comes to P.M.P.'s. In spite of the three adverse opinions they gave Linn an O.K. certificate - not only that the cover is genuine (which it is) but that it was a P.M.P.

I have a photograph of the Waterhouse cover and it is entirely different from the Knapp cover. I do not think there is the slightest doubt that both are fakes. Further, I do not believe that Philadelphia ever hadaa postmark with "15" at the bottom. I have searched high and low for such a marking but was never able to find one. I suppose Boggs will state that they put the Knapp cover under their lamp and the "15" is genuine. I have examples of other fakes that they put under their lamp and delcared them to be genuine.

Look at the illustration of the Knapp cover - It is quite evident that the "1" was placed before the "5." I don't suppose it ever occurred to the Committee that the markings on the Knapp cover show that there was no need of 15¢ on the cover. It certainly was not a three times 5¢ shore to ship but a single 5¢. The faker had a 10¢ 1847 with a grid at the top so he laid the stamp horizontally so that he could tie the grid to the 5¢.

Souren bought the cover in the Knapp sale and no doubt sold it to Eno. I don't think that Carhart ever owned it.

I have been unable to find any stampless cover collector or dealer who can show such a Philadelphia marking.

I fully expect the Committee to declare that the cover is genuine.

I believe that Neinken intends to write you about the Jefferys Plate 3 collection. He has it in mind to raise aaffnd to pay me to write up the plating - photograph all plate varieties, etc., etc. - all this, of course, dependent on your assistance.

Personally I never thought much of Jefferys' plating ability. It is one thing to plate correctly - but quite another thing to do a lot of guessing.

Keep me advised of your progress.

With best wishes -

Sincerely yours,

AMERICAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY
COLLECTORS CLUB

COMMISSIONS EXECUTED
APPRAISALS

EZRA D. COLE RARE POSTAGE STAMPS
NYACK, N. Y. - - - Telephone Nyack 964
TELEPHONE NYACK 7-0964

March 17, 1950

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

Dear Stan:

Enclosing a sheet of paper with some notes about the Knapp cover. Perhaps this is not as complete as you would like, and if you want any further information, let me know. I don't think that we can get the cover so that we can photograph it, but I am trying.

All of this is confidential. I spent half an hour yesterday looking at the cover under ultra violet light. The light they have down there in the Collector's Club is not a good one, maybe one of the reasons they don't do such good work down there, but you can see with it if you take the time and patience.

There is no doubt now in my mind but that the cover is a fake. The 1 has been painted in the postmark and shows clearly enough. The 1 that ties the 5¢ 1847 on does not show very clearly but the 1 that is struck on the cover does.

The 5¢ 1847 grew on the cover and paid the rate from Philadelphia to New York, and it is the 10¢ stamp that is added. This is what causes all the trouble. The 1 in front of the 5 that ties the 5¢ stamp is not clear. It is not the same as the other 1 and hardly shows any tampering with at all. It makes it even more difficult to detect. Personally, I think the faker took advantage of this and maybe he did not have much to do, for it could have been part of the slug or the rim of the postmark that shows a little bit and appeared something like a 1 and he did not have to touch it up, if any. The 10¢ stamp, though, is entirely added.

Quite by accident I happened to see some of the other alleged experts' reports on this. While a couple of men thought it was bad, two or three of them think the cover is all right, but they don't know anything about stamps or covers. It is a bad situation. I left some notes down there with them, and I think they probably will turn it down now, but I can't be sure. I will keep you posted as to what develops.

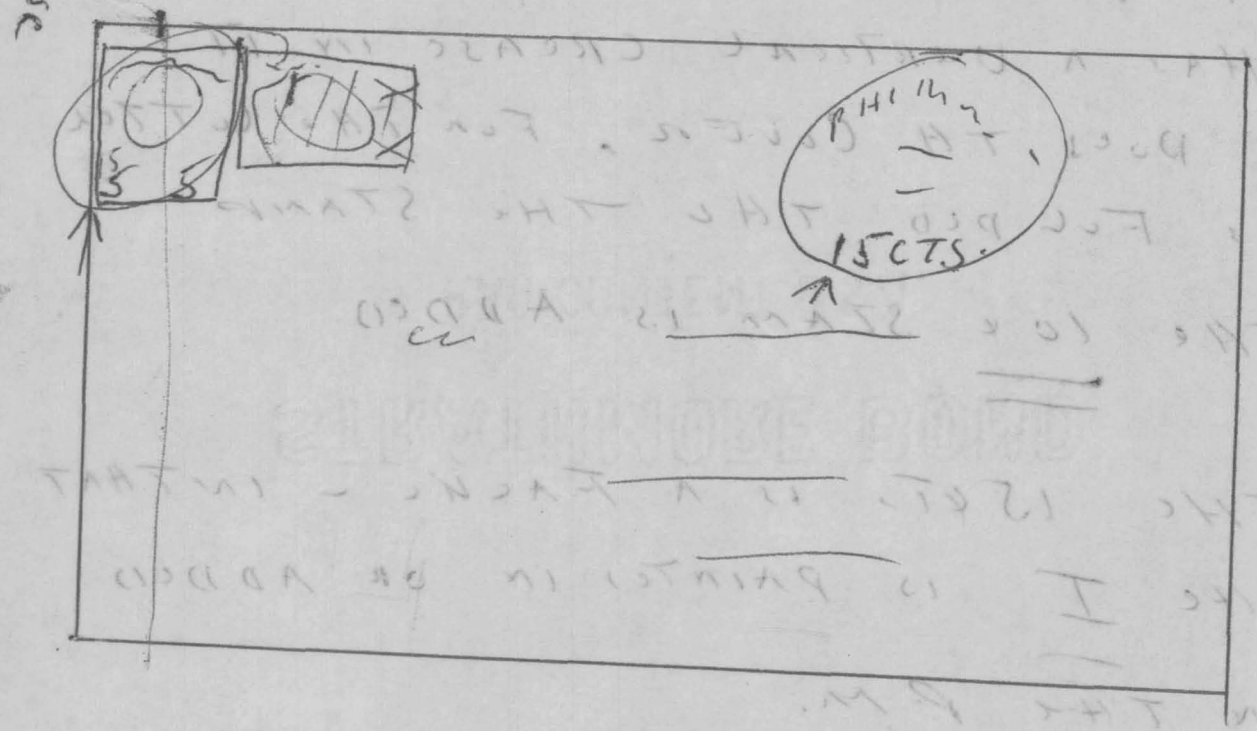
Sincerely

EDC:hk

AMERICAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY
COLLECTORS CLUB

COMMISSIONS EXECUTED
APPRAISALS

EZRA D. COLE RARE POSTAGE STAMPS
NYACK, N. Y. - - - Telephone Nyack 964
TELEPHONE NYACK 7-0964



KNAPP 5 ¢ 1847 COVER -

KNAPP BOUGHT FROM NASSAU STAMP CO
(JOHN HELMAN.)

TO Y.S. AT KNAPP SALE - TO A. ENO
FROM Y.S. ENO TO HARMER ROOM
TO SELL - HARMER ROOM TO P.F.
FOR OPINION

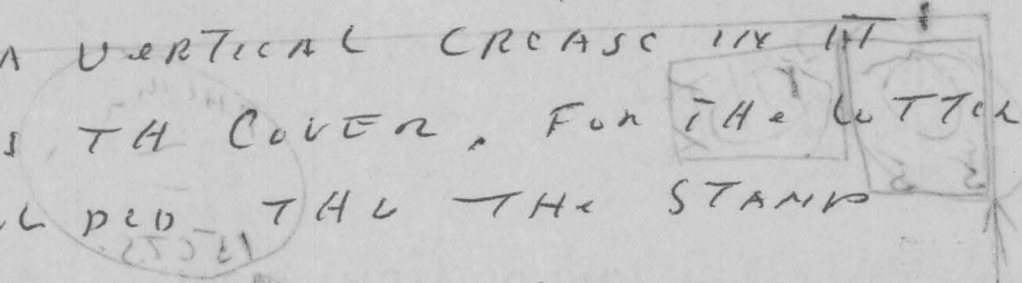
COVER TO AMSTERDAM HOLLAND -
ADDRESS NAME PARTLY ERASED
OF SMUDGED - BLUE PENCIL LETTER SHAT

DATED SPRING May? 1847-

CONFIDENTIAL

E.P.C. OPINION:

THE 5¢ GREW ON THE COVER AND IS O.K. IN EVERY RESPECT. IT HAS A VERTICAL CREASE IN IT: SO DOES THE COVER. FOR THE LETTER WAS FOLDED THEN THE STAMP



THE 10¢ STAMP IS ADDED

THE 15¢ IS A FAKE - IN THAT THE I IS PAINTED IN OR ADDED IN THE P.M.

THE I'S DO NOT MATCH IN BOTH POSTMARKS -

UNDER A LIGHT THE PAINTING SHOWS CLEARLY -

Detroit Athletic Club

Detroit

Detroit, Michigan.
May 26, 1947.

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

Dear Stan:

I have always hoped to run into something in way of an original find but to date not much success. However, here is something that I believe you have never seen before. Mort and I were looking around at various dealers stocks and ran into this at Stanley Gibbons and I bought it from Usticke for $140.00. Showed it to Philip Ward and he wanted me to sell it to him for $200.00. Showed it to Ernie Jacobs and he said he had never seen anything like it and would like to have it.

Today in Detroit, Harold Stark and I spent an hour examining it under Harold's microscope and comparing it with the data in your book on Plate Eleven and came to these conclusions. The dot in left side of frame around the medallion proves it comes from either Plate Eleven or Plate Twelve (unless there is an unknown Plate Thirteen). It can't fit into Plate Twelve as that has been completely reconstructed but in your book, you state that you have made little progress with Plate Eleven, and assume that on Plate Eleven, the top row is all Relief "T" and Type II, whereas the balance of the Plate are ALL Type III-A (with line broken at top) and made up of Relief "A" in second, fourth, sixth, and eighth rows; and Relief "B" in third, fifth, seventh and ninth rows.

This mint block is obviously top row and second row, I believe and Harold agrees with me on this, as does Ward. But the two lower stamps of this block are NOT Relief "A" - - - and even tho they were Relief "A" - how could they result in a short transfer at bottom when Relief "A" and "B" were rocked in at same time? I think, (assuming this is from Plate Eleven) that the two bottom stamps of this block are Relief "B" that were short transferred, resulting in the lower right corner stamp of this block being a Type III (the lower left stamp being almost a Type III). If this deduction is correct, then Plate Eleven had some misplaced transfer reliefs the same as the left pane of Plate Twelve. But again studying the reliefs, there seem to be differences in the reliefs of this block and any of the reliefs used on Plate Eleven. Could there be a Plate Thirteen? Probably not - I know the idea is fantastic but simply mention it as this block is most puzzling and shows no signs of being tampered with - in fact Usticke guaranteed to take it back if in your opinion someone had tried to make a Type III out of it by erasure.

I know you will be interested in seeing this and perhaps you will want to photograph it and write it up. I think an article on it would be most interesting together with photo. After you are through with it, Stan, please send to me at Ionia with your comments - would also like to know what you think the block is worth. Ward told me that in case I did'nt want to sell it, he would like to acquire it by trading me material from his stock that he has in duplicate that I could use, as he says this piece should be in his collection of mint blocks. Jacobs also thought it most interesting.

Rene and I will look for you and Mildred and Stan Jr up in Michigan this summer. Regards!

Sincerely,
Jack.
J. G. Fleckenstein.

Enc:REG:

May 28, 1947.

Mr. Harold W. Stark,
18652 Birchcrest Drive,
Detroit 21, Mich.

Dear Harold:

Jack sent me the 1¢ 1857 block and wrote me that you had examined it with him. I thought that you would be interested in my reply to Jack, so I am enclosing a copy herewith.

Later I will plate the piece for him, and send him photographs of other items from the same positions.

I suppose I over-exerted my strenghh last week as I came home completely exhausted. It sure was nice to see you even if our visits were so short.

More later -

Yours etc.,

May 28, 1947.

Mr. J. C. Fleckenstein,
419 Union St.,
Ionia, Mich.

Dear Jack:

Yours of the 26th with the 1¢ 1857 block safe to hand. This block comes from the top and second rows of Plate 12 and the reliefs are positively the "A" and "B." What you noted in the two "B," Type II stamps is due, not only to a slight short transfer, but also to "plate erasures" plus worn impressions. In fact, all three of these causes no doubt contributed to the faintness of the top and bottom lines of the two "B" stamps.

My photograph of the top part of the right pane is an old photostat and hardly good enough to plate from. I suspect that your block comes from the left pane and if so, I will be able to plate it for you. I might add that I have noted similar examples on both plates 4 and 12 and a few on Plate 11. That is, where the top or bottom lines are so faint that the stamps appear to be other than what they were originally. I mentioned in my book that a IIIA from Plate One Early was due to a short transfer and erasure in the gutters.

It is well to remember that a short transfer can occur any place on a plate. Even though a roller had three reliefs, only one relief is "rocked in" at a time and it is rocked back and forth. If the particular relief is not fully rocked at top or bottom, or both, a "short" is bound to occur. The two bottom stamps in your block were from a full Type II relief, but the faintness of the top and bottom lines is due principally to "erasures," that is, in the "burnishing" of the horizontal gutters.

I examined this block very carefully under my lamp, but I could not detect any evidence that anyone had tried to make Type III stamps out of Type II stamps.

I did not state in my book that we had ever entirely reconstructed Plate 12. We know the distribution of the reliefs from records that have been kept of large blocks that were in existence years ago and large blocks that still exist. From most of these records I am able to plate most any Plate 12 single, pair, strip or block.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Harold as I know he must have been interested in this problem.

I intend to make enlarged photographs and these will show definite traces of the erasures.

Will return the block later.

Best of regards -

Yours etc.,

May 28, 1947.

Mr. J. G. Fleckenstein,
419 Union St.,
Ionia, Mich.

Dear Jack:

Yours of the 26th with the 1¢ 1857 block safe to hand. This block comes from the top and second rows of Plate 12 and the reliefs are positively the "A" and "B." What you noted in the two "B," Type II stamps is due, not only to a slight short transfer, but also to "plate erasures" plus worn impressions. In fact, all three of these causes no doubt contributed to the faintness of the top and bottom lines of the two "B" stamps.

My photograph of the top part of the right pane is an old photostat and hardly good enough to plate from. I suspect that your block comes from the left pane and if so, I will be able to plate it for you. I might add that I have noted similar examples on both plates 4 and 12 and a few on Plate 11. That is, where the top or bottom lines are so faint that the stamps appear to be other than what they were originally. I mentioned in my book that a IIIA from Plate One Early was due to a short transfer and erasure in the gutters.

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I intend to make enlarged photographs and these will show definite traces of the erasures.

Will return the block later.

Best of regards -

Yours etc.,

June 4, 1947.

Mr. J. G. Fleckenstein,
419 Union St.,
Ionia, Mich.

Dear Jack:

Just to be absolutely sure I had Mr. Newbury send me his large piece from the left pane of Plate 12 as I was rather sure that your block came from that pane. His piece came in yesterday and this block, which I am returning herewith, is from the following positions:

3 L 12 - 4 L 12
13 L 12 - 14 L 12

His big piece is an earlier printing than yours and while the top and bottom lines on 13 and 14 are faint, they are not broken like on your block. At first I was suspicious that someone might have rased the lines on 13 and 14 in your block but my lamp fails to disclose any monkey-business nor does my microscope. Later on I will send you photographs of the same positions in the Newbury piece.

Your block is a very faded out print, hence it was not a piece that could have been plated from any photographs in my record. I had to plate by direct comparison. Did Jacobs think that it was from Plate 11?

Re - the reliefs. Compare Fig. 28B - page 302 with 29B page 314. There is quite a difference. Also compare 28C - page 302 with 29C page 314. I think you can easily note the difference.

Stan Jr. will not get out of school until the 13th. What time after that will it suit Rene and you for us to run up?

With regards -

Yours etc.,

June 21, 1947.

Mr. J. G. Fleckenstein,
419 Union St.,
Ionia, Mich.

Dear Jack:

I haven't been feeling so good for the past week and the Doctor states that I must ease up, so we will have to postpone the contemplated trip to Michigan to a later date. We are indeed sorry but it cannot be helped. Stan Jr. went out and got himself a job and started to work this morning.

Why don't you bring the family and drive down?

I have a summons to appear in Court next Monday to serve on the Jury but I have a letter from my physician stating that I should be excused. I hope so.

Yousnever acknowledged receipt of you Pl. 12 block or made any comment on my letter.

Mildred joins me in regards to you both.

Cordially yours,

June 25, 1947.

Mr. J. G. Fleckenstein,
419 Union St.,
Ionia, Mich.

Dear Jack:

I am enclosing herewith prints of your Plate 12 block and part of the large Newbury block. The two top stamps in your block are 3L12 - 4L12. The stamp at top to left in the Newbury block is 4L12. The stamp to left in the second row of the Newbury block is 12L12.

I also enclose some cuts showing some of the plating marks that are consistent on both pieces. Note the 13L12 and 14L12 in the Newbury block. The top line of 13 is not broken but it is rather faint over S. Your 13L shows a distinct break. Your 14L also shows a break in the top line but on the Newbury this same line is continuous, and is not even faint. Note the bottom lines on 13 and 14 in the Newbury block. While the lines are faint, they are not broken.

You inquire as to how I would classify the 13 and 14 in your block. I do not think that it would be fair to classify them otherwise than as follows:

"These two stamps were both Type II before the top and bottom lines faded."

You see Jack, a faker could take a block of four like the block 4 - 5 - 14 - 15 in the Newbury sheet and he could erase the bottom lines in 4 - 5, and the top and bottom lines in 14 - 15, and he would have a block of IIIA - IIIA - III - III. It would hardly be fair to call such a block of Type II stamps as IIIA and III. The only difference between such a faked block and your block would be that the "fade-out" in the faked block was done deliberately to defraud, whereas the fade-out in your block came about naturally thru causes as set forth in my previ-out letters.

As I wrote you previously there is nothing new about such "freaks." I have been familiar with them for years. I can show you Type I copies from this plate which show a break in the top line, but these are not Type IA.

I do not think that it would be wise to write an article

on a block like yours. Too few would understand what it was all about and it would only raise a question.

We are terribly sorry that we had to postpone the trip for the present but it simply could not be helped. We had planned to get an early start and drive direct to Ionia.

With these prints I am also enclosing one of the top part of the Newbury piece, also Mort's Pl. 2 crack piece, also a block of 4 showing the crack. This is interesting as it shows the size of the plate at top.

I regret that these photos are not better. I guess it is due to the paper that I used.

With regards -

Yours etc.,

GRAVER TANK & MFG. CO., INC.

GENERAL STEEL PLATE CONSTRUCTION

EAST CHICAGO, INDIANA

J. G. FLECKENSTEIN
SALES REPRESENTATIVE
IONIA, MICHIGAN
TELEPHONES: IONIA 267
DETROIT - TEMPLE 24581 OR 10956

Ionia, Michigan.
July 7, 1947.

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

Dear Stan:

Pardon the delay in answering yours of June 21st in which you enclosed the photos. These are lovely and with the detailed notes about this Plate Twelve block, they really make this block worthy of interest and study. However, Stan, there is still one thing about this Plate Twelve block that I cannot understand and it is this - did the top and bottom lines disappear because of plate wear and if so, why did this Plate Twelve wear out so quickly when it was in use only a few months? If not from plate wear, then what did cause these lines to disappear? On page 117 of your Vol. I on the subject of Type III-A (Plate One Early) you call attention to the fact that certain stamps from Plate One Early might be Type II originally and then due to plate wear show up later as Type III-A, but in the case of Plate One Early, we believe the plate was not hardened until after it was recut, whereas with the later plates, we believe they were hardened before being sent to press. Or was it possible that Plate Twelve was never hardened? You mention in your letter of June 25th that a faker could take a block and erase the bottom and top lines and thus make Type III out of Type II stamps but Harold Stark tells me that he does not believe a faker could do this and actually fool anyone equipped with a binocular microscope such as you and he enjoy.

Rene received Mildred's note of July 2nd and we were sure disappointed that you had to postpone the trip to Michigan. Hope you are feeling better now Stan, and that the doctor rated you as 100% again. If you could only arrange to get up here by Next Friday night or Saturday morning, it would be awfully nice as Rene is leaving Saturday for a week at Wolf Lake, Baldwin, Michigan, where we have rented a huge cottage with meals furnished by Mrs. Rockwell so she does'nt have to cook, and we would like to have you and the family up at the lake with us. Rene leaves Saturday for one week but I won't be able to get away until Sunday night so I will be in Ionia all day Sunday (am attending the annual Hunting & Fishing Club picnic and skeet shoot at the Bertha Brock Park here in Ionia) so if you could arrive Sunday July 13th, we could all drive up to Baldwin together. Try and make it either Friday, Saturday or Sunday if you feel able.

Under separate cover, we are sending Mildred a Mexican belt and bracelet set. She admired the one Rene had in New York. The belt may be too large and if so, any jeweller can remove one or more links to bring it down to the right size. When it gets tarnished, it is easily cleaned by using a brush with soap and water and plenty of baking soda and just scrubbing it lightly. Hope Mildred will be pleased with it. Regards!

Sincerely,
Jack
J. G. Fleckenstein.

JGF/

July 10, 1947.

Mr. J. G. Fleckenstein,
419 Union St.,
Ionia, Mich.

Dear Jack:

Yours of the 7th received.

Thanks again Jack for your cordial invitation but I simply cannot make it. I haven't been feeling at all well for the past ten days and it would be impossible for me to attempt the trip at this time. I am hoping that with an end to the disagreeable wet damp cool weather that I will feel better. We appreciate the fact that it would be most enjoyable to join you all at Wolf Lake and we would love to do so but I cannot at present. I am sure that you will understand. Brooks cannot understand why I haven't been up to Marshall and the Starks have been expecting us to drop in at Clear Lake.

Regarding the Plate 12 block. I doubt if one could attribute much "plate wear" to Pl. 12, but if the top and bottom lines on certain positions were originally faint (lightly transferred) I suppose a certain amount of plate wear could account for the failure for such top and bottom lines to fully register.

On so many of the Type II positions on this plate the top and bottom lines were originally lightly transferred. Printings were made 87 years ago. In all that time I doubt if it is strange that a certain amount of "fading out" occurred on lightly inked impressions.

The 13L12 in your block shows the best example of breaks in both the top and bottom lines, yet when this position was transferred both top and bottom lines were sharply defined. The question, therefore, arises - what caused the breaks in your 13L12.

To prove the above I am enclosing herewith an early impression from 13L12. Do you not agree that this copy shows both lines (top and bottom) very sharply defined? Take the little dash between the "O" and "N" of ONE. Note how sharp it is on this single copy, but on your 13L12 it is rather faint. My single shlows a dot in the "U" of U. S., also a dot in the "T" of Cent, and both of these dots are on the 13L12 in the Newbury block, but are missing on the 13L12 in your block. Did plate wear or a fading of the ink cause them to disappear?

I am also enclosing a strip of three of 67L12 - 68L12 - 69L12. This is an early impression. Compare the top line of

67, (a II) with the top lines of 68 and 69 (Type I).

There is no question but what the binocular miscroscope is wonderful and it shows up so many things that cannot be detected by the small magnifying glasses but I do believe that a faker could erase a faint top and bottom line (or both) in such a way that the B. M. would fail to detect the faking. I am basing my belief on long experience. In the case of your block I do not believe that the lines were artificially erased.

Mildred was thrilled with the last paragraph of your letter. The package has not arrived as yet, so more on this later.

Again re - Pl. 12. I believe that the plate was hardened before it was put to press. I don't suppose there can be any doubt on this point. That is what caused the "grainy" surface which gave us the film-coated impressions. You will recall that late impressions do not show the blue film.

Re - Pl. 1 E. The best IIIA positions from this plate were doubtless IIIA from the very beginning. For example, certain positions in the second row of the right pane. I doubt if any of these were ever Type II. Gutter erasures undoubtedly broke some of the top lines - some plate wear may have made the breaks a bit more pronounced.

It has been puring down rain here all day - and it is cold - Strange weather for July 10. Maybe it is the result of so many flying dishes.

Our best wishes to you both.

Yours etc.,

P.S. I may have several One Cent items to send you by the end of the week. Please advise if I should send them or hold them until later.

S.

GRAVER TANK & MFG. CO., INC.

GENERAL STEEL PLATE CONSTRUCTION

EAST CHICAGO, INDIANA

J. G. FLECKENSTEIN
SALES REPRESENTATIVE
IONIA, MICHIGAN
TELEPHONES: IONIA 267
DETROIT - [redacted] Mad 5300

Ionia, Michigan.
July 17, 1947.

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

Dear Stan:

Thanks for your letter of the 10th and remarks about the block from Plate Twelve. Also the copies from Plate Twelve you enclosed (13L12 and 67-68-69 L-12) which I have studied carefully in line with your comments, and return herewith. It seems to me that this block is a most interesting item, don't you agree?

I spent all day yesterday with Harold Stark and Charles Shierson - we drove from Detroit to Grand Rapids together and then I stopped off here in Ionia for the night. Rene and the children are away this week up at Wolf Lake and it is most lonely here at Ionia. I do wish you could just come up here for a week or ten days and loaf and rest - I think it would do you worlds of good.

In the last paragraph of your letter of the 10th, you mention you may have several One Cent items to send by the end of the week and ask if you should send them or hold them. I have'nt spent a dime for stamps since the CIPEX - in fact have'nt even mounted the items I acquired at the New York show, - due I suppose to two reasons - first the extremely hot weather, and secondly because of the fact that I have been feeling as tho I should hold the brakes on spending on the theory that I spent too much on the New York trip. This last reason is probably foolish altho business has not been nearly as good as it was a year ago - in fact I doubt if we will make much money at the refinery this year and might even come out with a loss, as we have'nt hardly any crude oil at all.

Also have your letter of July 8th enclosing the Krug covers. None appeal to me altho I believe Harold Stark would like some of them at least and suggest you send them to him.

Had a letter from Mort Neinken in which he reports that contrary to most reports about a slump in stamp prices - that prices are higher than ever in New York, and he indicates will go even higher this Fall.

Again we hope you and the family can make it up here this Summer. We don't enter into social activities, you know, and you can rest to your heart's content.

Regards!

Sincerely,

Jack.

J. G. Fleckenstein.

JGF/k
Enc:REG:

8

23 April 1947

Dear Sir

Mr. F. Godden has sent me your letter as to postmark information.

May I say that what little knowledge I possess I will gladly pass on to other students, so if you should wish to write to me on any point, do not hesitate to do so. My knowledge is chiefly confined to the postmarks used in the British Isles, and it is perhaps hardly necessary to say that I don't know everything, even about this group: I have been at it, however, for about 40 years and am still learning.

Yours faithfully

G Brumell

May 14, 1947.

Mr. G. Brumell,
Bournemouth, Endland.

My dear Mr. Brumell:

Thanks very much for your kind letter of the 23rd of April.

I am leaving today for the International Exhibition in New York and will write you on my return.

I am attaching to envelope one of the souvenir sheets.

I am wondering if you can give me any further information than Hendy gave us on the marking - Fig. 343 - page 58 of his book?

Sincerely yours,

9 June 47

Dear Mr Ashbrooke

Very many thanks for kindly sending me the Souvenir sheet from the Centenary Philatelic Exhibition — it came through nicely, with light and clear postmark.

I should have written before but I was laid up for a month and writing had to be confined to really urgent matters.

I am sorry that I cannot add to what Hendy says about the handstamp no. 343 in his book. I have only one specimen of it, on a letter from Portsmouth (Sep 5. 1862) via London S. (Sep. 5. 1862) to Halifax N.S. (Sep. 16. 1862). It is shown

in a book of specimen impressions of early 1876 shown to me by Mr Robson Lowe, but the only note is "used on letters out of course". It was amongst Foreign Branch Stamps, but that we gather already from Hendy. There is nothing else on my envelope to show it was out of course.

A similar stamp but slightly larger was used in the late 30's/ and perhaps earlier on letters brought to London by the General Post, but arriving too late for the daily G.P. delivery, and therefore transferred to the Twopenny Post for delivery (free) by their messengers.

I am always ready to receive and discuss questions, but unfortunately I cannot always give satisfactory answers to them.

Yours sincerely

G Brunell

July 7, 1947.

Mr. G. Brumell,
Maori,
86 Richmond Park Ave.,
Bournemouth, England.

Dear Mr. Brumell:

Thanks very much for your kind note.

I am enclosing herewith two photographs which I thought perhaps you would like to examine. Both of these have the odd British marking. One has postage of a shilling six pence, the other a shilling one penny. I cannot imagine why these two letters were overpaid, and I wondered if the little "cross in circle" had any connection. Both were, of course, single rates, and a shilling would have been sufficient.

Kindly accept these prints if they are of any interest to you.

Sincerely yours,

MADRI
RICHMOND PARK AVENUE,
BOURNEMOUTH.

2 Aug. 1957

Dear Mr Ashbrook

I am much obliged to you for so kindly sending me photographs of the two ⊕ covers, which I accept with my best thanks.

I have given a good deal of thought to these covers, sent on the same day by the same writer to the same recipient — identical in fact except that one was paid 1/- plus 1 and the other 1/- plus 6. Now one cannot suppose these two letters were sent off just for amusement, nor, in those days, for philatelic reasons: I imagine that one of them was the result of second thoughts. Now I do not know the rates in 1861, but in 1857 a late fee of 1 enabled a letter to be posted at the London Chief Office between 6 and 7 p.m.

while for a fee of 6 one could be posted up to 7.30. Is not this very suggestive?

I think the one with extra 6 was posted after 7 o'clock as the result of an afterthought. If Hendy is right in saying the ⊕ mark indicates that the mail was missed through missorting, no doubt the whole batch went wrong together: but that does not affect the intention of the poster, though it nullifies his expenditure and expectations. The problem of the cross and of the prepayment are I think quite unconnected.

You mention a London date-stamp on the back of each — does it bear any letter or number beyond the date? and what is the shape of the stamp? a rough sketch would be sufficient to show me, if you think the matter worth pursuing.

Yours sincerely

E Brunell

August 27, 1947.

Mr. G. Brumell,
Maori,
86 Richmond Park Ave.,
Bournemouth, England.

My dear Mr. Brumell:

Thanks very much for your letter of the 2nd. I am inclined to believe that your explanation of a fee for late posting is no doubt correct but I am wondering if a further point might fully explain the unusual rate? For example, could it be possible that the 1D and 6D "fees" were payable in cash rather than in stamps - perhaps not on domestic mail but on foreign mail? I believe that rates fixed by Postal Conventions between countries were supposed to confirm with payments shown on individual letters, by which I mean, that if an extra fee was charged for a special service the payment was in cash, not in stamps. Thus no confusion in the accounting office of the receiving country.

I will cite several U. S. examples. A "Supplementary Mail" service was established in 1853 at New York, (only) for foreign mail. (Practically for mail to Britain). Letters could be posted at the pier up to within 15 minutes of sailing and after the regular mail had closed at the N.Y. P.O. For such service double postage was charged, but the extra rate was payable only in cash. If paid in stamps, the payment was not recognized. It was termed a fee - not a rate.

Another "fee" example is our early Registered Mail Fee. From July 1, 1855 until Jan. 1, 1867 our registered "fee" was payable only in cash, not in stamps.

Perhaps those two covers, photo prints of which I sent you, were very rare examples of "cash fees" paid by stamps thru ignorance of the writer that payments in stamps were not recognized. Could this be the proper explanation?

Sincerely yours,

N. A. WOODWORTH COMPANY
FERNDALE, MICHIGAN

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

May 29, 1947

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook,
A.P.S. 2497,
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.,
Ft. Thomas, Kentucky.

My dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Many thanks for your note of May 27th. It was nice of you to write.

Please do not feel obligated for the pencil you refered to because you have already paid in advance for this by expertizing some 1¢ '51's for me through our mutual friend, Ezra Cole. Some day I might ask for a repetition, but you can be sure I will not impose too much upon your good nature.

I did enjoy very much meeting you and your charming wife. I had heard so much of Stanley B. Ashbrook and it certainly was a real pleasure to meet you personally.

If you are ever in Detroit and in need of a hotel room or any other service that I can afford, please give me a call.

With my very kindest regards, I am,

Sincerely yours,

N. A. Woodworth

NAW/b

June 22, 1947.

Mr. N. A. Woodworth,
Ferndale, Mich.

Dear Mr. Woodworth:

If you haven't a copy of my book entitled, The U. S. Issue of 1869 - Preceded by some Additional Notes on "The Premieres Gravures of 1861," I would like to forwarded you a copy with my compliments.

If you will inform me what class of U. S. covers or stamps that are of special interest to you the chances are that I can be of some assistance at times.

Sincerely yours,

NEWTON A. WOODWORTH
FERNDALE, MICHIGAN

June 25, 1947

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook,
A.P.S. 2497,
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.,
Ft. Thomas, Ky.

My dear Mr. Ashbrook:

It certainly was mighty nice of you to write me as you did on June 22. Indeed I would be very happy to receive a copy of your book entitled "The U.S. Issue of 1869 - Preceded by som Additional Notes on "The Premieres Gravures of 1861".

In reply to your question as to my special interests in the hobby, I will say, generally, it is the U.S. stamps off-cover only. Specifically, first of all the 1847 and 1851 Imperf issues. Next in line, the 1851 and then the 1869 issues. I am also interested in very fine to superb copies of all of the 19th century issues.

During the war years and the reconversation period which we are just immerging from, I have been so busy that I have had very little time for the hobby and have been unable to be much other than an accumulator in a limited manner of items that I am especially partial to.

When I talked with you in New York I mentioned having read one of your books on the 1¢ '51 and '57 issues, but I was wrong. It was the condensed edition put out by Scott a number of years ago. Since the show, our mutual friend, Ezra Cole, has been able to pick up for me both volumes of this very fine work on the 1¢ Blues. I hope eventually to get through these in detail. I have leafed through and find so many items of interest.

I have read, I believe, most of your "specialist" books and have enjoyed them very much. Incidently, I was fooled, or rather foolish enough to buy the block of four unused 5¢ 1847 with the "D shift", as illustrated in one of your books. I gave this to Ezra Cole to dispose of for me several years ago, but as yet have been unsuccessful. The condition os this block is such that it nauseates me whenever I look at it. I really think I was unconscious when I bought this from a Lambert Gerber Sale in 1942.

Incidently, some chap living on Birchcrest in Detroit called me a couple of weeks ago and said you had mentioned to him that I was interest in the hobby. Unfortunately, I do not recall his name because at the time of his call, a group of guests were

arriving at my home for Sunday dinner and I am afraid my attention was diverted too greatly. I would appreciate it no end if you would pass this chap's name on to me.

If in your travels you ever come to Detroit, I would love to have the pleasure of your company for an evening and dinner, if convenient for you. I have heard so many fine things of Stanley B. Ashbrook that it would be a great privilege and pleasure to know you better.

With my very kindest personal regards always, I am

Most sincerely yours,

N. A. Woodworth

NAW/b

June 30, 1947.

Mr. Newton A. Woodworth,
Ferndale, Michigan.

Dear Mr. Woodworth:

I am in receipt of yours of the 25th and under separate cover I am mailing you with my compliments a copy of my 1869 book as mentioned in my letter of the 22nd.

The gentleman who called you several weeks ago was no doubt my food friend Mr. Harold W. Stark of 18652 Birchcrest Drive, Detroit. Stark is a prince of a fellow, a very ardent philatelist and a real student. He is one of the leading members of the rather exclusive Detroit Philatelic Society. I make this distinction because I think that the Detroit Society has a class of membership which farfar above that of the usual Philatelic Society. I suggested to Mr. Stark that he get in touch with you.

Regarding the 5¢ 1847 block with the "D" shift. Gerber sent the block to me back in Dec. 1941 and I identified it for him. In Aug. 1942 at the S.P.A. Convention he held the auction sale and the block was in that sale. I often wondered what became of it. The block is badly cut into but it is a very rare item, and it is toobe regretted, in my opinion, that present day collectors put "condition" above everything else. I have no doubt whatsoever that the block is unique. I discovered the "D" shift, as I recall, about thirty years ago. At least I judge it was about that time as it was soon after the Chase article appeared in the old Philatelic Gazette (1916).

I also discovered the "C." In all the intervening years I have seen very few duplicates of either variety though the "A" and "B" are rather common in comparison.

Thanks so much for your kind invitation to pay you a visit on any future trip to Detroit.

Sincerely yours,

NEWTON A. WOODWORTH
FERNDALE, MICHIGAN

July 3, 1947

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook,
A.P.S. 2497,
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.,
Ft. Thomas, Ky.

My dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Your complimentary copy of your book arrived while I was in New York, hence my delay in writing you. It certainly was swell of you to remember me in this manner and you can be sure I will treasure this more than if I had purchased this from some dealer. It was especially nice of you to autograph the book as you did.

Also, many thanks for the information regarding Mr. Stark. I will endeavor to make contact with him this evening and arrange for a date with him at his convenience.

Your comments regarding the 5¢ 1847 block with the "D" shift were noted with interest, also your mention of the A-B-C varieties.

Again, my most sincere thanks for your interest in me.

With my very kindest regards always, I am,

Most sincerely yours,

N. A. Woodworth

NAW/b

Oct. 21, 1947.

Mr. Sterling T. Dow,
197 Pine St.,
Portland 4, Maine.

My dear Mr. Dow:

I thank you for your interesting letter of the 18th. I am a mere novice when it comes to our early postal history, various rates, etc. etc. The explanation of the rate on your Portland cover of 1798 is most interesting and I have no doubt but what your analysis is perfectly correct but it does seem odd that with a Springfield address, there would be a notation that the letter was to be left at Boston. Could it be possible that the writer wanted the letter to be mailed at Boston instead of Portland? Perhaps the writer was aware that the ship was going to stop first at Portland and then proceed to Boston, thus by instructing it to be mailed at Boston the rate would have been less? This is just a suggestion on my part.

How very odd. While writing this letter, my copy of the current Mekeel's came in with your article illustrating the above cover.

A further guess on my part is that the "41½" rating was in error made at the Portland office, and was corrected there. Perhaps the Boston notation confused the clerk.

Regarding the Ship Fee of 4¢. This rate was established by Act of Feb. 20, 1792, Sec. 10. I believe that you will find that Sec. 13 of this same act provided that the P.M. paid the ship 2¢ and retained the other 2¢.

I agree with you that your "16¢" rate of 1812 was a double rate letter from Portland to Bath, it was brought into Portland and mailed there. At that time the Ship Fee was 2¢, but it could not be paid to foreign vessels, so perhaps the ship captain simply mailed the letter and saved the addressee the extra expense of 2¢.

You certainly have accomplished a very fine piece of work on the postal history of your state and I congratulate you.

By the way, I note that your middle name is Tucker, which I judge is a family name. My mother's maiden name was Tucker, and her people were originally from Maryland, the first of the

line came to Kentucky in 1786.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

Amsterdam January 2 1948.

Dear Mr Ashbrook,

I'm a collector of the stamps of the U.S.A. and Confederate States. I've maid my collection following the lines of the „Yvert" catalogue and the „Scott Standard part I". I've a subscription to „Stamps" but, reading it, there are often things, which I do not understand quite well.

Reading a German article about the confederates I found your name quoted several times (e.g. in connection with the Jefferson Davis stamp with rectangular frame) as one of the greatest experts of these stamps and all old U.S. issues.

I hope you will not take it ill of me if I ask you some questions and heartly hope you can find the time to answer me.

The questions are following:

I. What is a „Territorial".
I've e.g. some pairs of #33 with „Sacramento" cancellation. Are these territorials?

II. Till what date a stamp can be called a territorial?
I've e.g. a 10 cent type V #50 with a Calif. cancellation. Is that still a territorial?

III. Is there any difference between a „territorial" and a „Western" or are these 2 names for the same thing.

I've a #33 with an illegible name of the town, but instead of the name of the State the letters: MiLi.....
What can that be?

IV. The 5 cents Jefferson Davis. Scott # 205.
Scott gives as a number: 6 blue.
I thought there was only 1 shipment (besides that captured by the „Mercedita") by which the stamps, printed by de la Rue & Co, reached the C.S.A. I should think that was 1 printing with 1 colour (light green blue, though Scott says light blue).
Can it be that Scott ~~the~~ take the blue colour variety for the stamps printed by Archer & Daly on thin paper?

Perhaps these are all questions, from which you can easily seen I'm only a beginning collector, but here in Holland there are no persons, who can tell you something interesting about the U.S. stamps, when you really want to study the stamps.

I hope you will be so kind to answer this letter and remain

Yours respectfully

J van Keulen

DRS. J. J. VAN KEULEN.
WAALSTRAAT 65 II
AMSTERDAM - ZUID.
HOLLAND.

Jan. 7, 1948.

Dr. J.J. Van Keulen,
Waalstraat 65 II
Amsterdam -
Zuid -
Holland.

Dear Doctor:

Yours of thd 5nd received and I am pleased to give you the information that you requested.

I - Territorial. States, before they were admitted to the U.S. union of states were known as territories. For example, before Kansas was admitted to the Union it was known as Kansas Territory, and a city was known as "TOPEKA - K.T." Today, Alaska, Hawaii and Puerto Rica are U.S. territories. California was never organized as a territory but after the U.S.-Mexican war it was admitted as a state (1850).

Your pair of #33 with Sacramento, Cal. represents the 6¢ rate (1851-1855), via Panama to the eastern section of the U.S. The term "Territorial" does not apply to stamps but rather to postal markings and different dates apply to each state, as for example:

Colorado, became a	territory	Feb. 28,	1861
" "	" state	Aug. 1,	1876
Utah, "	" territory	Sep. 9,	1850
" "	" state	Jan. 4,	1896.

etc. etc.

Perhaps the best book for such data would be the "Stampless Cover Catalogue." I think the price is $3.00 per copy.

"Westerns" refer to certain "specialties" such as "Via Panama" mail, "Via Nicaragua" mail - "Pony Express Mail" - "California Postmarks" etc. etc. Perhaps one of the best reference list of such is the auction catalogue of the Knapp Sale - profusely illustrated. This was held in 1940. I can supply a copy @ $5.00.

A "Territorial" could be in the "Western Class" as for example, a "Nevada Territory" cover, etc., etc.

Re - your #33 with "MILI" - I might be abbe to identify it if I could see it but am not able to do so from the description.

Re - C.S.A. #205. Regardless of the Scott listing, I call the London prints" Blue". It is possible that Richmond prints on London paper might be confused with the London printings, by collectors not fully informed. However, the De LaRue stamps are very distinctive. There are in existence some counterfeits in a greenish blue that are

often mistaken for Richmond prints on London paper. Europe is well supplied with such trash.

Subject to sale I can supply you with copies of:

The Luff book on U.S. Original 1902 edition -	Price	$20.00
The Dietz book on Confederates - original edition	"	15.00
The Dietz Catalogue of Confederates (1937)	"	2.00
The Chase book on the 3¢ 1851-1857 (original edition 1928)	"	15.00
The U.S. 10¢ 1855-1857 by Ashbrook (1936)	"	2.00
The U.S. 1861-1869 Issues by Ashbrook (1944)	"	2.00

My book on the U.S. 1¢ 1851 - 1857 in two volumes covers the decade 1851-1861. It was published in 1938 @ $7.50. It is now out of print and brings around $35.00 at auction. I do not know where a copy can be made.

Under separate cover, I am sending you, with my compliments, a copy of my book on "Confederate Postal Legislation." Please watch for it and advise me if it reaches you safely.

If I can furnish you with further information do not hesitate to call upon me.

Sincerely yours,

Amsterdam February 8 1948.

Dear Mr Ashbrook,

It was a great honour as well as a great pleasure for me to receive your extensif letter of Jan. 7 '48. I thank you very much for the answers you give on my questions.
It is a great pity, but I think you know allready that the Dutch gouvernment does not allow to send any stamps out from the country and by that way I cannot send you my #33 with „H.L." which I mentioned. Even more worse is, that the gouvernment also does not allow to send money out from the country. That is the reason why I cannot ask you to send me one of the books and catalogues you mention, and which seem me very interesting. Nevertheless I shall try to ask some of my friends in the States to send you some $, but don't know if they shall be willing and of course that shall take some while.
Thank you for the information about C.S.A #205. I think that indeed I took the greenish blue counterfeits for a variety of the de la Rues blues.
Some days ago I received your book „Confederate Postal Legislation". It was in superb condition, thank to your measures, and I thank you very heartly for your fine gesture to send me such an interesting book as a gift. I have had some very nice evenings when reading about the C.S.A., of which the history allways has had a romantic attraction to me. I was a bit astonished about the very fine material shown by the photos; have never seen such things before.
Your very kind letter makes me sure that I can call upon you, when I have further questions. I've in mind to write an article about the C.S.A for my stampclub of 1000 members and I'm proud I got

some informations from the best side, I ever could have wished.

I thank you again for what you have done for me and hope time will come soon, that we can send as well stamps as money from Holland

Till so long I remain Your very obliged

J van Keulen.

Dr. J. J van Keulen
Waalstraat 65 II
Amsterdam-Zuid
Holland.

May 26, 1947.

Mr. Richard McP. Cabeen,
180 N. Wabash Ave.,
Chicago 1, Ill.

My dear Dick:

On my return from Cipex yesterday, I found a letter from my friend stating that he was keeping the 3¢ 1851 cover. I am therefore enclosing check for $65.00 herewith.

My original prospect still wants a July 1, 1851 cover so if you care to send me your other one I'll be delighted to send it to him.

The Cipex was immense and I am sorry you were not able to attend. I had quite an enjoyable reunion with Chase, Shaughnessy, Ernie and many other old friends.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

May 5, 1947.

Mr. Richard McP. Cabeen,
180 N. Wabash Ave.,
Chicago 1, Ill.

Dear Dick:

Yours with the 3¢ 1851 cover came last week and I sent it to my friend but this A.M. it came back. It was not fine enough for him.

I am taking the liberty of sending it to another friend as I think he might be interested.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK
A.P.S. 2497
33 N. FT. THOMAS AVE.
FT. THOMAS, KY.

April 30, 1947.

Mr. Clarence W. Wilson,
Dime Bldg.,
Detroit 26, Mich.

Dear Clarence:

Here is a 3¢ 1851 cover which I dug up for you for $100.00 and I think that it is really a great bargain in these times and no doubt you will agree with me.

The stamp itself is not superb but if you ever found a better one I think that you could sell this one for more than you paid.

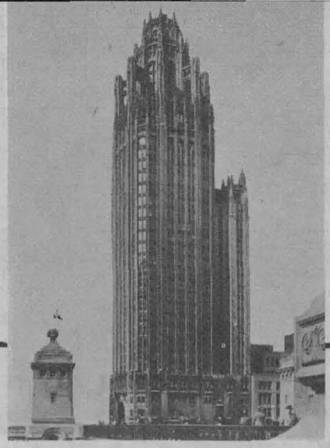
With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

5/3/47.

Sorry but I cannot use
it wasn't worth much
for Harold. Will be seeing you
on Wilson's
On Roots
K Clarence

Chicago Tribune
THE WORLD'S GREATEST NEWSPAPER


TRIBUNE TOWER • CHICAGO

April 29 1947

Dear Stan:

I held off sending the first day cover 3¢ 51 until I had heard from a Collector who had a nice one I want. He refuses to sell so far and I will have to keep the Hartford copy which I have in my collection until some later date.

The Phila copy is enclosed - as I remarked the stamp is not very fine but otherwise the cover is very nice. 65.00

Yours very truly
Richard McP Cabeen

100TH
ALWAYS AMERICA FIRST
ANNIVERSARY

CLARENCE WARNE WILSON
INSURANCE · SURETY BONDS
DIME BUILDING
DETROIT 26

April 8, 1947

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

Dear Stanley:

Your favor of the 2nd instant duly received and while, as you say, the cover is no bargain, I have never found bargains in covers of this class. I am enclosing my check for same.

When I was in New York last May, I dropped in at Stanley Gibbons. Mr. Eustick had a first-day cover of #33 that I would like to have had but he wanted $400 for it. I made inquiries with other New York dealers and I think about $150 was the maximum that any of them estimated its worth to be. This cover, likewise, is one of those covers that you cannot get at a bargain. It has a full margin, is an orange-brown stamp and a beauty. With your connections among the dealers in New York, you might be able to assist me in getting this cover at a reasonable price. I really think he "saw me coming" and the $400 was not his regular price. While it may have been sold long before this, it is the type of cover that most people would think twice about before putting that much money into it. The only reason that I would be interested is that it is one of the few #33 items that I do not have.

In connection with the C.S.T. cancellation that you sent me, Harold tells me that he has this cancellation on both the 69 issue and the 3¢ green. Evidently, the canceller has got into bad hands and is being used promiscuously. He could not put his hands on the items Sunday, when I talked to him, but said he would look them up.

Are you going to the Exhibition in May? The Starks, the Hutchinsons, including Mart and his wife, Fred Schmalzreidt and the Wilsons will be there and looking forward to seeing you at that time.

Sincerely yours,

Clarence Warne Wilson

CWW:hd

MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION OF INSURANCE AGENTS
MEMBER
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF INSURANCE AGENTS

6000-6-43

April 10th, 1947.

Mr. Clarence Warne Wilson,
1221 Dime Bldg.,
Detroit 26, Mich.

My dear Clarence:

Thanks very much for yours of the 8th with check for $50.00 for the Canton, Mass. cover. I was surprised to learn that Harold has this same cancelation on 3¢ 1869's and 3¢ Bank Notes. Of course, it is possible that the stamper was in use for some 20 years but it hardly seems possible. I would like to see any copies that Harold has and to examine the ink. I searched thru the Knapp records and he did not own an example of this cancel.

Regarding a 3¢ 1851 - July 1, 1851 cover. I quite agree that $400 for such an item would be ridiculous. I will have a collector friend in New York drop in and see Usticke and casually inquire if he has such an item. The chances are that I might be able to locate such a cover for you.

Yes, we will attend the Cipex, and have reservations at the Biltmore from May 16th to 25th. It certainly will be nice to see all of my Detroit friends.

With every good wish -

Cordially your,

P.S. What about Don MacGregor? Surely he would not miss the Big Show.

S.

April 16, 1947.

Mr. Richard McP. Cabeen,
180 N. Wabash Ave.,
Chicago 1, Ills.

Dear Dick:

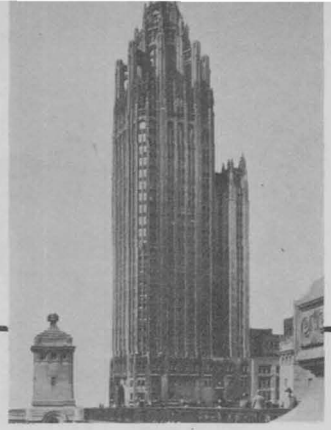
Yes, I would like to see both 3¢ 1851 covers and I will be glad to have both of them if you will also part with the Hartford cover.

Thanks so much for your prompt reply.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

Chicago Tribune
THE WORLD'S GREATEST NEWSPAPER


TRIBUNE TOWER • CHICAGO

new address 180 n. Wabash ave Chicago 1,

April 15 1946

Klear Stan -

Thanks for your card and my request about 24 cent 1861-65 issues, also for your card & the 9 ¢ re 3¢ 51 1st day cover.

I have a duplicate, Phila use, tied well clear & legible postmark, grid on stamps. First class except that stamp has some defects - priced at $65.00. Want to see? My collection copy is just a little better and is from Hartford in magenta. If I can engineer a proper deal I would sell the Hartford. Its not tied I believe - perhaps microscopically.

Best regards

Carmen

April 30, 1947.

Mr. Clarence W. Wilson,
Dime Bldg.,
Detroit 26, Mich.

Dear Clarence:

Here is a 3¢ 1851 cover which I dug up for you for $100.00 and I think that it is really a great bargain in these times and no doubt you will agree with me.

The stamp itself is not superb but if you ever found a better one I think that you could sell this one for more than you paid.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

June 22, 1947.

Mr. Maurice F. Cole,
C. H. Harrison Bldg.,
Ferndale 20, Mich.

Dear Mr. Cole:

Will you please give me a bit of information? Have you found the following to be quite rare?

Covers showing the Prepaid Ship Rate of 3¢ plus 2¢, paid by combinations of the 3¢ 1861 and the 2¢ Black Jack, or three 1¢ 1861 and a 2¢ Black Jack?

I might add that I have never seen an example of the latter.

Another combination could be, a pair of the B.J. and a 1¢ 1861.

I will certainly appreciate any information that you can give me on any such covers in your collection.

With kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

Law Offices
Maurice F. Cole
C. H. Harrison Building
Ferndale 20, Michigan
Telephone: R. O. 1344

Maurice F. Cole
Andrew J. Hollis

Circuit Court Commissioner
Cakland County

June 27, 1947

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

I was pleased to hear from you, although I am afraid I cannot give you much information that will be helpful.

After receipt of your letter, I called both Don MacGregor and Harold Stark so I would be sure just what you had in mind. Harold thought you referred to letters coming in from the Islands off the coast and which would bear a prepaid ship rate of 5¢. I have none of these covers.

I do, however, have two covers bearing a single Black Jack and 3¢, 1861, but both of them are from inland cities. One is from Indianapolis and one from an Ohio city, so these would not be what you have in mind.

I also have a cover from Boston bearing this same combination of the Black Jack and the 3¢, 1861 and addressed to Prince Edward Island. This, I understand, prepays the ship rate and the inland rate was to be collected on delivery.

I would be pleased to send this cover as well as any of the others to you, if you would care to examine them.

I am wondering if you ever came to any definite conclusion as to the use of a pair or two single Black Jacks on a cover. You may recall that we discussed this matter at Harold Stark's cottage two years ago and I sent you a list of fifty such covers. Did you ever come to a conclusion as to this useage?

I am sorry that I missed you at New York, but hope to see you at some of the later meetings.

Yours sincerely,

Maurice F. Cole

MFC/ee

MAURICE F. COLE

July 2nd, 1947.

Mr. Maurice F. Cole,
C.H.Harrison Bldg.,
Ferndale 20, Mich.

Dear Mr. Cole:

Thanks very much for yours of the 27th.

If it is not too much trouble may I see your three covers with the 3¢ plus 2¢ rate? I enclose stamped addressed envelope herewith.

Your cover from Boston to Prince Edward Island is most unusual and while I am quite familiar with this rate, I never saw a cover showing it made up of such a combination as a 3¢ 1861 and a 2¢ black Jack. I would like to photograph your cover and illustrate it in a future article.

This 5¢ rate - applied solely to single rate letters carried by Cunard ships (British packet) from Boston to Halifax and addressed to points in Nova Scotia, Newvoundland, Cape Breton and Prince Edward's Island. Inland postage was collected on delivery. I do not recall how early this rate went into effect but it dates back to the early 1850's.

RETURNED BY

I am enclosing a photograph of a very unusual cover postmarked Cincinnati to Chattanooga. The only way that I can explain this unusual rate is that it was brought into Cincinnati by a non-contract steamboat with a steamboat fee of 2¢ prepaid.

I am also enclosing another photograph showing a 5¢ rate prepaid by a 5¢ 1862 red-brown. It is possible that the writer did not have a 3¢ stamp and used a 5¢ value but I believe that this is a prepaid "Ship Fee" into Port Royal, S.C. That is, the letter was brought from "Folly Island" by a private ship. This is quite an unusual cover in my opinion.

RETURNED

RETURNED BY

I am also enclosing a cover showing the "Prepaid Ship Rate" into New York with a 3¢ 1861 and a B.J. I thought that you would like to see this.

I regret to state that I have been unable so far to locate any information regarding four-cent rates and I have about come to the conclusion that all such items werr over-payments. The fact that you have at least fifty covers with two Black Jacks, and that I have run across many others of the same would seem to indicate that there was in effect some letter rate that required

4¢. On the other hand, I have not been able to find any covers with dates of use after July 1, 1863 with such a rate prepaid by a 3¢ and a 1¢ stamp.

RETURNED BY

Harold Brooks owned a cover at one time with a 2¢ 1869 and a pair of 1¢ 1869. I am enclosing a photograph of this cover, and you will note that the postmark is not legible. One wonders why the writer put on an extra 1¢ stamp?

While at the recent Cipex in New York I met quite a nice gentleman from your town of Ferndale. His name is Mr. N. A. Woodworth, head of the N. A. Woodworth Co. I am wondering if you are acquainted with him? If he is O.K. in every respect I thought perhaps he might be eligible for membership in the D.P.S. I suggested to Harold that he get in touch with him as he seemed like he was very much interested in our Nineteenth Century issues.

I trust that you will pardon this lengthy letter.

Cordially yours,

Law Offices

Maurice F. Cole

C. H. Harrison Building

Ferndale 20, Michigan

Telephone: R. O. 1344

Maurice F. Cole

Andrew J. Hollis

Circuit Court Commissioner
Cakland County

July 9, 1947

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

I have your recent letter relative to the covers with the 5¢ postage rate, together with the photos of three interesting covers which you sent and a New York cover showing this rate. These are all very interesting and I appreciate your submitting these to me for examination.

I enclose herewith four covers. If you wish to photograph any of them you are at a perfect liberty to do so and if you wish to remove the two covers which I have mounted on the larger sheets you are perfectly welcome to do that also.

One of the covers is the cover showing the 5¢ rate to Prince Edward Island, one shows the 5¢ rate from Indianapolis to Logansport and the third cover originates in Freeport, Illinois and is addressed to Lewisburg, Pa. The fourth cover bears only a pair of Black Jacks but seems to me to have several markings that are hard to explain, particularly the Boston British Packet marking showing a prepaid rate of 48¢. If I have any other covers that you would be interested in seeing, I would be pleased to send them to you. I have about 2500 covers with Black Jacks in just about every combination and anytime you are interested in seeing any of them, I shall be pleased to send them to you.

Yours sincerely,

Maurice F. Cole

MAURICE F. COLE

MFC/ee

By M.F.Cole-7/10-47-Markings In Black-On Back "Boston BR. PKT-JAN ?-Also Prince E-FE.10.1866. (13½)

By M.F.COLE - BLUE INDIANAPOLIS - FEB 1865

By M.F.Cole 7/10-47-Red "10 cts" Also "HALIFAX" Also Boston Br PKT - BLACK PORTLAND - Nothing on Back

By M.F.COLE 7/10-47-From FREEPORT Ills-Nov 18-64-In Black

July 12, 1947.

Mr. Maurice F. Cole,
C. H. Harrison Bldg.,
Ferndale 20, Mich.

Dear Mr. Cole:

Thanks so much for your kindness in sending me the four covers which I am returning herewith.

A Regarding the cover from Halifax, I believe that the Boston marking was applied thru error and was not afterwards crossed out by the postal clerk as was generally the custom in such cases. Surely the letter went from Halifax (Aug. 4, 1864) to Portland, and evidently by British Packet from Halifax to Boston (Aug. 6). This would have brought it thru the foreign division of the Boston P.O. at which time the marking was applied. From Boston it went to Portland and was forwarded back to Boston on Aug. 15, 1864. The pair of B.J.'s show an overpayment of 1¢ in the forwarding rate from Portland, of which you are aware.

B The cover from Boston to P.E.I. is most unusual and I never before saw this 5¢ rate paid by this combination. I have heard several explanations of the "13½" marking but none so far that seemed to apply.

I have no explanation for the other two covers with 5¢ rates, but I was very pleased to see these covers.

With kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

Law Offices
Maurice F. Cole
C. H. Harrison Building
Ferndale 20, Michigan
Telephone: R. O. 1344

July 23, 1947

Maurice F. Cole
Andrew J. Hollis

Circuit Court Commissioner
Cakland County

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

You had sent me the enclosed envelope to be used in returning some of the covers which you sent me for examination, but I sent the covers in another envelope so I return this envelope to you herewith so you can use it on some other occasion.

Yours sincerely,

Maurice F. Cole

MAURICE F. COLE

MFC/ee

PALMER HOUSE
CHICAGO

2. 8. 47

Dear Stanley,

Very sorry we didn't have the opportunity of renewing our acquaintance. Had a very nice time with Harold.

By the way, I was casting my mind over for Countries that printed early stamps from recessed copper plates. Here are a few (apart from N. S. W. & Tasmania) which it might be worth your while looking up in the relevant stamp literature.

Viz:

Belgium 1st Issues

Holland " (am not sure about this)

Mexico: { Hidalgo, Eagle, Maximilian types

Naples: 'Three legs' design etc

Argentine: Rivadavias (These printing plates were produced by electrotyping from a master plate.)

Sicily: Bourbons - also Electrotypes.

A HILTON HOTEL

I have no references with me & one or other of the above may turn out to be 'steel' — but I think you will find most are copper.

The only other possibility in my view is a soft steel (ie. unhardened) plate.

Don't bother to reply to this — I will write you later from Melbourne — hope to arrive there at end of month or beginning of September.

Best wishes

from Bill Parnell

C. W. BROOKS, VICE-PRESIDENT
E. E. BROOKS, VICE-PRESIDENT
H. C. BROOKS, PRESIDENT
N. B. SIMONS, SECRETARY
B. B. RICHARDS, TREASURER

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DOMESTIC BRANCH OFFICES
NEW YORK:
500 FIFTH AVENUE
CHICAGO:
5 NORTH WABASH AVE.

Sunday

August 31, 1947

Dear Stan:

Enclosed is a skeleton outline of a new comedy I have had in mind for some time. A copy is also going to Edgar. I am obliged to caution you both to keep this secret, for although it is not as yet covered by copyright, sometimes inadvertent leaks are taken advantage of by others, and I really think I've got something here. You never before knew, I think, that I aspired becoming a playwright. But we all have hidden talents which under the right circumstances may blossom forth successfully, to the surprise of family or close friends. So this inspiration I am carefully guarding, giving word of it only to you and Edgar. Not even my wife has been informed. Women, you know, at times do not understand or appreciate their husbands -- "too close to the trees to see the forest."

On October 2nd I speak at the monthly meeting of the Mary Marshall Chapter, D. A. R., on the subject of the Indians in and around early Marshall, 1830-40. Had I ever been appointed an honorary chieftain, like so many big-wigs have, a gaily decorated war bonnet would, I am certain, go over big. But I can on occasion WHOOP. This takes about a half hour's preparation, and is a trifle expensive. Next comes the Chicago Show, October 17-18-19, where I intend exhibiting one, two, or all three collections, non-competitively. I might emit a few whoops there, just to show you what Pottawattomie talents I really have.

Sincerely

Doc

A COMEDY -- "THE GUEST"

ACT 1

(Scene: Benson family dinner with distinguished philatelic guest)

D.G. - "Do you know what I heard everywhere in the East?"

Mr. B. - "No, what?"

D.G. - "Well, I was told by many people this story, which I thought awfully good. It was that Warren Colson, on his second visit to Middleville and at the Benson breakfast table, after villifying all other dealers and prominent collectors he volunteered details of his clever manipulations while attending the Ferrari sales, showing even to the uninitiated those same characteristics which he condemned in others. And when he left, Mrs. Benson said to her husband: 'I have always welcomed and always liked the stamp people you have asked here.....but I have just one favor to ask, which is that you don't ask that man here again.'"

Mrs. B. - "You say the story went around?"

D. G. - "Oh yes, I heard it <u>everywhere</u>."

ACT 2

(Lapse of six days. Scenes; Varied.)

(Here follows in pantomime the unusual performance of soiled shirts, collars, and underwear on floor, chairs, dressers; the exhibition of soiled face and bath towels, and toilet paper, on bathroom floor; leaking taps leaving irremovable iron stains; overturned restaurant checks and tumblers everywhere; murmured criticisms of American food; praise of Old Albion (which by no means could ever have been considered perfidious); chits, green fees, beer tabs, etc. blithely disregarded; ad infinitum, ad nauseum.

ACT 3

(Scene: Railway Station, with customary fond "Good-Byes")

Train:- With the old time huffing and puffing, "The Big Choo-Choo!"

ACT 4

(Scene: Benson Family Dinner)

Mr. B. (pleasantly) "Well, we went through quite a session."

Mrs. B. (irritably) "I told you we were not in position to entertain anyone."

Mr. B. (with assumed irritation) "Well, what could I do?"

Mrs. B. - "Now listen, you asked this man here, he was your guest, and regardless of what happened for Heaven's sake don't be discourteous and above all do not say anything outside....no, not even to Stanley Ashbrook or Edgar Jessup. You know how those remarks travel."

Mr. B. (meekly) "All right, I agree with you."

(CURTAIN)

SA

CAUTION, MESSRS. A & J. THIS IS ATOMIC -- PLEASE DESTROY BEFORE RAYS BECOME ACTIVE.

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Henry A. Meyer

MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT · CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL
RESIDENCE 516 READ STREET
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PHILATELIC LINES

OHIO & MISSISSIPPI RIVER PACKET COVERS
GERMAN POSTAL HISTORY
FRENCH REVOLUTIONARY & NAPOLEONIC COVERS
CAPE TRIANGLES
EARLY BRAZIL
HAWAII

Dec. 21, 1947.

Dear Stan:

It was interesting to receive your letter of Dec. 15 concerning the lot in the 1910 auction, Hawaii 5c blue used together with two splits of U.S. 12c 1851.

I am sure that the piece there listed is either the same one which the Admiral now has, or else its twin. The Admiral's combination is not a cover, but a piece of cover, with the Hawaii and the two halves of U.S. all nicely tied together.

Since we have not corresponded about that item, I am sending you for study, our section on the use of U.S. bisects in Hawaii. I am also sending that much of a photograph of some of the Admiral's things, showing a single half which he confidently believes came from Hawaii, and his pair of halves. The copy of that section is the copy which I sent the Admiral for his approval, and which he returned with his corrections. When you have finished with the section and the photographs, please return them.

About the middle of the first page of the section, you will note a part of a paragraph labelled "Deleted." Last summer, Boggs suddenly popped up with the cover there referred to. I never saw the cover-front, but only the photograph - very clear. I immediately spotted it as a fake by some of the markings on the cover. The Admiral completely agreed with me. Mr. Davey thought it was entirely all right; but Mr. Davey is much better on the technical points about the stamps themselves than on the postal history, odd usages, etc. He can think up theories even funnier than Blake's about covers, but he is just mighty good on minor varieties, counterfeits, etc. Putting certain pieces of information together, I believe the fake cover belongs to Caspary and Boggs somehow got a photograph of it from Caspary. Since the cover is definietly bad, we deleted that much of our story. I did not send you the photograph, nor lay the problem before you, because I had recently pestered you so much about the covers in the Fox sale, and about some other cover, and did not want to make you weary of our problems. I do not know where the photograph is now; perhaps Mr. Davey has it.

Since you turned up that old auction listing, I think you will like to read this section, see the photographs, and know about the fake cover.

I am returning your Colson bulletin. Thanks for the loan of it. I think the Admiral has already supplied us all the information contained in it, but I am glad to know what is being published.

The New York Postmaster cover came back safely. It is perfectly O.K. for you to write it up and illustrate it. I would not be able to do that myself until after the Hawaii book is finished, and when that happens, I will probably feel that I owe myself a little vacation from philatelic writing. I really think I did well when I made a quick decision to buy that cover, when I saw it for sale at the bourse in St. Louis a year ago. I had not thought of buying such an item, so I had to think fast. One thing is sure, the majority of New Yorks on cover are not on envelopes.

The Admiral's 1820 cover is being illustrated and written up. The Ms., as I sent it in discussed the 1825 letter, but the Admiral substituted the description and picture of the 1820 cover. Isn't that wonderful, to have a letter from one of the original group of missionaries, and written only a couple of months after they arrived there? That is getting back mighty nearly to a first day of existence of a settlement which later became a government. I have not even seen the photograph; I hope it is good.

I was not aware that there was a Honolulu straight line in a recent Fifield sale. I must write Fifield and ask him (if it is not violating a confidence) who was the owner, who is the new owner, what it brought, and whether there was an illustration.

Meanwhile, will you give me the date, please? Perhaps I then know which cover in our records it is. And do you mean that you had it for study, and made a photograph? If that is the case, I would very much like to have a print.

A couple of weeks ago, I wrote Boggs a very nasty letter, bawling him out for changing my wording to suit his whimsy, changing the sequence of "Parts" of the book, changing all our plans for the arrangement of the specialized catalogue, etc. When he replied, he was all sugar, thanking me for the nice things I did say about the typography, but completely ignoring the bawling out for changing everything. If I get much more angry about the changes he has made, I will withdraw my name as a co-author. And if I let Davey know that I am doing that, he will not only withdraw his name, but he will withdraw his stuff, and then they will have to completely rewrite the book, omitting all references to everything he has done, and substituting -- I don't know what. Yet on the Admiral's account, I don't want to do this unless I simply cannot accept his changes and preserve my academic integrity.

I have covered almost too many topics in this letter. I hope I have not confused you by jumping suddenly from one topic to another out of context. There is no hurry at all about a reply to this.

Yours sincerely,

Henry

Dec. 30, 1947.

Mr. Henry A. Meyer,
516 Read St.,
Evansville, Ind.

Dear Henry:

Thanks for your letter of the 21st.

I am returning herewith the photograph and the Hawaii manuscript pages. I was glad to see the photograph, because never before have I senn anything like it. I was pleased when I ran across the auction lot sold in 1910. The catalogue description did not state it was simply a "piece." I assumed that it was a cover. Too bad it is not.

Re - the photo of the bisect of "1 SEP." It is also too bad that this is not a whole cover so that we could have more evidence that it came from Hawaii. The Admiral seems to have some pretty fair evidence that it did, but it is far from conclusive.

Regarding bisects and their use at San Francisco in August, and September of 1853. I had an article in "Stamps" several months ago on this subject. Did you see it? It had a heading about 10¢ 1847 bisects.

Re - your reference to the ruling of the P.M.G. regarding bisects dated "Nov. 10, 1853." Can you tell me your authority for this? So far as I am aware, I am the only one who ever published anything on this prohibition by the P.M.G., but I do not recall whether it was published in my One Cent book or in some article. If you have data other than that that I used I would like very much to have the reference.

I fail to get your point about the use of two bisects after Apr. 1, 1855. Of course, two of them tied together were no more legal than one used by itself. I judge that what you meant to convey was that two used together, (such as the Admiral's item) would be more apt to fool postal clerks. It was news to me that the S.F. P.O. sent 12¢ splits to Honolulu and that the office got stuck with a supply of them. I am not doubting your statement in the slightest degree but I would like to know if you have any authority for it. According to my records, mail for the east, for the sailing of Oct. 1, 1853, from San Francisco, with 12¢ bisects, were rated as Unpaid, so you see they were prohibited before Nov. 10, 1853. I have made quite a study of the uses of the 12¢ bisects at S.F. in August and September 1853, and have quite a

nice record of covers.

I don't seem to have a record of a single cover that I can recall offhand that I thought originated in Hawaii with a 12¢ bisect. Do you know of any outside of those in the enclosed photograph? The earliest record thatI have of a 12¢ bisect used at San Francisco in the summer of 1853 is "Aug 1."

Regarding the Hind cover, Lot 146. I never saw this and all I know about it is the catalogue description. What made you think that it is bad?

In the deleted paragraph the S.F. date was given as Aug 2 - The eastern mail left on the 1st and the next mail on Aug. 16 (1853). The Hind catalogue description also gives Aug 2. It states that the bisect is "well tied," - was it "well tied" by a Honolulu postmark?

You mentioned Mr. Davey. I do not recall such a person. Who is he? I certainly would like to see the cover or a photograph of it.

I was pleased to learn that the Admiral's early cover is being illustrated. It is surely marvelous that such an early item survived.

Regarding the Honolulu straight line. Don't bother to write Fifield as I can give you the information. In addition, did Fifield ever give you any information? Did he ever go out of his way to assist you with any data? If so, I would be pleased to know about it. He may be a nice chap, but if he is, it would sure be news to me.

I made a negative of the cover and later I will send you a print. This cover was #2 in the list that you sent me in July 1845 - You had it listed as follows:

(2) Nov. 30, 1850 in blue -
(no description)
("are in care of a Board of Trustees in Boston")

The cover is addressed to New York and the S.F. postmark in red (large circle) is "1 JAN 40." It was Lot 207 - Fifield Sale of Nov. 20-21, 1947. It was purchased by Ezra Cole. It is a buff envelope, not a folded letter. The marking in blue is very, very rare as you are aware. I suppose this is the same one as the one you listed. It is addressed (feminine)

Mrs. D.S.Sherman
Washington
Duchess County
New York
U.S.A.

I note your remarks about Boggs. I hope and pray that you manage some how to get along with him until after the book is in print. It will pay in the end. He is very difficult, but so far I have managed not to blow up. With New Year Greetings -

Cordially yours,

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EARLY BRAZIL
HAWAII

Jan. 3, 1948

Dear Stan:

Your barrage of questions concerning the single bisect used from Hawaii, the pair of bisects used from Hawaii, and the article about them, rather puts me on the spot. It forces me to tell you some things which I hope I need not reveal to our public. First let's enumerate the various points you brought up.

1. Single bisect: not positively from Hawaii.
2. Date of ruling against bisects: Nov. 10, 1853.
3. Did the S.F. P.O. definitely send bisects to Hawaii?
4. Letters for sailing of Oct. 1, 1853, with bisects were rated unpaid.
5. Do we know any others?
6. Earliest date you know is Aug. 1 (1853).
7. In deleted paragraph, date given as Aug. 2, but mail left 1st and 16th.

In all this study, and in all our studies of early Hawaiian stamps and postal history, I am sorry to say that I have to plead complete ignorance. I know absolutely nothing about these things except what I have learned in the doing of this book, and I have no background for that. I have simply taken what the Admiral furnished me, and transcribed it -- at the most composing an introductory paragraph or calling attention to something brought out earlier. Every item enumerated above is exactly as furnished to me by the Admiral. In the section on the bisects, my only interpolations were:
1. After the Admiral said the S.F. P.M. must have sent some bisects to Honolulu, I added "or he may have sent some 12c stamps with directions for bisecting."
2. I added that the two halves were not from the same stamp nor from the same sheet, being of different shades, a fact which I instantly observed when I saw the piece in the Admiral's collection.

Another trouble I have had, besides my lack of background, is the fact that the Admiral, throughout this work, has been very liberal with the word "undoubtedly." For example, I believe he said, "Undoubtedly the San Francisco postmaster supplied some of the bisects to Mr. Whitney in filling an order for 3c stamps, of which they were out." I could not begin to count up the number of times I surreptitiously changed "undoubtedly" to "probably" or "perhaps." The Admiral has drawn a good many inferences which I consider as taking in too much territory. But I do not feel qualified to question the judgment of a Rear Admiral, and I just have to ~~keep~~ *hope* that not many of our readers will do so. I cannot defend an overworked thesis, and I hate to bombard the Admiral with forwarded letters questioning our facts and conclusions.

I tried to find the original page on which the Admiral did his write-up of this section. I wanted to let you lay that and my draft side by side for study to see that I have not added anything essential of my own. It should be here, but I can't find it. It is probably among that vast mass of material I have here and which I will be so glad to store when the book has appeared.

I did not have in mind the idea that the Honolulu postmaster wanted to fool anybody. I just meant to convey that he figured that although one half stamp had been declared no good, perhaps two half stamps would be accepted as equivalent to a whole stamp and thus give him a chance to use up his dead stock. A 12c stamp was of no use until after April 1, 1855, and he may not have thought of it until he happened to run across them two years later. He may have had them filed somewhere and found them while looking for something else, as we all so often do. If I gave the impression that I thought there was an effort at deception, I would gladly correct it, but the Admiral constantly reminds me that we must now forego all efforts to add anything or to make any further improvements, lest we delay publication. He seems to have a veritable horror of delaying the book. For over two years now, he has been almost nagging me about delaying the work; yet when Boggs did absolutely nothing from March until October, and I merely wrote and asked who was delaying the job now and why, the Admiral became very touchy and told me that I was "unduly exercised." Never again will I do anything as a favor for a rich man; they think they can order one around. If I ever do any more philatelic writing after this, it will be because I want to, if I want to, and when I want to.

You point out that although the bad bisect cover was postmarked S.F. Aug. 2, the mail in August, 1853, went out on the 1st and the 16th. That makes the cover seem suspicious, does it not? Did by any chance the August mail of 1855 go out on the 2nd? I ask about 1855 because the Admiral's sailing list shows two ships leaving Honolulu July 2, 1855 , one of which reached S.F. July 28, in time to make the Aug. 1 (or 2nd) outgoing mail from S.F. and the other most probably did, too. (Now we have a complication. The Admiral's identification of the year as 1853 is based upon thefact that the bisects were used in 1853 -- he had not seen the photograph of the cover when he wrote that. I suppose he got "July 2" from the auction catalog. But my carbon copy seems to say "July 3." Yet I cannot find a July 3 sailing in any year which Elliott studied for the Admiral. I can see how the letter might be postmarked July 2 and the ship did not get away until July 3, but not vice versa. Yet here is the cover -- whether the stamps on it belong there or not, the postmark apparently says July 3, but we have no sailing on July 3, 4, or 5 between 1851 and 1859. We have some in 1849 and 1850, but the other markings on the cover had not been devised at that time.)

What caused us to think that rhe bisect cover from the Hind sale is bad? For one thing, it bears the marking "HONOLULU HAWAIIAN ISLANDS" and not "HONOLULU U.S. POSTAGE PAID. Second, it bears the further marking "SHIP 12" and not "PAID 6." Both of those markings indicate letters with U.S. postage unpaid. Even if the S.F. postmaster rated the bisect as no good and used "SHIP 12" which means the same as "Due 12," still the Honolulu postmaster would have rated the bisect as O.K., if he sold it and/or applied it, and would have used the postmark "HONOLULU U.S. POSTAGE PAID."

Third reason: The divided bar killer by which the Hawaiian 5c and the 12c bisect were tied on and tied together was too heavy, too well struck, and too clean to ring true. You know the Honolulu killers were usually rather lightly struck, as though the pad needed inking. This one was done with the utmost care. The cover was nothing but a perefctly good and valid stampless cover, sometime between 1851 and 1863, while the rate was 10c plus 2c ship fee,, until somebody added the bisect, and perhaps the Hawaiian stamp also, and tied them together and to the cover with a fake cancellation.

The Admiral gareed with me at once that the cover looked bad to him and that as a result, we had better delete all reference to it in our story. Mr. Davey thought up a theory to account for it, but it is too complicared and does not make sense to me. If I get the photograph back from him, I will try to locate his letter in which he explains the cover as perfectly good. I will then send you both.

Now back to the two pieces of cover which we do accept as valid. Do you think we are laying ourselves wide open for criticism and perhaps ridicule? If I tell the Admiral so, he will just chide me for wanting to delay the work again; but he might be more disposed to listen to you, as an authority whose word counts with him. Do you think you ought to write to him, tell him of our correspondence on this subject and my submitting that section to you, and advise him to delete the entire section and its cuts, and say nothing about bisects used in Hawaii? He might be willing to kill some type, even if he is not willing to order some resetting. If you think he is fixing for some criticism and ridicule, and that you can save him by this warning, go ahead and write him and tell him all that we have been writing each other about this. He might accept your advice.

You ask who Mr. Davey is. He is a Hawaii collector of many years standing; all his collecting life has been devoted to Hawaii. He has compiled our specialized catalog, our listing of postal markings, or listing of forgeries, and our lsiting of proofs and essays. His interest is entirely in stamps and in "cancellations" on them; his understanding of postal history is very sketchy. He is mighty good at getting the facts -- but I had to do an awful lot of rewriting of his descriptions. Now Win has rewritten my rewritings, so there isn't much left of Mr. Davey's work except the facts. But he has done us a great service in getting all those facts together.

My part in the book has been just about what it was in the Brazil Centenary book: to organize a working crew, to get their co-operation, to know who they were and where to find them and what each one was qualified for, and to co-ordinate their efforts into a harmonious whole. I also had to know where to find useful material previously published; and I surprised the Admiral by laying before him several documents which he had never before seen or heard of.

Today I received a very nice reply from Fifield about the straight-line marking. But I'd still like to have a photograph from you. I have written Ezra asking whether it is for sale, and how much. Plenty-I'm afraid. I probably can't afford it, but I'd sure like to have it. This cover is one of the two which Maurice C. Blake told us about, which would "never" come on the market because the Board of Trustees considered them archives. They must have changed their mind. This will be the first time it comes into the possession of a collector. Well, I believe that finsihes everything for this time, so I'll close and write to Dr. Chase about Napoleonic covers.

Yours sincerely,

Henry

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EARLY BRAZIL
HAWAII

11

Jan. 7, 1948

Dear Stan:

Thanks a lot for letting me see this very interesting cover. Isn't that a beautiful strike of the "HONOLULU HAWAIIAN ISLANDS" postmark? I, too, believe that the letter now in the envelope is the one which belongs there. In that case, the stamp was certainly a 5c Missionary. The ultra-violet lamp emphasizes the place where the stamp once was.

Here is the information on Nov. 2 sailings from Honolulu:
1850 The Penelope sailed Nov. 2; too early for the circular townmark.
1851 Two sailings on Nov. 5; also too early for this townmark.
1852 Either the Baltic or the Baltimore sailed Nov. 2; reached S.F. Nov. 22.
1855 Yankee sailed Nov. 3, reached S.F. Nov. 19.
No use to look after Nov. 1857, because this Honolulu townmark was replaced by the big one about the middle of 1857.

All these sailing lists will be in the book, to enable collectors to trace down dates of covers. I preen myself that it was at my suggestion (in the translation of the Kohl Hawaii) that the Admiral undertook the compilation of this list of sailings. He paid Elliott $600 to do the searching through old newspaper files. It is just by good luck that I am right now proofreading the sailing list, otherwise I could not have given you these dates until the book appeared.

It would be mighty interesting if you could locate the 5c Missionary which used to be on this cover. It could be one of the several which the Admiral owns. Why not take it east with you next time, or send it to the Admiral, and ask him whether one of his matches the wee bit of tie-on which is visible at the right-hand end of the envelope?

I was hoping that the letter might contain some interesting or informative local color of those days, but alas, it contains only "sweet nothings."

I have written Mr. Davey for the photograph of the bad bisect cover. I hope he is the one who has it. I fished out all the correspondence about it, and if I get the photograph, I will submit the whole file to you for an opinion.

Yours sincerely,

Henry

Jan. 10, 1948.

Mr. Henry A. Meyer,
516 Read St.,
Evansville 11, Ind.

Dear Henry:

Yours of the 7th returning the Honolulu cover received. Many thanks for the data. Please do not mention this cover to the Admiral or to anyone else. It does not belong to me and the owner made that request of me. I will advise you of any further developments regarding it. The 5¢ stamp might be in the Caspary collection or in the Admiral's lot. I hope that it can be located.

The use is surely 1852 because the sailing in Dec. 1855 was Dec. 5 not Dec. 1st, and as you stated, 1850 and 1851 are too early for this Honolulu marking.

I do hope that your friend can send you a photo of the Hind cover.

Regarding yours of the 3rd. First, the Aug. 2 date. According to my records, the mailship sailed on Aug. 1, 1853, and I have records and photos of several covers with bisects tied by the S.F. p.m. of Aug. 1.

In 1855, according to my records, the Ohio sailed on Aug. 1. I do not think there is any error on this date as this was the last of the 1st and 16th sailings. After this sailing the new sailing dates were the 5th and 20th - that is, the next sailing was Aug. 18 - the next Sept. 5th - etc. I am wondering if the S.F. p.m. is really Aug. 2 - perhaps it is like this:

1
AUG

From your description the cover does appear to be bad but I'll withhold further comment in the hope that I can see a photo.

Regarding bisects from Hawaii. My advice would be to let it go as you have written it and if anyone chooses to criticise - well let them do so. If you kill what you have it will be worse than to have some criticism of not enough facts. Your mention of bisects used from Honolulu will remind the reader that such uses might have occurred. Such mention is better than none at all, in my opinion.

With best wishes, and again thanks.

Cordially yours,

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EARLY BRAZIL
HAWAII

Jan. 17, 1948.

Dear Stan:

Thanks for the photograph of the Honolulu straight line from the Fifield sale. I had a nice letter from Ezra saying that he bought the cover "for myself and have not decided what to charge for it." I suppose that means he bought it for stock but is in no hurry to sell. So I wrote him that there is a similar cover (I gave him date, etc.) in the same place where this one came from, and I commissioned him to watch the sales for me, and to buy it for me if it can be had at anything like a price comparable to what he paid. I did not even hint where I learned the price; he probably thinks I got a priced catalog. Fifield told me the price. I hope he agrees to accept the commission.

Now about covers with a 5c Missionary but no U.S. stamp. We have not made a census of 5c Missionaries, as we have of 2c, but I'll tell you what I know without too much research. The Admiral has one such cover, addressed to Lancaster, Pa. U.S. postage was collect, letter marked "SHIP 12." The Atherton collection has two of them, both addressed to S.F., one type I, one type II, Both have the pretty little fancy circle "SHIP 6." The Worthington collection had one, addressed to Portland. Me. It was lot 1003 on Dec. 12, 1917, and brought $910. Both Atherton covers formerly belonged to Crocker. There was no such cover in the Green sale nor in the Hind sale of 1935, but the Admiral has several times quoted to me a date of 1932 or 1933 for a Hind sale. When I asked him about it, he replied that there was an earlier sale at which part of the material (including some Hawaiians) was sold, before the syndicate bought the rest. I will not say a word about the cover you showed me unless you give me permission.

Mr. Davey writes me that he returned me the photograph of the bisect which I declare bad, in August. I can't find it. I hope it will turn up when I have a grand sorting of Hawaii stuff after the job is all finished. I have all the correspondence among Boggs, Harris, Davey and myself sorted out, but it is useless to send the correspondence until I find the photograph. Then I will make one letter contain that and that only. I do not remember right now how plain the date "2/ AUG." was. Was there any year in the early 50's when the mail ship left S.F. on Aug. 2?

I'll be very busy for the next two weeks with the end of the old semester and the beginning of the new. So if I seem to be ignoring mail, you will know the reason. I hope soon to ask you for some Postal Guides, just as soon as our committee member who handles the study of the Guides says he can handle some.

Yours sincerely,

Henry

Feb. 3, 1947.

Mr. Henry A. Meyer,
516 Read St.,
Evansville, Ind.

Dear Henry:

In the Richey collection I found another one of those "Maysville WAY" and enclose it herewith for your look.

PAID
FEB 10 1947

I do not want to tempt you but Richey priced the 3¢ 1869 cover (it was in black) @ $15.00 and this one @ $7.50.

You will note it is addressed to Gen'l Kautz, well known Civil War officer. Also to "Newport Barracks." Incidentally this is the only cover that I never saw addressed to the army post "Newport Barracks." This post was the successor to old Fort Washington, now the site of Cincinnati. The block houses were built 1787-1789. Later (1804) the Garrison was moved directly across the river at the mouth of the Licking River and the post was named the "Newport Barracks".

During the Mexican War, troops were mobilized there from all over the middle west and sent down by steamboats. In 1888 the Garrison was moved back here in the Kentucky Hills and the new post was named Fort Thomas after Gen'l Geo. H. Thomas of Civil War fame. Thus the Fort Thomas Army Post is the direct successor to the first army post established west of the Allegheny Mountains.

This and his 3¢ 1869 cover are the only two that I have ever seen with this <u>Maysville WAY</u> marking.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

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MEMBER: COLLECTORS CLUB, S.P.A., A.P.S., C.P.S.

Henry A. Meyer

MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT • CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL
RESIDENCE 516 READ STREET
TELEPHONE 6380
EVANSVILLE • INDIANA

PHILATELIC LINES

OHIO & MISSISSIPPI RIVER PACKET COVERS
GERMAN POSTAL HISTORY
FRENCH REVOLUTIONARY & NAPOLEONIC COVERS
CAPE TRIANGLES
EARLY BRAZIL
HAWAII

Feb. 7, 1947

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

Dear Stan:

I am mighty glad to get the Maysville Way cover. Enclosed is my check for $7.50 in payment. Letting our thoughts go back to our original discussion of this marking, it is a very curious usage so late, after the whole way-letter regulations had been abolished, and apparently not used earlier, as far as we have records. If you should get a Maysville Steam in the same style (it exists) I hope to get one from you.

Your allusion to the Richey collection has me puzzled. Has Sam sold his collection? Or died? I had not heard of either thing happening. My young friend John Risch, really of Evansville, but working in Chicago, the theft of whose Brazil collection is now being announced in the stamp papers, ~~xxxxxx~~ studied at a small college in Ohio and roomed there with Sam's sister. Sam visited his sister and complimented John's Guatemala collection. My old friend Jules Held stood well in Sam's esteem.

Regarding the Hawaii job, I find to my intense disappointment that Frank Bruns has had absolutely nothing done with the material I sent him in December, 1945. He has neither had any cuts made from the stamps, covers, and photographs I sent him then, both my own and borrowed from friends, nor has he had any text linotyped. I might just as well have had all the material here all this time where I could refer to it constantly for uniformity of style, numbering of cuts, etc.

Again regarding the Hawaii covers in the Fox sale, we, all three of us, were so confused and said so many wrong things that the only way to make the corrections is to start over. I can't do that now; I am overwhelmed with school work and S.P.A. work. I may reopen the subject later; but it is too late to get any of it into the book, and I am really sick of the whole Hawaii matter. I wish I had never heard of the project.

Evansville is this year celebrating the centennial of its receiving a city charter from the legislature. Our school will make its contribution to the celebration on Feb. 25. As a person known to be interested in early Evansville history, I have been chosen to write the script. And as a person interested in pictorial photography, I have been chosen to furnish the photograph for the cut for the front cover. This must all be ready by Monday. And two huge lots of S.P.A. material to the regional representatives with directions must go out by Monday. So you can see that I have a heavy weekend ahead of me. I cannot even think about Hawaii until after Feb. 25. Meanwhile, I am simply filing everything that comes in and will take care of it when I can.

Yours sincerely,

Henry

Feb. 10, 1947.

Mr. Henry A. Meyer,
516 Read St.,
Evansville 11, Ind.

Dear Henry:

Yours of the 7th received.

Thanks very much for the check for the Maysville Way cover. In my opinion I think that it merely denoted origin. I do not recall a Maysville "Steam" but will let you see one if I ever turn up such an item.

Sam Richey is entirely out of stamps but is alive and in perfect health. I placed the greater part of his several collections at private sale and still have a lot of odds and ends left.

Your friend attended Miami University at Oxford which was Sam's home town. His maiden sister, Miss Jennie Richey still lives there and I know her quite well.

Yes, I know all about Held and how he fixed up covers to sell to Sam. I do not know how many fakes that I destroyed that were made by Held. It was ashame because Sam was wonderful to that fellow, who was just a plain crook.

I was surprised at your remarks re - the covers in the Fox sale because I was not aware that I had sized any of them up wrong. If so, I can assure you that I will be glad to have you point out my errors. We live and learn in this game and we never get to the point where we are bgyond making foolish errors at times, so I will await further advice on this subject from you.

I cannot understand why Bruns treated you the way he has. I have always been under the impression that Bruns was simply dead on his feet, or else that he didn't know what it was all about.

When you get a bit of spare time - write me - and in the meantime I'll keep your letter before me.

With regards - Cordially yours,

June 21, 1947.

Mr. Henry A. Meyer,
516 Read St.,
Evansville, Ind.

Dear Henry:

Here is a photograph of a cover that was sent in to me recently.

The S.F. p.m. is surely(?) Aug. 11, 1864. The Admiral has a similar cover showing a S.F. marking of Dec. 8, 1864.

Due to a misunderstanding in the Islands for a period in 1864 it was supposed that the 10¢ rate to the U. S. (5¢ Hawaii plus 3¢ U. S. plus 2¢ ship) could be paid with a lone 10¢ U. S. stamp. Is that your understanding of such a rate as this?

Sorry you did not get down to the Cipex.

With regards -

Yours etc.,

HOBBY INTERESTS

PICTORIAL PHOTOGRAPHY
EARLY EVANSVILLE HISTORY
EARLY OHIO RIVER STEAMBOATS
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PHILATELIC LINES

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CAPE TRIANGLES
EARLY BRAZIL
HAWAII

July 1, 1947

Subject: Hawaiian Cover, U.S. 10c.

Dear Stan: -

Last night I typed you a letter about this cover of which you sent me a photograph. This morning I decided to sort all unfiled correspondence in my Hawaii drawer, and it is lucky that I did, because I find that this is the self-same cover about which I had some correspondence with Messrs. Harmer Rooke back in February. I am quoting here my letter of Feb. 24 in full:

"Enclosed are two bids on your sale of Feb. 26. Lot 45 in the sale, the Honolulu cover with 10c U.S. not tied, postmarked Aug. 11, 1864, which I am not bidding on, sounds suspicious to me. I can't figure out how it can be good. The 10c U.S. rate on Hawaiian mail ended on June 30, 1863, when the rate became 3c for any distance. Due to a misunderatanding of a bulletin, there was an erroneous ~~rate~~ 12c rate from Sept. 16, 1864, to Nov. 12, 1864; then there was an equally erroneous ~~rate~~ 10c rate from Nov. 12, 1864, to Dec. 3, 1864, on which date the rate of 3c, which should have prevailed all the time, was restored. There was no way for a 10c rate to exist in August, 1864. The U.S. stamps were practically always applied by a postal clerk in Honolulu, not by the writer; especially so on this cover, since the stamp is over the Honolulu postmark. I'm afraid it is a stampless cover with a 10c stamp stuck on, the cogwheel being chosen for plausibility."

Messrs. Harmer Rooke replied as follows under date of Feb. 27: "We thank you for your letter of the 24th, and in view of your remarks we withdraw lot 45 from the sale for further examination. We thank you for drawing the matter to our attention." (Signed by Gordon Harmer.)

I also mentioned the matter to the Admiral in a letter dated March 4, saying practically the same things I said to Harmer Rooke. He had no occasion to reply to that letter. Now a photograph of that same cover pops up in a letter from you.

Will you now forgive me if I save time by doing something unusual? To save a lot of retyping, I shall now attach to the next page, those parts of my letter of last night which bear upon this cover. I could not improve it in any way by doing it over. So I shall cut my typed pages of last night, and paste them to another sheet, and thus finish out this letter.

Yours sincerely,

Henry

Now we come to the photograph of a cover bearing only a ten cent U.S. and the HONOLULU U.S. POSTAGE PAID and San Francisco postmarks. You say the date is "surely(?)" 1864. Is it? I absolutely can't read a figure of the year date except the 1. But whether it is 1864 or something else, there is something wrong. The 5c Hawaiian fee could never be paid with a U.S. stamp. It could only be paid with a Hawaiian stamp, or in cash. As I have several times pointed out in the book, we do not have a "Paid" mark of Honolulu meaning Hawaiian postage paid; but the presence of a Hawaiian postmark means that the Hawaiian postage was paid; if no stamp is present, it was paid in cash. So that leaves the 10c U.S. stamp to pay 10c worth of U.S. postage, or to overpay it.

Does the Honolulu postmark tie the U.S. stamp? I think not. Then that means that the 10c U.S. stamp was added after the Honolulu postmark was applied, either by the Honolulu postmaster or clerk, or by the ship's captain in San Francisco, or by the Hawaiian mail agent in San Francisco, if he was still employed in 1862 or 1864 or whenever this letter went through. It is not unusual for the U.S. stamp to be applied over the Honolulu postmark.

I make a point of its having been applied after the postmark had been applied, for this reason: It makes overpayment less likely. No postal official or clerk is likely to have chosen a stamp of too high denomination, and the ship's captain is not likely to have bought a stamp of too high denomination. So that seems to mean that somebody who ought to know, decided that 10c was right.

Now let's look at the rates of 1864, and let's go back a little before 1864 just in case it is earlier: (Rates to eastern states, of course)

April 1, 1855--June 30, 1863	10c, plus 2c ship fee
July 1, 1863--Sept. 15, 1864	3c, plus 2c ship fee
Sept. 16, 1864--Nov. 12, 1864	10c, plus 2c ship fee
Nov. 12, 1864--Dec. 3, 1864	10c, and no ship fee
Dec. 3, 1864--Oct. 15, 1867	3c, plus 2c ship fee
Oct. 15, 1867--June 30, 1870	10c, and ship fee permanently abolished.

Where, in this scheme, can you fit in a 10c U.S. rate on Aug. 11? Only in 1868 or 1869. Can it possibly be either of those? If not, it will take somebody other than me to explain it. And notice that you cannot double the rate of 3c plus 2c and get 10c, for that error was cleared up in 1855. From 1855 on, the ship fee was added only once to each letter. Can it be possible that this is not the right stamp? Can the 10c stamp have been substituted for either a 5c stamp or a 12c stamp? If the cogwheel ties it at all, it does not tie it very emphatically. The dates and rates of 1864 are from the Admiral's writings. It must be understood that to every figure given above, the Hawaiian shore-to-ship postage of 5c had to be added, paid by Hawaiian stamp or in cash. Besides having all these rates explained in the text, the book will contain a reference table in which all rates will be summarized for easy use.

Thanks for letting me see this photograph. Please let me know what you (and the Admiral) decide about it.

July 3, 1947.

Mr. Henry A. Meyer,
516 Read St.,
Evansville, Ind.

Dear Henry:

Re - Hawaii cover with 10¢ 1861 Type II.

Yours of the first received and carefully noted. I am returning the photograph to you for a second look, also a photograph of a cover that the Admiral sent me several years ago and which is similar.

I am quite positive that the date of AUG 11 is 1864. This is not a mere opinion but is based on my study of this type of double circle postmarks of the San Francisco post office. This is a good strike of my Type E. There are certain flaws in this "stamper" that did not originate until after the early part of 1864 so it could not be 1863. Further, strikes in 1865 show "flaws" which were not present in as late as Oct. 1864, so you see I can be quite positive that the year was 1864. This is a different type than the enclosed Dec. 8, 1864.

The Aug. 11 cover was sent to me last month by Larry B. Mason, priced at $50.00. I examined it, made a photograph and returned it to him. I have no idea where he obtained it and I did not know that it was in a H.R. & Co. sale. Thanks for the information. When I returned it to Mason I made no comment on it. I note that it was withdrawn from their sale of Feb. 26, 1947 (Lot 45). When Larry sent this cover to me last month I examined it very carefully and it impressed me as being perfectly good, though it did appear unusual that the 10¢ stamp was over the Honolulu postmark.

If you have a copy of "Pat Paragraphs" of April 1943 - (#43) see pages 1347 - 1348 and 1349. If this data is not in your Hawaii book, it should be.

I referred to the above data in my letter of June 21st, as follows: "Due to a misunderstanding in the Islands" etc.

The following is a point which I doubt if you covered in your book and I do not recall that I have seen it mentioned elsewhere.

Congress by an Act of July 1, 1864 - Section 8 - established the following rate. See Luff page 395 - quote: "The rates of postage on letters and other mailable matter addressed to or received from foreign countries and carried by vessels regularly employed in

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK
A. P. S. 2497
100 HENRY COURT
FT. THOMAS, KY.

transportation of the mails shall be as follows: Ten cents for one half ounce or under, xxx etc."

I believe that the term "carried by vessels regularly employed etc. was perhaps misconstrued by either the San Francisco P.M. or by the Honolulu P.M. and that a letter coming into the U.S. from a foreign country required 10¢ in postage. If so, then we can account for the 10¢ stamp on this cover.

What we need is more data on what rates actually did prevail at the Honolulu post office in August 1864 and up to Sep. 16, 1864. Kalakaua advertised on Sep. 16, 1864 that the rates were as follows:

U.S.	Hawaii	Ship	Total
10¢	5¢	2¢	17¢

I have an idea that before Sep. 16, 1864 he thought that the total was 15¢ instead of 17¢.

Regarding the Harris cover of Dep. 8th, Kalakaua advertised as late as Dec. 3rd that the rate was as follows - (Pat Paragraphs):

U.S.	Hawaii	Total
10¢	5¢	15¢

His next ad did not appear until Dec. 10th, 1864.

I believe that we can thus account for the Admiral's cover of Dec. 8, 1864. It surely was in accord with the advertisements of Nov. 12, 19, 26 and Dec. 3, 1864. Do you not agree?

Again referring to the Mason cover of Aug. 11, 1864, I believe that if you again reconsider your opinion that you will agree with me that it could hardly have been "a stampless with a 10¢ added" as you suggested. You see Henry, without some evidence at San Francisco that the U. S. postage had been paid it would have been rated as unpaid. Thus it must have been paid at that office. If so, then in what manner? The answer is obvious - to wit - either by U. S. postage stamps or by a handstamped Paid, and you will admit that the latter would have been most unusual in 1864. Had a payment in cash been made the office would have used the cash to purchase stamps - In other words, no handstamped PAID in 1864. So we can be quite sure, I think that the postage was prepaid by stamps. Now if the correct rate had been paid it would have been, in stamps,

(a) 3¢ plus 2¢ or 5¢
or
(b) 6¢ plus 2¢ or 8¢
(probably not a triple).

If the first, it is quite unlikely that this 10¢ stamp was substituted for a 5¢ of the 1862 series, or the 10¢ for a 3¢ and a B.J. or a 3¢ plus two 1¢.

Perhaps it could have been the above "B," a double rate, with a 2¢ overpayment, but this seems quite unlikely, because of the fact that the 10¢ stamp is over the Honolulu postmark. Perhaps this bit of

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK
A. P. S. 2497
100 HENRY COURT
FT. THOMAS, KY.

evidence indicates that the P.M. at Honolulu on or about the 25th of July 1864, (date of Honolulu mailing unknown to me) believed that the total rate was 15¢, i.e., Hawaii 5¢ and U.S. 10¢, hence he required a payment of 15¢ in cash. He then handstamped the letter "U. S. Postage Paid," and put the 10¢ stamp over hos own handstamp. The location of the S.F. p.m. in upper right shows that he didn't put the 10¢ stamp in that spot. It is to be regretted that the S.F. "cog" cancel on the stamp did not tie the stamp to the cover.

I believe that the cover is perfectly good and if it is, then it is most unusual and a darn rare cover. Do you not agree?

One more word on the 1864 table of rates that you listed. The data in Pat Paragraphs was as follows:

July 1, 1863 to Sep. 15, 1864

I think that the above may be in error. More likely it was:

July 1, 1863 to (note "A") - 1864
(Note "A") 1864 to Sep. 17, 1864 (See Note B)

Note "A" It is possible that this date was on or about July 15 to 20, 1864. A mere guess on my part.

Note "B" The advertisement of Kalakaua was dated Sep. 16, 1864, but it did not appear until Sep. 17, 1864.

The next ad appeared Nov. 12, 1864. It ran Nov. 12, 19, 26 and Dec. 3, 1864. The next ad appeared Dec. 10, 17, 24 and 31, 1864. It was the one which gave the correct rate, viz:

Hawaii	U.S.	Ship	Total
5¢	5¢	2¢	10¢

Our good friend Admiral Harris may be very busy at this time, in fact, too busy to bother with a simple matter of this nature, but if you consider it of enough importance you have my permission to forward this letter and the two photographs to him for his consideration.

With kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

July 3, 1947.

Mr. Henry A. Meyer,
Evansville, Ind.

Dear Henry:

That was quite a letter that you sent me under date of July 1st.

Herewith I have replied to your letter regarding that 10¢ 1861 Hawaii cover and later I will reply to the balance of your communication.

Here are some incidental subjects:

Dave Lidman & Philately. Yes, Dave is a good friend of mine and I was hoping that his venture in St. Louis would prove successful but I think it was doomed to failure from the start. Lindquist knows how to conduct a "weekly" such as "Stamps" and I doubt if there is room for any competition. I never submitted an article to Dave and told him very frankly that I would not if he published articles by Steve Rich. I think that all decent publications should bar that moron's stuff. I believe that he is a disgrace to Philately. I do not have to write a single line for any publication and while I cannot dictate to any publication what should or should not appear in their columns I do reserve to myself the privilege of refusing to permit any article of mine to appear in any publication that accepts irresponsible stuff from a moron like Rich. You asked for the reason and there it is Henry. No one but a moron could have written such ridiculous nonsense as appeared in the American Philatelist issue of November 1945 - Vol. 59 - No. 2 - page 163. Such stuff makes an absolute joke and mockery of serious philatelic research work.

Regarding Philatelic Publications. All are tiresome reading unless they contain some article of special interest to the reader. I will not devote time to preparing an article for a publication like the C.C.P. with a very small circulation. After all, what is the purpose of writing philatelic articles? So far as I am concerned the purpose is to induce more casual collectors to become serious collectors. In other words, study and know all one can about the items he collects or should collect. If I can induce additional collectors to take up worth while specialties I am not only helping them to a better philatelic life but I am helping our beloved avocation as well. I have more of a chance of making new converts by using "Stamps" with a 35,000 to 50,000 circulation than Mekeel's, Philately, the A.P. or the C.C.P.

If "Stamps" has a circulation of say 35,000 I doubt if more than 5% read the articles I publish, but if I can get even that high a percentage to read my articles I am satisfied.

I will not bore you further on this subject except to add this thought. The piker collector of today may develope into one of our future great students. If perchance I can plant a seed here or there that will be but a meager part of the inspiration then I consider that all my feeble efforts have not been in vain.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

July 3, 1947.

Mr. Laurence B. Mason,
301 Jefferson Ave.,
Clearwater, Fla.

Dear Larry:

Re - that cover with the 10¢ 1861 from Hawaii postmarked S.F. Aug. 11. I am wondering if you can give me any information regarding this cover?

I note that it was in a Harmer Rooke sale of Feb. 20, 1947 (Lot 45) and was "withdrawn." Incidentally, I never saw or heard of it until you sent it to me last month. I understand that it was withdrawn because its genuineness was questioned. I wonder if you knew that? I am also wondering if you could account for the 10¢ rate? If you think that it is worth while I would be willing to again examine it for you. If the Honolulu date under the stamp could be established it would have quite an important bearing on the cover.

I will greatly appreciate any information that you can give me.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

Collector's Club
A. P. S. 2423

Telephone
Clearwater 2240

LAURENCE B. MASON

301 Jefferson Avenue
Clearwater, Florida

July 7,1947.

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

Dear Stanley:

Yours of the 3rd inst received; sorry I can give you no information regarding the 10¢ 1861 cover from Hawaii; the item was sent me on approval and immediately sent to you as you are asking for covers from Hawaii.

When received back from you I returned the item to the owner; I must confess I failed to consider carefully the 10¢ rate which I cannot explain; I had no knowledge that the cover was withdrawn from a Harmer Rooke sale.

Leaving tomorrow for a three weeks motor trip to North Carolina and Virginia to see the country for the first time since the war.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,

Laurie

FREDERIC R. HARRIS
CONSULTING ENGINEER
27 WILLIAM STREET
NEW YORK 5, N.Y.

TELEPHONE HANOVER 2-0680

CABLE ADDRESS: HARKOB

July 15, 1947.

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

Dear Ashbrook:

I have a letter from Mr. Meyer in which he forwarded to me your two letters of June 21st and July 3rd. I am enclosing herewith a copy of my reply. It is rather long winded and deals with some other matters.

Sincerely yours,

F. R. Harris.

FRH:V
Encl.

July 15, 1947.

Mr. Henry A. Meyer,
516 Read Street,
Evansville 11, Indiana.

Dear Mr. Meyer:

I have your letter of July 9th. First of all, I am enclosing herewith copy of a letter to Mr. Boggs. I hope this will reassure you. I am quite sure that Boggs has not tampered with the Hawaiian book.

As to the so-called "Kalakaua Mistakes", some time ago I had some correspondence both with Ashbrook and Perry about these. Among other things, I had before me Perry's "Pat Paragraphs" of April 1943, No. 43. In this he stated:

> "The effects of the changes made by Postmaster General Kalahaua at Honolulu as a result of misunderstanding or incorrect advice respecting the U. S. Postage Law of July 22, 1864 were:"

As I recall it now, the U. S. Postage Law referred to was not of July 22nd but of July 1st and was in the Appropriation Act of that fiscal year. I haven't the Act before me although I am quite sure I sent it to you a long time ago. It provided that thereafter foreign mail was to pay 10¢ for delivery in the United States. From July 1, 1863 on it had been reduced to 3¢ but on foreign mail 2¢ was added for a letter for the ship fee. Previous to April 1, 1855 the rate had been 10¢ but for each letter the 2¢ ship fee was added. There was a proviso that such raise in rates should not apply to countries with which we had a postal agreement.

I have never agreed with Perry that it was a mistake of Postmaster General Kalakaua of Hawaii. I believe from my years of experience in Washington that some subordinate in the Postmaster General's Office in Washington, with the passage of this law, notified the various U. S. Postmasters of its import and that the San Francisco Postmaster notified Kalakaua at Honolulu.

There was always some confusion in the minds of the Hawaiian Post Office at Honolulu about the so-called 2¢ ship letter charge. It was really a U. S. obligation, and of long standing, an obligation to pay Masters of vessels 2¢ for every letter they delivered to a Postmaster in the United States for delivery in this country, to which charge was, of course, to be added the fixed postage rate for internal delivery. The Act of April

1, 1855 raised the previous charge for U. S. mail, delivery East of the Rocky Mountains, from 6¢ to 10¢, and the Act of July 1, 1863 reduced this to 3¢. When Kalakaua received this notice, he assumed that the rate would be 10¢ for single rate plus 2¢ ship charge and that the rates in effect previous to July 1, 1863 were restored and his notice of September 17, 1864 stated exactly this. The double rate letter I have with three 3¢ 1861s and five 2¢ Jacksons was based upon this notice.

There were evidently some protests about this and San Francisco must have told Kalakaua that the law contemplated a flat 10¢ rate, the ship letter charge to be absorbed in this and, thereafter, beginning November 12, and continuing weekly until December 3, 1864, he issued notices that the single rate was 10¢ and not 12¢ for the single rate and 10¢ for further rates. My letter - Honolulu November 23 - San Francisco December 8, 1864 is of that period.

Evidently protests to the U. S. Post Office brought to attention what was considered an agreement with the Hawaiian Islands and that the law did not apply to the Hawaiian Islands and, therefore, after December 3, 1864, the rate went back to what it had been before September 17, 1864.

In confirmation of this I will recall to you the letter I have postmarked Honolulu August 27, 1864, which arrived in San Francisco and is postmarked September 23, 1864. This letter carries on it a 5¢ Hawaiian #9 for the shore to ship charge and a 2¢ Jackson and a 3¢ 1861 U. S. On it is stamped in large block letters "FOREIGN" and stamped "5" and, in manuscript "Due 5¢", showing that while both the sender and the Honolulu Post Office on August 27, 1864 did not know of this mistaken change in rate, San Francisco Post Office on September 23rd, in accordance with the new Postal Law, stamped it as FOREIGN mail, placed a "5" on it and 5¢ additional was collected on delivery of the letter.

This letter shows clearly that the new law was interpreted as raising the rate to 10¢ and absorbing the 2¢ ship letter charge in this 10¢ which was contrary to the Honolulu interpretation of September 17, 1864 - that in addition to the 10¢, 2¢ for ship letter would have to be added.
Of course everything was changed in early December when it was decided that the law did not apply to Hawaiian mail.

Now as to Mason's letter, which was received in San Francisco August 11th - and we can take Ashbrook's opinion that the year date is 1864. It does not show when it was sent from Honolulu and since the 10¢ stamp is pasted over the Honolulu postmark, I cannot tell from the photograph when it left Honolulu. It would perhaps be worthwhile raising this stamp and looking for the date. However, this trip was seldom made in as fast time as 15 days and usually took 20 days so that the letter must have been sent from Honolulu in late July. Since to my knowledge there were no cable connections to Honolulu in those days, no radio or anything else that would permit communication of the contents of the Congressional Act of July 1, 1864 to Honolulu so early, or worse still, if the law was dated July 22nd,

I would say that the stamp does not belong on this letter or that someone had generously placed on it a stamp of value far in excess of what was required at that time. The letter I refer to from the Islands, of August 27, 1864, was franked with the old rate of 5¢ U.S. and was marked FOREIGN and 5¢ collected on delivery. It isn't possible that a month before this in Honolulu anyone would have been cognizant of a 10¢ rate unless, of course, there is the remote possibility that the Congressional action of raising rates of July 1864 was under discussion in Congress long before that and that the person who mailed this letter had heard by mail or seen newspaper articles about the raise in rates, took it for granted they would be raised and took the precaution when mailing this letter to put a 10¢ stamp on it so in case the rates should be raised before his letter was delivered, it would go through. This, of course, is a possibility and it is quite probable that if this letter had borne not 10¢ but 5¢ in U. S. stamps, the San Francisco Post Office would have treated it exactly as they did the letter I refer to of August 27, 1864 which arrived in San Francisco September 23, 1864 and which they stamped FOREIGN and collected 5¢ on.

All of this is very remote and very unlikely and my judgment therefore is that the stamp does not belong on this letter and since it is not tied, it will always arouse arguments. There is, of course, one other explanation, that the letter was mailed in Honolulu without any stamp because the Honolulu Post Office was out of U. S. stamps and that the Postmaster asked the Captain or Purser of the ship to purchase stamps and put them on letters in San Francisco and on the return voyage, he, the Honolulu Postmaster, would pay the Captain or Purser back. If that occurred, the ship, on reaching San Francisco on August 11, 1864, would have ascertained from the Postmaster at San Francisco that the rates had been raised from 5¢ to 10¢ and he therefore would have had to purchase 10¢ worth of stamps and eventually collect the 10¢ from the Postmaster in Honolulu. This again looks unlikely.

5¢ Provisional: I think we have solved and proved the 5¢ Provisional. It was gotten out when the Post Office in Honolulu ran out of the 5¢ #5 and was continued in use until the 5¢ #8 arrived in July or August 1857 and perhaps used for a short time after the arrival of that stamp by the Post Office in order to use up what they had surcharged and by purchasers who had the stamp in their possession. All of the known letters are definitely 1857 and all of the postmarks of stamps off letters that I have seen, where they can be distinguished, are 1857. Mr. Weber may have theories of his own and I do not doubt his ability but there will be many others who have theories of their own and we must let this book go through and be published and we can't wait to resolve and argue about so many different theories. In other words, we must do the best we can with the data we have and then let the book stand on its own feet. After it is published we will welcome criticisms. The book will never satisfy everyone - that you can be assured of.

Ashbrook's letters and the photograph are returned herewith.

Sincerely yours,

F. R. Harris.

July 18, 1947.

Admiral Frederick R. Harris,
27 William St.,
New York 5, N.Y.

Dear Admiral:

Thanks very much for your kindness in sending me a copy of your letter of July 15th, addressed to Henry Meyer.

You are correct, Perry did make an error in stating that the Act of July 1, 1864, was an act of "July 22, 1864." I am including herewith in Exhibit "A", the wording of Section 8, of that act. In the P.L. & R. of 1866 there was a Regulation covering "Section 8" and I am wondering if the difference between the Law and the Regulation was the cause of the misinterpretation of the law in the middle part of 1864. I am assuming that the "Regulation" was issued to postmasters at the time the law went into effect, as was usual. Kindly note the "Regulation" as per Exhibit "B." The law plainly stated that the 10 cents rate applied to ships employed in carrying the U.S. Mail. In other words, ships of companies with U. S. Mail contracts. The Regulation, Exhibit "B," failed to make any mention that the 10¢ rate applied only to contract mail ships.

Regarding the Act of July 1, 1864, Section 8. The purpose of this act was to provide a uniform rate of ten cents, "without reference to distance" on mail carried wholly or in part by U. S. Mail steamships or other vessels regularly employed in carrying the U. S. Mail. Before the passage of this act the rate on such mail had been ten cents up to 2500 miles and twenty cents for distances above 2500 miles.

Please note Exhibit "C," and the wording, "subject to such regulations as the Postmaster General may prescribe." Here we have the authority granted the P.M.G. to rate prepaid Ship Letters in a different manner than the rate prescribed for Unpaid Ship Letters. The law assumed that ship letters would reach U. S. ports, unpaid. Thus we find two different rates applied to mail (ship letters) from Hawaii as follows:

IF - PREPAID - Regular U. S. Postage, plus 2¢ (5¢)
IF - UNPAID - Double the regular U. S. postage (6¢).

As you are aware, there was apparently no confusion as to the proper Hawaii to U. S. rates until after the passage of the Act of "July 1, 1864." I refer to the period July 1, 1863 to

July or August 1864.

According to Perry (Pat Paragraphs #43 page 1348), P, M.C. Kalakaua stated on Sep. 16, 1864 that he had received a notice from the P.M. of San Francisco that the rate of postage on mail from Hawaii had been "raised from 3¢ to 10¢." I assume that the S.F. P.M. had the Regulation (Exhibit "B") before him, and that he advised Kalakaua that the U. S. rate henceforth would be 10¢ instead of 3¢, "on foreign mail." I doubt if he advised him that it would be 10¢ plus 2¢. I think that Kalakaua assumed that it would be 10¢ plus 2¢ plus 5¢ Hawaii or a total of 17¢.

Regarding the Mason cover. I am quite sure that the date of use was in 1864. The S.F. postmark is "Aug. 11." Inasmuch as it did not belong to me I did not attempt to remove the 10¢ stamp to find out the Honolulu date, nor could that date be identified without removing the stamp. Evidently the cover was dispatched from Honolulu about July 21st or 22nd (assuming about 20 days passage). The honolulu postmark shows that Hawaii and U. S. postage had been prepaid. It is indeed too bad that the 10¢ stamp was not tied to the cover so that we could have some assurance that it actually originated there. I had no reason to doubt that it did, and I think that the explanation might be that the San Francisco P.M. (or office) was confused because of the Regulation (Exhibit "B").

Kalakaua stated on Sep. 16th that he had received a notice from the S.F. P.M. that the U. S. rate was 10¢.

If we count about 20 days for a passage between S.F. and Honolulu at that period then the S.F. office on or about August 27, 1864 must have been under the impression that the "Regulation" (Exhibit "B") applied to mail from Hawaii.

And further, your cover with the "Foreign" and "Due 5" indicates the S.F. office was still under that impression as late as Sep. 23, 1864.

The Mason cover may indicate that the S.F. office was confused about the proper rate as early as Aug. 11, 1864.

I have a record of a cover that belonged to Judge Emerson, and was sold in a sale by Doane on May 18, 1938. It had a 5¢ Hawaii #9, was postmarked "Honolulu, Hawaiian Islands - Jul 7" - and San Francisco "Jul 29, 1864." It had the S.F. "Ship 6," indicating that the S.F. office understand the proper rate of unpaid as double postage as late as July 29, 1864.

I also have a record of a cover mailed from Honolulu on "Jul 11" with a S.F. postmark of Aug. 5, 1864. The Honolulu postmark reads: "Honolulu, Hawaiian Islands" and this is handstamped over (or under ?) the one reading: "Honolulu - U. S. Postage Paid" (JUL 11). Partially over these two is a 5¢ 1862 U. S. stamp, tied by the S.F. "cog" cancel. The cover is addressed to Davenport, Iowa. Thus as late as Aug. 5, 1864, the S.F. office evidently understood what was the proper rate.

#3. Admiral Frederick R. Harris, July 18, 1947.

Regarding your letter, page two. In the first paragraph you mentioned that your cover with "three 3¢ 1861 and five 2¢ Jacksons" was a double rate in conformity with the Kalakaua Sep. 16th, 1864 notice. There was a typographical error here as your cover has four 3¢ 1861 (12¢) plus five 2¢ Jacksons (10¢), a total of 22¢ or 2 x 10 plus 2¢ ship. This is a most interesting cover and I make theabove correction so that Henry will not be confused by the error.

Your cover with the 10¢ 1861 from Honolulu on Nov. 23, 1864, certainly is in accordance with the Kalakaua notice which was first published on Nov. 12, 1864.

I am wondering if the evidence that I have produced above does not indicate that the confusion in the proper rate did not originate (as I had previously supposed) at Honolulu but in the States. Perhaps at Washington but probably more likely at the San San Francisco office.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Henry Meyer.

With kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

EXHIBIT A
THE LAW

Act of July 1, 1864 - Section 8 (13 STAT. 337).

"The uniform rate of United States postage, without reference to distance, upon letters and other mailable matter addressed to or received from foreign countries, when forwarded from or received in the United States by steamships or other vessels regularly employed in the transportation of the mails, shall be as follows, viz: Ten cents per single rate of half an ounce or under, on letters: Two cents each on Newspapers; and the established domestic rates on pamphlets, periodicals, and other articles of printed matter; which postage shall be prepaid on matter sent, and collected on matter received: Provided, always, That these rates shall not apply to letters or other mailable matter, addressed to or received from any foreign place or country, to and from which different rates of postage have been or shall be established by international postal convention or arrangements already concluded or hereafter to be made." (end of quote). (Above from 1866 P.L. & R. - Laws Section - pages 63-64).

EXHIBIT "B"
THE REGULATION

"P.L. & R.- 1866 Edition - Sec. 270 - (Regulations)
Uniform rates of United States postage, without regard to distance, upon all letters, etc., addressed to foreign countries with which postal treaties or arrangements have not been concluded, are levied and collected at the office of mailing or delivery, as follows: Ten cents per single rate of half ounce on letters. Two cents on newspapers, and the established domestic rates on pamphlets, periodicals, and other kind of printed matter. These rates do not, of course, apply to the correspondence exchanged with foreign countries under existing international postal arrangements." (end of quote).

EXHIBIT "C"
SHIP LETTERS
THE LAW

"Act of Mar. 3, 1863 - Section 1 - (12 STAT. 706).
The Postmaster General shall have authority to pay, or cause to be paid, a sum not exceeding two cents each for all letters conveyed in any vessel or steamboat not employed in carrying the mail from one port or place to any other port or place in the United States, or from any foreign port to any port within the United States, subject to such regulations as the Postmaster General may prescribe. But all such letters shall be deposited in the post office at the port of arrival for mailing or delivery: and if for delivery within the United States, shall be rated with double rates of postage, which shall cover the fee paid to the vessel. No fees shall be allowed for letters collected by a carrier on a mail route." (end of quote).

EXHIBIT A

THE LAW

Act of July 1 1864 - Sec. 8 (13 STAT. 337).

"The uniform ~~of postage~~ rate of United States postage, without reference to distance, upon letters and other mailable matter addressed to or received from foreign countries, when forwarded from or received in the United States by steamships or other vessels regularly employed in the transportation of the mails, shall be as follows, viz: Ten cents per single rate of half an ounce or under, on letters: Two cents each on newspapers; and the established domestic rates on pamphlets, periodicals, and other articles of printed matter; which postage shall be prepaid on matter sent, and collected on matter received: Provided, always, That these rates shall not apply to letters or other mailable matter, addressed to or received from any foreign place or country, to and from which different rates of postage have been

or shall be established by international postal convention or arrangements already concluded or hereafter to be made." (End of Quote)
(Abane from 1866 P.L. & R - Laws Section - pages 63 - 64).

EXHIBIT "B"

THE REGULATION

"

P.L. & R - 1866 Edition. - Sec 270 - (Regulations)

Uniform rates of United States postage, without regard to distance, upon all letters, &c, addressed to foreign countries with which postal treaties or arrangements have not been concluded, are levied and collected at the office of mailing or delivery, as follows:

Ten cents per single rate of half ounce on letters.

~~Four~~ Two cents on newspapers, and the established domestic rates on pamphlets, periodicals, and other kind of printed matter.

These rates do not, ~~apply~~ of course, apply to the correspondence exchanged with foreign countries under existing international postal arrangements" (End of quote).

EXHIBIT "C"

Ship Letters

The Law

"Act of Mar 3 1863 - Section 1 - (12 STAT. 706).
The Postmaster General shall have
authority to pay, or cause to be
paid, a sum not exceeding two cents
each for all letters ~~from~~ conveyed
in any vessel or steamboat not
employed in carrying the mail from
one port or place to any other
port or place in the United States,
or from any foreign port to any
port within the United States,
subject to such regulations as the
Postmaster General may prescribe.
But all such letters shall be
deposited in the post office at
the port of arrival for mailing
or delivery: and if for delivery
within the United States, shall
be rated with double rates of
postage, which shall cover the fee
paid to the vessel. No fees shall
be allowed for letters collected by a
carrier on a mail route" (End of quote)

July 9, 1947.

Mr. Henry A. Meyer,
516 Read St.,
Evansville, Ind.

Dear Henry:

Since writing you this A.M. my C.C.P. of Jan. 1947 arrived. I suppose you have received your copy. Note the Hawaii cover on page 19. Why the "Due 10" on this cover? Note the type of Honolulu p.m. Wasn't this generally used on mail that did not have the U. S. postage paid? In other words, is this marking quite unusual on a prepaid cover? The Aug. 9 - Aug. 27(?) shows a trip of 18 days which I suppose is O.K. for 1860.

Again re - the Fox cover #226, with a 13¢ in May 1862. The Knapp cover 2046 shows a 13¢ in Oct. 1860.

Do you know Harry Jefferys, the author of the C.C.P. article?

Yours etc.,

HOBBY INTERESTS

PICTORIAL PHOTOGRAPHY
EARLY EVANSVILLE HISTORY
EARLY OHIO RIVER STEAMBOATS
STAMP COLLECTING
MEMBER: COLLECTORS CLUB, S.P.A., A.P.S., C.P.S.

Henry A. Meyer

MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT · CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL
RESIDENCE 516 READ STREET
TELEPHONE 6380
EVANSVILLE · INDIANA
11

PHILATELIC LINES

OHIO & MISSISSIPPI RIVER PACKET COVERS
GERMAN POSTAL HISTORY
FRENCH REVOLUTIONARY & NAPOLEONIC COVERS
CAPE TRIANGLES
EARLY BRAZIL
HAWAII

July 23, 1947

Subject: Hawaii covers in Fox sale

Dear Stan:

Your letter of July 22 has just come in with the morning's mail. At last I see the "4" in the "1864." I still don't see it in the cut, but I see it in the photograph.

That makes lot 225 O.K. for an unpaid ship letter, with double postage collected. At last I am convinced that double postage was collected on unpaid ship letters from Hawaii. ~~So the postage was twice 3c.~~

~~Then~~ Why the two 5c Hawaiians? Evidently the Honolulu postmaster rated the letter as overweight. Or else the writer thought he could prepay the U.S. paid ship letter rate of 5c with the Hawaiian stamp, and the Honolulu postmaster told him different.

A But why couldn't he, by the expedient of the Honolulu postmaster affixing a ~~Hawaiian~~ U.S. 5c stamp? That was done even in the late 60's and early 70's, so why not in 1864?

The postmark "HONOLULU HAWAIIAN ISLANDS" (not HONOLULU U.S. POSTAGE PAID") means U.S. postage not paid. Since the Honolulu postmaster supplied the U.S. postage both before and after August, 1864, but not on this letter, he must have regarded this letter as overweight and needing 10c, while the San Francisco post office passed it as single.

It just occurs to me that the Fox letter has a bearing on the Larry Mason letter. They either arrived from Honolulu on succesive days -- Aug. 10 and 11 -- or else the left for the east on successive days, whichever the S.F. date stamp meant in 1864. ~~(I can't take time to look that up now.)~~ On August 10, S.F. regarded the ship letter postage from Hawaii as 6c. Did they change by Aug. 11? And would it take from Aug. 11 to Sept. 16 for the news to reach Honolulu? And would the Mason letter have then been accompanied by 10c? So all this correspondence about the Fox letter has had its results in its bearing on the Mason letter.

I also get the point now about lot 226. Besides the possibility that the stamps do not belong on the cover, there is the other possibility that the writer had franked it to take it to the post office, but instead gave it to a ship captain who was ready to sail, and it therefore became in S.F. an unpaid ship letter. Thanks a lot for all the help you have given me on these two lots, also for getting me the catalog and the photograph. I don't want to borrow the cover. I must clear my desk.

As ever,

Henry

HOBBY INTERESTS

PICTORIAL PHOTOGRAPHY
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Henry A. Meyer

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CAPE TRIANGLES
EARLY BRAZIL
HAWAII

11

July 23, 1947

Subject: So-Called "Kalakaua Errors"

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook, Box 31, Fort Thomas, Ky.
Carbon copy to Rear Admiral Frederic R. Harris.

Dear Stan:

Regarding the period of confusion in the latter part of the year 1864, it has all been very thoroughly treated in the book. The Admiral and I worked out the general idea when I was with him in 1945. During the winter of 1945-46, I wrote the chapter and sent it to him for corrections, then I rewrote it. We followed that plan on anything of a controversial nature.

So everything which the Admiral has written me since we started discussing Larry Mason's cover, everything which you have written me in the same connection, and everything in Pat Paragraphs No. 43 is already in the book (with one exception), and has been for well over a year. When you receive the book, you will find that our wording is curiously like the wording in Pat Paragraphs. Reason: Much of it is exactly what the Admiral wrote me, not even retyped, but simply included in my pages. Whether the Admiral or Elliott actually wrote the words in Pat Paragraphs is no concern of mine; I just included the Admiral's pages in the manuscript.

The one exception mentioned above is the wording of the three exhibits which you included in your letter: The Law, The Regulation, and Ship Letters. Of course, the essence of them is included, but the wording is not. Reason: Your letter was the first time I have ever seen the wording of those three instruments, although I have known their import a long time.

You will find in the book, that from Kalakaua's Post Office Notices, and from the Admiral's "Foreign Due 5c" cover, I have drawn the following inferences: (1) The mistake of thinking that the law on "foreign" letters applied to Hawaii was made in Washington and/or San Francisco. (2) The mistake of thinking that the ship fee 2c had to be charged in addition to the 10c was made by Kalakaua. (3) San Francisco and/or Washington corrected Kalakaua on the ship fee, and he announced the correction, Nov. 11, 1864. (4) San Francisco and/or Washington corrected their own mistake, and Kalakaua announced the correction on Dec. 3, 1864.

I have written and asked the Admiral whether he wants me to include in the chapter, the three documents you quoted for us. If he does, I can do that on the proof.

So we find ourselves together on every point except the authenticity of Larry Mason's cover. The Admiral and I both doubt it, you believe in it.

Since we have built up our chapter on the basis of the known dates of Kalakaua's Post Office Notices, and in view of the phrase used on Sept. 17, 1864, "By the last mail," it will take more than one cover to justify our changing our story. And especially will it take more than one cover which has the stamp not tied, and over the Honolulu postmark.

One point I am surprised that neither you nor the Admiral has made: The stamp was most probably not applied by the writer, because it is over the Honolulu postmark. That leaves only three possibilities:
(1) It was applied by a Honolulu postal clerk, which is not likely, because the 10c rate was not known in Honolulu until about Sept. 17.
(2) It was applied by a San Francisco postal clerk, which is not likely, because Honolulu had furnished only 5c for the purpose.
(3) It was applied by some former owner. Why? Well, why do people do such things? Why did somebody apply that Eagle Carrier to my 5c 1847 cover, which you unmasked for me? Why did somebody apply a New York postmaster to a stampless cover which I once owned? Why did somebody apply a 13c Kamemeha III to one of Knapp's covers?

If anybody can dig up an earlier post office notice from Kalakaua, which sets our date of Sept. 17 back a couple of months and makes the rate 10c instead of 12c, then I will reconsider Larry Mason's cover. Until then, I must regard it as either a fake or a freak. And since the manuscript is now in the hands of the printer, I will not change anything in it unless the Admiral so instructs me, or unless I find an error to be corrected.

Proof is supposed to arrive about August 1, and I hope it will all come during August. I hope I will not need to carry any Hawaii work over into my new school year. We have been four years on this job, and we were three years before that on the translation, annotations, and addenda, so I am very weary of the Hawaii project. For once, I want to begin my new school year with a clean desk -- and keep it clean.

As ever,

Henry

P.S.-- May I keep the photographs of the Larry Mason cover and the Fox cover? I have a photograph of the Admiral's cover, so I am returning yours.

HOBBY INTERESTS

PICTORIAL PHOTOGRAPHY
EARLY EVANSVILLE HISTORY
EARLY OHIO RIVER STEAMBOATS
STAMP COLLECTING
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Henry A. Meyer

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PHILATELIC LINES

OHIO & MISSISSIPPI RIVER PACKET COVERS
GERMAN POSTAL HISTORY
FRENCH REVOLUTIONARY & NAPOLEONIC COVERS
CAPE TRIANGLES
EARLY BRAZIL
HAWAII

July 23, 1947

Subject: Miscellaneous

Dear Stan:

My trip to Milwaukee was very pleasant. The Wisconsin Federation had a fine meeting. The exhibit had some wonderful material in it, but very inadequately written up. There was one fine entry, which received the Grand Award: Milwaukee postal history, shown by R. L. Hustis. I have known his name for years, but have never met him. Apparently he did not attend. It began with some letters addressed to Solomon Juneau, founder of Milwaukee, and continued down to the pictorial exposition covers of the early part of this century. Some day I will have a Southwestern Indiana Postal History showing which will beat it. I have the material accumulated, but have been too busy for the last 7 years on Hawaii and Brazil to work it up.

On the way back, I stopped in Chicago to spend a couple of days with my local friend Dr. Victor Jordan, Jr., who made the speech at the C.P.S. last Thursday night on Match and Medicine stamps. I had a consultation with Ben Reeves over counterfeits, with Tony Russo about Italian and French postal markings, and I classified some first two types of Greece for Kuhlmann and Nagel. It was quite a philatelic vacation. I am now through running around for this summer. The rest of the summer will be for working on the manuscript of the Hawaii book.

We agree on Boggs. He is pompous, opinionated, and overrated. I cannot understand why the Admiral thinks so well of him. So did Mr. Lichtenstein. Frank Bruns is a swell chap; I like him very much. But I fear that if we had waited for him to act, we would never have seen the book in print. He undertakes too much and cannot get around to the important things.

The Admiral had written Boggs (and sent me a carbon copy) and told him that he is not to revise the book. Boggs has been very polite about asking my permission about anything he wants to change. Occasionally the suggested change is an improvement, and I gladly agree. Sometimes it makes no great difference, and I am not disposed to obstruct him. But on some occasions, I have to say no, because it is the way I want it.

He even wants to be friendly. He semi-humorously threatened to begin "Dear Henry," which I take as asking permission to do so. Certainly I consent, for it will do him good to unbend. But I am not going to let him spoil the book by making unauthorized changes; I will watch that carefully.

Subject: Miscellaneous

Never again will I undertake any writing on behalf of any rich man or any man with a big title. I will write if, when, and as I please -- and it won't be very soon. All the time we have been working on the Hawaii job, every time I wrote the Admiral for information on some piece in his collection or which he knew about, he reprimanded me for delaying the work by including things he had not thought of including. But when the manuscript lies idle in Boggs's desk from the middle of March until early in July, and I ask why, the Admiral bawls me out for asking why. Next time I write something, I will not even mention it until the manuscript is all finished and ready to go -- and then I will give it to the organization which is nicest to me and which I like best.

In Chicago, Victor and I spent a morning with Saul Newbury seeing his U.S. 1847 and 1869, with a glance at his big "general collection." It was a very pleasant visit with him.

I have just received a letter from J. Stanley Petri saying that he is going to send you the Brown local cover to sell for him. You ask if there is any reason why Mr. Petri is not in the S.P.A. or the A.P.S. No reason that I know of, except the general staleness of the Indianapolis collectors. I'll eventually get him in. I don't like to put on pressure on first acquaintance.

I have read the article by Jefferys in the Jan. C.C.P., which arrived while I was away. You are being very charitable when you call it an article; it is just a list, presumably an inventory of his collection. Not even any interpretations. Anybody could do that.

The Hawaii cover with "Due 10" is curious. I do not understand it at all. In 1860, 5c Hawaiian plus 12c U.S. was normal. But on a prepaid letter, why not "HONOLULU U.S. POSTAGE PAID"? As you point out, "HONOLULU HAWAIIAN ISLANDS" was the marking for collect letters. You are absolutely right. And why "Due 10"? I have only one suggestion.

We have very little information on <u>part paid</u> letters from Hawaii. We know well about letters with Hawaiian postage and U.S. postage both fully prepaid; also about letters with Hawaiian postage paid and U.S. postage collect. But we do not know much about insufficiently prepaid letters. Perhaps the writer put on what he (and we) thought was enough postage. But the Honolulu postmaster found the letter to be overweight. He made the writer pay another 5c in cash, but did not affix a stamp. ~~(Both you and the Admiral have solved many covers for me by saying, "balance collected in cash," so I suppose that goes for this cover as well as for the rest.)~~ Then to call attention to the insufficiency, the Honolulu postmaster used the "HONOLULU HAWAIIAN ISLANDS" postmark, and wrote "Due10" on the letter. Does this sound like a possible explanation? Or have you a better theory? If you have, I will be interested in hearing it, but there will not be time to include this cover in the book. Mr. Jefferys' name comes back to me from somewhere, but I cannot connect it with anything definite.

As ever,

Henry

July 28, 1947.

Mr. Henry A. Meyer,
516 Read St.,
Evansville 11, Ind.

Dear Henry:

Your interesting letters of the 23rd received. You surely had a nice trip, and I enjoyed your report concerning it.

Re - the Hawaii book. I can well imagine that you have had plenty of trouble with it and I know that you will be glad to see it out of the way.

Re - the Hawaii cover with "Due 10," in C.C.P. - Jefferys "article" - Jan. 1947. I am in thorough accord with your analysis of this cover. After writing my letter to you regarding this Jefferys cover I came to the same conclusion that you reached and made a memo to that effect. It is an interesting cover. I dare say that the owner would not be able to explain it. I think that this cover is a very fine example of the question that you brought upy viz., How were "INSUFFICIENTLY PAID" letters handled.

Here are several points from my memorandum. The Honolulu office no doubt knew the writer (?) and charged him with the 5¢ deficient Hawaii postage. There would have been no object in putting on a 5¢ Hawaii stamp because the stamp had no meaning outside the Honolulu office. The Honolulu office used the "unpaid" marking because the full U. S. had not been paid. He probably called this to the attention of the S.F. office and they put on the "Due 10," I do not believe this was done at Honolulu.

Much to my sorrow I know Jefferys. He beat me out of over seven hundred dollars.

I am wondering if you called this cover to the attention of the Admiral? I did not. Should we?

Re - the Larry Mason cover. I do not think that this cover has any special importance, because "as is" it shows more U. S. postage than was actually required. No, I did not suppose that the stamp was applied by the writer. How could it have been if it was originally applied over the Honolulu postmark? This seemed so obvious I did not think it necessary to mention it.

The Hawaii postage was paid in cash or charged, so if this was a single rate it would have required 5¢ in U. S. postage. If a double rate, 8¢, and a triple 11¢. It was not the latter, hence it must have been a single or double. I doubt if any faker substituted a 10¢ 1861 for a 5¢ 1862. Further a cover with a 3¢ 1861 and a 2¢ B.J. would be more valuable than a cover with a 10¢ 1861 (?).

We do not know what happened, or why there is a 10¢ 1861 on the Mason cover but nevertheless I believe that it is genuine. Perhaps cash was given the captain to purchase U. S. stamps at S.F. and perhaps he overpaid the rate.

Yes, retain for your files the photo prints that I sent you.

Re - Fox cover, Lot 225. The question that you asked occurred to me, and the only explanation that I can offer is this. Is there any connection between this queer item and the Mason cover? If the Fox cover was a single, (the S.F. office rated it as such), then why didn't the Honolulu put on a 5¢ U.S. stamp to pay the U. S. 3¢ plus 2¢? That is the question you raised. The Hawaii P.O.D. received the 10¢ on this letter, and all they were entitled to was 5¢, (If the rate was a single), so why permit the letter to go thru with an overpay of the Hawaiian 5¢ rate and no payment of the U. S. rate. This letter left Honolulu on July 20, 1864. Can the explanation be that the Honolulu Post Office was in doubt at that time about the proper rate? The telegraph was of course in operation from the east to the coast and the S.F. P.O. surely knew about the "Act of July 1, 1864" as soon as it was passed. Did word of the new law reach Honolulu by July 20th? It could have done so. Was the new law misunderstood at Honolulu as early as July 20th? Perhaps. Is that the reason why the Honolulu did not attempt to "part pay" the Fox cover?

Re - the S.F. dates of Aug. 10, 1864 on the Fox cover, and Aug. 11, 1864 on the Mason cover. I suppose that these were sent east from S.F. by the daily overland mail (stage coach). Heavy mail was sent via Panama. Both letters propably were dispatched on July 20th from Honolulu.

With regards -

Yours etc.,

Society of Philatelic Americans
THE NATIONAL STAMP SOCIETY FOR THE AVERAGE COLLECTOR
HENRY A. MEYER
Chairman Regional Representatives Executive Committee
516 Read Street
Evansville 11, Ind.

Dear Stan:

Your letter of July 28 still lies here waiting to be answered, largely because there isn't much in it which needs answering. It mostly settles matters about which we had been corresponding and which have come to a head. But there is one question:

Shall we call the Admiral's attention to the "Due 10" cover in the A.P.? Yes, I think we should. Let's do it this way: Next time you write to him, describe the cover to him and give our mutual interpretation. Meanwhile, I will write up a section on the subject and have in mind the chapter and location within the chapter where it is to go. I will then insert it when I read proof, as an "author's addition." No proofs have come yet. Henry

THIS SIDE OF CARD FOR ADDRESS

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook

Box 31

Fort Thomas, Ky.

Aug. 13, 1947.

Mr. Henry A. Meyer,
516 Read St.,
Evansville 11, Ind.

Dear Henry:

Your card received and I have today written Admiral Harris as per enclosed copy. No doubt he noted the illustration of the Jefferys cover but has been too busy to study it.

It sure is hard to get anything from printers these days but perhaps the delay is not all due to Stowell. I guess that Bruns has been a bit negligent. At any rate, I know you will be darn glad to get the project behind you.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

Aug. 13, 1947.

Admiral Frederic R. Harris,
27 William St.,
New York 5, N.Y.

My dear Admiral:

I have had some discussion with Henry Meyer regarding the cover that was illustrated in the current Collectors Club Philatelist (January 1947 - Vol. XXVI - No. 1) - page 19. This shows a use from Honolulu - Aug. 9 (1860), thru San Francisco, Aug. 2? 1860 to New York City. It has a 5¢ Hawaii and a 12¢ 1851. On the face is "Due 10," evidently applied at San Francisco. The Honolulu postmark is the type with "Hawaiian Islands" at the bottom.

Henry offered the solution that this was originally a double rate letter, but the writer prepaid it at the single rate - attaching the two stamps. The Honolulu postmaster noted it was overweight, and knowing the writer (?) charged his account with 5¢, the additional Hawaii postage. Because the full U. S. rate was not paid, he used the "Hawaii Islands" type of postmark. There would have been nothing to gain by him attaching another 5¢ Hawaii and canceling same. No doubt he notified the S.F. postmaster that the letter was overweight and thus the "Due 10," surely applied at S.F.

I fully agree with the above analysis by Henry.

With kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

FREDERIC R. HARRIS
CONSULTING ENGINEER
27 WILLIAM STREET
NEW YORK 5, N.Y.

TELEPHONE HANOVER 2-0680

CABLE ADDRESS: HARKOB

January 27, 1947.

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

I have your note of the 24th. The cover is the earliest one I have. You know when the first Missionary went to Hawaii? - it seems to me it was around this date. The stampless covers of Hawaii are certainly bringing a substantial price. Fox had an auction the other day and covers of that sort brought $25 to $40. I bought them five or six years ago for $5 or $6 apiece.

There was one cover which was very interesting that went very cheaply. In the upper righthand corner it had a 13¢ red No. 6 and a 5¢ blue No. 5 Hawaiian, uncancelled, and a San Francisco postmark 1861 and a numeral "12" - no Honolulu postmark on it. It could, of course, have been a letter put on a ship and sent "Collect" and the two stamps placed on it afterwards and they really don't belong there. I am inclined to think that the sender of this letter possessed these two stamps which he had paid for. He knew the rate was 17¢ - 5¢ Hawaii ship to shore, 10¢ U. S. and 2¢ ship letter - and he knew he had the right to demand 18¢ worth of postage service from the Honolulu postoffice, including the payment by that office of the U. S. rate and ship letter. He knew that it had been customary to do this and that the Honolulu postmaster had acknowledged the obligation by placing, at his own expense, 12¢ in U. S. postage on the letter, but he neglected to deposit this letter in the Honolulu postoffice and in some way it got around that office and got on the ship. Of course, when it arrived in San Francisco, the U. S. postmaster paid no attention to the 18¢ in Hawaiian stamps but delivered the letter and collected 12¢ from the receiver. Or could it have been possible that it was deposited in the Honolulu postoffice, escaped cancellation and the Honolulu postmaster gave 12¢ to the Captain or Purser of the ship? The latter doesn't seem possible to me.

I have two similar letters, one of which has pasted over the 5¢ a 12¢ U. S. stamp and the other has a 12¢ U. S. stamp in the upper righthand corner.

Sincerely yours,

F. R. Harris

FRH:V

Jan. 31, 1947.

Admiral F. R. Harris,
27 William St.,
New York 5, N.Y.

My dear Admiral:

Yours of the 27th received.

I regret that I have no data as to what year the first American Missionaries went out to Hawaii but I have a faint recollection that I read somewhere that it was in the early 1820's. I think it is a point well worth investigating and it could well be included in Henry Meyer's study.

I noted the Fox sale of Jan. 18th, but so far I have not seen a list of the prices. I wondered about Lot 226, and concluded that the writer intended to post the letter in the Honolulu Post Office after attaching the stamps but instead handed the letter direct to a ship. Therefore, the stamps were useless and when the letter was mailed at San Francisco it was treated as "entirely unpaid" and 12¢ was marked as due from the addressee. I am thus assuming that the stamps were actually applied in Honolulu and not by some faker in after years.

Had it been placed in the Honolulu P.O. it would have been postmarked there with the marking indicating payment of Hawaii and U. S. postage and a U. S. 12¢ 1851-57 would have been added by the Honolulu postmaster to prepay the 12¢ U.S. postage (10¢ plus 2¢ ship fee). I assume the "12" indicates that 2¢ had been paid the ship captain.

There seems to be a very insistent demand for "Westerns" and of course many advanced collectors of 19th U. S. consider covers from Hawaii to this country as among the best of Westerns. I cannot imagine any reason why the U.S.-Hawaiian combinations will not become more popular in the years to come.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

Jan. 31st, 1947.

Admiral F. R. Harris,
27 William St.,

New York 5, N.Y.

Dear Admiral:

Referring to mine of yesterday I note that the Encyclopaedia Britannica states that the first group of missionaries reached Hawaii on March 31, 1820.

Sincerely yours,

HOBBY INTERESTS

PICTORIAL PHOTOGRAPHY
EARLY EVANSVILLE HISTORY
EARLY OHIO RIVER STEAMBOATS
STAMP COLLECTING
MEMBER: COLLECTORS CLUB, S.P.A., A.P.S., C.P.S.

Henry A. Meyer

MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT • CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL
RESIDENCE 516 READ STREET
TELEPHONE 6380
EVANSVILLE • INDIANA
11

PHILATELIC LINES

OHIO & MISSISSIPPI RIVER PACKET COVERS
GERMAN POSTAL HISTORY
FRENCH REVOLUTIONARY & NAPOLEONIC COVERS
CAPE TRIANGLES
EARLY BRAZIL
HAWAII

Jan. 12, 1947

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

Dear Stan:

Thanks a lot for letting me see the Allen cover. I can't keep it, because of my perpetual poverty; but I am very glad to have had a chance to record it. In our chapter, "Mails from the U.S. to Hawaii," I am recording it as a cover showing a U.S. due marking and wondering whether the 10c was actually collected and accounted for. I am also bringing out the point that none of these covers show any indication of the Hawaiian postage to be collected. Up to 1853, they did; on my cover of 1854, it did not; and on the Allen covers from 1855 on, they did not. I wonder if the collecting of Hawaiian postage was discontinued about 1854? I have not expressed such a revolutionary idea, but it is strange that we do not find it any more from 1854 on.

I suppose it is all right to mention the existence of the 1825 cover. Can you give me the manuscript markings on it? Any handwritten date? (Correction: You have given me all those facts.) But I still would like to know whether it bears a manuscript name of the ship by which it was sent, and whether it has a rate marking at Boston and Hartford.

Do you have the catalogue of John A. Fox's sale at 116 Nassau St. on Saturday, Jan. 18? He has a lot of rather unusual Hawaiian covers, lots 218-227. I wrote the Admiral today about them; he might want some of them. I note among them the beautiful little S.F. SHIP 6, on a "cover dated 1860" according to the catalogue. Does that sound O.K.?

There is one cover in the sale which may perhaps be a fake. It is No. 226, bearing a 5c blue H.I. No. 5 (doesn't sound plausible) and a 13c red No. 6, of 1861; the date is the S.F. regular marking. This is exactly during the period (spring of 1861) when Bruce Cartwright found the documents proving that the 13c stamp was used in place of a 12c U.S. stamp during a shortage of the latter. (What a sentence! I hope you can decipher what I intended to say.) But there is no Honolulu postmark whatever, and the U.S. markings, besides the S.F. townmark, is "12" meaning collect. Now if it had been legal to use the 13c H.I. for 12c U.S., and Bruce Cartwright found the order, there should have been no due whatever. It makes one wonder whether the 13c stamp has been added to make catalogue value, or whether perhaps both stamps have been added to a stampless cover. The 5c was no longer current, in fact, there had been a desperate shortage of No. 5 in 1857, causing the issue of the 5c on 13c provisional, and another shortage of No. 8 in 1861, causing No. 9 to be ordered from Boston. It seems curious that a 5c No. 5 and a 13c No. 6 should be uncancelled on a cover of 1861.

There is another cover in the sale, No. 225, which also does not make sense, but it does not sound like a fake; it sounds more like a mistake. It bears a pair of H.I. No. 9, and SHIP 6; the S.F. date 1862 is visible. If it was a double rate letter, 6c is not right; it should have been 8c (1862, twice 3c plus 2c). If the S.F. postmaster decided that it was single only, it should have been 5c (3c plus 2c). The provision, "double postage on unpaid ship letters" appears never to have been imposed on letters from Hawaii; they constituted an exception. I cannot explain the cover.

If I had $1000 lying loose, I would tell Gregory Mozian to buy me all those covers which did not go out of reason, except the 5c and 13c cover. But being broke, as usual, I must pass them up, and I hope the Admiral gets all he can use for his collection.

I must hark back to the beautiful little scroll SHIP 6 and ask you to help me straighten something out. Have you the A.P. for August, 1937, handy? In Ernest Wiltsee's article, he gives a list of these pretty little markings from 1850 to July 27, 1859. I wonder if he actually means that. I have said that in my chapter, on the supposition that he means what he says. But just a little farther along in my chapter, I record a cover in the Atherton collection with Honolulu date Jan. 18, S.F. date 18 Feb., and a ms. notation "Dec. 27/52."

I then go on to say, "This seems to refer to the inside date, and would suggest that the letter originated in one of the outlying islands. It might easily take from Dec. 27 to the middle of January for a letter to reach Honolulu, with only occasional sailings. . . This 1853 date (from the Admiral's list of sailings) is considerably later than we had hitherto thought reasonable for the fancy SHIP 6 marking."

Just tonight I realize how I have contradicted myself. I say that Mr. Wiltsee gives dates until 1859, then I say 1853 in later than we thought reasonable. And in this sale catalogue, I find one for 1860. What is your experience with this marking? Can you help me to straighten out the muddle I have created for myself?

I think this is all for tonight. I would appreciate your opinions on the 5c plus 13c cover, and on the range of dates of the fancy SHIP 6.

Except for things like these, to be corrected or inserted on the proof, the manuscript is finished. It is a great relief.

Yours sincerely,

Henry

Feb. 2, 1947.

Mr. Henry A. Meyer,
516 Read St.,
Evansville 11, Ind.

Dear Henry:

Your letter came just after I left for Florida and this is the first chance I have had to write you since my return. In the meantime the 1825 Hawaii cover was acquired by Admiral Harris. I have a good negative of it and later I will send you a print. It has the large Boston S.L. "SHIP" in red. The rate to Hartford was "14½," (12½ plus 2). This was paid and when it was forwarded the 14½ was crossed out and it was rated "10" to Guilford.

Re - the Fox Sale. Lot #220. Yes, this cute little "ship 6" was in use in S.F. from about 1850 until up into the sixties. I do not have an accurate record, but earliest I have seen was S.F. June 5, 1850.

Re Lot 226. The Admiral wrote me about this cover and several days ago I wrote him in part as follows, quote:

"I wondered about Lot 226, and concluded that the writer intended to post the letter in the Honolulu Post Office after attaching the stamps but instead handed the letter direct to a ship. Therefore, the stamps were useless and when the letter was mailed at San Francisco it was treated as 'entirely unpaid' and 12¢ was marked as due from the addressee. I am thus assuming that the stamps were actually applied in Honolulu and not by some faker in after years."

"Had it been placed in the Honolulu P.O. it would have been postmarked there with the marking indicating payment of Hawaii and U.S. postage and a U. S. 12¢ 1851-57 would have been added by the Honolulu postmaster to prepay the 12¢ U.S. postage (10¢ plus 2¢ ship fee). I assume the '12' indicates that 2¢ had been paid the ship captain."

I noted your remarks very carefully regarding the above cover and would like to know if you disagree with my analysis. Naturally I assumed that Fox was sure the stamps were Nos. 5 and 6. The use was late, but if the writer had saved them, to what better use could he have put them? Do you think that if a faker added them to a stampless cover he would have added any value? I doubt it. The absence of a Honolulu postmark accounts for the non-cancelation of the stamps. At any rate, your comments will be welcome.

#2. Mr. Henry A. Meyer, Feb. 2, 1947.

Regarding Lot 225. You assumed that the date was 1862, but had it been that year a double rate would not have been 2 X 3 plus 2, but rather 2 X 10 plus 2. In the case of this cover the year was undoubtedly 1864, and the letter was rated at double postage - that is 2 X 3¢.

I have a record of a number of covers showing such a rate. The Admiral is familiar with the incident I am sure as I think I had some correspondence with him on the subject several years ago. My earliest record of the 2 X 3 is the Knapp cover, lot 2041 - S.F. Dec. 21, 1863 - No doubt you have a file of Perry's "Pats" - If so, see Pats #43 - page 1347 etc. -

Regardless of how this letter was paid at Honolulu, when it got to S.F. in the summer of 1864 it was rated as a single - unpaid - ship letter - and was rated with double postage due.

Again re - the S.F. scroll Ship 6. Yes, I remember the Wiltsee article in the A.P. of 1937, and my earliest record as mentioned above was from that article. Jessup has a cover from India - routed via Singapore - with an India #12, one anna brown - postmarked S.F. (very plain) FEB 4 1860. I can send you a photo. It has the scroll Ship 6. On the back is a British "HONG KONG - NOV 9 - 59." After a careful search this seems to be my latest record, but I have not made any serious attempt to record either the earliest or latest uses. Therefore, I may have seen earlier and later uses.

I congratulate you that your manuscript is finished but I advise you to straighten out the 1864 ship rates. I am sure the Admiral has all the facts. I have them somewhere but at the moment I cannot locate my data.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

P.S. Thanks for return of the Allen "Due 10" cover.

S.

HOBBY INTERESTS

PICTORIAL PHOTOGRAPHY
EARLY EVANSVILLE HISTORY
EARLY OHIO RIVER STEAMBOATS
STAMP COLLECTING
MEMBER: COLLECTORS CLUB, S.P.A., A.P.S., C.P.S.

Henry A. Meyer

MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT • CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL
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CAPE TRIANGLES
EARLY BRAZIL
HAWAII

11

July 1, 1947

Subject: Hawaiian Covers in Fox Sale

Dear Stan: .

Back in December, January, and February we were corresponding about some Hawaiian covers in the Fox sale of Jan. 18. I questioned the authenticity of some of the covers. You wrote me explanations as you understood them; but on Feb. 7, I wrote you that we were misunderstanding each other and would have to go into it again when I could get around to it.

Now that I have the time, I cannot locate the catalogue, so I will have to write from memory and from my carbon copies of my letters to you and to the Admiral. It no longer seems very important, since I did not refer to the covers in the book, but neither of us likes to leave something as unfinished business; we like to come to a decision, either agreeing or disagreeing.

There was No. 225, a cover bearing a pair of Hawaii No. 9 and SHIP 6. I thought it was a mistake; I thought if single weight it should have been SHIP 5, gotten from 3c plus 2c; if double weight, SHIP 8, gotten from twice 3c plus 2c. I was, and still more or less am, of the opinion that the rule, "double postage on ship letters if collect," was never invoked on letters from Hawaii. However, I find from the Admiral's letter that he thinks differently. He thinks twice 3c was right, twice not because of double weight, but because it was an unpaid ship letter. I thought the SHIP 6 letters all came from the period when the cross-country rate was 6c, and Whitney paid the captain his 2c, but perhaps I am wrong.

Then there was lot 226, a cover bearing a Hawaiian 5c blue No. 5 and a 13c red No. 6, cover dated with S.F. postmark 1861, but no Honolulu postmark whatever. My previous remarks were as follows:

"This letter was mailed during that period, in the spring of 1861, when the Hawaiian post office resorted to the use of a 5c and a 13c Hawaiian stamps in place of a 5c H.I. and a 12c U.S. stamp because of a shortage of 12c U.S. stamps. But there is no Honolulu postmark, and the U.S. markings are the S.F. postmark and "12" meaning collect.

"If Bruce Cartwright's discovery of a letter from Postmaster Clark to one of the Island postmasters is valid, and they were thus using a 5c plus a 13c H.I. stamps, as shown on the two Sag Harbor covers, then there should have been nothing due whatever. These two stamps should have covered the postage.

Subject: Hawaiian covers in Fox sale.

"It is strange that there should have been a 5c No. 5 available in 1861. There was a desperate shortage of No. 5 in 1857, causing the issue of the 5c on 13c provisional. There was another shortage of No. 8 in 1861, causing a rush order for No. 9 to be sent to Boston. It seems curious that these two stamps, uncancelled, should show up on a cover bearing indication of 12c due as though there had been no stamps whatever on the cover."

Both you and the Admiral point out the possibility that somebody had saved a 5c No. 5 all those years, and now used it; that he may have thought that he could pay both the Hawaiian and the U.S. postage by applying those two stamps (as, indeed, he could during that emergency in the spring of 1861) and that for some reason, he may have mailed the letter at shipside rather than at the post office, and that the San Francisco post office therefore treated the Hawaiian stamps as non-existent and rated the letter with 12c due (10c plus 2c ship fee).

All that is true, of course; but I am more impressed with the Admiral's more or less parenthetical remarks that "if the 5c Hawaiian No. 5 and 13c Hawaiian No. 6 were regularly placed on this cover, about which there is some doubt" and a little later, "There is the strong probability that this letter was placed on the ship "Collect" and that the "12" was for a collect letter without postage and that the 5c and 13c Hawaiian stamps have been later added. There is no reason ~~this~~ to believe that this could not be the explanation. If such is the case, the cover has little value. Were it an 1857 or 1858 cover, I would look at it a little differently. When I saw this cover some years ago, I discarded it for the reasons I have given because there is no possible way of proving that the two Hawaiian stamps belong on the cover."

The Admiral has just exactly restated what I wrote him, that I believe this is just a stampless cover with the two Hawaiian stamps stuck on. You asked me on Feb. 2, "Do you think that if a faker added them to a stampless cover he would have added any value?" For one who studies his rates and usages, no, certainly not. But for one who buys for catalogue value, yes, a great deal. Isn't that what ~~we~~ believe happened to lot 2052 in the first Knapp sale?

Further, in your letter of Feb. 2, you wrote me thus: "You assumed that the date was 1862, but had it been that year . . . In the case of this cover the year was undoubtedly 1864."

You were wrong there. I was not assuming anything. There was a very clear cut of the cover shown, and the date was positively 1862 and nothing else.

It is no longer important to do anything or to settle anything about these covers, except to satisfy our sense of obligation to finish what we start. I brought up those matters when the catalogue was before me, chiefly to keep before us the importance of checking every cover for correctness of rate and usage before accepting it as being what it purports to be.

We have made absolutely no progress on the book since March 19. It now appears that Boggs has bogged down, just as Bruns did. I still wish it could have been managed by sticking with Bruns, who knew just what we were doing. Boggs' main ambition seems to be to change my terminology to suit his whimsy.

Yours sincerely,

Henry

July 5, 1947.

Mr. Henry A. Meyer,
516 Read St.,
Evansville, Ind.

My dear Henry:

Subject: Hawaiian covers in Sale John A. Fox, Jan. 18, 1947.

I read carefully with much interest your letter of July 1st and was pleased that you managed at long last to discuss these items. First, regarding the cover, Lot 225. This was illustrated on the cover of the catalogue. It had a pair of 5¢ Hawaii #9 and the San Francisco "SHIP 6."

On the second page of your letter, in the third paragraph from the bottom, you stated that I was wrong in stating in my letter to you of Feb. 2nd that the date was 1864. May I suggest that you again read that third paragraph. I do not believe that the year date of San Francisco p.m. was 1862. In fact, I do not agree that the illustration was plainly 1862. On the contrary I am rather positive that it was Aug. 10, 1864. If I am right, then this cover came over by the same mail as the L. B. Mason cover discussed in my letter of yesterday (July 3, 1947). As you will recall the Mason cover was dated S.F. Aug. 11, 1864. Just to be sure I am writing Fox and requesting him to loan me the original negative or a print of the cover illustrated as Lot 225.

As near as I can distinguish from the half-tone illustration the S.F. postmark is the same type (Type E) as that on the Mason cover. If I had a photograph I could positively identify not only the Type but the year of use.

A rate of "Ship 6" would be incorrect for August 1862 on an unpaid Ship Letter. Such a letter at that time would have been rated as "Ship 12," that is, 10¢ plus 2¢.

The act of March 3, 1863. Sec. 26, provided that double rates of postage be collected on delivery on any matter on which postage is required to be prepaid at the mailing office. This was for domestic mail but the intent was also carried out on unpaid Ship Letters.

Section 31, of the above act, provided that double postage be collected on ship letters out of which the ship captain was entitled to 2¢. See Luff, page 393.

There was a positive distinction between prepaid Ship Letters and Unpaid Ship Letters. On the former the cost to the public was 5¢, the P.O.D. netting 3¢, but on the latter the cost to the public was 6¢

with the P.O.D. netting 4¢. I suppose the extra 1¢ was compensation for the trouble of collecting the postage due.

The fact that it cost 1¢ less to send a prepaid letter from Honolulu to the U. S., than it did to send an unpaid letter did not apply solely to mail from Hawaii, but it also applied to mail brought in by private ships to all U. S. ports.

Have you ever seen prepaid ship letters into Boston or New York with a 3¢ 1861 and a 2¢ Black Jack? Or a 3¢ 1861 and two 1¢ 1861? They are far from common and quite desirable. I will show some to you if you would like to see them.

In writing Fox I will ask him to send me a duplicate copy of the catalogue of Jan. 18th, but in the meantime I hope that you will be able to locate your copy.

Compare cover #225 with cover 227. Here is another "SHIP 6" with a San Francisco date of Jan. 4(?) 1864. It has a single 5¢ Hawaii #9. It apparently was addressed to Brooklyn. It does seem odd that one of these has two Hawaii 5¢ and the other only one but the overpay must have been due to the misunderstanding of the correct rate at Honolulu on or about July 20 to 25th, 1864. You will note that cover #225 with the two 5¢ Hawaii bears the Honolulu date of "Jul 20" and I do believe that the year was 1864, and I dare say that you agree with me by this time.

In the third paragraph of page one of your letter you stated that you doubted if the double postage on Ship Letters was ever invoked on letters from Hawaii. (after July 1, 1863).

I think that the evidence is very conclusive that on unpaid Ship letters, double postage was charged, but on prepaid ship letters, double postage was not charged. As stated above the law applied not only to mail from Hawaii but to all Ship Letters into U. S. ports.

Regarding cover #226. This is the cover with a Hawaii 13¢ and Hawaii 5¢, with no Honolulu postmark, but with the S.F. "12." The latter indicates an unpaid Ship Letter into S.F. - I never saw this cover and all we have to go by is the illustration. I do not think that the cover presents an important problem. After all, it simply boils down to this question - Were these stamps put onthis cover in 1861 or were they added years later? That is all there is to this item, so why discuss it seriously?

You are quite aware that Hawaiian stamps were not recognized in this country, hence so far as this cover is concerned they might as well have been tobacco tags. There is no evidence that the cover was placed in the Honolulu P.O., hence so far as the S.F. office was concerned the stamps were useless and meaningless.

The last sentence on page one reads: "These two stamps should have covered the postage." If you mean that they should have covered the 12¢ U. S. postage as we see this cover, I beg leave to differ with you. I believe you should have stated: "If this letter had been placed in the Honolulu Post Office, then these two stamps should have covered the postage of 17¢ total (1¢ overpay).

In such an event the Honolulu P.M. would have applied a 12¢ U. S. stamp to pay the U. S. postage. The absence of any Hawaiian postmark indicates that the writer intended to mail it in the Honolulu office but instead handed it direct to some ship captain. I specify ship captain because of the "12" due. Had it been carried privately and mailed at S.F., a 10¢ U. S. stamp would have been sufficient, (prepayment of domestic mail was required as you will recall).

I thoroughly agree with the Admiral that there is no proof that the stamps originated on the cover and the fact that the cover sold for $50.00 indicates that the buyer got value received in a stampless cover and two unused Hawaii stamps.

To the above I can add that discussion of this cover seems rather a waste of time to which I think you agree.

I believe the above covers the items discussed in yours of the 1st but if I have overlooked anything please let me know.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

July 5, 1947.

Mr. John A. Fox,
116 Nassau St.,
Room 902,
New York 7, N.Y.

Dear John:

Re - your sale of January 18, 1947, can you furnish me with a photograph of the Hawaii cover on the Catalogue cover? It was Lot #225?

Further can you furnish me with photo prints of the two pages of covers - the two pages with Lots 318 and 249? If you will have prints made for me I'll gladly pay the expense or if you can borrow the negatives I can make my own prints.

Also, may I have another copy of the catalogue if you have a spare one.

Re - cover 225 - wasn't this S.F. date Aug. 10, 1864? And did you consider that the stamps on 226 actually originated on the cover?

I'll certainly appreciate the above favors.

With best regards -

Cordially yours,

JOHN A. FOX
116 NASSAU STREET
NEW YORK 7, N. Y.
BEEKMAN 3-5443

STAMPS
COVERS
~~
RETAIL
WHOLESALE
AUCTIONS
APPRAISALS

July 7th, 1947

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

Dear Stan:

Thank you for your letter of July 5th. Unfortunately I am unable to comply with your request regarding the photographs of the covers in my 28th sale held January 18th, 1947. These cuts were destroyed about four weeks ago by my printer. However I am enclosing two catalogues for your records and trust they will be sufficient for your needs.

If you wish I will supply you with the names of the persons who purchased the covers.

Regarding lot No.225, the date on this cover is August 10th, 1864, cancelled in San Francisco, California. As to lot 226, there was a question as to whether the stamps were originally on the cover as they were not tied.

Trust the above will prove helpful and that you will not hesitate to call upon me if there is anything else I can do. You have been so helpful to me in the past that I would welcome an opportunity of catching up a bit.

With kind personal regards,

Sincerely,

John

JAF:ff

July 9, 1947.

Mr. Henry A. Meyer,
516 Read St.,
Evansville, Ind.

Dear Henry:

My good friend Larry Mason advises me that the 10¢ Hawaii cover was submitted to him and that he immediately forwarded it to me knowing my interest in such items. He further stated that he was unaware that it had been in any auction sale and that he had not paid any attention to the rate. In fact, could offer no explanation of it.

I also heard from John Fox. He stated that he was unable to supply the photographs from which the cuts were made as his printer destroyed them about four weeks ago. He informed me that the S.F. date on cover #225 was Aug. 10, 1864, and that there was a question as to whether the stamps were originally on Lot #226. He assured me that if I was not entirely satisfied that he would supply me with the names of the buyers. He sent me two catalogues of the sale, one of which I am enclosing herewith.

I am satisfied that the date on Lot #225 was 1864 but if there is any doubt in your mind I will write John and ask him if he will have the buyer loan the cover to you.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

July 9, 1947.

Mr. John A. Fox,
116 Nassau St.,
New York 7, N.Y.

Dear John:

Thanks very much for yours of the 7th.

No, I would not care for the names of the buyers of Lots #225 and #226, but if I can obtain a photograph of Lot #225 I would like to have same. The item is unusual and I think that it should be illustrated and described in the Hawaii book which is to be published in the not distant future. As you are probably aware the book is being written by Henry A. Meyer and is to be published by the Philatelic Foundation. I have an idea that Admiral Harris is really fotting the bill. I called Henry's attention to the cover #25 and he insisted the date was Aug. 10, 1862. Naturally the rate "Ship 6" would not fit a use in 1862. You will note that the two Hawaii stamps indicate a double rate but the Ship 6 indicates a single rate.

I wonder how many could explain this cover? That's why I think Henry should include an illustration in his book. Evidently Admiral Harris did not buy this cover and I wonder why he passed it up? I also wonder if the owner can explain the cover. I also wonder if you could borrow the cover from him and have a photograph made or better still forward it to me and I'll make one.

I do appreciate your cooperation in cases like this and I will gladly return the favor at any time.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

Dear Stan: Just leaving for Milwaukee, and must make one letter serve for two. I'll write agin after I return home. Don't return this; consider it a letter to you, but not needing any answer until I have written you in about two weeks.

Henry

HENRY A. MEYER
516 Read St.
Evansville 11, Ind.

11

July 9, 1947

Rear Admiral Frederic R. Harris, 27 William Street, New York 5, N.Y.
Carbon copy to Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook, Box 31, Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Admiral:

Tomorrow morning I am leaving for Milwaukee to attend the convention of the Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs. I will be away about ten days, and in the hopes of having a reply when I return, I am taking time tonight to write you just a short letter. Yet I will try to make clear my meaning. There are two major matters.

1. In one of the enclosed envelopes, you will find two letters and two photographs from Stan; one of the photographs is of your cover. Stan thinks he has evidence here that our dates are wrong which we have established in connection with the "Kalakaua Errors." He has this photograph of a cover in the collection of Larry Mason, of a 10c U.S. stamp used on Aug. 11, 1864. I should be sending you at the same time the letter I wrote Stan, which would go in between his two letters; but I was not pleased with my letter, and re-typed part of it, then I did the rest by cutting and pasting. I did not do that on the carbon copy, and have not time to do it tonight. But I will give you here the dates as I gave them to Stan:

April 1, 1855 -- June 30, 1863	H.I. 5c	U.S. 10c, plus 2c ship fee
July 1, 1863 -- Sept. 15, 1864	"	3c, plus 2c ship fee
Sept. 16, 1864 -- Nov. 12, 1864	"	10c, plus 2c ship fee
Nov. 12, 1864 -- Dec. 3, 1864	"	10c, and no ship fee
Dec. 3, 1864 -- Oct. 15, 1867	"	3c, plus 2c ship fee
Oct. 15, 1867 -- June 30, 1870	"	10c, and ship fee permanently abolished.

I asked Stan, "Where, in this scheme, can you fit a 10c U.S. rate on Aug. 11? Only in 1868 or 1869." But Stan is positive that the year is 1864, and that there is some further information which we do not have. Please notice that it would not be sufficient to say, "Our date Sept. 16, 1864 may be an error. It may have been in August or even July that the first error period began." That first error was 12c, not 10c. That means that we would have to account for even another period, at least during August, 1864, with a U.S. rate like this: 10c, and no ship fee.

I have given you here everything essential which I wrote Stan, and you have his two letters to me before you. You must understand that I know absolutely nothing about the "Kalakaua Errors" except what I have learned from you. I did not know that such a situation ever existed until I studied your notes and worked them into the appropriate chapter. I simply have to lay the problem before you and wait for your instructions. And will you please send Stan a carbon copy of your reply, and thus save my quoting you to him?

I suggested to Stan that since the cogwheel does not tie the stamp to the cover, and since the stamp is over the Honolulu postmark, there is the possibility that the stamp does not belong on that cover. It might be a cover of the period from July 1, 1863, to Sept. 15, 1864, with a 5c stamp removed and this 10c stamp substituted. Or it could be Aug. 11, 1862, with a 12c stamp removed and this 10c stamp substituted. But Stan feels sure that the stamp belongs right where it is, and that our dates and facts are incomplete. He refers me to Pat Paragraphs of a certain date, which I do not have. But we have everything on this subject that Elliott has, do we not?

I do not want to prejudice you either for or against the cover, but I ought to give you the complete facts. This cover was in Harmer Rooke's sale of Feb. 26, 1947. I wrote them at that time of my misgivings, and they replied under date of Feb. 27: "We thank you for your letter of the 24th, and in view of your remarks we withdraw lot 45 from the sale for further examination. We thank you for drawing the matter to our attention." (Signed by Gordon Harmer.) I mentioned the matter to you, including their reply, in my letter of Mar. 4. Now the cover shows up in the collection of Larry Mason. Perhaps it is absolutely O.K.; perhaps you examined it for Harmer Rooke or for Larry and passed it as good. But if it is O.K., it takes some explaining which I cannot think up. I now leave the matter with you, and I will do about it exactly as you tell me.

2. From Theodore Sheldon, a Chicago Hawaii collector who has been most helpful to me, I have a letter in which he quotes from his correspondent A. H. Weber, whom I have known by name, but not in person, for many years. It concerns the 5c on 13c provisional. Mr. Weber has a theory of his own about this stamp, and I think he wants us to write and ask him, and of course he hopes we will adopt his theory. I have not written him, and I will not do so unless you think he may have something of more than casual interest. I will not delay the job another day unless by your instructions.

3. I am sure that you and Stan will both be greatly heartened that at last something has penetrated my thick skull. At last I am convinced that from July 1, 1863, <u>unpaid ship letters</u> from Hawaii were not charged a mere 2c ship fee on delivery, but double postage. You have both been most patient with me; it has taken me four years to come to this realization. What convinced me was the evidence of two covers: your SHIP 6 cover of June 18-July 9, 1864, and a Knapp sale cover with SHIP 6, lot 2041, Nov. 28-Dec. 21, 1863 (not 1862 as stated). As a result of finally getting this fact into my consciousness, I rewrote one section and sent it to Boggs to be substituted for the section as he had it before. When you read proof, I hope you will demand any corrections of fact which you may find; let us not delay the book, but on the other hand, let us not publish something wrong if we know the correction.

I am greatly relieved to learn from you that Boggs has not undertaken an extensive revision of our text. I hope you are right. If I find, when I read proof, that he has changed our phrasings so that the work sounds like Winthrop S. Boggs, and not like us, I am going to be distinctly vexed. I hope you are entirely right and I was entirely wrong. We shall see.

When I return from my trip, I hope to find your reply to the questions concerning the Mason cover and the Weber theory.

Yours sincerely,

Henry A. Meyer

July 12, 1947.

Mr. Henry A. Meyer,
516 Read St.,
Evansville 11, Ind.

Dear Henry:

The copy of your letter to the Admiral received and while I have it fresh in mind I trust that you will permit me to offer one suggestion.

By all means do not permit that chap Boggs to make any change whatsoever in your text. I may be wrong about four or five times out of ten, perhaps more, but I am seldom wrong on "counterfeits." I do not refer to the philatelic variety but to the human. That Boggs is just about my idea of - well I will leave it go at that.

I cannot understand why the Admiral stands for him. If you want any better proof of how small this chap really is just take a glance at his book on Canada. He never even referred to Jarrett - never gave him a bit of credit. Even if he hated Jarrett a book such as his Canada was no place to vent his spite. Jarrett's reputation in Canada is very high - he is recognized as the leading authority - In spite of this, one would never know from the Boggs book that such a person as Jarrett even existed. It takes a very small nincapoop to pllayaa trick like that.

I hope that you insist that Boggs keep hands off your mamuscript. Boggs is a counterfeit.

Yours etc.,

July 22, 1947.

Mr. Henry A. Meyer,
516 Read St.,
Evansville, Ind.

Dear Henry:

John Fox was kind enough to obtain for me a print of the "SHIP 6" cover in his sale of Last January.

I made a copy and am enclosing print herewith.

You will note that the date is "Aug. 10, 1864."

I trust that you had an enjoyable vacation.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

FREDERIC R. HARRIS
CONSULTING ENGINEER
27 WILLIAM STREET
NEW YORK 5, N.Y.

TELEPHONE HANOVER 2-0680

CABLE ADDRESS: HARKOB

August 15, 1947.

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook,
33 North Ft. Thomas Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Kentucky.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

It was nice to hear from you through your letter of the 13th. I quite agree with Meyer's and your conclusion that this was a double rate letter and that Honolulu knew it and therefore did not use its cancellation in red of "U. S. Postage Paid" but the black "Hawaiian Islands".

I am not entirely sure about "knowing" the sender and charging him 5¢ for the additional Hawaiian rate. I found that the Honolulu Postoffice was a little careless about weighing letters and charging for overweight. I have a cover which you have seen, with a strip of four of the 5¢ No. 8, showing the sender thought it was a four rate letter. On arrival in San Francisco it was marked "52" in crayon, indicating that San Francisco weighed it and found it a five rate letter. Of course, again, even on this one, the Honolulu Postmaster might have known the sender and charged his box 5¢ but there is nothing on it to prove that. It is more probable that in the easy-going climate of Honolulu, the Postmaster was quite satisfied with 20¢ in Hawaiian stamps and didn't take the trouble to get the 5¢ additional he could have claimed.

It is always nice to hear from you.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,

F. R. Harris

FRH:V

HOBBY INTERESTS

PICTORIAL PHOTOGRAPHY
EARLY EVANSVILLE HISTORY
EARLY OHIO RIVER STEAMBOATS
STAMP COLLECTING
MEMBER: COLLECTORS CLUB, S.P.A., A.P.S., C.P.S.

Henry A. Meyer

MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT • CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL
RESIDENCE 516 READ STREET
TELEPHONE 6380
EVANSVILLE • INDIANA
11

PHILATELIC LINES

OHIO & MISSISSIPPI RIVER PACKET COVERS
GERMAN POSTAL HISTORY
FRENCH REVOLUTIONARY & NAPOLEONIC COVERS
CAPE TRIANGLES
EARLY BRAZIL
HAWAII

Sept. 7, 1947

Dear Stan:

There hasn't been much to write about lately, but such as has accumulated, I would like to clear up.

Thanks for letting me see the Admiral's letter. I am gratified that we all three agree.

I have written a section on "Insufficiently Prepaid Mail" for inclusion in the book. I enclose a carbon copy for your file. The Admiral commended me on it.

Did you know that the Admiral has been sick? He wrote me that he has been in the hospital. I hope it was not serious. At his age, he could be preparing to leave this mortal plane. I hope not.

There is no proof yet. Now that it has gone beyond the opening of school, I hope it holds off a couple weeks longer. The first couple weeks we have all manner of extra things to do. This has been a hectic week-end for me, and I will have probably two more. The sixth week-end will also be terrible -- first grading period ends then.

Our local stamp club, which is not only an S.P.A. and A.P.S. branch, but also the Department of Philately of the Evansville Public Museum, has undertaken a Southwestern Indiana Postal History project. Our plan is to collect and make available the history of every post office which has ever existed in the eight southwestern counties of Indiana, and of all the postal routes in the same territory. We also want to collect all the postal markings we can find of all those towns and routes. It is a big project, but we don't care if we take several years for it. We hope to issue a mimeographed bulletin every time we have enough to justify it, and to mail it to postal history students and cover dealers, in the hope of having further covers and postmarks offered to us, either for sale or for loan. There is a surprising interest being shown in it.

Please write any time there is something of mutual interest, and I will do the same.

Yours sincerely,

Henry

For Stan
Carbon copy of section to be inserted.

Insufficiently Prepaid Mail

We have discussed the several methods of handling mail on which the U.S. postage was fully prepaid, and the method of handling mail with the Hawaiian postage paid but the U.S. postage unpaid. We have pointed out that the absence of stamps does not mean that the Hawaiian postage was unpaid, for the presence of a Hawaiian postmark means has the same significance as the word PAID on a U.S. stampless cover. But we do not have much information on the method of handling mail with either Hawaiian or U.S. postage insufficiently prepaid.

In Chapter 15, Fig. S-21, we show a cover from the Admiral Harris collection bearing a strip of four of the Hawaiian 5c No. 8, and the crayon mark 52 for the U.S. rate. Obviously, the sender rated the letter as needing four rates of postage, and so prepaid the Hawaiian part. The San Francisco post office found the letter to need five rates, plus the 2c ship fee, and so rated it. There is a possibility that the Honolulu postmaster knew the sender of the letter and charged his box account with the extra 5c, but if so, we have no evidence of the fact.

In the Collectors Club Philatelist for January, 1947, there appeared an illustration (page 19) of a cover from Hawaii to New York, from the Coan correspondence. It bore a 5c Hawaiian and 12c U.S. stamp; the large circle marking HONOLULU HAWAIIAN-ISLANDS (in lieu of HONOLULU U.S. POSTAGE PAID) and the crayon inscription Due 10. Our interpretation of the cover is as follows: The sender rated it as a single-rate letter and so prepaid it. The Honolulu postmaster discovered it to be double rate. He may or may not have known the sender and charged his box account 5c. But to call the attention of the San Francisco postmaster to the shortage, he used the HONOLULU HAWAIIAN-ISLANDS handstamp, which ordinarily meant "U.S. postage not paid," but in this case meant "U.S. postage insufficiently prepaid." The fact that the amount due was 10c, not 12c, shows clearly that the ship fee was collected and paid only once on each letter.

In Chapter 6, an insufficiently prepaid westbound letter will be described and interpreted.

Sept. 11, 1947.

Mr. Henry A. Meyer,
516 Read St.,
Evansville 11, Ind.

Dear Henry:

Yours of the 7th received.

No, I didn't know that the Admiral had been ill. I was sorry to hear it and I will write him today. I am very fond of him and doubt if there is any finer characters in philately than Newbury and Harris. Of course, you are aware of the very deep affection I have for the former.

At Cipex the Admiral mentioned to me that he had acquired a cover from Honolulu with a much earlier date than the Early of 1825 that he obtained from me. I wondered if he had written you about it and if so if you intended to illustrate it in the book? If you wish I'll be glad to make a photograph of it if you will have him forward it to me.

Les Brookman is still frothing at the mouth because of the delay in his U. S. book (two volumes - 19th century). It was supposed to be out before Cipex - but Stowell has been unable to get it done. You will be lucky if yours appears before next summer with a combination of Bruns and Stowell.

I note the worthy work to be done by your local stamp club. Fine. I wish you much success.

With best regards -

Cordially yours,

August 21, 1947.

Mr. Van Dyk MacBride,
744 Broad St.,
Newark 2,. N.J.

Dear Mac:

Yours of the 19th received.

I do not agree with you that a letter received in the seceded states after May 31, 1861 was not subject to the full Confed postage. Look at the cover I illustrated in my Confed booklet - page 13 - Fig. 4. It was mailed from Memphis on June 1, 1861 to New Orleans, with a 3¢ U. S. 1857. Tennessee had not seceeddd, hence the 3¢ stamp was legal there but when the letter got to New Orleans it was rated - "Stamp no good" and "Due 5."

Covers from the U. S. to the C.S.A. around June 1st, 1861 are rare, but I am of the opinion that C.S.A. postmasters refused to recognize"northern stamps" after June 1st, 1861. Richmond had instructed them not to and there was a war on. How can you figure that a C.S.A. postmaster recognized a letter with a U. S. stamp after May 31, 1861? Think it over Mac. Feeling and bitterness ran high right at that period.

I stated above that Richmond had instructed postmasters "not to" - not literally but in effect - by setting a date - June 1, 1861, for the C.S.A. to take over and put into effect the C.S.A. postal legislation. Surely the postmasters understood that U. S. stamps were no longer legal in the confines of the seceded states.

Jeff Jones I'll write Brookman. He is closer to Jones than anyone else in philately.

Newbury Valentine Photos. Weather has been much too hot to do any photo work.

Fort Warren Covers. I am enclosing my three covers herewith. Please take good care of them because I prize them very highly. I cannot remember whether I ever made photographs of them or not. You are at liberty to use them in any way you wish in your article. The letters are most interesting.

With regards - Sincerely yours,

Charge MacBride

Portage — 32f

COPY

Van Dyk Mac Bride
744 Broad Street
Newark 2, N. J.

July 25th, 1947.

Mr. S. Newbury,
38 South Dearborn Street,
Chicago 3, Illinois.

My dear Mr. Newbury:

I now have yours of July 24th, enclosing the small embossed Valentine cover bearing a 5¢ 1847 stamp. As you say, the postmark reads "NEW-YORK FEB. 28", which is a late date for Valentine usage. However, I have seen others, and true Valentines, used as late as this before. Sometimes they were sent late in "reply" to an unexpected Valentine received earlier! Then there are the cases where the date logos in the postmark were just wrong, - but I concede that would be unlikely in a New York postmark. I have a general working rule that any Valentine cover postmarked in the month of February, can probably be considered a true Valentine.

The address on your Valentine cover is surely Md. and not N.J. There IS a Kent County in Maryland and none in New Jersey.

I am taking the liberty of sending this Valentine cover directly to Stanley Ashbrook today, with the request that he photograph it promptly, and then send it on to you. It seems that that will save time all around, and I feel quite sure that this will meet with your approval. Stanley will doubtless send you a print for your files, and I will gladly pay the cost of the photographing.

Thank you heartily for your continued cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

Van Dyk Mac Bride

MacB/HK

c.c.: S.B. Ashbrook.

Stan: Please photo & send me 1 sharp print. Then return to S.N. directly! THANKS! Hastily Mac

July 28, 1947.

Mr. S. Newbury,
38 So. Dearborn St.,
Chicago 3, Ills.

Dear Mr. Newbury:

MacBride sent me the enclosed valentine cover, with the request that I photograph it and return it to you. I am sending it to you carefully packed so that it will not be bent or harmed in any way in the mail.

This really is a lovely cover and if you only paid $75.00 for it you sure obtained a great bargain. I sure do not know why a cover like this should not be worth several times that sum. It is indeed very fine.

I agree with MacBride regarding the late date. You see in those days it was love that was more important than days of the month.

I am sure that MacBride appreciates your kindness very much.

Nothing else new.

With best wishes -

As ever yours,

Earl Warren

Powers

Returned

Van Dyk MacBride
744 BROAD STREET
NEWARK 2, NEW JERSEY

September 2nd, 1947.

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

Dear Stan:

I have several of your letters to answer today. Yours of the 21st came in just as I was leaving for a 10-day vacation, from which I returned today.

What you say therein about recognizing U.S. stamps in the Confederacy on and after June 1, 1861, is probably quite true. Nevertheless, a letter mailed in the South with a U.S. 3¢ 1861 stamp on May 31, 1861 bore legal postage, - indeed there was no way a sender could have paid the Confederate postage on that day! I think that many such letters, in transit over June 1st, were sent thru to their destinations and delivered without being marked DUE for Confederate postage. It was quite different, of course, in the case of anyone who tried to mail a letter on and after June 1st bearing U.S. postage. In those hectic days however, a lot of things were done according to the lights of the local postmasters, - and I have seen examples "both ways".

While I was away I received a very nice letter from Mr. Jefferson Jones in which he says he is asking Brookman to send me the photo of his 1847-stamp Valentine. Also, he says: "I have enjoyed your many articles on Confederate issues and blame them for starting me on a small collection of Confederates gleaned mainly through your friend Ashbrook at Fort Thomas, Ky."

Thank you for the loan of your three Fort Warren covers. I have not had a chance to study them as yet, but I hope to catch up and find time soon. Then I will decide about which to photograph and use, and will return them all to you.

Thanks for the comments in your letter of August 24th on the new Southern Express-Raleigh-marking. I think you hit the nail exactly on the head when you say that if the similar Pioneer Express-Mobile deserves a Confederate listing, that this one does. Also, - that both should be put in some special post-war classification, - and that I shall recommend for the next Catalog. Incidentally Larry Shenfield also seems to agree with this handling.

Regarding the Wiltsee article "When the Railway Express was the U.S. Mail", I find that it appeared in the Collectors Club Philatelist, Volume 7, page 83, - not in the A.P. as you thought. I do not think I have seen this article, and I will try to get a copy and read it promptly. Incidentally, you are also quite right about the failure to cancel the 3¢ 1861 stamp on this cover, - as you say the Express Companies often didn't bother to cancel such stamps.

I received today prints of the Newbury 1847-stamped envelope. Very nice, and thank you very much. Debit my account with the $1.57, - and I'll send it along the next time I am paying you for something.

Finally, - I now have your note of August 31st, enclosing the C.S. Navy Department cover with the odd looking Richmond, Va. postmark.⊗ I agree that the latter does look doubtful, but I think it may be all right. Look at the chapter on "Richmond Cancellations" by Thomas H. Pratt in the Dietz "Postal Service" and particularly at his Type 12 on page 298, and the notes below on the same page. I don't think anyone would bother to fake this postmark on such a cover. The cover is unquestionably genuine, and you will note that the address and endorsement on it seem appropriate and appear genuine. The only think I <u>don't</u> like about the postmark is the absence of any PAID or DUE marking, - and postage was required on Semi-Official covers such as this.

That's all for now. Regards.

Sincerely,

Mac

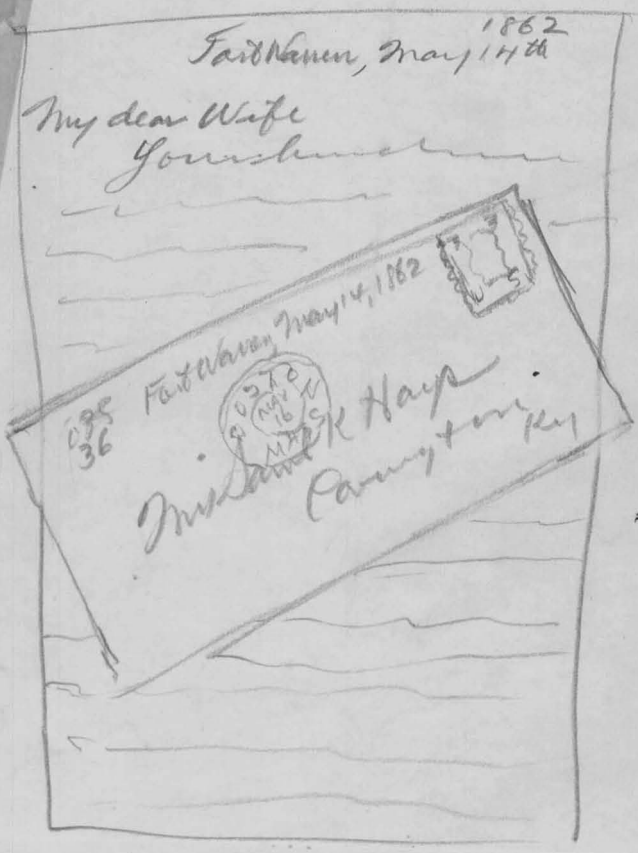
⊗ Returned herewith

MacB/HK

From the desk of

MR. VAN DYK MAC BRIDE

To SBA



Van Dyk MacBride
744 BROAD STREET
NEWARK 2, NEW JERSEY

September 23rd, 1947.

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

Dear Stanley:

Here are your three Fort Warren covers and letters. They are indeed interesting, - and I enjoyed reading them very much. I have made transcripts of portions of the letters, which I now plan to make use of in my article on Fort Warren.

As for illustrating these. May I suggest that you photograph the face of the #36 cover, postmarked May 16th, and of the first page of the letter it enclosed? Then the cover photo might be superimposed on the letter photo, as in the attached rough sketch, which would result in an attractive full page cut. I do not think it necessary to show any more of this, or the other letters, or either of the other covers, as they can be sufficiently described in the written story.

If you approve, do make these photos and send them along to me at your convenience. I have now accumulated nearly enough material to write my Fort Warren story, which I will then plan to offer to the AMERICAN PHILATELIST.

Best regards!

Sincerely,

Mac

MacB/HK

P.S. Also decided to send you my two F.W. covers, - addressed to F.W. Don't the Wallpaper one nice, with its "Exd", etc? Other has Boston receiving mark on face, too. Try to get me nice photos for illustrating, - the Wallpaper one will be hard to handle - but you can do it, & I'd especially like to use that one!

Sept. 25, 1947.

Mr. Van Dyk MacBride,
744 Broad St.,
Newark 2, N.J.

Dear Mac:

Yours of the 23rd with return of my three Fort Warren covers received.

Herewith are your two covers which I note are covered by insurance. These are certainly nice and I was pleased to see them. I made negatives of both .

I made a negative, as you requested, of my cover and will forward prints in due course.

I wish that I could give you some data on the Col. Sam Mays to whom my covers are addressed. I know that he was a friend of my father's and also of my mother's family but I suppose that all members of his family have been dead many years or moved away to other parts. I never knew any of the Mays family though I have often heard my parents mention Col. Mays.

Yours etc.,

Oct. 1, 1947.

Mr. Van Dyk MacBride,
744 Broad St.,
Newark 2, N.J.

Dear Mac:

Here is some data that I found in Collins History of Kentucky.

In Brady's Photographic History of the Civil War there is a picture of Johnson. Did you see it?

I have requested data on his life from Britannica.

Yours etc.,

July 16, 1862 - Adam R. Johnson with 32 men crosses the Ohio River and captures Newbury, Warrick Co., Ind., 14 miles above Evansville, paroles 85 Federal soldiers sick in hospital and takes with him 200 guns.

Aug. 20, 1864 - Col. Adam R. Johnson's Confederate Cavalry repulsed at Morganfield, Union Co., Ky.

Aug. 23, 1864 - Near Wallonia, Trigg Co., Col. Adam R. Johnson wounded and captured in a skirmish between his cavalry and the 48th Ky. The wound makes him entirely blind.

Aug. 24, 1864 - At Canton, Trigg Co., Col. Adam R. Johnson's Confederate Cavalry overtaken by the 48th Ky., and after a brisk skirmish defeated and dispersed.

Oct. 6th, 1947.

Mr. Van Dyk MacBride,
744 Broad St.,
Newark 2, N.J.

Dear Mac:

Yours of the 3rd received.

Re - Gen'l Adam R. Johnson, the dope that he was one of Morgan's men is all wrong. I have been unable to find any mention that he was connected in any way with Morgan. I find that he operated solely in Western Kentucky and that the reason he was captured was because he was wounded and blinded - in fact, became totally blind. He must have had someone write his letters for him while he was confined at Fort Warren. He had several brothers who served as officers in the Federal Army. After the War he settled in Western Texas with one of his brothers - operated a big cattle ranch and became very wealthy. He was still living in 1912.

Re - your 4¢ circular rate. I had entirely forgotten about the weight feature, so it was surely not a double circular rate. I suppose the "4" had no reference to the rate. The Richmond p.m. proves that it went thru the mail, hence it had to be prepaid. If in cash or charge, it should have been stamped "Paid." The absence of such might indicate a 2¢ adhesive stamp - a 2¢ #202 or a 2¢ #207. Perhaps a stamp was removed. Perhaps one was originally on the circular and it was not tied. It would be nice to know the answer.

Re - Danville cover. I made enlarged photographs of the 5¢ coming up in the Harmer R. sale, and I have a cover belonging to Brooks on my desk which I will photo. Later, I will send prints to both you and Larry. The Brooks covers - three of them - came out of an original find - never in a dealer's hands - so Harold assured me - so we know they are good.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Larry.

Yours etc.,

Van Dyk MacBride
744 BROAD STREET
NEWARK 2, NEW JERSEY

October 3rd, 1947.

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

Dear Stanley:

I am replying to yours of September 29th and October 1st. Thanks for the data on the General Johnson who sent that P. of W. cover from Fort Warren. I'll pass your memo along to Larry Shenfield when I am through with it, along with any other information you dig up on him, as he may want to keep it with the cover.

I am looking forward to a print of the photo you took of this, and of the other Fort Warren covers, with considerable interest. As for the memo on its reverse, - I think you have hit upon the probably correct explanation.

Do let me have the photos, etc. which you finally make in connection with your study of that Danville 10¢ cover. As a result, perhaps working together, we can determine whether it is genuine or not. Incidentally, I find that the two 5¢ covers in the Laurence-Brooks sale were sold to Gibbons (at $45.), and to Siegel (Robt. A) (at $38.). Possibly you could locate their present owners through inquiry, if you want to.

Re my Richmond PAID 4 cover. I checked the postal regulations and find that the rate on "newspapers, circulars, handbills," etc., sent unsealed, was two cents for "not exceeding <u>three ounces</u> in weight", and for each additional ounce or fraction it was two cents more. <u>Drop letters</u> were "two cents <u>each</u>". This seems to boost our theory that my printed circular was charged four cents for overweight, and the only explanation for it I can think of is that another copy accompanied it, or was enclosed in it, and the "4" was the total charged for <u>both</u>. I sent the cover to Larry who couldn't reach any more definite conclusion than that perhaps the "4" didn't apply to the rate at all, and possibly was added long afterwards by someone else.

George Malpass has sent me a copy of his letter to you about one David Plotz. I never heard of the gent, or his proposition, and I am pretty skeptical about the whole thing. What do you know about it and what is your opinion of it?

Best regards.

Sincerely,

MacB/HK

P.S. I threw away the Heiman sale catalog, and therefore don't know what Lot #461 therein was! I'll check it with Larry Shenfield, in view of the note you wrote him.

Oct. 8, 1947.

Mr. Van Dyk MacBride,
744 Broad St.,
Newark 2, N.J.

Dear Mac:

Herewith photos to date - the charge is as follows:

(A) Hays cover with letter (2 prints)	$1.50
(B) 3 covers - 2 prints each 1-A.R.Johnson (Shenfield) 2-Wall Paper 3-To Fort Warren	2.50
	$4.00
Old balance due	1.57
	$5.57

For illustration purpose you will note that I retouched two of the prints but if you do not like these I will furnish duplicates if you so desire. I couldn't remove the stain on the Johnson cover.

I am also enclosing you five prints - with my compliments. Three are enlargements of the Danville "5" and "10." All that I ask is that you do not show these to Dietz. I am also sending similar prints to Larry. Note the apparent difference in the two "5" of the genuine 5¢ covers. There seems to be no difference in the woodcut design on all three items.

The Frame Line cover is the fake in the coming Harmer Rooke sale. This has "J.A.K." on the back. Would you say it was John Kleeman's guarantee?

The fifth print is a reward for a runaway slave in Kenton County, Ky, which is opposite Cincinnati. A nice item for a Confed collection.

At long last I turned up that clipping from the Gibbons Weekly of June 19, 1909, illustrating the Burrett letter. Please return this when you are through with it. I can make you photos of it but photostats would be cheaper.

With regards - Yours etc.,

August 31st, 1947.

Mr. Van Dyk MacBride,
744 Broad St.,
Newark 2, N.J.

Dear Mac:

Please take a look at the enclosed cover. Did you ever see a Richmond p.m. exactly like this? Also it is in blue with a date of Apr. ? 186?. Does this p.m. look good to you?

Yours etc.,

Sept. 4, 1947.

Mr. Van Dyk MacBride,
744 Broad St.,
Newark 2, N.J.

Dear Mac:

Regarding that blue Richmond postmark. I recall a chap down in Lorraine, Va. (?) back in the nineteens and early twenties who put out a lot of fake Confed covers. What was his name? Wasn't it "Detrick" or something like that?

This Richmond looks like his work. I never saw an "APR" that was like this that was used at Richmond and I doubt if you have. I believe that I mentioned in my letter to you that it was in blue, but this didn't seem to impress you, so I inquire - Did you ever see blue used at Richmond in April? Don't the records show that blue is only known in 1862 on June 3 and 4 and in 1863 from May 14 to June 2nd - See Knapp in C.C.P. Vol. #2 - No. 1 - page 15. However, I owned a cover that was either May 12 or May 2, 1863. I never heard of blue in April in any year, so if this postmark is good it is most unusual.

I am enclosing a rough tracing that I made - lay this over the tracings on pages 298 - 299, in the Dietz book and you will find it is different from any of those illustrated. Lay this tracing over any covers you have. I dare say that you will not be able to match it. Please return tracing.

Did you show the cover to Larry? If not I'll send it down to him. I wonder if Dietz would think it is O.K.? Do you want to send it to him?

I won't argue with you on the way mail was handled on June 1st, 2nd, 1861 or other early dates. The dead line was midnight May 31, 1861. I contend that a letter mailed prior to that dead line with U. S. stamps was not legal in the C.S.A. Perhaps some postmasters chose to recognize U. S. stamps but they had no legal right to do so. Confed postage was due on all mail - received or mailed after May 31, 1861.

Re - Jeff Jones. No doubt I did sell him some Richey covers several years ago but I have no recollection of what they were. After I learned that he was a star customer of Brookman I submitted items thru Les rather than direct. Jones formerly was a newspaper publisher in Minneapolis but bought a paper out in Montana(?) and moved out there. I have not had any correspondence with him since

he moved. (along about 1944). I never met him personally but Les says he is a prince. He loves philatelic Americana - Westerns - Territorials, etc. That is why he probably acquired a few Confeds - no doubt P. of W. etc.

Again re - the Richmond cover. If the postmark is a fake - then it probably didn't go thru the mail but was delivered by hand. My guess is that this was one of Detrick's fake stampers and he slapped it on this "Navy" cover to give it value. But why didn't he put on a 2¢ green and tie it with this p.m.? Fakers do queer things.

Thanks for the data on the Wiltsee article. I sure made a bad guess - instead of 1936 in the A.P. it was April 1928 in the C.C.P. I wasn't even close. By all means read this article.

With regards -

Yours etc.,

Van Dyk MacBride
744 BROAD STREET
NEWARK 2, NEW JERSEY

September 8th, 1947.

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

Dear Stan:

I am afraid I am not qualified to determine further the validity of this Richmond postmark. It still looks to me very much like Type 12 Richmond postmark illustrated on page 298 of Dietz' book "The Postal Service of the Confederate States of America". Your tracing even fits over that illustration reasonably well, including the large "APR". I don't suppose any tracings, including those which were used for the illustrations of the postmarks in that book, were 100% accurate, - which might account for relatively small discrepancies between any two examples. Note also the description of Type 12 which refers to its "crowded appearance, due to a slightly larger day (month?) date." Also, he says "both black and blue inks were used with this type", and that it was used "from about the middle of March 1863 to the middle of May 1863". That would seem to account for the use of this postmark in blue on April 11, 1863, even though it seems to contradict Knapp somewhat. I again repeat that what I don't like about the cover, is the absence of a "Paid" marking and/or a rating numeral.

I didn't show it to Shenfield, and I would be interested in what he thinks of it. Also, I imagine he would forward it to Dietz for you for his opinion.

One last word on that May 31st-June 1st cover. You say that "a letter mailed prior to that dead line (May 31, 1861) with U.S. stamps was not legal in the C.S.A." Do you therefore also contend that all persons with mail to send during the last day or two of May held up their letters until June 1st? After all, there were no other stamps or rates than the U.S. ones available

before June 1st, - and I think it far more logical to assume that letters mailed in good faith before that date, and in transmission on that date, were permitted to go through as fully paid. Let's drop the subject, - the only way to definitely settle it would be to turn up a regulation of the Confederate post office covering the point!

That seems to be all for the present!

Sincerely,

Mac

MacB/HK

H. L. LINDQUIST
PUBLICATIONS
2 WEST 46th STREET, NEW YORK 19, N. Y.

October 14, 1947

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

Dear Stan:

Many thanks for your interesting article on "Envelopes," which we will use in an early issue. I hope it brings forth some of the information you are seeking so that we can have a follow-up on it.

At a meeting of the Foundation directors a couple of days ago, Louise Dale told me that she had received my letter regarding the Pony Express matter, and would take it up with me later. She said they weren't available just now but she saw no reason why they would not comply with your request, and she thought they would certainly do so.

She's expecting an addition to her family in about four weeks, and her husband is now in Europe, but possibly when he gets back and the event is over, we can expect some action.

I still haven't heard any word about the Plotz proposition you mention, and haven't even heard any intimation that involved his name.

Sincerely yours,

Harry

HLL/G

Phone: MEdallion 3-3715 Cable Address: LINDPUBS

The American Philatelist

AMERICA'S OLDEST AND LEADING STAMP JOURNAL
CONTINUOUSLY PUBLISHED SINCE 1887

Official Organ of the
American Philatelic Society

RALPH A. KIMBLE, Editor

8118 Dante Avenue
Chicago, Illinois

3 January 1947

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

Dear Stanley:

Thanks for your letter of 23 Dec 46, enclosing copy of ditto to Herst. I'm sorry I let that article in the AP--had some misgivings about it at the time but, in a weak moment, decided it would be of some interest. I know better now!

As to our friend Perry--have not had a cheep out of him for months--not since that letter about which I wrote you. Don't intend to disturb the status quo unless necessary.

Sincere best wishes,

H. L. LINDQUIST
PUBLICATIONS

2 WEST 46th STREET, NEW YORK 19, N. Y.

October 29, 1946

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

Dear Stan:

I entirely agree with your reply to Ralph A. Kimble, in connection with the suggested article by Perry. If Kimble follows your advice and submits any such article to Les Brookman I am sure he will steer him right on the matter.

I have no doubt that jealousy is at the bottom of most of Perry's actions, even though he may not realize this himself. I am sure he would deny it vehemently if he were accused of it, and would undoubtedly say that he is only looking for the good of philately and is glad to help anybody. Elliott, of course, has done some wonderful work as a student, but unfortunately, he has spoiled much of its effect by his attitude. I know for years I was very receptive to his ideas and suggestions, but his constant harping on the Needham matter became so annoying that I, like many others, just simply avoid him.

I feel, however, that you have Beck entirely wrong. He is one of the most modest men that I have ever run across, and as far as I have ever been able to ascertain, hasn't any axes to grind whatever. His life is bound up in the color business, and he enjoys a very splendid reputation from all the firms in this field. The response he has received in connection with the color exhibit for our show is absolutely astounding. Forty-seven firms, which include every important firm in the country that has any connection in the field, are cooperating with us; and the Inter-Color Council has appointed a special committee to cooperate with us and are permitting us to make the fact known. This is something they have never done in their history before and members on the committee include representatives from the Bureau of Standards in Washington, M.I.T., the Eastman Kodak, Bausch & Lomb, and several other very important concerns.

Beck seldom makes any statements unless they are backed by what he considers scientific proof and usually has his own opinions backed by others who are so important in the industry that they must be given credence. He is the last guy in the world I would believe to be a double-crosser, but of course, he does rely entirely on his scientific deductions, regardless of whether they prove or disprove his own theories.

I am returning the Kimble correspondence and will be interested to know just how he handles this.

Sincerely,

Harry

HLL/G Beck called since I dictated above and casually mentioned that Perry was thinking of writing a rebuttal article and that I thot Kimble would be out to see it. He agreed & seemed to know more about the matter

Phone: MEdallion 3-3715 Cable Address: LINDPUBS

COPY

24 October 1946

Stanley B. Ashbrook,
434 South Grand Avenue
Fort Thomas Ky.

Dear Stanley:

Elliott Perry has written me quite a squawk about your article in the July '46 A.P. on the 24¢ steel blue as a color changeling. He demands a retraction in the AP, etc.

Have you any objection to his answering you via the August columns of the AP? Frankly, I don't like this bickering via the printed page, and who the hell am I to say who is right when experts disagree? At the same time, you and I both want the truth insofar as we can discover it, so I'd much appreciate your comment on this, and the way you'd prefer to see it handled for a (more or less!) amicable settlement.

Sincerely regards -

(signed) Ralph A. Kimble, Editor

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.
Fort Thomas, Ky.

xxxxxxxxxx 33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.,

Oct. 26th, 1946.

Mr. Ralph A. Kimble,
8118 Dante Ave.,
Chicago, Ills.

My dear Ralph:

Regarding yours of the 24th. It is indeed unfortunate that Perry and I fail to agree on a number of subjects but the only way that there could be agreement between us would be for me to always admit that he was right and that I was always entirely wrong. Because of his unreasonable attitude and his desire to air our differences of opinion in the philatelic press in a Smart-Aleck manner I cut him out entirely some years ago and have refused to have anything to do with him in any way. I consider his Smart-Aleck criticisms of my opinions as published in his "Pat Paragraphs" as unethical, ungentlemanly and either show an utter lack of good breeding or else the product of a sick mind.

I believe that everyone is entitled to their own opinions, and that if we differ with someone on a controversial subject, and consider it necessary to express an opposite opinion in print, that we should do so in an ethical manner and not attempt to prove our viewpoint by injecting personalities, Smart-Aleck remarks, and display a brazen desire to belittle the one with whom we differ.

Regarding the 24¢ Steel Blue Article. I have been working on this subject for some five or six years and originally intended to publish it in the "Stamp Specialist." I prepared an article on the subject and submitted it to Wm. Beck, color expert. Beck came to Cincinnati and spent a day discussing the subject with me, and I was under the impression that he was in complete accord with my view. He later submitted my article to the Bureau of Standards at Washington and while they did not come right out and endorse my theories, they certainly did not offer any difference of opinion.

Harry Lindquist had my article for some eighteen months and Harry is thoroughly conversant with the whole subject.

I decided last winter to publish the article in the A.P. as Brookman had been in very close touch with me for several years on the study and Les contributed quite a bit to the research work.

After my article was published I received a number of

letters from various color experts, chemists, etc., etc., and there was not a single letter that differed with my opinion. I really was surprised because I expected quite a lot of criticism, difference of opinion, etc. etc. etc.

I delayed the publication of the article for many months because I did not want to publish it until such a time as I felt sure that I was absolutely right.

As far as Perry is concerned it is absolutely immaterial to me what he thinks or does, and if he wishes to differ with me he has a perfect right to do so and to publish whatever he pleases. For the good of philately, I think that such differences of opinion if published, should not indulge in personalities, wise-cracks, etc. etc., but on the contrary should be presented in a gentlemanly manner. If I were an editor I would not publish a criticism of an article that had been previously published, unless the criticism adhered strictly to the subject under discussion, and presented enough worthwhile evidence to warrant giving it space. If such an article displayed any venom, jealousy or any attempt to belittle the author of the original article I would refuse to publish the article and would notify the writer, that in my opinion, that his article was not motivated by a sincere desire to establish the truth, but on the contrary was in the nature of a personal attack on the writer.

If Elliott has any worth while evidence to produce on the subject, I will welcome it, because no one is more anxious to establish the truth on controversial philatelic subjects than I am.

Les Brookman is thoroughly familiar with this study because we worked together on it ever since he took over the A.P. If you sent Perry's stuff to Les I am sure that he would be glad to advise you asto whether in his opinion there was enough merit in Perry's article to warrant its publication.

To be perfectly frank, I think that Perry is "nuts," that his brain rattles, and has done so ever since he was thrown off balance by the imaginary injustice perpetrated upon him by the late Henry E. Needham.

I am quite sure that Elliott's thrusts at me, and his wise-cracking criticism of many of my past articles have hurt his reputation far more than he has damaged me or my studies, hence if he choose to differ with me on every subject that I present in print it is perfectly O.K. with me, as I am convinced that he will only hurt himself.

If you will read my 24¢ Steel Blue very carefully I believe that you will agree that I presented some very convincing circumstantial evidence and until I received your letter it never even occurred to me that Elliott of all persons would be foolish enough to disagree with my conclusions.

To sum up the above, I can only add, that no matter how you handle this matter, I can assure you that it will be O.K. with me because I am sure that you understand the situation and that you are

perfectly capable of judging what is the proper course to pursue.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.
Fort Thomas, Ky.

The American Philatelist

AMERICA'S OLDEST AND LEADING STAMP JOURNAL
CONTINUOUSLY PUBLISHED SINCE 1887

Official Organ of the
American Philatelic Society

L. G. BROOKMAN, Acting Editor

121 Loeb Arcade
Minneapolis, Minn.

October 28, 1946

Dear Stan:

Although I felt certain that in your 24¢ article you said nothing about Perry and said nothing so far as I could remember that should be in any way offensive to him or to any other person, I have just carefully gone over the article in the July A.P. to be certain that I was right. And I was right.

Of course I can understand how anyone could take exception to your article but I cannot for the life of me understand how anyone could reasonably take offense because of it.

I was much pleased with your letter to Ralph and think you have handled this matter in the best possible manner, and although I do not particularly like to be placed in the middle by reviewing Perry's reply, I will gladly do this for you and for the A.P. if Ralph thinks this is a good idea.

Regarding retraction I have this to say. If I made a statement in which I still believed, and you didn't like it, or Perry didn't like it, or ANYONE you can name didn't like it, my answer to attempts to force a retraction wouldn't be fit to print.

I suppose it all boils down to this; We all have a right to disagree with, ~~anyone~~ but no right to insult, anyone.

Of this I am convinced--you want the truth on the 24¢ and if Perry or any other student can prove you in error, and can demonstrate a truth, you will welcome that information as much as any student in the country. I had an Uncle that used to say that it was easy for him to forgive a man's mistakes if he was in their pitching and trying different things all the time but he certainly had no time for the fellow that sat on the side lines ~~looking for~~ doing nothing but bellyaching while looking for the other man's errors. Any "Monday Morning Quarterback" plays a good game of football--over the breakfast table.

Slow and tough going on my book but I am gaining a little all the time. Mr. Newbury has given me every possible cooperation and has repeatedly told me that the latch string was out all the time. His wonderful offer regarding the bond for the Sweet stamps does not surprise me for it is typical of him. When the going is tough he is always right there with a helping hand and his help absolutely comes from his heart. He has been an inspiration to me.

I must write a letter to Harry so will sign off. I'm BUSY as the dickens--bought another big collection today and am just about swamped.

Best regards,

Les

xxxxxxxxxxx 33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.,

Oct. 26, 1946.

Mr. L. G. Brookman,
121 Loeb Arcade,
Minneapolis, Minn.

Dear Les:

Confidential

I am enclosing herewith copy of a letter that I received from Ralph, also copy of my reply. Please note the line in Ralph's letter -

"He demands a retraction in the A.P. etc."

Now I know that "himself" is clear off his base - is nuts.

I hope that Ralph takes the matter up with you because no one can give him a better slant on this proposition than you.

Do you suppose that the A.P. will be sued for publishing such an article? And what redress will be demanded from the editor?

Yours etc.,

xxxxxxxxxxxx 33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.,

Oct. 26th, 1946.

Mr. Harry L. Lindquist,
2 W. 46th St.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Harry:

Confidential

Please note the enclosed copy of a letter from Ralph Kimble, also copy of my reply.

I believe that you are driving Perry nuts and that he will wind up in the Bug House if you do not cease your persecution. How is this being accomplished? Well the answer is quite simple. Every time you publish some reference to me in "Stamps" it makes Elliott rave. For example, "Ashbrook is going to write a book on the 1847's." And you intimate that, "who could do a better job?" Then you mention that I hold a Crawford medal - and also that Ashbrook is our greatest student, etc. etc.

Harry do you not realize that such references to me makes Perry see red? I am positive that he is so jealous of me that it simply burns him up to read any complimentary reference to my work. So, if you do not wish to further unbalance his rattling brain please be more modest and moderate when you refer to Ashbrook.

Seriously do you not think that jealousy is at the bottom, and is the root of his animosity toward me? You are perfectly aware of the manner in which I went about the work on the "24¢ changelings" and how sincere I was in establishing the truth. I am positive that I am right, hence consider that Perry will be very foolish if he dares stick his neck out.

I cannot help but believe that Beck has a hand in this and that he is a double-crosser. I think he wanted to get in the limelight in some way on my article and is sore. His whole attitude has been a mystery to me but there is no question but what he got sore at something. It is O.K. with me because I always did think that he was half-nuts, hence I advise you to watch your step with him. I hope I am wrong.

Yours etc.,

xxxxxxxxxx 33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.,

Oct. 26th, 1946.

Mr. Ralph A. Kimble,
8118 Dante Ave.,
Chicago, Ills.

My dear Ralph:

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perfectly capable of judging what is the proper course to pursue.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

This was
sent to A. C. Brooks
& Lundquist
on date Feby 1947

The American Philatelist

AMERICA'S OLDEST AND LEADING STAMP JOURNAL
CONTINUOUSLY PUBLISHED SINCE 1887

Official Organ of the
American Philatelic Society

RALPH A. KIMBLE, Editor

8118 Dante Avenue
Chicago, Illinois

24 October 1946

Stanley B.Ashbrook
434 South Grand Avenue
Fort Thomas Ky.

Dear Stanley:

Elliott Perry has written me quite a squawk about your article in the July'46 AP on the 24¢ steel blue as a color changeling. He demands a retraction in the AP,etc.

Have you any objection to his answering you via the august columns of the AP? Frankly, I don't like this bickering via the printed page, and who the hell am I to say who is right when experts disagree? At the same time, you and I both want the truth insofar as we can discover it, so I'd much appreciate your comment on this, and the way you'd prefer to see it handled for a (more or less!) amicable settlement.

Sincere regards

RALPH

POST CARD

Dear L. B.:

yours of the 28th
received - ~~I will~~ I doubt
if I can find place like theirs
but thanks just the
same. Also thanks for

appears to submit such el
ment that be necessary

Regards

Yours

Collector's Club
A. P. S. 2423

Telephone
Clearwater 2240

LAURENCE B. MASON

301 Jefferson Avenue
Clearwater, Florida April 28,1947.

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

Dear Stanley:

I am offered three covers as listed:

Pair 5¢ 1847,uncancelled on cover from Rochester,N.Y.$160.00
Two copies 3¢ 1851,tied black New York Ship Oct 27 on cover with BLUE Via Nicaragua Ahead Of The Mails in frame $165.00
Illustrated Stage Coach cover in black;Overland Via Los Angeles,picture of stage coach with six horses; 10¢ 1860,tied blue grid,type 5,postmark in blue of Marysville,Cal $175.00

Prices on two of the items may be too high for you to do anything with them but if you want to see the covers glad to send for inspection.

Thanks for yours of the 23rd inst with check for $5.00 in payment for the two covers; glad they were of use.

Sincerely yours,

Laurie

Collector's Club
A. P. S. 2423

Telephone
Clearwater 2240

LAURENCE B. MASON

301 Jefferson Avenue
Clearwater, Florida

May 7,1947.

Dear Stanley:

I am offered another fine item which might be of interest;

Stampless cover,red Sacramento City,Cal 14 May and red 40; enclosure perfect copy Gregory's Letter Book with fine long interesting miners letter dated Weaver Creek,May 11,1851; went to Ann Arbor,Mich. price is $85.00.

Regards and hope you are well,

Sincerely yours,

Laurie

May 10, 1947.

Mr. Laurence B. Mason,
301 Jefferson Ave.,
Clearwater, Fla.

Dear Larry:

Thanks for yours of the 7th.

At the moment I have no one in mind who might be interested in the Gregory.

I have been quite busy getting my desk cleared so that I can get away next week for the Cipex -

With regards -

Cordially yours,

DMA.

Bookham 7.

NORWOOD FARM,
EFFINGHAM,
SURREY.

8th April 1947

Dr. O. Bacher,
The Westminster Stamp Co.,
Regency House,
1-4, Warwick Street.S.W.1.

Dear Dr. Bacher,

Very many thanks for yours of the 1st with enclosure which I now return. I am glad Ashbrook liked the photos but would be interested to hear if the postal markings on any of them disclose any definite fakes. I am afraid it is highly probable that some of them do!

Ashbrook certainly says very nice things about me but, as you know, I do not in any way consider myself an expert on U.S.A. stamps. In fact, I am abysmally ignorant on the subjest of postal rates - and, as for grills, I believe you yourself could make one with a thimble that would take me in! But I never could get interested in grills! In fly-fishing, which for me is not much more than "chuck & chance it", I have always been fairly lucky & it has been the same with me in philately in spite of my occasionally landing an old boot!

I have never had the pleasure of meeting Ashbrook though I have often corresponded with him. I very much like what he says in his letter about "EXPERTS" but, in my humble opinion, if anyone has ever qualified for this distinction, he has.

Yours sincerely,

P.S. As to the last paragraph of his letter, that "Philad." 15 cts. must be very very rare but, all the same, I still think it existed.
I enclose a copy of this letter in case you may like to send it on to Ashbrook.

March 24, 1947.

Dr. O. Bacher,
Regency House,
1-4 Warwick St.,
London W.I., England.

Dear Doctor:

It certainly was very kind of Sir Nicholas to present the photographs to me and I wish that you would convey my thanks to him, and also to assure him that I will not use them in any manner without his permission. My desire to have them is solely for the purpose of adding to my records.

Inasmuch as it is very unsatisfactory to express an opinion on a cover from a photograph I will refrain from making any comment on the photographs. I can appreciate that such comment could be ill-advised and might prove harmful if given any circulation.

I am sorry that any offense was taken at my remark about there being no one in England competent to pass expert opinions on 19th Century U. S. but I still am of that opinion. Of course, I do not refer to ordinary material - off cover - etc. etc. I believe that Sir Nicholas is well qualified to pass on such items. What I especially referred to were such items as our 1867 grills, special printings, rare colors, papers, etc. etc. etc., not to mention such things as cleverly executed foreign rate covers. If Sir Nicholas believes that his knowledge covers all such classes then I humbly apologize.

I do not know of any <u>one</u> person in this country who is qualified to pass on all U. S. 19th material. For example, I never attempt to pass on our "Special Printings" and while I have a fair knowledge of our grills, I never trust to my opinion alone.

It is true that we have some people over here who think they know all the answers but they are fit subjects for insane asylums. The biggest fools in philately are those who lay claim to being "Experts." I despise the term and disclaim any such a distinction. However, thru long years of close study of our stamps, our postal history, markings, etc., I do reserve the right to express an opinion but I am generally prepared to back up an opinion with proof that it would be hard to disprove. It is easy for some crackpots to state that an item is good but they cannot explain satisfactorily why it is good. And the reverse is also true.

Recently one of our "Experts" expressed the opinion that a certain stamp did not originate on a cover. That was merely his opinion and with nothing to back it up.

#2. D. O. Bacher, March 24, 1947.

I value an opinion when one backs it up with facts to prove same.

For example, your recent article in "Philately," even if your deductions were not original, they were at least convincing. Just because a cover "looks good" is certainly no proof that it is good and the reverse is also true.

Last fall I had a friend submit for me a wonderful cover to the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Foundation. They sent it to me and I returned it - "without comment." Later it came back with a certificate stating that it was not genuine. I protested and they stated that it had been submitted to several leading specialists and that they had pronounced it as bad. I happen to be absolutely positive that the cover is perfectly good. So much for experts and expert committees.

I suppose that the cover "looked" too good to be good hence it must be bad and no doubt it was on that basis that the opinion was based. So far I have been unable to obtain any information as to hwy the cover "is bad."

I might close these remarks on "experts" with this observation - the more I learn about 19th U. S. the more I am impressed with the fact as to how little I know compared to what I might know, if I knew it all. Thus only fools and crackpots think that they know it all.

Regarding the Waterhouse cover with the Philadelphia postmark with "15cts." Although I have been continuing my search for a possible genuine example I have not been able to turn up such an item. I have contacted a number of students of Philadelphia postal markings but all disclaim any knowledge of that marking.

With kindest regards -

Sincerely yours,

April 30, 1947.

Sir Nicholas Waterhouse,
Norwood Farm,
Effingham
Surrey, England.

My dear Sir Nicholas:

In connection with the New York Exhibition next month the New York Times will publish on Sunday May 18th a supplement devoted to philately. I have been requested to contribute an article on the U. S. 1847 issue and space will be given me for the illustration of a cover. I would like to illustrate your gorgeous cover with the 5¢ and 10¢ 1847, so beautifully tied by the railroad postmark. I am wondering if you have any objection? If so, will you kindly cable me at my expense, otherwise I will be delighted to use it, but I will not mention the name of the owner.

May I take this opportunity to thank you very much for your kindness in furnishing me with the photographs of the covers in your collection which were forwarded to me by Dr. Bacher.

We are surely going to have a wonderful show and I hope I will have the pleasure of seeing many of your treasures on exhibit.

Sincerely yours,

DMA.

Bookham 7.

NORWOOD FARM,

EFFINGHAM,

SURREY.

Air Mail

6th May 1947

Stanley B. Ashbrook, Esq.,
A.P.S. 2497,
33 N.Ft. Thomas Avenue,
Ft. Thomas.Ky.,
U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

Many thanks for your letter of April 30th. I shall be only too pleased for you to illustrate the cover which you mention for publication in the New York Times and hope that in due course I may receive a copy of the supplement which is devoted to Philately.

Hoping that the Exhibition will be a success and wishing that I could be in New York and have the pleasure of meeting you,

I am,

Yours sincerely,

W W Watkinson

THE WESTMINSTER STAMP CO LTD.

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DIRECTOR.

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GERrard 4900

9/4/47.

With Compliments

of

O. Bacher

v best regards — and, of course, many thanks for your brilliant letter of March 24 — herewith copy of Sir N.'s reply to it. Sorry that no long letter is possible at present in view of pending departure to the U.S.

May 27, 1947.

Sir Nicholas Waterhouse,
Norwood Farm,
Effingham,
Surrey, England.

My dear Sir Nicholas:

I am indeed sorry to inform you that my article and the illustration of your cover, whihh was schduled for the New York Times for May 18th, did not appear. It developed that the manuscript ran over 2500 words, which was longer than the space reserved, and rather than permit them to edit it, I ordered it canceled as I felt that any eliminations would spoil it. I may turn the article over to "STAMPS" for publication, in which event I will advise you.

I was much interested in your exhibit at the Show and I wish that it was possible to make a careful examination of several of your covers.

I read with much interest your notes on your exhibit page, on the Philadelphia cover with the "15CTS." So far I have not been able to find an example of such a postmark but one of the dealers at the Show told me that he thought that he had one. If so, he will send it to me. I would like to compare it with the example on your cover. I might also add that I have never seen the use of the blue grids, such as are on your cover, from Philadelphia in 1848, but I trust that you will appreciate that there are thousands and thousands of items that I have never seen. The impression of the 5¢ stamp appeared to me as too late a printing for 1848, and Carroll Chase agreed with me that the color and impression was not of a stamp that could have been used in 1848. I trust that you will consider these remarks as constructive criticism, as it is far from my desire to prove that any item is questionable.

I noted in your exhibit an off cover copy of the 30¢ 1860 struck with a blue oval "China and Japan - Steam Service." As far as I am aware this marking did not come into use until the year 1867. It was in that year that the U. S. Steamship Service between San Francisco and China and Japan was first inaugurated.

There are several covers illustrated with this marking in the very fine article by Professor Lobdell in the Congress Book of 1946 - page 26 (twelfth American Philatelic Congress - Boston - Nov. 15-17 - 1946 - the article "1867 - The Beginnings of scheduled Trans-Pacific Mail," by H.E.Lobdell). If you do not have a copy of this article I will be glad to loan you one as I consider it a very fine bit of research work.

#2. Sir Nicholas Waterhouse, May 27, 1947.

I wish that I could carefully examine your 30¢ copy.

I also noted your cover with a H.S. of three of the 5¢ 1856 plus a vertical pair. I never heard of any such a rate as 25¢ to France in July-August 1857. The markings on the cover indicate that the original rate was 15¢. I would also like very much to examine this cover.

I also noted the cover with the rate of 45¢ from New Orleans. As I recall, this had a 5¢ 1857 - Type I red brown, a 10¢ 1857 and a 30¢ 1860. I would love to examine this cover very carefully because the markings are not in accordance with the rate.

May I compliment you very highly on your 1¢ 1857, Type IA cover, with the Boston "Paid." This is indeed a gem and in my humble opinion, on a par with the Newbury cover and the Brooks cover. These three are the finest that I have seen.

I had several enjoyable sessions with Dr. Bacher and incidentally mentioned Emmerson Krug would like very much to own your two 90¢ 1861 covers provided you could be induced to part with them. I am sorry that I failed to make a note of each one and if you would be so kind as to send me photographs I will be delighted to have them for my record. I will be glad to reimburse you for the expense attached.

With my kindest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

DMA.

Bookham 7.

NORWOOD FARM,

EFFINGHAM,

SURREY.

Air Mail

23rd May 1947

Stanley B. Ashbrook, Esq.,
A.P.S. 2497,
33 N.Ft. Thomas Avenue,
Ft. Thomas Ky.,
U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

Just a line to thank you for sending me the First Day Cover bearing the 100th Anniversary souvenir sheet. I think it is a very fine and worthy reproduction and I greatly appreciate your kind thought in sending it to me.

Yours sincerely,

W W Waterhouse

DMA.

Bookham 7.

NORWOOD FARM,

EFFINGHAM,

SURREY.

3rd June 1947

Stanley B. Ashbrook, Esq.,
A.P.S. 2497,
33 N.Ft. Thomas Avenue,
Ft. Thomas.Ky.,
U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

I am much obliged by your letter of May 27th but am disappointed to hear that your article scheduled for the New York Times did not appear as it ran into rather more space than had been allocated to it. I hope however that it will appear in "Stamps" so that I may have the pleasure of studying it.

I was pleased to have your remarks on that "15CTS" Philladelphia cover and am afraid what you say about the shade of the 5c. stamp makes the piece rather suspect even if it can be proved that the Town postmark with the "15CTS" is authentic.

What you say about "China and Japan - Steam Service" is most interesting and I am looking forward to comparing this cancellation with a similar one on which I have a 90c. 1861-67 tied to large piece. This cancellation however is in red.

It is very kind of you to suggest lending me a copy of Professor Lobdell's article on "Trans-Pacific Mail" and I would be very pleased if you would do so.

As to the strip of three and pair of the 5c. 1856 used on cover I was also puzzled by the 25c. rate to France but Dr. Bacher seemed to think that circumstances existed in which such rate would be correct.

I am deligted in what you say about my 1c.1857 Type IA cover. I always considered it a very fine item but did not think it could compare with either of the two covers which you mention.

I am glad to hear that Emmerson Krug is so interested in my two 90c. 1861 covers but I am afraid I would be very reluctant at present to part with either of them. The one in combination with the 10c. Premier and 5c. Mustard would be very difficult to duplicate. I shall hope to have both these covers photographed before long when I shall be very pleased to send you copies for

your records.

With kind regards,

I am,

Yours sincerely,

Richard W. Tilghman

P.S. Perhaps I should mention that I purchased that "China and Japan - Steam Service" 30c. very many years ago. I can't remember from whom I bought it but I certainly did not pay any sort of fancy price for it.

June 21, 1947.

Sir Nicholas Waterhouse,
Norwood Farm,
Effingham,
Surrey, England.

My dear Sir Nicholas:

This will acknowledge receipt of your kind letter of the 3rd.

I am enclosing herewith the article by Professor Lobdell entitled, Orient Mails "Via Pacific". This was cut from the January 1947 issue of "Technology Review," published by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Boston. It is my understanding that Professor Lobdell is Dean of the M.I.T. On page 152, there is an illustration of a cover that bears the marking "China and Japan Steam Service." This, as I recall, is the same type that is on your 30¢ 1860.

In the early 1930's there was a crook who operated in Boston and who turned out some very clever fake cancelations. His name was Hale and in former years he spent quite a bit of time in China and Japan. Shortly before his death, along about 1934, a large amount of his faking equipment was sized and same included a large assortment of handstampers, inks, etc. etc. Unless I am very much mistaken, there was a fake stamper in his "collection" of this "China and Japan - Steam Service." Unfortunately all of the fake material was turned over to a committee and was destroyed.

Hale was extremely clever and he had his fake stampers made as near like the originals as possible. For example, Hale would take a cover with a vertical strip of three of the 10¢ 1857 tied by a New Orleans postmark, and would add a 5¢ 1857 brick-red, and with an exact reproduction of the New Orleans postmark he would "tie" the 5¢ to cover. I recall such a cover with a date of use in April 1857. I am quite positive that this use was five or six months earlier than the time that the brick-red was actually issued.

As I have a duplicate copy of the enclosed article there is no necessity for you to return this one.

So far I have only been able to locate one person who thinks he has seen a Philadelphia postmark with "15CTS," but up to this writing he has not been able to produce such an example,

though I have been urging him to make a thorough search.

From the study that I have made I judge that there must have been at least four or five stampers with the "5CTS," and all seem to have been a bit different.

Sincerely yours,

DMA.

Bookham 7.

NORWOOD FARM,

EFFINGHAM,

SURREY.

2nd July 1947

Stanley B. Ashbrook, Esq.,
33, N.Ft. Thomas Avenue,
Ft. Thomas, Ky.,
U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

I was very pleased to get your letter of June 21st in answer to mine of the 3rd and regret the delay in acknowledging it but I have been away on business on the Continent.

It was most kind of you to send me the article by Professor Lobdell on "Orient Mails 'Via Pacific' " which I am looking forward to read with much interest and as you say you have a duplicate copy I shall be glad to keep it.

What you say about the "China and Japan - Steam Service" and the crook who operated in Boston is very disquietening and I think there is no doubt that this cancellation on my 30c. stamp of 1860 must be an example of his work!

I am interested to hear that you have located someone who thinks he has seen a Philadelphia postmark with "15CTS". I do hope you will be able to find it.

I have had a chat with Dr. Bacher since he returned from America and he told me how much he had

enjoyed his association and talks with you and other American philatelists whom he had never had the pleasure of meeting before.

Yours sincerely,

J. B. Wakeham

July 23, 1947.

Sir Nicholas E. Waterhouse,
Norwood Farm,
Effingham,
Surrey, England.

My dear Sir Nicholas:

This is just a line to advise you that I have an article in the current issue of "Stamps" - July 19, 1947, (Vol. 60 - No. 3 - whole 775) on the 1847 Issue. Heading the article is an illustration of your 1847 cover with the "Verm't & Mass'ts" marking.

You will doubtless note that the markings are quite plain, but this is due to the fact that I retouched them on the photograph so that they would be legible in the illustration.

This is the article that was originally intended for the CIPEX edition of the New York Times.

With cordial regards -

Sincerely yours,

NORWOOD FARM,
EFFINGHAM,
SURREY, England.

29th July 1947

Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

Many thanks for your letter of the 23rd July letting me know that your article originally intended for the New York Times will appear in the current issue of "Stamps" which I expect will reach me next week and which I very much look forward to reading. I feel greatly honoured that the article is headed with an illustration of my cover with the "Verm't and Mass'ts" marking.

Some months ago I sent you a batch of photographs mostly of 1869 covers and if you have had an opportunity of examining them I should be very glad if you would let me know from your knowledge of postal markings if any of them are obviously wrong.

Dr. Bacher told me that you would ~~let me~~ like to have photographs of some of the covers which I exhibited in the recent exhibition in New York and I should be pleased if you would let me know which items he referred to. I think one of them was the cover bearing a strip of three and pair of the 5c. 1856 but I have not as yet taken any steps in the matter.

With kind regards,
I am,
Yours sincerely,

W W Wakefield

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook,
33 N.Ft. Thomas Ave.,
FORT THOMAS, Ky. U.S.A.

BY AIR MAIL

AIR LETTER

IF ANYTHING IS ENCLOSED
THIS LETTER WILL BE SENT
BY ORDINARY MAIL

LONDON E.C.
7 29 JY

6 6
POSTAGE

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook,
33 N.Ft. Thomas Ave.,
FORT THOMAS,
Ky.
U.S.A.

First fold here

Second fold here

To open cut here

Sender's name and address :-

N.E. Waterhouse
Norwood Farm,
Effingham,
Surrey

To open cut here

Sir Nicholas E. Waterhouse
Norwood Farm
Effingham
Surrey England

AUG - 2 1947

Dear Sir Nicholas

Your Air letter of the 29th came today. No doubt by this time you have received a copy of "Stamps" with my article on the 1847 Issues, but if for any reason a copy fails to reach you please advise me and I will see that you receive one.

Regarding the covers in your Exhibit at the Newport Show I would greatly appreciate [illegible] of your cover to France with a 25¢ rate made up of a pair and strip of the 5¢ 1856. This use was in July - August 1857. The U.S.-French Treaty went into effect on April 1 1857

and the rate was 15¢ per ¼ ounce. If it was a single, there it must have been overpaid by 10¢. All the markings indicated that 15¢ should have been supplement. Had it been a double it would have been marked "SHORT PAID."

I would also like to have a print of ~~your~~ the cover with the 5¢ 1857 ~~type I~~ Red Brown, a 30¢ 1860 and a 10¢ 1857. The markings on this cover are not in accord with a triple rate. Also prints of your two 90¢ 1861 covers.

Regarding the prints that you sent me of your last sprint 1869 covers. I did not ~~express any~~ make any comment on any of these because it is hardly fair to criticise a cover from a photographic print. However I did note the following;

Cover with pair of 15¢ 1869 — to France
French marking of "Dec 1 1870".
The markings on this cover are
not in accord with the rate. Do
not think the Newyork postmark is
genuine. ~~I could~~

Cover with 12¢ 1869 to France. The
markings show that the proper
rate was 10¢ but it could have
been over paid. Only By ~~a~~ ~~could~~ an
examination of the cover itself
could it be ascertained if the 12¢
stamp originated on the cover.

Cover with 15¢ 1869 to France, from
Newyork Sep 5 1869. The N.Y. and
French markings show that the
rate was 15¢. My only criticism
is the cancelation on the stamp.
I never ~~this~~ saw this before.

Cover with 30¢ 1869 to Italy — Mar 4
year? I never saw this cancelation
before. Mar 4 ~~to~~ 1869 would

have been too early for this 30¢
stamp so the use must have
been 1870 or later. The single
rate in 1870 was 10¢. ~~The stamps~~
~~may have, and it may not~~

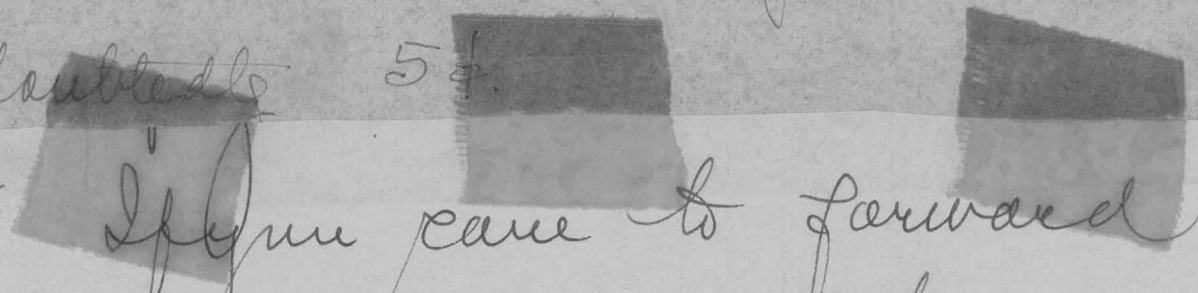
Cover with 24¢ 1869 from Savannah
Ga to Liverpool. The single
rate was 12¢. ~~Marcanuse~~
~~It would require a careful~~
~~examination to determine whether~~
~~a substit~~ Nonetheless this was
a double rate, if the 24¢ stamp
was used originally on the cover.

Cover with 15¢ 1869, from New ~~Yorker~~
Orleans Nov 3 1869 to Bordeaux.
All markings are in accord
with the rate

Cover with 15¢ 1869 from New Orleans
Nov 20 1869. The markings
indicate that the original
rate was 30¢.

Re Cover to Spain with 10¢ 1869 from New Orleans May 6. No ~~dat~~ year date is ~~shoo~~ shown but the rate would apply only to a use in 1869. The year use was 1869 the cover is double loss o.k.

Re-Cover to Spain with pair 24¢ 1869. This rate does not make sense. I believe that the use of this cover was from to Jan 1 1868 and the rate paid was ~~undoubled~~ 5¢.



~~If~~ If you care to forward any other above covers to me for examination, I will be glad to give you further information on them

Cordially yours

NORWOOD FARM,
EFFINGHAM,
SURREY, England.

8th August 1947

Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

Very many thanks for yours of the 2nd which arrived this morning.

I will as soon as possible get clear photographs prepared of the four covers which you mention but possibly there may be some delay owing to the August holidays.

I am much obliged for the information which you give me on the photographs of the 1869 stamps which I sent you earlier in the year, and am looking forward to examining carefully every item in the light of what you have said.

The last item, namely, the cover to Spain with a pair of 24c is not actually a cover but only a "front" and quite possibly it is only a large label carefully removed from a parcel. In such a case perhaps a 48c rate would make more sense.

I ought to have mentioned this when sending you the photo!

Kindest regards!

Yours sincerely,

F B Waterhouse

BY AIR MAIL

AIR LETTER

IF ANYTHING IS ENCLOSED THIS LETTER WILL BE SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL.

LONDON E.C. 5PM 8 AUG 1947

6d POSTAGE

Mr. Stanley B Ashbrook,
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.,
FORT THOMAS,
Ky.
U.S.A.

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To open cut here

Sender's name and address:-

N.E. Waterhouse
Norwood Farm.
Effingham,
Surrey

To open cut here

Aug. 12, 1947.

Sir Nicholas E. Waterhouse,
Norwood Farm,
Effingham,
Surrey, England.

Dear Sir Nicholas:

Your air mail letter of the 8th reached me on the 11th, which surely is most remarkable time for a letter from London to this locality in the middle-west.

Regarding your "face" to Spain with the pair of 24¢ 1869. I suspected from the print that this was just a "front" or "face" and that it had no markings on the back which would show the actual year of use. The latter is probably the reason why the back of the cover is missing, because the back stamps would have shown that the use was very much earlier than 1869.

I am quite positive that originally this "front" was not a parcel or a large piece of mail, simply because the markings themselves prove otherwise. The fact is that this item originally had a U.S. 5¢ payment and it could have been a use in the late eighteen fifties with a 5¢ 1857 or in the eighteen sixties with a 5¢ 1862 or other stamps to pay a 5¢ rate. It was merely the U.S. payment of "5¢ shore to ship," that is, to a British Mail Packet (Cunard). The "New York - Br. Pkt," marking shows that the letter was sent from New York by a British Mail Ship and that it therefore went to England and thence by British Mail to Spain.

In its present shape the item purports to show that 48¢ was paid to the U.S. P.O.D. and that said Department retained the entire sum. There never was any sort of a 48¢ rate to Spain from the U.S., and further, this item does not show any credit from the U.S. P.O.D. to the British P.O.D., which it certainly would have shown if the sum that was paid had been higher than 5¢. The reason that the item does not show any U.S. credit to the British P.O.D. is that there was no sum to credit, as only 5¢ was paid and that was the U.S. share, (shore to British Mail Ship). Perhaps you have covers in your collection to Spain with such 5¢ payments and with markings the same as on this cover.

The first thing that an informed student of rates and markings would be apt to note was, the large payment with no credit to the British. That in itself would show that something was wrong.

Suppose we consider this item further. It shows a pair of 24¢ 1869's used from New York on March 6. As that date would be much too early for the use in 1869 the item "if genuine" would have been used in Mar.1870 or later. At that time mail from the U.S. could be prepaid "By British Mail" to Spain and the rate was 28¢. The U.S. share was 4¢ and on each 28¢ rate, the sum of 24¢ was credited to the British P.O.

In the Knapp second sale, Lot 1767, was a typical example. It had the following 1869 stamps: 15¢, 10¢ and 3¢. It was mailed from New York on Mar.24,1870 and had a large red "24" (the credit). All markings are identical with the period, and are as foreign to the markings of the period in which your cover was used as are the markings on your cover totally inappropriate for a use in 1870 or later.

#2. Sir Nicholas Waterhouse, Aug. 12, 1947.

I could give you further detailed information regarding U.S. Mail to Spain from 1849 to 1875 and the style of markings that were used in connection with the various rates and periods but I will not bore you with such details.

In closing may I suggest that you compare the above mentioned cover with your cover to Spain (Yguálada) with the 10¢ 1869. You will note that both have the Spanish marking "4R^{S}." This is very significant, as this marking had no relation to such a high payment as 48¢ in any period, between 1849 and 1875.

Your 10¢ 1869 cover should show a year of use of 1869, but if it shows any later year the rate would not be correct. I might add that I have little doubt that the year use was 1869 as the type of New Orleans postmark that appears on your cover is absolutely correct for May and June of 1869.

Sincerely yours,

DMA.

Bookham 7.

NORWOOD FARM,

EFFINGHAM,

SURREY.

Air Mail

19th August 1947

Stanley B.Ashbrook, Esq.,
33, N.Ft.Thomas Avenue,
Fort Thomas, Ky.,
U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

Very many thanks for your very speedy answer to my letter of the 8th. It is amazing to think that it reached you in the Middle West on the 11th and that within a week you were able to write so fully to me about the 48c. "face".

What you say is most interesting and I quite agree that there is no doubt at all that the piece has been faked up.

I certainly ought to have noticed that the large amount of payment with no credit to the British would show that something was wrong!

I am also very interested to hear what you say about the 10c. cover addressed to Spain of which I sent you a photograph some time ago. I find that the receiving year date May 21 1869 is struck twice on the back of the envelope which proves it to be correct. The fact that the New Orleans postmark is correct for May and June 1869 is also very satisfactory.

Thanking you for all the trouble you have taken to enlighten me,

I am,

Yours sincerely

Nicholas Waterhouse

P.S.over

P.S. The photographs are now being prepared of the covers mentioned in my last letter and I hope to be able to send them to you at anearly date. I shall also be sending a photograph of another cover bearing a 30c. 1860 on which I should very much like your opinion.

DMA.

Bookham 7.

NORWOOD FARM,

EFFINGHAM,

SURREY.

29th August 1947

Stanley B. Ashbrook, Esq.,
33, N.Ft.Thomas Avenue,
Fort Thomas, Ky.,
U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

Further to my letter to you of the 19th I now have pleasure in enclosing the photographs of the four covers which you said you would like to have. I have also included a fifth cover on which I would be very glad to have your opinion.

You will see that at the back of each of the prints I have given an indication of the colours of the various postal markings and also noted any postmarks that may have been on the back of the covers.

I have had the cover with the 35c. rate for many years but I foget from which source it came. The pair of the 1c. type 1 is superb but there is a slight tear in the left hand bottom corner of the 30c..

On looking at the photograph I see that I did not delete my pencil note at the bottom "see note within". This note only referred to the slight tear in the 30c. which is almost unnoticeable.

With kind regards,

I am,

Yours sincerely,

J.W.Waterhouse

Enclosures - Registered.

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Sept. 15, 1947.

Sir Nicholas E. Waterhouse,
Norwood Farm,
Effingham,
Surrey, England.

My dear Sir Nicholas:

Many thanks indeed for the set of photographs which arrived today. It was quite a pleasure to see these and to analyse the rates and markings.

U. S. foreign rate covers are a bit like a jigsaw puzzle - that is, all the parts have to fit snugly together or else something is wrong. It has been my experience that if something is wrong with a cover, it was seldom an error of the postal clerks. In other words, I have found very, very few covers that reached their destination which originally had an error that was not corrected before the letter was delivered. On each piece of mail where there was a division between countries of the rate, the credit or debit had to correspond to the rate. If an error was made at the sending office it was almost invariably corrected on the letter before same was delivered.

It is really remarkable how much foreign rate covers can tell one who is able to understand their language. For example, suppose we consider your $1.08 rate from Boston to Hong Kong. I have long been familiar with this particular cover as I noted it carefully in your exhibition at Tipex in 1936. In later years it was illustrated in Godden's magazine. It is from the well known Heard correspondence which turned up out in San Francisco along about 1931. The Heard find was a marvelous lot. Incidentally at the Cipex last May I met John Heard, a descendent of old Augustine Heard himself.

Strange to relate this cover is still the earliest known use of the 90¢ 1861 in my records. The Boston postmark on the back is not legible, (as your memo states), but my records show that the letter inside is dated, "Boston, Nov. 27, 1861. The Boston postmark shows that the letter was sent by Br. Pkt., (Cunard), which meant that the U. S. share of each rate was 5¢. On the face is a "2" which referred to the U. S. share, viz., 2 x 5¢. This was not actually a double rate as I will further explain. The total sum paid was $1.08 of which the U. S. share, as mentioned, was 2 x 5¢, hence the credit to Britain had to be 98¢. This is evidenced by the red penciled "98." Thus so far the parts of the puzzle fit snugly together.

Now regarding the $1.08 rate. Suppose we permit the cover

to explain why there was $1.08 in postage on this cover. You will note that it is routed "Via Marseilles." Thus out of Boston, by Cunard to England, thru London and thence by French Mail Via Marseilles, and British mail to the Far East. The 1861 rate under which this letter was rated was as follows:

To ½ oz. - $ .51
½ to ¾ oz. .57
¾ to 1 oz. 1.08

It is interesting to note how the 51¢ rate was broken up. Here is the explanation:

U. S. Internal	5¢	
French	6¢	
Atlantic Passage	16¢	
British Pkt.	22¢	24¢
Plus Hong Kong Internal	2¢	
	51¢	

Up to ½ ounce the only increase in the above was the French which was doubled (12¢) - (51 plus 6). The $1.08 rate was broken up as follows:

U. S. Internal	10¢	
Atlantic Passage	32¢	
French (3 x 6)	18¢	
British	44¢	48¢
Hong Kong Internal	4¢	
	$1.08	

Thus this letter was over ½ ounce and not over ¾ ounce and all markings, rate, credit, etc. etc., are absolutely O.K. in every respect. All parts fit snugly in place.

When a philatelic crook undertakes to "fake" a cover he is compelled to make alterations in the parts of his jigsaw puzzle. Having no knowledge of his subject there is little wonder that his altered pieces do not fit into place.

Further regarding this cover. Suppose the Boston marking on the back read "Am. Pkt." then the U. S. credit to G.B. on the face would not have been "98" but rather "66", because the U. S. share would have been 42, viz., 2 x 5 (internal) plus 2 x 16 (Atlantic).

In comparison to the above cover let us consider your cover from New Orleans to Nantes, France in July 1857. This shows postage paid of 25¢, and has a vertical strip of three and a pair of the 5¢ 1856.

The rate to France at this time was 15¢ per each quarter ounce. This rate was broken down as follows:

U. S. Internal	3¢
Atlantic	6¢
Via G.B.	3¢
French Internal	3¢
	15¢

Our credits were to France and France settled with Britain for part carriage. For example, a letter from Boston Via Cunard to England thru Calais. The U. S. share was 3¢ and the French share was 3¢, but the U. S. credited France with 12¢ and France in turn paid Britain 9¢. (6¢ for the Atlantic crossing and 3¢ Channel to Calais).

Your cover apparently shows Cunard carriage to England, with a Boston credit, of 12¢. This indicates that the original postage was 15¢.

It is barely possible, that the New Orleans postmarks on the strip of three are genuine but I would hesitate to state that they are without examining the cover itself. Some parts have been retouched and other parts look very suspicious. The two postmarks on the pair are different, that is, the alignment of the letters do not agree with the two on the strip, hence I doubt very much if these are genuine. This feature, in my opinion, eliminates the possibility that the 15¢ rate may have been overpaid by 10¢. This is a "Garnier" cover, and more faking was done with this correspondence than any other, in my opinion.

Regarding your Heard cover with the rate of $2.12. This is indeed a beautiful item and everything is regular, but suppose we let the cover speak for itself. First we find that it left New York in March 1865 by a Cunard ship, thus the U. S. share of each rate was but 5¢. We find a pencil "4" meaning that the U. S. share was 4 x 5¢. We find that $2.12 was paid in postage, hence a credit to Britain should have been $2.12 minus 20¢. We find 192 on the cover with a "4" beneath same, indicating credit of 4 X 48. Therefore the single rate must have been 53¢. Under the 12¢ is the routing, viz., "Per Africa - Via Marseilles" - The rate for such mail in 1865 was as follows:

Per ¼ oz.	47¢
¼ to ½ oz.	53¢
½ to ¾ oz.	$1.00
¾ to 1 oz.	1.06
1 to 1¼ oz.	1.53
1¼ to 1½ oz.	1.59
1½ to 1¾ oz.	2.06
1¾ to 2 oz.	2.12

Thus this letter was over 1¾ oz., but not over 2 oz. The break-down of the above was as follows:

U. S. Internal	.20
Atlantic crossing(4 x16)	.64
French Overland(8 x 6)	.48
British & Hong Kong (4 X 20)	.80
	$2.12

The cover to Tuscany is apparently very beautiful and the rate of 35¢ in July 1861 is perfectly correct. This rate (per ½ ounce) was "Via Prussian Closed Mail" (thru England). The rate to Prussia was 30¢, the additional 5¢ carried the letter to Florence. Such mail was carried in sealed bags thru England to Ostend, to

Aachen, where the bags were opened and the mail distributed. The U. S. settled with Britain for her carriage by bulk weight. What looks like a manuscript "19" is probably a "12" and may indicate Prussia's share of the rate, that is, 7¢ plus 5¢.

The Newport, R.I. Post Office had a habit of stamping on each piece of foreign mail the amount of postage paid, thus we find, "PAID - 35." Very, very few U. S. post offices did this.

Regarding the cover with 45¢ to Bordeaux from New York on March 9, 1861. The markings indicate that this letter went by American Packet Via England. The credit is "6" which applied to a single rate to France of 15¢. The 6¢ paying the 3¢ French internal and 3¢ British carriage to Calais. The original credit marking of "3" was crossed out. It would have applied to a 15¢ by American Packet direct to a French port. This was an error by a New York postal clerk that was corrected.

If this had been a triple rate of 45¢ (3 x 15¢), the U. S. credit to France, if correct, no error, would have been 3 x 6¢, or 18¢. Hence there is something wrong with this cover.

I do trust that you will pardon the length of this letter, my only excuse for same is, that my remarks on the covers may be of special interest to you.

With cordial regards -

Sincerely yours,

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.
Fort Thomas, Ky.

DMA.

Bookham 7.

NORWOOD FARM,

EFFINGHAM,

SURREY.

Air Mail

19th September 1947

Stanley B. Ashbrook, Esq.,
A.P.S. 2497,
33 N.Ft. Thomas Avenue,
Ft. Thomas, Ky.,
U.S.A.

Dear Ashbrook,

Very many thanks for yours of the 15th which arrived with lightening speed yesterday. It is most kind of you to write at such length about the photographs of the four covers which I sent you.

I am to-day off for a short fishing holiday (my first since 1938) but I am very much looking forward to studying the covers very carefully on my return in the light of your remarks. In the meantime I would like to say how glad I am that there is no doubt at all about the two 90c. covers and that they are both gems of their sort.

I am also glad to hear that the cover to Tuscany with the 35c. rate of July 1861 seems to be perfectly correct.

I am sorry to hear that there is something wrong with the cover bearing the strip of three and the pair of 5c. 1860. What I cannot understand about it is that anyone should monkey in this way with what appear to be superb copies of this stamp. I have examined them very closely with a strong glass and there does not appear to be the faintest trace of any other cancellation than appears in the photograph and it would therefore look as if the stamps were in uncancelled condition when attached to the cover unless portions of the "Town" postmarks are faked and part of them genuine.

As to the last paragraph of your letter please do not apologise for its length as I appreciate that what you say is the result of many years of close study and research and is of the greatest interest to me.

With kind regards,

I am,

Yours sincerely,

W. Waterhouse

Sept. 29, 1947.

Sir Nicholas Waterhouse,
Norwood Farm,
Effingham,
Surrey, England.

Dear Sir Nicholas:

Your kind note of the 19th received. I really did not mean to condemn your 5¢ 1856 cover but merely to point out what there was about it that was not "regular." It is most unfair to form an opinion from a photograph.

I really do not know how the crooks remove cancelations from stamps printed in certain delicate colors but there is no question but what they do accomplish such things. For example, the removal of a cancel from our 5¢ 1861 Buff. When they substitute this stamp on a cover they surely do not use unused copies, hence the only conclusion that can be reached is that when we find a fake cancelation, then surely a genuine one was removed. How disgusting such things are but we might as well face the truth regardless of whether we like it or not.

Further regarding your 5¢ cover. I wonder if the pair was added and the canceling New Orleans postmark is not genuine. I merely suggest this as a possibility.

Perhaps there is a difference between the markings on the strip and the strikes on the pair. The latter might be an imitation of the former(?). If I had the cover before me I could detect very readily whether this was true or not. Perhaps Dr. Bacher could examine this feature successfully. If the markings are all identical then we will have to discover some other reason why this cover shows that 25¢ was actually paid.

Regarding your cover to Spain with the pair of 24¢ 1869. I am enclosing two photographs which show the 5¢ shore-to-ship rate to Spain. One has the Spanish "4RS." Perhaps this was not over ¼ ounce. The other shows "8RS". This probably over ¼ oz., but not over ½.

I believe that your 1869 cover originally had a 5¢ stamp, as I mentioned in a former letter.

I trust that you had a most enjoyable fishing trip.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

NORWOOD FARM,
EFFINGHAM,
SURREY.

6th October 1947

Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

Thank you for yours of the 29th which I received on my return from a very enjoyable little holiday in North Wales though the fishing conditions were not too good.

Thank you also for sending me the two photographs of the interesting cover to Spain which I am very glad to keep for reference as you kindly say that they need not be returned.

I have had another very careful look at the cover with the strip of 3 and pair of 5c but I am afraid my eyes are not good enough to detect anything suspicious about the cancellation on the pair. I will however take the opportunity of getting our mutual friend Dr. Bacher to examine the cover under his lamp as, from what you say, it is difficult to understand how 25c postage was paid when 15c would have been sufficient.

With kindest regards,
Yours sincerely,

W W Waterhouse

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

BY AIR MAIL

AIR LETTER

IF ANYTHING IS ENCLOSED
THIS LETTER WILL BE SENT
BY ORDINARY MAIL.

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook,
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.,
FORT THOMAS, Ky.
U.S.A.

First fold here

Second fold here

To open cut here

Sender's name and address :-

N.E. Waterhouse
Norwood Farm,
Effingham
Surrey

To open cut here

CHAMPION PANTS MANUFACTURING CO., INC.
FORTY-NINE WEST TWENTY-THIRD STREET
NEW YORK 10, N. Y.

December 12th, 1947

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

Dear Stan,

Many thanks for the information which you gave me on the Kelleher lots, and the other stamps. As far as the type 5 lots were concerned, the only other lot which seemed to me to be of any value was one sheet which had a number of imprints and center lines. The condition was not good, and my bid was beaten by about $3.00. The lots with cancellations on them brought some very fancy prices, far more than I thought I ought to pay.

I note your comment about breaking up the sheet of shades, and probably will do so, however, I would like to have a representative sheet of shades, and I may save these stamps together with others that I buy and perhaps sometime or other when you have time, you might put these together for me.

I also note that on the single stamps that I sent you on the type 5 that I was wrong on every one of them. I am just wondering if some day I will get enough experience to identify the plates from which they come. Unfortunately, I haven't too much time to compare these stamps with the sheets which I own. If I did so, of course, I would get much further.

Jack did not go to the Kelleher Sale. I did get a line from him that his daughter was married in Nebraska, and went back there to live. It is pretty tough on the parents.

I am enclosing herein for your information the only two lots which I obtained from the Fifield Sale. Believe me the material brought fancy prices. I spotted lot 62 in the sale, and I thought immediately that it was from the top row of plate 11, positions which I do not have. I could not attend the sale myself, and I asked Ezra to take care of my bid. He also felt that these were from the top row of plate 11, and he says that he has the positions below, and that they came from the same sheet. As soon as you return these stamps to me, I will get in touch with Ezra, and we will see if we can put the four stamps together. With this purchase I think that I now have almost every major variety of the perforated stamps with the exception of a 99R2 perforated. I haven't seen a decent one except in a strip which Newberry bought recently.

CHAMPION PANTS MANUFACTURING CO., INC.
FORTY-NINE WEST TWENTY-THIRD STREET
NEW YORK 10, N. Y.

One of my friends has a copy of your Volume I in excellent condition. Do you need this for anybody.

Kindest regards.

Very truly yours,

MORTIMER L. NEINKEN

MLN:HS
ENC.

LIBERTY BOND
U.S.A.
50% RAG

Dec. 15, 1947.

Mr. Mortimer L. Neinken,
49 West 23rd St.,
New York 10, N.Y.

Dear Mort:

Yours of the 12th received.

Cole has a pair of 11R11 - 12R11 which I am reasonably certain was a pair to the 1R11 - 2R11 which you sent me. I told Ezra that I thought his pair was re-perforated down the left side, but he does not agree with me and insists that the left vertical perfs are genuine. These two pairs were surely a block of four at one time, viz., 1R11 - 2R11 - 11R11 - 12R11. In other words, a center line block.

I have never seen a Plate Eleven stamp with perfs down the center line, all center line stamps that I have seen had straight edges. This 1R11 measures 20MM but the 2R11 measures 20⅝MM. The stamps in the Cole pair measure the same.

Jack wanted to buy the Cole 11R11 - 12R11 pair $75.00) and I advised him not to do so.

I am writing Ezra by this mail to please send me his pair so that I can compare with yours and make a photograph of the two as a block of four - if they join - which I am sure they do.

If Ezra's pair has genuine perfs down the left side, it is, of course, worth much more than $75.00 but I do not believe that the perfs are genuine. I never saw a Plate 9 Center Line copy with perfs until you found one and, of course, yours is good as gold.

I am sending Ezra a copy of this letter.

Regards -

Yours etc.,

Dec. 15, 1947.

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

Dear Ez:

Mort Neinken sent me the pair of 1¢ 1857 Plate Eleven which you purchased for him in the recent Fifield Sale. I am enclosing a letter that I have written Mort.

Will you please send me your pair by return mail so that I can lay the two side by side just to be sure that the two pairs are a severed block. I am 99⅝% sure that they are. The measurements are the same.

I want to make a photograph of the two as a rejoined block of four, as blocks from this plate are very rare and all that I have seen were cut into by the perforations. What a crime that someone severed this block and reperfed a straight edge at left.

I will hold Mort's pair until I hear from you.

With regards -

Yours etc.,

Dec. 15, 1947.

Mr. Mortimer L. Neinken,
49 West 23rd St.,
New York 10, N.Y.

Dear Mort:

I am sending you a copy of my letter to Ezra. You can use your own judgement about returning the Plate Eleven top row pair to Fifield, but if you intend to return it you better advise him at once. You can inform him that I advised you that the pair is reperforated at left. I do not think that there is the slightest doubt. On the other hand, a top row Plate Eleven pair is a very rare item and perfs or no perfs I think that I would think twice before I gave this up. 1R11 and 11R11 are beautiful double transfers - look up the illustrations in my Plate Eleven Chapter. I wouldn't let Jack buy Ezra's pair so if you decide to buy it we must explain the whole thing to Jack. In other words, all cards face up. You understand I am sure.

Your Plate 12 pair is nicely centered and is well worth the price you paid. In fact, you got it at a pre-inflation price. Pairs such as this were worth $75.00 ten years ago.

Jack recently turned up a wonderful top row copy. It may be from Pl. 5. It has a nice little D.T. and it is a stamp that I never saw before. I asked him to return it to me so that I could send it to Chase for a look. I'll also send it to you, and also a photograph.

Re - 99R2 - perf. Mike Newbury stole that strip in Dan's sale, but that don't mean that anyone else could have obtained it at that price. I don't know how high Mike was prepared to go, but I dare say he would have been willing to pay quite a price. For years I have told S.N. that if that strip ever came up for sale that he should not let it get away. I doubt if he would have done so.

With regards -

Yours etc.,

Dec. 12, 1947.

Mr. J. G. Fleckenstein,
419 Union St.,
Ionia, Mich.

Dear Jack:

Yours of the 10th received.

Mort wrote me that you had had a marriage in the family and I rather suspected that this caused you to give up your trip to Boston. Marriage at best is a gamble and there is no reason to expect a long engagement and a big church wedding will turn out any better than an elopement. Mildred and I offer our congratulations to the young couple and wish them all the happiness possible.

I was hoping that Mort and you would buy all the Type V items in the Kelleher sale and as it turned out neither one of you got very much. I am sure that some fine things got away from you both.

The Kelleher Lot #101 comes from Plate 7, but I cannot plate it as I believe it is from the left pane and I have no record whatsoever of all the "C" positions in the two rows. It is a very fine piece - early impression - fine engraving and on the hard white paper - It shows the typical Plate 7 "C" relief mottling.

Lot 135 is a very fine pair. This belonged to Chase at one time and it was Lot 469 in the Chase sale of May 1925. I was setting next to Bob Emerson when he bought it. He paid $13.00 for it. It was described as "superb."

I wonder how you got the impression that all the top rows of the Type V plates had been plated? I am far from sure that I can even identify a top row stamp from Plate 5. And If I can't, I don't know of anyone who can. No progress has been made in plating the top row from that plate. The top row of Plate 6 has never been plated but I have made some progress in joining up some positions. I have no record of all the top row positions in the left pane of Plate 7, and a very poor record of the top row positions in the left pane of Plate 8. So you see Jack, much work still remains to be done.

Your top row copy here is sure a wonder and it is new to me. I never saw a stamp with a line down the left side like this.

It looks like Pl. 6 to me but I suspect it is from Pl. 5 because of its rarity. Surely if it was from Pl. 6 I would have seen a copy before this. I have seen over 50 copies of 7R1E but this is the first time I have ever seen a stamp from this position. It is almost unbelievable.

In addition it shows a slight double transfer at top, expecially in the letters "POS." I wish that you would return this copy to me as I would like to show it to Chase, Jacobs and Mort. Do you mind?

The Pl. 7 copy on cover is from a very new plate - it shows a heavy ink film - poorly wiped plate. I think that this copy should be removed from the cover - Send it back and I'll soak it off for you. The cover don't mean a thing. The heavy "burr" above the "TAG" is consistent on a number of positions in the second row of Plate 7.

Re - that Plate Eleven pair that I sent you, (11R11 - 12R11). After you returned it I made a very careful re-examination of it and I concluded that it may have been reperfed down the left side. You will recall that you asked me if such was the case and I wrote you that I thought the perfs were O.K. I returned it to the owner and suggested that he return it to the person from whom he obtained it. I have not heard whether he did or not. I don't often fall down on such things but it is almost impossible to maintain an average of 100%. It is a rare and beautiful pair and in its present shape is probably more beautiful than if it had a straight edge at left. I have seen Plate Eleven copies with genuine perfs down the center line. Recently Mort turned up a Plate 9 center line single with genuine perfs. It is the only copy that I have ever seen.

Mildred joins me in best of wishes to you both. Tell Rene that we are both sure that all's well that ends well. We both can well imagine that she was a bit peeved.

Yours etc.,

CHAMPION PANTS MANUFACTURING CO., INC.
FORTY-NINE WEST TWENTY-THIRD STREET
NEW YORK 10, N. Y.

December 18th, 1947

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

Dear Stan,

Many thanks for your letter about the plate 11 pairs. I am enclosing herein the pair of 11 and 12R11. My thought is that I am going to keep both pairs, and I am just wondering whether or not you can rejoin these in the form of a block if they fit together, and I will hold them in my collection and mark them as two rejoined pairs, and also note the question about the perforation on the left.

I spoke to Ezra Cole at length about this yesterday, and he again says that he definitely feels that they are not re-perforated. It would seem to me that perhaps you can check this further, but I am quite sure that you have already come to the correct conclusion. These items are so scarce that I am glad to get them, even if they are reperforated.

I believe I have seen the copy which Jack Fleckenstein has from the top row of plate 5. It was in Steve Rich's collection marked type 3, and Jack and I told him it was wrong. I remember distinctly that it had a double transfer, and it is a beaut. I would appreciate a photograph of this item.

the plate 11. Naturally, either you or I can write to Jack about this matter. Please let me know if you want me to write.

I am leaving for California on Wednesday, and will be gone until January 12th. You can return the items to my office at your convenience, and of course, I expect you to charge for the work that you may have to do on setting the items together.

Best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Sincerely,

MORTIMER L. NEINKEN

MLN:HS
ENC.

Dec. 22, 1947.

Mr. Mortimer L. Neinken,
49 West 23rd St.,
New York 10, N.Y.

Dear Mort:

Your registered letter of the 18th did not reach me until this morning.

I laid the two Plate Eleven pairs side by side and it was quite evident that the left side perfs were bad as they do not match. I supposed that the fake perfs had been added before the two pairs were separated but you can see that the reperfing was done after separation. I, therefore, wired you charges collect as follows:

"PAIRS ARE POSITIVELY REPERFORATED PLEASE PHONE COLE STOP RETURNING TO YOU TUESDAY WILL SEND PHOTO TO COLE STOP ADVISE YOU RETAIN BLOCK SEND YOUR CALIFORNIA ADDRESS HOLIDAY GREETINGS TO THE NEINKENS."

I thought that you would like to get the above settled with Cole before you left for your western trip.

I joined the two pairs together with parts of a peelable hinge, so that you can separate them without harm to the gum if you so desire.

I think that the reperfing was not done by the same person, the work seems to be quite different. Ezra was positive that the pairs were not reperfed. Don't go too much on Ezra's opinions, as he has an awful lot to learn, although he does not realize the fact. I have too, for that matter, but I have been around longer than Cole.

I made a photograph of the re-joined block and I'll send you a print later - also one to Cole. I'll try to have it ready before your return from California.

I will write Jack about the Plate Eleven pairs and I will also send him a photograph.

I am returning herewith the Plate Eleven Block and also the Plate 12 pair (Lot 60 - Fifield Sale) - It is nice.

Regards - Cordially yours,

Dec. 22, 1947.

Mr. J. G. Fleckenstein,
419 Union St.,
Ionia, Mich.

Dear Jack:

Mort bought Lot 62 in the Fifield sale of Dec. 10th which was simply described as a pair of Type II. It turned out to be a top row from Plate Eleven and darn rare. It plated as 1R11 - 2R11 - so I suspected that the perfs at left were bad and that it was a severed pair to the 11R11 - 12R11 which I sent you last month.

I had the owner send me the latter and this A.M. I laid it side by side with Mort's pair and sure enough they were a block at one time, but they were evidently separated before the reperfing was done. I made a photograph of the rejoined pairs and I'll send you a print later.

The 1R11 is a superb D.T.

The fool who damaged these two should have a kick in the pants.

A Very Merry Xmas to the Fleckensteins from the Ashbrooks.

Cordially yours,

S. NEWBURY
38 SOUTH DEARBORN STREET
CHICAGO 3

Dec. 3, 1947.

My dear Stan:

In looking over some of the material we got from Dan, we marked to try to buy reasonably the enclosed 24¢ 1857 packet marking. We got it for $23.00 and in looking it up today I for the life of me cannot find this marking in the New York or Boston markings. May be you can help me out, Stan. Where in the world is it?

Am also enclosing a cover that Dan sent to me, as a birthday present or something, which is most interesting. I presume this is the dot in circle cancellation on the stamp, although it does not exactly match the one on page 90. The cover is quite odd, Stan, having been sent from Westboro, Mass. to Walpole, N. H. It looks to me as if the stamp was not cancelled in Westboro, but when it got to Walpole the postmaster obligingly cancelled the stamp. Do you think that is right? Anyway, I cannot ever remember seeing anything like it, so I thought I would shoot it down to you at the same with the 24¢ 1857 packet cancellation.

E.R. has been home laid up with a cold for the last couple of days and Harry Lindquist is having a heck of a time down in Central America. I presume by now he is in Mexico City.

With kindest personal regards.

Sincerely,

SM

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

SNPMH
Enc.

Dec. 4, 1947.

Mr. S. Newbury,
38 South Dearborn St.,
Chicago 3, Ill.

My dear Mr. Newbury:

Herewith the 24¢ 1860 from Dan's sale. This cancel is a fake - a painting - not handstamped. It is an imitation of a red New York foreign mail postmark that was applied to the face of covers to England in the late 1850's - mail carried by American packets - meaning that the U.S. P.O.D. paid the sea transit. The "3" was a credit to Britain for her share of the 24¢ single rate. This was a "credit" marking and was not supposed to be used as a cancel, but was supposed to be put on the face of the letter. Very, very rarely was it applied as a killer.

I am enclosing a photo, exhibit "C" herewith - on this cover - a 24¢ rate to England - the stamp was canceled with a red grid and for some reason this postmark also tied the stamp. The "artist" who made the Emerson copy evidently attempted to copy this marking from some genuine cover.

Exhibit "A" is a tracing from a genuine strike.

Exhibit "B" is a tracing from your stamp - If you lay my "A" tracing over your stamp you will see that the letters don't line up - or lay my "A" tracing over the "B."

No doubt Lot 348 in the sale was also "bad" and perhaps made by the same artist. I examined this very carefully under my binocular microscope and the lines are painted, not hand-stamped. At first glance I didn't like the ink.

I'll bet 100 to one that Ernie would not know what marking this is and I dare say he would never suspect that anything was wrong. I'll double those odds that the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Foundation would pronounce it as O.K. and 500 to 1 that the "Royal" would O.K. it.

I cite these two examples, to express the opinion that very frequently, expert committees pass on items, on which they have no real knowledge whatsoever.

I was greatly pleased to see the beautiful 3¢ 1851 that Dan sent you. It is surely a dream - simply could not be any finer had it been made to order. The cover was so pretty when it reached Walpole that I suppose the P.O. clerk thought he would

add to it so he put a receiving postmark on it.

If you decide not to send the 24¢ stamp back to Dan - and after you are thru with it - I would like to send it down to him myself, just to show him its defects. Naturally Dan never suspected that it was bad, and I'd like to warn him against such things.

Maybe he will get hold of Lot 348 and have me look it over.

Please return my exhibits when finished as I will put them in my files.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

Dec. 4, 1947.

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

Dear Dan:

S.N. sent me Lot 350 in your last sale and it is a "painting." Very clever at that. If lot 348 was like it, or similar, I'll be glad to look it over if you care to advise the buyer.

My best regards -

Cordially yours,

TELEPHONE
CORTLANDT 7-5536

EUGENE N. COSTALES
POSTAGE STAMPS FOR COLLECTORS
99 NASSAU STREET
NEW YORK 7, N. Y.

MEMBER
AMERICAN AIR MAIL SOCIETY
AMERICAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY
AMERICAN STAMP DEALERS ASSN.
ASSOC. STAMP EXHIBITIONS
SOC. PHILATELIC AMERICANS
BROOKLYN STAMP SOCIETY
BUREAU ISSUES ASSN.
COLLECTORS CLUB, N. Y.
N. Y. PHILATELIC SOCIETY

February 4, 1948

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

Dear Stanley:

Thank you very much for your favor of February 1st enclosing prints of the 10c Bank Note proofs. I shall be very glad to add these to my reference material.

I have not as yet found a client for the sheet of 24c on India. I too had a complete sheet of this stamp from the Nassau stock, and I cut it up about six years ago. I still have very large blocks of this stamp but no complete sheet.

With kindest regards,

Yours very truly,

Gene.

EUGENE N. COSTALES

ENC:fk

Jan. 10, 1948.

Mr. R. T. Baker,
121 West Second St.,
Dayton 1, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Baker:

Under date of Dec. 16th, I wrote Will that I could net you $75.00 for the pane of the 24¢ proof but received no reply. Perhaps it was due to the holiday season.

If interested will you kindly advise me.

With kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

Dec. 17, 1947.

Mr. Thos. F. Morris,
60 East 42nd St.,
New York 17, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Morris:

May I thank you very kindly for your prompt reply to my recent letter.

My friend who owns the 24¢ proof pane has the idea that it is a very great rarity, and so far I have not been able to persuade him that he should let me have it. It seems that someone told him that blocks of four bring around $25.00 at auction, so I guess there is not much chance of him parting with it.

Regarding the S.U.S. 187-188. Pairs, strips and blocks are known showing combinations of 187-188. Inasmuch as all are on soft paper, such items are supposed to come from Plates 302 - 303 and to have been printings from these Continental plates by the American Bank Note Co.

There is quite a difference in opinion as to how these combinations originated.

Mr. Thatcher is wrong in assuming that there is any sort of a flaw etc. I am enclosing herewith a photograph of a pair - You will note that the right stamp shows the secret mark, whereas the stamp to left does not. The actual stamp itself does not show any trace of the mark. I mention this because we find various combinations, that is, stamps with hair line traces of the mark, others with faint traces, others with half the arc, etc. etc. etc.

I doubt if any plate proof exist from Plates 302 or 303 but if so I would like very much to see them. While I have never seen any plate proofs from the subsequent American Plates #377 - 378, I have an impression that such are known.

In the November number of the S.P.A. Journal, there was an article on the combinations of 187-188 and the author suggested his theory to account for such combinations. If you are sufficiently interested in the subject I will be glad to loan you a copy of the article. I might add that I do not agree with the author's theory.

You might call this article to Mr. Thatcher's attention.

Again my thanks -

Sincerely yours,

Dec. 16, 1947.

Mr. Wm. J. Aull,
48 Grafton Ave.,
Dayton, Ohio.

Dear Will:

An eastern dealer (Cole) made me an offer of $75.00 for the 24¢ proof sheet. Will you inquire of Mr. Baker if I shall let him have it.

Regards -

Yours etc.,

Dec. 17, 1947.

Mr. Clarence W. Brazer,
415 Lexington Ave.,
New York 17, N.Y.

Dear Clarence:

I have a friend who owns a full left pane - plate proofs on India - of the 24¢ Bank Note. Imprint and Plate No. 21 show at bottom. In case I can acquire this would you be interested in buying same? I believe that blocks of four generally bring around $20.00 to $35.00 at auction, so I judge a full pane ought to be worth around $500.00, especially in view of the fact that a full pane is unique.

Stamped envelope for reply is enclosed.

Very truly,

Dec. 9, 1947.

Mr. Wm. J. Aull,
48 Grafton St.,
Dayton, O.

Dear Will:

I am still trying to get some real advice on the 24¢ Bank Note proof pane and I'll advise you just as soon as I learn anything.

We certainly had a nice little visit with the Aulls.

How is the painting job?

Best wishes -

Cordially yours,

Dec. 9, 1947.

Mr. Thos. F. Morris,
60 E. 42nd St.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Morris:

I am taking the liberty of enclosing herewith a photograph of a pane of plate proofs on India of the 24¢ Bank Note plate. This item belongs to a friend of mine and I would like to acquire it from him. Would you be kind enough to give me some information regarding same, that is, as to rarity, and value?

If you wish, you may keep the print with my compliments.

Regarding the combinations of 187-188. Can you tell me if plate proofs exist in multiples which show the combination of the two types?

Sincerely yours,

THOS. F. MORRIS
60 EAST 42ND STREET
NEW YORK 17, N.Y.

Nov 12, 1947

Dear Mr Ashbrook,

I have your letter of the 9th
I do not own a full sheet - 3 cent sheets only
of appear. 50 Stamps each upper and lower
part of the pane of Three same plate No - 21.
I can see no difference between 187-188 on the
lower cut pane of nine. I learn from Allan
Hatcher - Harmer Rooke that 187-188 on the 10¢
value 1879 printings show the two types, but
is of the opinion it is a plate rather than a
deliberate effort to put the one lay down a
different type. I wonder if you have the correct stamps
to the value and I have paid $81.00 for a block of 60 stamps
proof some few years ago. I would pay $150.00 for
the sheet as shown in photograph $125 to
less than $125.00 I would consider a good price.
One stamp proof is damaged.
I have never seen a full sheet upper and it is
unique from my limited knowledge. I would
Consider it good property.

Sincerely yours,

NATIONAL BANK NOTE CO. NEW YORK

No. 21

NATIONAL BANK NOTE CO. NEW YORK

No. 21

June 13, 1947.

Prof. H. E. Lobdell,
% M.I.T.,
Cambridge, Mass.

My dear Mr. Lobdell:

When you were here several months back I think that I promised to send you a photograph of my "Hiogo" cover. I am, therefore, enclosing a print herewith.

At the recent New York Exhibition I noted a U. S. 30¢ 1860 in the exhibit of Sir Nicholas Waterhouse of London. The stamp was an off cover single and had a very plain strike in blue, of the oval "China and Japan Steam Service" such as appears on my Hiogo cover. It was applied vertically. Can you imagine how such an item could be genuine?

Sincerely yours,

H. E. LOBDELL
MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE
OF TECHNOLOGY
CAMBRIDGE

June 16, 1947

Dear Mr. Ashbrook—

Your good letter and the print of the Hiogo cover, for which I am especially thankful, came this afternoon; and I hasten to acknowledge their receipt for I am on the point of leaving to go to Chicago for a week.

The Waterhouse item seems to me to be "just one of those things" — like that cover I told you about from Yokohama to S.F. bearing U.S. stamps and sent after the U.S.-Japs postal treaty went into effect.

I spent three days at the Cipex and saw Jack Fleckenstein and Mr. Shierson but was sorry to have missed you and Stark. I spent an evening with him in Detroit in April and viewed some of his enormous collection of really swell covers, thanks to your suggestion.

Some of the Hong Kong stuff was very interesting at Cipex and Major Hopkins and I conferred about it, along with several discussions we had with H.B.R. Clarke. In July I expect to be on the West Coast but when I get back in August I plan to go to Maine and begin a draft for Hopkins of the revised "Hong Kong and Treaty Port Postmarks" of Bishop, Morton and Sayers.

With best wishes, I am

Very sincerely yours,

H E Lobdell

Stanley B. Ashbrook, Esq.
Ft. Thomas, Ky.

U. S. COVERS
STAMPLESS
AND STAMPED

WILLIAM JERIN
738 Main Street
NEWINGTON, CONN.

MEMBER OF
COLLECTORS CLUB
HARTFORD, CONN.

Feb 5, 1948.

Mr. Stanley Ashbrook
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

Is this the type cover you are looking for? I had quite a few of these years ago some were marked Pony Express and the rate was 75 on them. Must have sold them as these are the only two I can find left.
What can you give me for them?

Very truly yours
William Jerin

POST CARD FEB 10 1948

Wm Jerin
738 Main St Newington Conn.

Dear Mr Jerin

Dam in receipt of the 5th enclosing the two Express Mail covers of 1838. I will offer you $50 for the pair, and will hold them pending your reply.

If you have anything else in Stampless covers — anything that is unusual, — will you kindly submit. Also anything nice in early covers with stamps — rates to foreign Countries Etc —

With Regards

Sincerely Yours

U. S. COVERS
STAMPLESS
AND STAMPED

WILLIAM JERIN
738 Main Street
NEWINGTON, CONN.

MEMBER OF
COLLECTORS CLUB
HARTFORD, CONN.

Mr.Stanley B.Ashbrook
Fort Thomas,Ky.

February 16,1948.

Dear Mr.Ashbrook;

Thank you for your prompt reply and offer of $ 5.00 for the two express covers which I will accept this is very close to the amount I received for several a few years ago.

I am sending you a parcel of covers by Parcel Post and list below the items it will contain for your offer on any that may be of interest to you with the exception of the letter signed by the governer of Mississippi Territory in 1800 which I have priced at $ 10.00 a very fine item.

			Price offer
1 Brooklyn N.Y.	stampless	25 PAID	----------
1 Jackson Ten	"	25 "	---
1 Jackson Ten	"	50 "	---
1 Way letter	"	1796	---
1 Sag Harbour	"	Oval	---
2 Whaling covers	"	Various rates	---
1 Boyds Exp Post	"	2¢	---
1 N.Y.Express Mail	"	5¢	---
1 LaGrange,Ga	"		---
1 Shiawassi,Mich	"	mss can	---
1 Columbus,Ohio	"	Insurance marking	---
1 Adams Express	"		---
1 Magnolia N.C.	"	Unlisted in cat	---
1 PAID 10	"	Southern cover	---
1 Buffalo,N.Y.	"	75 rate	---
1 STEAM BOAT	"	Hudson river	---
1 Boston,Mass	"	Ship letter 1815	---
1 New York	"	Ship " 1826	---
1 Chalsn S.C.	"	Ship " 1826	---
1 New York N.Y.	"	Straight line 1787	---
1 Point Coupee La	"	1835	---
2 St Louis,Mo.	"	1829-1830	---
1 Monticello,Mo.	"	Postmaster Free 1832	---

1 Latter signed by Gov,	Sargeant	Miss., Terr.		---	$ 10.00
1 Empress America	stanpless	Ship letter		---	
1 Forwarded Baring	"	Forwarded marking		---	
1 N.A.	"	Foreign		---	
1 Colonies Marseilles	"	"	1823	---	
1 Colonies Harve	"	"	1823	---	
1 Hambourg	"	"	1811	---	
1 Colonies Le Harve	"	"	1824	---	
1 Triest	"-	"	1822	---	
1 U.S.X. J.M.Rae Elmira on a bank envelope				---	

Beleive this last one was aprivate express but can get no information that is reliable on it what do you think of it ?

I know a good many of these covers are not in first class condition but am sending them as you may discover things about them of interest to you.

The only foreign covers with stamps on them that I have are common 5¢ Taylors and 10¢ stamps of the 1870 to 1890 period and acover from the U.S.consul in Tahiti with Due 4 in circle Due 7 and T in circle backstamped CARRIER there was also two due stamps on the face but someone cut one off and pealed the other.

This cover is from a collection I started some years ago of postal markings such as DUE, FORWARDED, U.S.CHARGE TO COLLECT 2 CENTS, PAID ALL, ADVERTISED, ~~PAID-ALL~~, INSUFFICIENTLY PAID etc.

I only picked up covers of the 19th centuary and accumalated about 100or more to date but have not done much with it the last few years. They intrigue me.

Trusting you may find something in this lot of interest to you I am

Sincerly yours

William Jerin

Feb. 22, 1948.

Mr. Wm. Jerin,
738 Main St.,
Newington, Conn.

Dear Mr. Jerin:

I am in receipt of yours of the 16th and enclose herewith check for $5.00 in payment for the two Express Mail covers.

I also received the lot of stampless covers. I checked thru these very carefully, but I was unable to find anything unusual or desirable. I am returning them under separate cover by insured mail.

Regarding the Express cover. I doubt if this has any philatelic interest or value.

With many thanks for your kindness, I am

Sincerely yours,

POST CARD

MAR - 3 1948

Mr Wm Jerin
738 Main St NEWINGTON Conn

Dear Mr Jerin

In the batch of covers that I returned to you on Feb 24th I believe that there was one with a manuscript postmark of "SHIAWASI Michigan" —.

If you care to return this to me I'll be glad to send you a dollar bill for it.

Sincerely yours

perfect little gem that it is.

In the photo the stamps are "dimmed" so as to show up the bright red grid cancels, one of which is repeated on the face of the cover.

I am enclosing here with a print direct from an old Lapsed plate in the possession of Ingham Stutz. This is illustrated and described in his book. Hope

Paris, january 14 th. 1948.

Dear Sir,

I obtenaid your address by my friend and philatelist fellow Mr H.O. Vendelskov, of Kobenhavn (Denmark).

I take the liberty to ask you a question :

I specialize the early issues of U.S.A stamps, particulary on original covers. And I get nearly 500 differnt items of the imperforated issues. I have many covers to diffrent countries of Europa, sent by britsh way transit, who bore a partial pre-payment of 5 cents. I do not understand why these 5 cents rate to foreign countries was of the same amount when the single inland rate was also 5 cents (5 ¢. New York postmaster and 5 ¢. 1847), and why the foreign rate was still 5 cents when the inland U.S. rate was only 3 cents (1851 and after) ? Was the turning little over to the ship free before 1851 and charged at 2 cents after ?

Another question : was these 5 cents foreign rate invariable according the distance between the sending town and the landing town or was it variable. I get some letters sent from New Orleans or Baton Rouge and landed at Boston who bore only a 5 cents 1847 stamp. It is regular ?

Some years ago I have started a little specialization with the 1 cent 1851-57, among your different works, but I have many difficulty to find some 1 cent stamps. These stamp is very scarce in europe, even in great Britain, and a study of it is nearly impossible. Is these stamp also rare in the States ? From sales catalogs I receive, it seems me they are few items on the market.

With the expression of my thanks, I remain.

Yours sincerely.

Marcel Levy

Marcel Levy
8 Rue Lagarde
Paris. 5. France.

APS 15057
Collectors Club.
etc.

Jan. 19, 1948.

Mr. Marcel Levy,
8 Rue Lagarde,
Paris 5, France.

Dear Mr. Levy:

Referring to your letter of the 14th in reference to payments of five (5) cents from this country to foreign countries, the most common of such would be mail to France up to April 1, 1857. On this side, such "rates" are referred to as "shore to ship."

As you are probably aware, the U.S. domestic rates were as follows:

single rate ½ ounce.
July 1, 1845 to July 1, 1851
5¢ under 300 miles
10¢ over 300 miles
40¢ to or from California (1849)

July 1, 1851 to April 1, 1855
3¢ if paid and not over 3000 miles
5¢ if unpaid and not over 3000 miles
6¢ if paid and over 3000 miles
10¢ if unpaid and over 3000 miles

April 1, 1855 to July 1, 1863
3¢ prepaid, not over 3000 miles
10¢ " , over 3000 miles.

July 1, 1863
3¢ prepaid within the U.S.

Our first postal treaty with Great Britain went into effect in February 1849. The single rate was 24¢ per ½ ounce, (Pacific Coast not included). This was arrived at as follows:

U. S. share	5¢
British share	3¢
Sea postage (Atlantic)	16¢
	24¢

The sea postage belonged to the country transporting the letter.

On mail from California or Oregon the rate was:

U. S. share	40¢
British share	3¢
Sea postage (Atlantic)	16¢
	59¢.

Re - the 24¢ rate - a letter prepaid 24¢ in the U. S. and carried by a British Packet to England - the U. S. share was 5¢, the British 19¢. But if carried by an American Packet the U. S. share was 21¢, the British 3¢.

This rate did not vary from points east of the Rocky Mountains. In this respect it is well to note -

Prior to July 1, 1851, the U. S. rate of postage from New Orleans to New York, or Boston was 10¢, but after February 1849, a writer could pay 5¢ on a letter to England or the Continent (to countries with which England had postal treaties) and the payment would carry the letter to New York or Boston and put it aboard a British Cunard ship.

Between 1849 and 1857 we find 21¢ rates to France (or various other countries on the Continent) - This rate applied to mail via England via American Packet. The 21¢ represented the U. S. 5¢ and 16¢ sea, and paid the letter only to the British frontier.

In the 1850's - up to April 1, 1857 - there was a 20¢ rate to France - that is, by American Packet direct to Havre. This paid the letter to the French frontier only. French domestic was extra.

Our 5¢ 1856 - (Scott #34) was not issued until March 1856, hence most of the 5¢ "rates" to France had pairs of the 1¢ 1851 and a single 3¢ 1851, (32D and 33).

The U. S. - French Treaty went into effect on April 1, 1857 and the rate (as you are aware) was 15¢ per ½ ounce.

Regarding the U. S. One Cent 1851. I suppose the stamp is not actually as scarce as the catalogue indicates, for the reason that a representative specialized collection requires quite a number of copies. Condition is the big factor and superb copies of all of the types are really scarce. The Type IV stamp in the imperforates is the most common. The catalogue value is $8.00. Copies that are cut into - not fine, range around $5.00 to $6.00 - poorer condition around $4.00 and down to $2.00. Fine impressions, fine color, well preserved paper, nicely canceled - not cut into, range from $10.00 to $15.00 and if better than this description, even higher. Cancelations are a big factor in values.

Consider the #40B - the I^A 1857 perf. It catalogues @ $150.00, but superb copies have sold from $1,000 to $2,000.

The #30 - the 7R1E is priced @ $1,000 but any fine copy will bring from $1,500 to $2,500, and this in spite of the fact that about 50 copies are scattered thru American collections.

If you have any covers for sale, I would like very much to buy them - for example - U. S. 1847 stamps used from this country.

If I can give you further information, I will be pleased to do so.

Sincerely yours,

Paris, january 30th. 1948.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

Well received your kind letter of the 19th inst. Many thanks. Regarding the old american mail to France, the common rates are 5¢ and 15¢. The 20¢ and 21¢ rates (and +5¢ from the West), paid by stamps are rare; mostly stampless covers are found.

I get very few duplicates, only some 5¢. 1851 imp. in singles and strips off covers, all superb: are you interested? I have not original covers in duplicate. at the contrary, I am always buyer, particulary of the Varieties who are never seen in Europa: rare cancellation, steamboats, Westerns, etc. If you never had very fine covers in duplicates. I may dispose of dollars to buy them. I want only, v.f. to superb stamps, tied by the complete or nearly complete cancellation on the cover. I collect only the old imperforated, and I am very poor in: Postmasters – 1847's, particulary the 10¢. (no cancellation grids wanted) – and with the 1851's stamps: steamboats, maritime ways, and Westerns (I get only two via Nicaragua in oval form, three in rectangular, five 3 cent cancelled by the markings of different Express Companies). I have no collection Hawaï – U.S.A. 1851 stamps. I collect also the 1857's stamps on covers, but only if the items are very rare – no medium pieces.

In France, they are no specialists of old U.S. stamps. And all the "leading experts" know nothing in these line. (Recently, an expert consider a very fine engraved 5 cent 1857 type II as the reprint of 1875 – and another such expert was expidiing a letter from Buffalo to Canada with 1847 5c + 10c. as genuine, the letter being less one one, the 5 cent of the very used plate and in the shades of 1849 – the letter was from october 1847 – In a corner was the pen 4½d as usual – without significations for the "expert" – and one of the stamps was put half on these canadian marking!

The french collectors, collect first France and colonies, of course - secondly old Europa or old british colonies - 2o day, from the War and monetary questions, the americanas are very popular, particulary the U.S.A. but only in the line of speculation, to buy some dollars. In other hands, the original covers with their stamps are rare because the French do not like the stamps on covers. Many very fine covers were untarily destroyed.

I know an old collection of early U.S.A, Hawaï and B.N.A. untarily the finest in Europa. The owner, died some years ago very old, was a rich man and built his collection between 1880 and 1920. They are many of the finest pieces of the Ferrari collection (particulary Hawaï and the Confederate States). and the whole of a famous german collection of U.S.A, (Röder, or Raderer,(2) of Leipzig) bought a long time ago by private treaty from the famous german dealer Kosack -

In U.S.A. mostly mint and in multiples, in some case. (1861, banknotes, Columbians, etc. Very large blocks or part of sheets). It is a special study of the 1869's issue, in several albums, with plenty of covers, many with combination rates by maritime ways, and many stamps off with cancellation - numerous high values, on and off, singles and multiples - Hawaï is very strong, on and off covers, many superb missionnaries - Canada and provinces, superb, with many shillings on covers - New Foundland - id - some superb mint of the rare stamps - some in multpls.

The present owner is no philatelist; and he wants to sell, but not at the present time. He prefers wait and see for many reasons: monetary politics and fiscals, but when the situation will be clear, he will sell. He want dollars, having strong intent in the canadian mines, and probably wanting to leave in America.

(all the stamps are at least very fine, in the french taste. The total buying price give more than ~~five~~ half millions of francs, but gold francs. in the great majority, in 1920 the franc being only little devaluated - one dollar gold = 5,15 francs gold - 1½ million francs = 300 to 350 000 dollars in the 1900/1920 years value.

Cordially yours.

Marcel Levy

Feb. 5, 1948.

Mr. Marcel Levy,
8 Rue Lagarde,
Paris 5, France.

Dear Mr. Levy:

I am in receipt of yours of the 30th.

There is a constant and steady demand over here for U. S. 19th Century covers and anything that is fine or especially rare would probably bring more here than in France.

I am not surprised that our covers are not more popular in England and France. Perhaps one reason is that the market is full of fake items, which are made in Europe. Some of the fake stuff turned out by Zareski of Paris is really very clever and American collections are full of his fakes. It is really too bad that he didn't fall into the hands of the Germans.

Your letter was very interesting and I thank you.

Sincerely yours,

March 5, 1948.

Mr. Clarence W. Brázer,
415 Lexington Ave.,
New York 17, N.Y.

Dear Clarence:

If you can supply me with the following numbers of the E.P.Journal, will you be so kind as to forward them with bill?

Whole numbers 12 - 13 - 16

Also please enter my subscription starting with the April number.

Thanks.

Sincerely yours,

CLARENCE W. BRAZER
Philatelist
U. S. ESSAYS & PROOFS
EXCLUSIVELY
415 Lexington Ave., N.E. Cor. 43d St.
NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

MEMBER
Collectors Club—Past Governor
Essay & Proof Unit—Chairman
American Philatelic Society
Society of Philatelic Americans
Essay—Proof Society

Tel. VAnderbilt 6-1777

New York 17, N. Y.

Jan. 7. 1948

Dear Stanley,

At a recent meeting of the Collectors Club. Elliott Perry exhibited many large blocks of Nos. 187 & 188 mint, clearly showing that the plate had been re entered with the wrong transfer roll, here and there as some odd positions required repair. The proofs I have examined all seem to have been made from plates before repair. All are 187.

I read Latta's article in which he showed lack of knowledge of the processes of engraving, but from former experience I learned that he is so argumentative that there no time to educate him. After T.C. & Co. experiments of 1851 to harden the 1¢ plates, after plate 1 wore out, and the failure by cracking the new warped plates under pressure of printing, I do not believe any large plates were hardened until the new process of cyanide of potassium was invented in the late 80's, as the evidence tends to show frequent reentries.

I have no interest in the 24¢ pane of proofs. particularly unless the color is the 1870 stamp color of bright purple, and then only in a small quantity. This stamp is too expensive to plate and I doubt it would be salable. Large blocks of 30 and 50 exist in several colors.

Sincerely yours. Clarence

Jan. 10, 1948.

Mr. Clarence W. Brazer,
415 Lexington Ave.,
New York 17, N.Y.

Dear Clarence:

Yours of the 7th received.

Les Brookman spent yesterday with me enroute to New York. He will get in touch with you next week as he wishes to discuss the combinations of 187-188. I was hoping that there might be plate proofs in existence from plates 202 or 203.

Re - the 24¢ pane. It is in the bright purple color, but so far, I have not been able to acquire it.

You are right about Latta. His whole theory as it related to the 10¢ Jefferson is cockeyed and absolutely absurd. But I doubt if he will ever admit he could be wrong.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

Jan. 4, 1948.

Mr. Clarence W. Brazer,
415 Lexington Ave.,
New York 17, N.Y.

Dear Clarence:

Thanks for yours of the 19th. I haven't done anything as yet on the 24¢ India proof pane. In fact, I haven't acquired it as yet. Would you like to have a photograph of it? If so, I'll send you a print.

I am wondering if you read an article by Latta in the S.P.A. Journal for November on the 10¢ Bank Note. If you did not I will loan my copy to you.

Can you tell me if plate proofs exist showing the combinations of 187-188?

With best wishes for the New Year.

Sincerely yours,

484 Rec'd 12/19/47

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK
A.P.S. 2497
33 N. FT. THOMAS AVE.
FT. THOMAS, KY.

Box 31

Dec. 17, 1947.

Mr. Clarence W. Brazer,
415 Lexington Ave.,
New York 17, N.Y.

Dear Clarence:

I have a friend who owns a full left pane - plate proofs on India - of the 24¢ Bank Note. Imprint and Plate No. 21 show at bottom. In case I can acquire this would you be interested in buying same? I believe that blocks of four generally bring around $20.00 to $35.00 at auction, so I judge a full pane ought to be worth around $500.00, especially in view of the fact that a full pane is unique.

Stamped envelope for reply is enclosed.

Very truly,

Dear Stanley. 12/19/47

I cannot use such wholesale quantity of this proof. and do not know anyone who would want an entire pane. Blocks of 30 & 50 sell at auction @ about 1/3 catalog. Hugh Clark told me that values decrease proportionally with quantity of any one item especially proofs with a limited field.

With the compliments of the season

Faithfully yours.

Clarence.

Yours very kind note
was most appreciated.

Mrs. Robert Foster Chambers

254 Irving Avenue

P.S.

I'm sure Mrs Chambers would appreciate a note from you, whom Bob thought so much of.

Her address is

754 Doring Av.

Providence R.I.

NOV 24 1947

16 South Angell Street

Monday Eve.

Dear Stan

I am terribly ashamed of myself for not having written you last week. Our dear friend Bob Chambers, who was dining with me Sunday before last suffered a severe heart attack the next day, Monday, and died in the afternoon. It's all been too terrible and I still

surprising that Thursday last, the day of the funeral, took a lot out of me.

Have had notices put in Stamps & Meckels, but I simply didnt have strength enough to write all Bobs friends.

He lived a happy life and was very happy with his wife. She was crushed, but is doing remarkably well. My pet Tudor can't believe it. I loved that man as few men ever love one another and the shock has been awful. I have only recently come out of the hospital where I had 4 weeks following an abdominal & ulcer operation, so my strength is far from 100%. I am allowed 2 hours daily at the office, then come home to lie down & rest. So its not

Mr Robt F. Chambers
254 Irving Ave
~~Prov~~ Providence 6 R I.

Postal

Dear Bob.

Is Pudar ill or is he away on a trip? I prefer him in August — no repeg — and again ~~on~~ a month later — no repeg. Is he o.k.?

Regards —

August 27, 1947.

Mr. E. Tudor Gross,
170 Westminster,
Providence, R.I.

Dear Tudor:

A dealer submitted a cover to me and after I returned it today I wondered if it was anything that might especially interest you.

It was an envelope, (regular size), from La Porte, Calif. - Jan. 6, 1863 - to Maine, and the 10¢ rate was paid by ten (10) 1¢ 1861 overlapping. Two of the stamps were badly damaged and six had ragged perforations at top. The dealer has the idea that it is very rare and requested me to make a bid. I simply returned it - "not interested" - after making a photo.

While I have seen the 10¢ rate paid by the 1¢ 1851 and the 1¢ 1857 I do not recall a cover with the 1¢ 1861. Perhaps you have?

With regards -

Cordially yours,

Sept. 24, 1947.

Mr. E. Tudor Gross,
16 S. Angell St.,
Providence, R.I.

Dear Tudor:

I am wondering if you received my letter of Aug. 27th, which I addressed to 170 Westminster? In it I described a 10¢ rate from La Porte, Calif paid by ten copies of the 1¢ 1861. Herewith is a photograph that I made of the cover.

I cannot recall that I ever saw a cover such as this and Edgar Jessup informed me that he hadn't either. I have seen perhaps a half dozen covers with the rate paid by the 1¢ 1857.

How are you?

With regards -

Cordially yours,

COLONEL HARRIE S. MUELLER
1505 PARK PLACE
WICHITA 4, KANSAS

22 February 1948

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

Dear Mr Ashbrook:

Inclosed is a cover which I have just acquired from the latest Colby sale. As I have "doped out" the story of the cover it is---

Mailed in New York at the office of the Adams Express Company and send under cover to their office in Augusta, Georgia, and from there sent on to Athens, Tennessee. There seems to me to be several gaps in this story, and I would like your views on the whole matter.

(1) Does the oval handstamp of the Adams Express Company always indicate that the cover originated in New York?

(2) The date of the Augusta postmark seems to be definitely in April, was this before the use of the various handstamps as listed in Dietz? Was the United States Postal service still functioning between Augusta, Ga and Athens, Tenn, so that the rate of 3¢ was still valid?

(3) Is this a true express usage, or is it an example of United States postal paper used in the Confedaracy?

I am inclosing an addressed stamped envelope for the return of the cover. If there is any additional charge I will be glad to remit if told of the amount.

Sincerely,

Harrie S Mueller

HARRIE S MUELLER

Incl:
Cover as described
s a (reg) e.

(795268)

Feb. 24, 1948.

Col. Harrie S. Mueller,
1505 Park Place,
Wichita 4, Kans.

Dear Colonel:

Herewith the Adams cover as per yours of the 22nd. This is from the well-known "Cleage" find made in Athens, Tenn. many years ago. Cleage covers are well known to all the old-timers in Confederates. It was a gorgeous lot of material and today if intact, it would be a gold mine. D. Cleage or David Cleage was the cashier of a bank in Athens and the New York correspondent of his bank was the "Manhattan Bank." I have quite a photographic record of covers from this correspondence. It seems that the New York bank as early as the first months of 1861 were fearful of trouble and didn't want to take any chance of their mail getting thru to the Athens Bank, hence they entrusted it to the Adams Express Co. I think that your cover was carried by express from New York to Augusta, Ga. in April 1861 and there placed in the mail. There really was no necessity for doing this as it would have gone thru all O.K. if mailed at New York.

The C.S.A. P.O.D. took over all the post offices in the seceded states on June 1, 1861. Prior to that time, mail passed thru freely from all offices. I have seen quite a few covers similar to yours, that is, showing uses prior to June 1, 1861. Your cover was undoubtedly used prior to that date, because:

(1) This Star Die envelope was issued in August 1860. (All statements to the contrary are in error).

(2) It was mailed from Augusta, Ga. Had the use been after May 31, 1861, Confederate postage would have been charged. In other words, this envelope would not have been recognized.

Kindly refer to your queries:

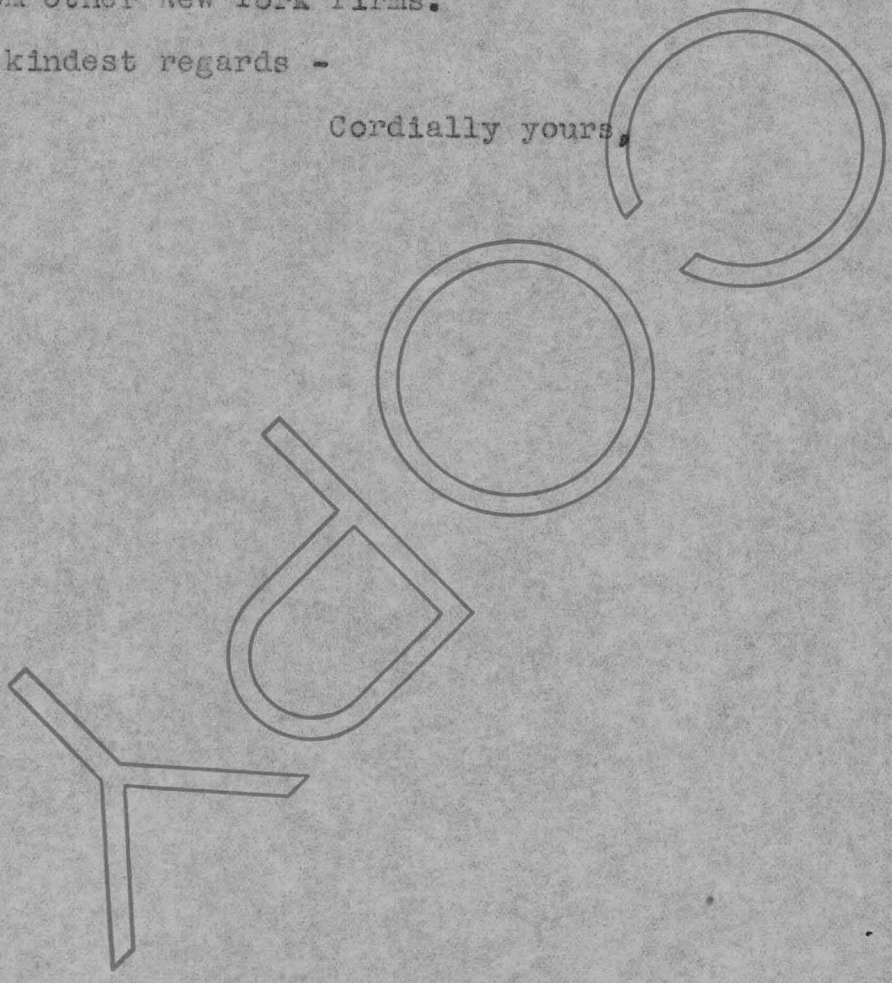
(1) Yes.
(2) I cannot tell you how long before April 1861, the oval handstamp had been in use.
(3) I think that the only significance to this cover is the oval marking. The U. S. mail was still in operation in April 1861, in fact, as stated above, up to June 1, 1861. As a postal item, it is a use of a 3¢ U. S. stamp in a seceded state. Georgia had seceded but Tennessee had not. It was probably carried by an Express messenger to Augusta, Ga. but the only reason for this was fear of trouble.

#2. Col. Harrie S. Mueller, Feb. 24, 1948.

A friend of mine in Buffalo wrote me in October 1945:

"This man's (old David Cleage) grandson was a friend of mine, being a member of the Buffalo Stamp Club some years ago. He was a chemical engineer at one of the big dye plants here in Buffalo, and two years ago he murdered his wife and son and killed himself here in this city."

Further - it is my recollection (off hand) that the New York bank paid Adams 35¢ on each letter. Examples are known where Adams simply placed them in the New York Post Office. Also similar items are known from other New York firms.

With kindest regards -

Cordially yours,