

Scrapbook No. 18 October 1849 – March 30, 1850

A.	Expositions
1.	Michael Newbury Re: Announcements
2.	Philatelic Foundation Re: Philip Ward
3.	Gordon Harmer Re: Trial Proofs
4.	Blank
5.	D.K. Grieve
6.	John K. Bash Re: Hawaii covers
7.	L.L. Shenfield Re: Repeal stamp
8.	Erwin Agnew Fiero Re: 5¢ 1857 Type I Block of 9
9.	J.G. Fleckenstein Re: 30¢ 1860 cover to France
10.	Henry Meyer Re: N.Y. April 13, 1816 marked "Steamboat"
11.	Philatelic Foundation Re: 90¢ August trial cancel, 30¢ 1869 cover
12.	Van Dyk MacBride Re: Prisoner cover, Charleston July 13, 1864
13.	Doy L. McCall Re: Confederates living in Brazil
14.	E.T. Merrill Re: Fake covers
15.	E.D. Warshauer Re: 19¢ rate to Sweden
16.	Otto Bacher Re: Fake 5¢ orange brown cover
17.	Thomas Parks, Philip Ward
18.	Van Dyk MacBride Re: Hancock paste-up, Confederate P.M.P
19.	Harold Stark Re: 10¢ 1855 Block of 8
20.	Earl Antrim Re: Confederates
21.	Blank
22.	Van Dyk MacBride Re: Fake cancels on Confederates
23.	Ezra Cole Re: 10¢ 1857
24.	Dr. Carroll Chase Re: Express Mails
25.	R.M. Wilkinson Re: Richard Prison, Columbia S.C.
26.	Sylvester Colby Re: 7RIE
27.	Willard C. Jackson Re: 15¢ 1869 cover
28.	Herman Herst Re: 30¢ 1869 cover
29.	Van Dyk MacBride Re: N.O. P.O. and "Steam 7"
30.	Chas. M. Putnam Jr. Re: Fake 5¢ 1847 cover
31.	Van Dyk MacBride Re: Confederate covers to France from or thru Old Point Comfort
32.	H.W. Stark Re: Ship Letter
33.	Donald MacGregor Re: Registered "5½" credit
34.	George Linn Re: Cole 3¢ 1861 Baltimore cover
35.	Edgar B. Jessup Re: 90¢ 1861 S.F. cog on piece
36.	Eugene Jaegar Re: 4 covers
37.	Earl Antrim Re: 10¢ Nashville Adams Express
38.	Blank
39.	J.G. Fleckenstein Re: 1¢ 1851 vertical strip of 3
40.	H.T. Zinsmeister Re: BNA Reproductions
41.	Re: Trans-Miss. News and mail conditions
42.	Robson Lowe Re: 5¢ 1847 Tallahassee precancel
43.	M.C. Blake Re: 4 covers
44.	Ezra D. Cole Re: 10¢ 1857 cover to Russia
45.	Clinton B. Vanderbilt Re: 5¢ rate to Australia

S.E.P.A.D.

Associated Stamp Clubs of Southeastern
Pennsylvania and Delaware

12th NATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION

November 11th to 19th, 1949

Commercial Museum

PHILADELPHIA



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Milton F. Cohen	Delegate at Large

EXHIBITORS
SECTION 1

FRAMES

- 1-3 MILTON F. COHEN
New York Postmaster Provisionals.
Completely plated; Essays and Color Proofs
- 4-14 DONALD F. STEELE
Virtually complete collection of 19th
Century U.S. including many minor varieties,
blocks, covers. Album pages, hand made
lettered and illustrated by owner.
- 15-16 ALAN E. WASHOR
Overrun Countries Series Type collection.
Singles, blocks, name plates, First Day
Favor Sheets. Precancels, registration
markings, V-E and V-J Day covers.
- 17-21 RUDOLPH B. WEILER
Canal Zone: Highly specialized, together
with its philatelic history.
- 22 MAJOR CHARLES L. LANE
The Famous American Series of 1940.
Arranged in 14 sheets having a design motif
characteristic of each individual group.
- 23 MAJOR CHARLES L. LANE
Selected stamps subsequent to 1940 of
Statehood Issues and items associated
with World War II.
- 24-29 HELEN H. STOCKTON
Hawaii Stamps: Covers, Postal Stationary.
- 30-32 J. FRANK BRACELAND
Plate Numbers 2¢ Denomination 1894 to 1949
- 33-34 R. H. DIAMENT
Mint and used Plate Singles.
- 35-37 EDWARD J. MATHIAS
Selected pages from a Plate Number Collection

SECTION 1. continued

38

FREDERICK BACHMAN

Plate Numbers.

39-40

H. R. PALMER

A few matched plate numbers of 1948.

41-45

WILLIAM H. FRANCKE

Plate Number Collecting.

SECTION 2

46-52

GEORGE H. DEUBLE

First Issue U.S. Revenues, perforated, proofs, singles complete, pairs, multiples, bi-sected Revenues on Documents and the only known sheet of the 25¢ Power of Attorney.

53-54

W. E. EGBERT, M.D.

Bureau Print Coil pairs, issued by the Oldest City in Pennsylvania: Chester.

SECTION 3

55-58

GERHARDT "BILL" KAUFMANN

Trans-oceanic Flights by Amundson, Post etc., including a complete collection of R. E. Byrd flights over both poles.

59-63

JOHN J. BRITT

Air Mail Essays and Proofs of the World, including artists' drawings, stages of development, etc..

64-72

WILLIAM C. WEBB

Liechtenstein, Air Mail Stamps and Covers, including Special and Zeppelin Flights.

73-74

ROBERT L. JONES

Little Acorns on the Way.

SECTION 3. continued

- 76-77 SAMUEL S. GOLDSTICKER, JR.
Wings Over Texas. An Aero Philatelic
history of the growth of Pioneer Airlines,
America's First Feeder Airline.
- 78 HERMAN KLEINERT
Zeppelin Covers.
- 79-87 JOHN R. DILWORTH
Rocket Stamps.
- 88-91 JOHN N. MYERS
Columbia: 1920 issue of the Compania
Colombiana de Nevegation Aerea. The first
Air Mail stamps issued in Latin America.
- 92 FLORENCE KLEINERT
Air Letter Sheets; featuring Iraq No. 1
- 93-94 MARILYN AUGUST
"Helicopters on the Horizon"
Pioneer, Experimental, Special, Governmental
and CAM Helicopter Flights.

SECTION 4

- 95-99 JOSEPH MANDOS
Guatemala: Specialized from Pre-Stamped
to 20th Century issues.
- 100-102 JAMES D. WOODWARD
Mexico.

SECTION 5

- 102-107 STEPHEN G. RICH
Natal: A comprehensive coverage of this
colony

SECTION 5. continued

- 108-117 MARJIE VARNER WAMSLEY
Cross section from a highly specialized
collection of New Zealand. Pages hand
lettered by exhibitor.
- 118-119 ARCHIE MYERS
English stampless covers.
- 120 GEORGE N. WENDT
Modern British History on Postage Stamps.
British Commemoratives from Edward VIII
to British Wedding.

SECTION 6

- 121-123 DR. H. M. BARNHART
Prussia. Complete in singles and pairs,
containing many strips, blocks and covers
specialized.
- 124-126 DR. HANS NIELSEN
Sardinia. Stampless covers and letters as
well as stamps on and off covers and
varieties.
- 127-138B BERNARD DAVIS
Token Exhibit or Postal History on Cover
of every one of the French Colonies.
- 139-141 ANGELO J. ZAPPACOSTA
Vatican City: Covers and Postal Stationary.
- 142-146 DR. LOUIS A. SOROKIN
Historical Significance of Russian Issues
1947-1949. Illustrated.
- 147-152 HANS WELTIN
Russia 1857 to 1949.

SECTION 6. continued

- 153-155 GEORGE S. HILL
Austria and States: Postal History Material
Stamps "Used Abroad", Postmarks of Marchant
and Naval Vessels, Exhibitions, Military, etc..
- 156 SCHOLZ
Germany: Se-tenant and Tete-bache.
- 157-158 LILLIAN M. WATERS
Semi-Postals of France 1939-1948.
- 159-164 FREDERICK HIEBER
Selected pages from Collection of Stamps
of France with millesime numbers.
- 165-166 WILLARD P. SNYDER
A complete collection of Danzig.
Comprising every major catalog number as
listed in Scotts Catalog.
- 167-170 GLADYS M. BUSHELL
Stamps of the Over-Run Nations of Europe.
Prior to and following World War II.

SECTION 7

- 171-180 HERMAN RUDENSTEIN
New State of Israel and Interm Period.

SECTION 8

- 181-182 JOHANNA E. RICH
Equines: Pages showing the horse family.
The animal kingdom on stamps.
- 183-186 C. TURNER NEARING
Music & Musicians: Stamps of the World
honoring National Anthems, Composers and
Noted Musicians.

SECTION 8. continued

- 187-188 SIDNEY LAKE
Special exhibit made to interest non-collectors
and make more collectors.
- 189 ANNE THORNTON
Bird Stamps and Bird Postmarks.
- 190 THOMAS H. MAYBERRY, JR.
Proofs from an Americana Collection.
- 191 THOMAS H. BROOMALL
The Declaration of Independence and its
Signers on U.S. Stamps. From a collection
of Basic U.S.
- 192-199 WILLIAM M. WILSON
Flags, Stamps, Covers and Cancellations.
- 200 H. HARRINGTON YULE
Masonry in Stamps: Famous Americans who
have their portrait on stamps.
- 201 MARGARET S. BURNHAM
American Flag in Philately.
- 202-203 RUTH T. SMITH
Stamps Honoring Music and Musicians.

SECTION 9

- 204 JULIUS RUZINSKY
Autograph covers.
- 205-206 VINCENT A. DE MASE
A Collection of stamps and covers of
"Little America" The 2nd Byrd Expedition.
- 207-209 GEORGE J. SCHULTZE
V-Mail Greetings.
- 210 HARRY SMUCKLER
U.S. National Christmas Seals, Selected pages.

SECTION 9. continued

- 211 JOAN PRESTON
Stamps Issued Commemorating 150 Anniversary
on U. S. Constitution. Complete mint inc. error
- 212 JOSEPH CURIN
New York World Fair Stamps 1939-1940.
- 213-214 MRS. B. CRAIN
Methods of Mail Transport.
- 215-216 WILLIAM M. WILSON
S.E.P.A.D.; Seals and meters.
- 54A-54B JOHN C. DICKEL
Precancels.
- 94A-94C FRANK E. ADAMS
Australian Commonwealth. Pioneer Flights
and First Flight Covers.
- 180A HENRY WOLFF
Chinese Provisionals - War Overprints and
printing.
- 170A WILLIAM N. REES
Dutch East Indies.

Chapter 18

AMERICAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Life Chapter 12

Season 1949-50 Program

Meetings: second Wednesday of each month - 8 P. M.
at the NATIONAL PHILATELIC MUSEUM, INC.
2043-45 North Broad Street, Philadelphia.

Visitors and friends always welcome!

The entertainment for this season's meetings has been delegated to the following members. You may be sure that each one will provide an evening of enjoyment worthy of your attendance.

Mr. Ralph Holtsizer--September 14, 1949	Dr. I. Lipkin--February 8, 1950
Mr. Lawrence Appleton--October 12, 1949	Mr. A. V. Nichol--March 8, 1950
Mr. Harry M. Buten--November 9, 1949	Mr. Julius H. Tolson--April 12, 1950
Mr. Bernard Davis--December 14, 1949	Mr. Wm. M. Wilson--May 10, 1950
Dr. W. E. Egbert--January 11, 1950	Mr. G. B. Llewellyn--June 14, 1950

Refreshments will usually be served following the meetings.

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Harry M. Buten	W. Brinkley Turner
George W. Caldwell	Julius Windner

Membership is open to all stamp collectors approved by our Membership Committee. It is not necessary to be a member of the National American Philatelic Society to join our local chapter.

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1315 Cherry Street
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Philadelphia 41, Pennsylvania

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5707 Thomas Avenue
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1728 Marlton Avenue
Philadelphia 4, Pennsylvania

John Dilworth Woodward
Box 6, Clifton Heights
Pennsylvania

This organization is the oldest stamp collectors' club in the Philadelphia area. It was formed about the beginning of the century and has functioned continuously since. Among its members have been many of the great names of Philately. A list of the events and programs that have been sponsored through the years would be a chronology of stamp collecting. The social life of our avocation has been furthered many times with parties and dinners where collectors and their families can meet each other in pleasing social surroundings. If these things appeal to you, and you are not one of our members, we invite you to join with us.

MICHAEL NEWBURY
38 SOUTH DEARBORN STREET
CHICAGO-3

February 9, 1950

Dear Stan:

I spoke to Ben Newman immediately after Uncle Saul passed away, as he called me up to tell me that you had been in touch with him. I know very well how you feel, and how you felt about Mr. Newbury, and believe me when I tell you that there was no use of your coming up here for the services, as they were strictly private, at the request of Mrs. Newbury. I wish more people could have been there, as it was a beautiful ceremony, and while I have been to many funerals, I have never heard a more beautiful service.

As you well know, I am quite swamped with details in regard to the estate and it will be awhile before things start to level off.

I hope to, because I know I can, count on you for help and assistance as formerly, and, without your saying this, I want you to know I shall call on you for it whenever I feel in need of it.

Let's not get out of touch with one another.

Sincerely,

Mike

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

Feb. 17, 1950.

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

Dear Mike:

Thanks for your good letter of the 9th.

I did like that last line in your letter and I sincerely trust that we can keep in touch with one another. Just because S.N. has passed on to non-philatelic fields is no reason why I should not see you as often as in the old days. Whenever I get up to Chicago in the future, I trust we can have lunch together.

I don't have to assure you that you can count on me for any assistance you might need.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

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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HOLLAND:
AMSTERDAM, SINGEL 25
ARGENTINE:
BUENOS AIRES, BME, MITRÉ 441

March 9, 1950

Dear Harry:

After I had handed the enclosed card to my son Craig, to prove that I was a "Fellow," - in fact a "jolly good" fellow, he only commented, "why couldn't the Honorable Secretary have signed it instead of using a cheap rubber stamp?"

(Royal)
(of The ROYAL)

Please don't bother to return it, my wallet now is carrying far too many cards.

Confidentially, if I were in London in May (and I may have to go over on business, our Managing Director who is also my wife's brother, being apparently in a dying condition) - I never would go near the R.P.S.L. Why? Mainly because of the stuffed shirt posture of one of its principal heads, who never deigns to answer letters from a brother "Fellow."

I suppose He Refers To "SIR John"

Matter of fact, considering the burden of our taxes, a portion of which goes over there to bolster their rotten economical system, for which in return we receive only ill-mannered, supercilious comment, I say, down with the whole damn lot. At one time I was an Anglophile, but my opinion of those people has materially changed. When transplanted to the U.S.A. they make, in the 2nd generation, fine citizens. But over there, in their native habitat, they are insufferable. I find more and more people reaching that same conclusion. However, I really like Frank Godden, perhaps because he fascinates me. When I look at Frank, it is always at the juicy mouth corners. He is one of the few adults I have known who actually drools....."and as I was saying to his Majesty,"etc. etc.

He Lived In London For Two Years

Best wishes to you and Marian.

Sincerely, DOCK

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

1201

SYMBOLS

- DL - Day Letter
- NL - Night Letter
- LC - Deferred Cable
- NLT - Cable Night Letter
- Ship Radiogram

1950 FEB 2

Handwritten initials and scribbles

AM 7 48

W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

.CTA071

CT:CA067 NL PE=CHICAGO ILL 1 DUPLICATE OF TELEGRAM TELEPHONED FEB 2 AM 4 01

=STANLEY B. ASHBROOK=

33 ~~27~~ NORTH FORT THOMAS ST FT THOMAS KY=

MR. NEWBURY PASSED AWAY LAST NIGHT 730 FUNERAL WILL BE HELD 1130 AM FRIDAY FROM 936 EAST 47TH STREET IT WILL BE A PRIVATE FUNERAL FOR THE IMMEDIATE FAMILY ONLY REGARDS=

:MIKE::

Handwritten initials 'mf'

Handwritten number '141183'

NO.	TO	MR A
BY	TO AT	REQ MLD
	814A 2	

Handwritten note: 'Res read 902A'

10 MAY 5

[Faint handwritten notes]

LET'S

1950 FEB 2 AM 7 46

Miss Lane

Reception

immediately following the ceremony

310 North Kalamazoo Avenue

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Craig Brooks

request the honour of your presence

at the marriage of their daughter

Emily Wright

to

Mr. Gerald Borradaile Hatch

on Friday evening, the second of August

at half after seven o'clock

Trinity Episcopal Church

Marshall, Michigan

EASY WAY to TELEGRAPH

...lift telephone receiver, call WESTERN UNION... from home, office or coin box

WESTERN UNION

1201

(04).

SYMBOLS	
DL	= Day Letter
NL	= Night Letter
LC	= Deferred Cable
NLT	= Cable Night Letter
Ship	= Radiogram

WHEN YOU SEND A TELEGRAM, THE CHARGES WILL APPEAR ON YOUR NEXT TELEPHONE BILL

W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

1949 NOV 12 12 21 PM

.CTA490 PB140

P.FNA047 DL PD=FN PHILADELPHIA PENN 12 1202P=

STANLEY B ASHBROOK=

:33 WEST FORT THOMAS AVE FORT THOMAS KY=

AS CHAIRMAN OF THE SEPAO MERIT AWARD COMMITTEE TAKE PLEASURE IN ADVISING YOU OF YOUR SELECTION TO RECEIVE THE 1949 NATIONAL AWARD STOP THE PRESENTATION WILL TAKE PLACE AT OUR DINNER ON THE EVENING OF NOVEMBER 19 STOP IF IT IS NOT POSSIBLE FOR YOU TO ATTEND COULD YOU PERHAPS HAVE A FRIEND LOCALLY REPRESENT YOU=

(auth) (R)

Trans A

11/18/49

REMAILED

neg

By 12297-60P

WILLIAM M WILSON APS 7838=

THE COMPANY

SEPAD

Associated Stamp Clubs of Southeastern Pennsylvania and Delaware

Affiliated with the NATIONAL FEDERATION of STAMP CLUBS, Inc.

November 16, 1949

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

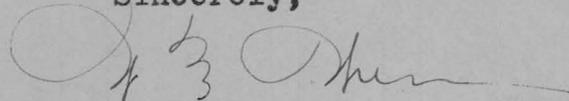
Sorry for the delay in advising you of your selection to receive the 1949 Sepad Award. We usually settle this detail early, but this year we were delayed.

The Sepad Merit Award was started some years ago and we select each year one person locally and one nationally to receive the awards. Last year Dr. Chase received the National Award, while the year before the National Award was given to Mr. Hugh Clark.

As you can note from the directory enclosed, Sepad consists of clubs in Southeast Pennsylvania and Delaware, is a governing club for presenting each year, a stamp show. This year is our twelfth show.

We are sorry that conditions prevent your attendance, but the award will be sent you shortly after November 19th.

Sincerely,



W. M. Wilson

WMW/svy
Enc. Directory

DIRECTORY



Stamp Clubs Philadelphia and Vicinity



Distributed by

: *S E P A D* :

*Associated Stamp Clubs of
South-eastern Pennsylvania
and Delaware*

Meets 3rd Thursday, 8 P. M.

Central Y. M. C. A., 1421 Arch St., Phila.

PHILADELPHIA CLUBS

A. P. S. CHAPTER NO. 18

Meets Second Wednesday Evening
Art Alliance, 251 S. 18th Street

AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets 2nd and 4th Thursday Evenings
1308 Drury Street, Philadelphia

BRITISH NORTH AMERICAN SOCIETY

Meets First Thursday Evening
7934 Pickering Street

FRANKFORD ARSENAL STAMP CLUB

A. P. S. 242

Meets 1st & 3rd Wednesdays at Arsenal

HAMILTON STAMP CLUB

Meets 2nd and 4th Wednesday Evenings
Optimist Club, 7021 Garrett Road, Upper Darby, Pa.

INSURANCE STAMP CLUB OF PHILADELPHIA

Meets Third Thursday Each Month
401 Walnut Street

KEYSTONE STAMP CLUB

Meets every Friday Evening
Y.M.C.A., 1421 Arch Street

MIZPAH CORR. AND EXCHANGE CLUB

Meets 1st and 3rd Monday Evenings
5404 North 5th Street

NORTH EAST STAMP CLUB

Meets every Monday Evening
3731 Frankford Avenue, Philadelphia

OLNEY STAMP CLUB

Meets 1st and 3rd Tuesday Evenings
5317 North 5th Street, Philadelphia

OXFORD PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets 1st and 3rd Wednesday Evenings
1661 Harrison Street

PENN PRECANCEL CLUB

Call or write, John C. Dickel
6711 Souder Street, Phila. 24, Pa.

PHILADELPHIA AIR MAIL SOCIETY

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702 W. Venango Street, Philadelphia

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Write Marion B. Walker
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MOORESTOWN—A. P. S. CHAPTER 154

Second Friday, Community House

SOUTH JERSEY WOMEN'S STAMP CLUB

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First Monday, North Baptist Church Library

TILlicum STAMP CLUB—CAMDEN

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Merry Christmas &

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A Happy New Year!

1947

The family of
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AMERICAN PHILATELIC CONGRESS, INCOR.

533 PENN STREET, READING, PA.

Member No. A

Issued to Stanley B. Ashbrook

Dues paid to July 1, 19 50

JERE HESS BARR

President

FRED A. HAWKINS

Secretary

Member's Signature

1949

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

T H E

American Philatelic Society

This is to Certify that

Stanley B. Ashbrook

No. 2497

is a member in good standing to July first,

1950

Signature of Member

H. Clay Musser

Executive Secretary

THE

American Philatelic Society

This is to Certify that

Stanley B. Ashbrook

No. 2497

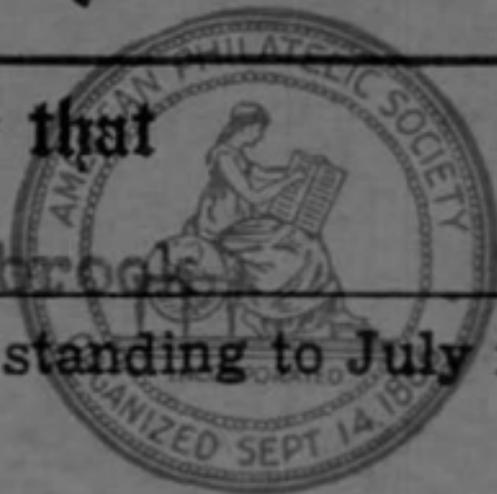
is a member in good standing to July first,

1949

Signature of Member

H. Clay Musser

Executive Secretary





YOU ARE SO THOUGHTFUL!



I'm gratefully
remembering

When I say, "Thanks
for everything!"

Mr. + Mrs. Newberg

1947

Announcing the next meeting of the

Detroit Philatelic Society

We start our season of 1949-50 meetings on Saturday afternoon, September 24th with an informal social gathering at the Stark "Castle," 5668 Geddes Road near Ann Arbor. You and your lady will be the guests of Harold and also of Donald MacGregor, the same as last year. To those who want directions, a call to me, and I'll help you out.

This notice comes to you plenty early; the stamp will explain why. When you know for sure if you're going, and how many, mail the enclosed card, he would like to know how to plan.

D. R. Heath, Secretary
651 Barrington, Grosse Pointe 30

Mr. Lybarger Objects

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We have a letter from Mr. Lybarger, late president of the APS wherein he asks us to print the letter which he sends. It is sent with the intention of correcting the statement we made in the issue of September 19, wherein we stated that the APS had close to a quarter million dollars. There is no use in printing his letter since the object of the letter is to correct the mistake we made and we are glad to do that since Mr. Lybarger has now given us the figures in a form in which they are understandable. We might say that we were not alone in believing that the total funds of the APS were close to a quarter million dollars as we stated. We have letters from others and have seen other correspondence wherein the writers were of the opinion that the sum was as we stated.

It seems however that we are incorrect. The published statement we had in mind was one by Mr. Warren J. Turner in the August 29 issue of Mekeels Weekly. From the statements in this article we believed as did others that the total worth of the society was approximately a quarter million dollars, to be exact around \$223,000.00. Mr. Lybarger now explains in his letter that the funds of ABOUT \$91,000.00 are a part of the \$130,816.64 which is the actual worth of the society.

We are glad to make this correction and assure you that we have no desire or intention to make statements which are inaccurate or untrue.

In the letter from Mr. Lybarger however, he does not comment on the point we make that the society is authorized to operate but not for profit and if a surplus of over \$130,000.00 is not profit, then what is it? This money should be put into a fund of some sort that could be used in some manner that would benefit the membership and at the same time become a rotating fund that would replenish itself in the process and thus not actually be spent for convention trips, but in a manner that would benefit all members. Let it be understood that we have been a member of the APS for nearly fifty years and we have seen but few worth while accomplishments.

Stamps

Oct 1 1949

Askbrooks Guests at Detroit Philatelic Society's "Season Opener" Meeting

THE opening meeting of the 1949-1950 season of the *Detroit Philatelic Society* was held Sept. 24, 1949. It was an afternoon and evening party held at the country estate, "Sans Souci," of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Stark, five miles outside of Ann Arbor, Mich.

For a number of years past the members have been the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Stark, assisted by Mr. and Mrs. Donald MacGregor.

An elaborate buffet dinner was served on a spacious veranda located high above and overlooking the beautiful Huron River.

During the afternoon and evening the Stark specialized collection of 19th Century U. S. was on display. This is quite an annual event as it gives the members an opportunity to inspect the many fine items added to the collection since its previous exhibition.

Out of town visitors were Mr. and Mrs. Stanley B. Ashbrook of Northern Kentucky. Mr. Ashbrook added to the interest of the party by exhibiting a fine lot of 19th Century covers from a well-known collection which is being dispersed at private sale.

It will be recalled that the late Admiral F. R. Harris was the guest of the D.P.S. at a dinner given in his honor last spring.

The D.P.S. membership is limited to forty, and at present it is stated that they have quite a number of applicants for membership on the waiting list. They have twenty meetings each season, with two members as dinner hosts at each meeting.

C O P Y

November 18, 1949

Mr. H. L. Lindquist
2 West 46th Street
New York 19, N. Y.

Dear Harry:

I have your letter of the 4th in regards to a donation to the Philatelic Foundation. To be very frank as well as confidential, I would state that I have never from the first thought much of the Foundation and if you will circulate among those interested, which includes most New York dealers as well as others such as Stan Ashbrook, Hollowbush and the like, I believe you will find that they think little more of their opinions than I do.

I know of several cases where they have made reports which are absolutely incorrect and have turned down stamps that are absolutely what they are supposed to be. I have never felt that Boggs knew much about stamps and this opinion is shared by many, who have been much closer to him than I have been. I do not think that the Foundation has turned out to be the organization that we hoped we had. With such people as Admiral Harris and Mr. Caspary it had every opportunity of starting out in a substantial manner. I have since learned that Mr. Caspary inspects few of the stamps and I know from actual experience that one Hawaiian stamp I submitted was not even shown to Admiral Harris. In fact, it was returned to a client in Honolulu to whom I had sold it for several hundred dollars with an opinion that casted a cloud over it. I immediately wrote to the Admiral, called his attention to the fact that he surely knew the good from the bad and he wrote me a letter stating he had never even seen the stamp and to please have it returned. I had it returned and the stamp was then declared genuine and a certificate sent to my client. I have done no business with him since, which leads me to believe that he thought I brought some sort of influence to bear to obtain the favorable opinion. They have turned down numerous Special Prints with the guarantee of Ed Stern and myself on the same stamp. I also know from actual experience that I saw with my own eyes a regular Continental of 1873 picked from a dealer's stock, the gum washed off and submitted as a Special Print. They issued a certificate, stating it was a Special Print and I positively know that it was not.

It was for this reason that I did not send a donation to aid in paying Stan for his wonderful holdings. I would much rather see them go somewhere else. Don't take this as simply my opinion but get around among the larger and older established dealers of New York and you will find my opinion prevails.

Sincerely yours,

PHILIP H. WARD, JR.

PHW, JR: rrw

HARMER, ROOKE

& CO., INC.

GORDON HARMER
PRESIDENT

—
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APPRAISALS

PHILATELIC
AUCTIONEERS

560 Fifth Avenue
NEW YORK 19, N. Y.

CABLE ADDRESS
PHILATORS, NEW YORK

—
TELEPHONE
LONGACRE 3-3335

November 17, 1949

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

Dear Stan:

I am sending you two enclosed items for your inspection and opinion. They were sent to the Philatelic Foundation who state they are collector trial proofs. I don't really agree with their findings. You will note that the one has an impression of the 3¢ 51 on the cover.

With kind regards.

Very truly yours,

HARMER, ROOKE & CO., INC.

BY:

Gordon Harmer
TV

GH:RF

Nov. 21, 1949.

Mr. Gordon Harmer,
% Harmer Rooke & Co.,
560 Fifth Ave.,
New York 19, N.Y.

Dear Gordon:

Herewith the two 30¢ 1861 items as per yours of the 17th. Proofs are outside my field and I would be a bit presumptuous to attempt to express an opinion regarding these. I believe that Clarence Brazer is perfectly capable of giving a correct explanation regarding them.

I note the offset on the back of one of these and I am wondering if you thought that the design is that of the 3¢ Premiere rather than the regularly issued stamp.

Please refer to the copy of your letter to me. I do not understand the term, "Collector Trail Proofs" - Did you mean "Trial color proofs?" Also note your "3¢ '51 on the cover." Steno errors, no doubt.

In the U.S. there is a listing of 62A - "Imperf" - What have you in mind? A similar 61A? Not having a pair of 62A with which to compare the paper I am unable to express an opinion.

I heard that Harmer Rooke exhibited at the Show last week a 90¢ 1860 - cover with a rate of \$1.68 to China, also a cover with a 5¢ and 10¢ 1847 from Philadelphia. The former is a fake - if it is the same cover that I have in mind - the London p.m. date is November 1860 and the latter is a fake from the Knapp sale that cost some innocent buyer over four hundred dollars. I would like to see the latter but not the former.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

P.S.--No opinion - no fee, but you can reimburse me for return postage.

S.B.A.

CLEVELAND PLAIN DEALER

ESTABLISHED AS THE EVENING PLAIN DEALER IN 1845 MORNING AND SUNDAY
EDITIONS FOUNDED IN 1885 BY L. E. HOLDEN

LARGEST MORNING AND SUNDAY CIRCULATION IN OHIO

JOHN A. VAN BUREN, BUSINESS MANAGER

STERLING E. GRAHAM, GENERAL MANAGER

PAUL BELLAMY, EDITOR

Dec. 5, 1949

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook,
32 North Fort Thomas Avenue,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook;

Naturally enough after telling you about the 24¢ 1861 with the Sept. 20 cancel I cannot find the darn thing. As usual I found everything else and some of it is enclosed. The 24¢ on piece can be either 1861 or 1864 maybe you can guess. If it is 1861 it will be early.

The 24¢ 1857 is another one of those things. The gum looks OK so perhaps it is not a chemical changeling but from there on I am lost.

The Philadelphia PMs can be anything—see what you think.

I do not know what the red R is on the 3¢ 1857 or the red star on the 1851. Probably very common but I think they are pretty. The 1¢ with the FREE cancel I thought you might like to see because it is pretty.

I hope that you arrived home safely and trust that you can be in Cleveland for the Garfield-Perry March party.

Sincerely,

D. K. Grieve,
1886 E. 93rd Street,
Cleveland, 6, O.

D.K.

Dec. 11, 1949.

Mr. D. K. Grieve,
1886 East 93rd St.,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Don:

Thanks very much for yours of the 5th. This is just about as interesting a little lot as I have seen in a long time and I certainly enjoyed having a good look at the various items. Here are some comments:

24¢ 1860. This is a changeling in color - Just because a stamp is "unused and o.g." is no sign that the color is original. Under certain atmospheric conditions a lilac or a violet will change to a sickly looking gray or a greenish gray - or to a "Steel Blue," regardless of the fact that the stamp was never used and has the o.g. on the back. Brazer had a 24¢ 1861 "Steel Blue" unused with o.g. and he claimed the color was original because the stamp had never been used. If a used stamp will change from a violet to a steel blue, I know of no reason why the gum on the back of an unused copy would prevent the color from changing. Among the revenue stamps we find a lot of "LILACS" listed but in no listing of such do we find a "Steel Blue" or a "gray green" - etc.

30¢ 1861. This is an odd looking item and my guess is that it is a badly faded copy. The paper is very thin.

24¢ 1861. This is the "Violet," S.U.S. #60, and one of the early uses of this stamp. It is quite an early impression and clear. Most of the copies that we find of this stamp show rather rough impression, that is, prints that appear to have come from a rather thin ink that had a tendency to run, (if you know what I mean). In my record of early uses of this stamp, this copy of yours is the second on the list - the earliest known being:

Aug. 20, 1861 - from Lowell, Mass.
Sep. 5, 1861 - your copy
Sep. 9, 1861 - from Salem, Mass.
Sep. 17, 1861 - " Boston
Sep. 21, 1861 -
Sep. 25, 1861 - etc. etc.

You can appreciate how pleased I was to see this item and to record it in my files.

3¢ 1851 - Philadelphia - with Red Star. This is a "Carrier" cover and the Red Star is the Philadelphia Carrier marking. The letter was doubtless deposited in a letter-box no doubt with a penny

#2. Mr. D. K. Grieve, Dec. 11, 1949.

attached. A letter-carrier picked it up and deposited in the Philadelphia post office. The star indicated that the carrier fee to the post office had been paid. In my opinion the use was in the year 1852 - (June). We find this red star as a cancel on the Franklin Carrier and also on the Eagle - (used at Philadelphia). This is a rare cover, in fact, covers like this are much rarer than is generally supposed. It is my guess that the "PAID" did not refer to the 3¢ stamp but rather to the payment of the 1¢ Carrier Fee.

The three Philadelphia Carrier stamps. The S.U.S. lists these at \$500.00 so you can well imagine that they are not very common. The Philadelphia carriers prepared these and sold them to the public. This was presumably done along about 1852 ~~and~~ to 1856. They cut the gummed margins off of the 1¢ 1851 imperforate sheets and handstamped them with this marking. On two of your copies you will note parts of the 1¢ designs. Note the one from the right margin. There is not much of the 1¢ design on this copy but I could "plate" it. Note my One Cent Book (I doubt if you have a copy but you should) - Volume #2 - page 200, where I illustrated two of these, also a cover with one, - plus a strip of 1¢ 1851.

3¢ 1857 - Cincinnati. This is an early registered letter - and it is a rare cover - The registered fee at this time - late 1850's was 5¢ and it had to be paid in cash - not by stamps. The Regulations instructed postmasters not to put any markings on the envelope that would indicate the letter contained valuables, but Cincinnati violated this instruction - at least for a limited period - This Regulation is the explanation as to why covers such as yours are so darn scarce. In my One Cent Book, Vol. 2, I illustrated a similar Cincinnati cover with the red "R" - It had two 3¢ 1857 and the registered number was 970. I note yours is 172.

Free. This apparently was an unsealed envelope that contained a circular, origin not disclosed - the "Free" was used merely as a killer and had no meaning. Or, the envelope might have had gum and sent sealed as a local Drop letter at Chillicothe. The stamp is a Type II from the first plate - first condition - that was in use from July 1, 1851 to June 1852, thus my guess is that the use was at some time during that period.

I thoroughly enjoyed going over these items and again, thanks for submitting them.

March is a long time in the future but I would enjoy attending the Party and I will endeavor to do so, health permitting.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

CLEVELAND PLAIN DEALER

ESTABLISHED AS THE EVENING PLAIN DEALER IN 1845 MORNING AND SUNDAY
EDITIONS FOUNDED IN 1885 BY L. E. HOLDEN

LARGEST MORNING AND SUNDAY CIRCULATION IN OHIO

JOHN A. VAN BUREN, BUSINESS MANAGER

STERLING E. GRAHAM, GENERAL MANAGER

PAUL BELLAMY, EDITOR

December 15, 1949

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

Dear Stan;

I am glad to learn that my little lot was of interest to you as you probably look over thousands of little lots every year and I imagine that some of them are pretty sad. You have taken what were rather odd items in my collection and made them into something of interest to me and those who might look at them. I will write them up with due credit to you and your knowledge.

It just so happens that I have both volumes of your 1¢ book, in fact I had two sets but gave one away as a Christmas present two years ago, but because we live in a rather small apartment my library is not readily available. I have always been a firm believer in books like yours and have quite a library built up during the years.

I have an awful mess of early U. S. covers that have been culled until just the best are left. Some of these may be unusual but I have neither the knowledge or eyesight to really dig into them. Perhaps if you get to Cleveland you can take a look. I do hope that your health will permit your making the G. P. party as I am sure you will have a good time. I want to thank you for your interest and the information you have given me and if there is anything I can do to repay you let me know.

*Sincerely,
Don*

82 E. Raleigh Avenue
Staten Island 10, N.Y.
December 3, 1949

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Thank you very much for your letter of November 24th, answer to which has been delayed due to my absence from the city.

I am enclosing a number of photostats relating to the treatment of U.S.-Hawaii mails back around 1850. Their source is indicated on the reverse, mostly from the Hawaiian newspaper "The Polynesian". There were quite a number of such items among the Admiral's papers, and these represent such unpublished items as I felt might be of interest to you. I have additional prints, so you may retain these for your own files.

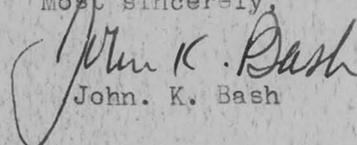
Thank you for the two additional references to Hawaii-U.S. covers during the fall of 1864. Harmer Rooke illustrated a cover in their auction catalogue of 2/26/47 similar to, if not identical with, the Mason cover described in your letter. The illustrated cover was addressed to Worcester, Mass. and bore a 10¢ 1861 (not tied), placed on the envelope directly over the Hawaiian postmark. The San Francisco date was Aug. 11, 1864. Obviously, the stamp must have been placed there by the San Francisco postmaster, for at that time Kalakaua thought the U.S. rate was only 5¢. If this is correct, Kalakaua must have collected a nickle, stamped the envelope "U.S. Postage Paid" and sent it on to San Francisco. The San Francisco postmaster pasted on a 10¢ stamp, believing that to be the proper rate, and sent it on to Worcester. Question- who paid the extra 5¢? If you have a different interpretation of the cover, I should be delighted to hear it.

I am also attaching an illustration of a cover illustrated in an advertisement in Stamps magazine on Nov. 26, 1949. It appears to be addressed to England and bears a 5¢ Hawaiian stamp and a 2¢ U.S. of 1869. I find this combination hard to explain, and wonder if perhaps another stamp has been removed. I should judge it to be an 1870 cover. Lot 2071 in the Knapp sale, also from Hawaii to England bore 22¢ U.S. postage, presumably 10¢ Hawaii-U.S. plus 12¢ U.S.-England.

I note your comment on the Portsmouth cover. The photographic evidence indicated that the address was over the marking in question and the town handstamp was in turn over the address. However, if it weren't for differences of opinion there wouldn't be horse races.

With best wishes, I am,

Most sincerely,


John. K. Bash

18-6

Dec. 9, 1949.

Mr. John K. Bash,
82 E. Raleigh Ave.,
Staten Island 10, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Bash:

It was certainly very kind of you to send me the photo-stats and I sincerely thank you. I have read them with much interest and have profited thereby because I found material that solved several questions upon which I had rather indefinite opinions.

Re - the Mason cover described in my letter - You are quite right - This same cover came up in a Harmer Rooke & Company sale of Feb. 26 - 1947, Lot 45 and it was withdrawn. I have an indistinct recollection that it was questioned at that time. I recall that I had quite a bit of correspondence with Henry Meyer about the cover. The cover was next offered in a Laurence sale of Feb. 18, 1948 - Lot 304, and later it was offered in a Fox sale of May 1, 1948 - Lot 169. The sale price was \$45.00. I think I had some correspondence with the Admiral regarding it and some how I got the impression that he purchased it.

You are probably familiar with a similar cover that he owned with a 10¢ U. S. 1861, cog cancel, not tied, Honolulu Nov. 23 - S.F. Dec. 8 1864, and addressed to Edgartown, Mass. Without referring to the correspondence that I had with the Admiral and Meyer I cannot recall what explanation we had for the cover but the Honolulu postmark shows that both the Hawaii and U. S. postage was paid at Honolulu. Someone put a 10¢ U. S. over the Honolulu p.m. and whoever did it must have had the idea that the 10¢ steamship rate applied - whereas there was no 10¢ steamship rate in effect into S.F. from Hawaii at that time. It would be pure guess-work to try to figure who put the 10¢ stamp over the Honolulu marking - At Honolulu? By ship captain? Or at the S.F. P.O.? Being paid at Honolulu meant that the sender evidently paid 5¢ plus 10¢ and regardless of whether Kalakaua knew as to the proper rate it appears that it was prepaid at 5¢ plus 10¢.

Regarding the cover illustrated in "Stamps" of Nov. 26, 1949, cut of which I return herewith. Inasmuch as this cover is being offered by a foreign dealer, anything could have happened to it. There certainly was no such a rate as indicated. Let us assume that it was sent to San Francisco via U.S. Mail Steamship. The use could hardly have been Apr. 1869 because Honolulu did not have any of our 1869 stamps that early. There might have been supplies in the S.F. P.O. as early as the first part of May. If the use was Apr. 1870 - then the rate would have been 5¢ Hawaii - 10¢ U.S. steamship to the U.S. and 6¢ to London. Thus the cover is shy 14¢ in U. S. postage. Perhaps

#2. Mr. John K. Bash, Dec. 9, 1949.

a 2¢ and a 12¢ are missing.

Re - Knapp sale Lot 2081. The description was wrong - It should have been 5¢ Hawaii - domestic - or rather, short to ship - 10¢ by U.S. S.S. to the U.S. and 12¢ to England. Of course, there was no rate of 10¢ from S.F. to N.Y. after June 30, 1863. In the Knapp second sale of November 1941, please note Lot 1726. This use was Higo March 1871. It was overpaid as the proper payment should have been 10¢ to the U. S. by U.S. steamship plus 6¢ to England. I have a photo of another cover from the same correspondence (Clark) showing the correct rate, viz: a 10¢ 1869 plus a 6¢ Bank Note - a use from Shanghai on Dec. 12, 1871.

I mention the above merely to call attention to the fact that the steamship rate of 10¢ paid the postage to the U.S. but not beyond, or in other words, no part of the 10¢ could be applied on rates beyond our borders.

Again re - the Portsmouth. I note your reference to "photographic evidence." Some people might believe that it can be definitely proved that a certain ink was used over another ink on the Portsmouth cover. I don't. This Portsmouth should have been submitted to (1) Alfred Caspary (2) Warren Colson (3) John Hall. From information conveyed to me - it was not submitted to the first two and probably not to Hall. I know of no better way to wreck the Foundation than to issue a certificate such as was issued on the Portsmouth. Such opinions by inexperienced "Experts" makes an absolute mockery of serious philatelic research work and makes a laughing stock of such an "Expert Committee."

Men who are totally incompetent to express an opinion on items of which they have little or no actual knowledge should refrain from assuming to themselves a role of "expert." It is far more serious than just a case of differences of opinion.

I am really serious about this because I have devoted many years of my life to philatelic research work and with me it is not a case of some fly-by-nights who are here today and gone tomorrow. I have endeavored to co-operate in every way possible with the Philatelic Foundation and have given much of my valuable time free of any charge, and I sincerely deplore any actions by those connected with the Foundation that will lessen the faith reposed in the Institution by collectors in this country and abroad.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,



See
Letter
To
John
Bagh
S.

From Ad In "Stamps" "26-1949

March 4, 1950.

Mr. L.L. Shenfield,
350 Fifth Ave.,
New York 1, N.Y.

Dear Larry:

Re - yours of the 28th, here are the three Jackson, Miss. covers. They are out of Sam's lot and inasmuch as I do not think they have any particular money value, I am taking the liberty of presenting them to you with Sam's compliments. They may have some reference value to you. I think that the April and May uses might indicate that the Jackson P.O. discouraged the use of U. S. stamps after Fort Sumter.

Also enclosed is your New Orleans June 13, 1862 cover. This stamper is different from the indigo strike of Jul 24 1862. I would like to see the cover in the recent Costales sale.

Fox cover "Illegal Stamp" - Yes, I know of the other cover - It is a stamped envelope and belongs to Jay Hertz. Here is what I have developed from some work that I have done on the Fox cover (Ex-Needham):

The memo at left end indicates that it originated at Vera Cruz, was from a "Mrs. Gen'l Stevens" and was brought into New Orleans as a "ship letter" and forwarded to New York as such with 6¢ due on delivery. This rate of 6¢ did not apply prior to July 1, 1863 - but it did on and after that date. (Prior to July 1, 1863 it was - regular postage (3¢) plus 2¢ ship fee or 5¢ - After July 1, 1863 - it was double the regular postage (2 x 3¢)).

Thus if this cover is genuine, I assume the rate of "Ship 6" is also genuine, and indicating a use after July 1, 1863.

Because of the "Vera Cruz" and the "Mrs. Gen'l Stevens," it is possible that this letter was from the wife of the Confederate Gen'l Walter Husted Stevens. Perhaps this could be established if we knew the maiden name of Mrs. Stevens. The monogram on the back appears to be E.F.C.S."

Brig. General Stevens was Chief Engineer in Lee's Army, and prior to the War he had been in the Federal Army and stationed at New Orleans and Galveston. After the close of the War Gen'l Stevens obtained employment as Chief Engineer on the Mexican Railway between Vera Cruz and Mexico City with headquarters at Vera Cruz. Thus we have a Vera Cruz connection. An English Company was building the railroad and during the Maximilian revolution, Gen'l Stevens remained in sold control and preserved the property thru that difficult period. Gen'l Stevens died at Vera Cruz in 1867.

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Mr. L. L. Shenfield, March 4, 1950

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When I first examined it I had forgotten about the Hertz cover, a photograph of which I had in my files. Inasmuch as the Fox cover came from the Needham collection I was naturally very suspicious of it, in fact, considered it something that Needham had had made. The Hertz cover does not show any year date of use, and if Needham had the 3¢ 1857 cover "fixed" up he could have fixed the Hertz cover, as well as others that have not come to light.

What is your reaction to what I have developed?

I gave John all of the above information and requested him to treat it confidential. I have not discussed the cover with MacBride. Eben Finney wanted to purchase the cover last fall but I advised him not to do so until we could get more information on it. I have kept him advised regarding the progress made.

Thanks very much for the copy about the Trans-Mississippi. I have only had a chance so far to glance thru this but it appears to be very interesting. More later.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

P.S.--Thanks for the photo check - Some more photos will be sent in next few days.

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March 4, 1950.

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Thanks very much for the copy about the Trans-Mississippi. I have only had a chance so far to glance thru this but it appears to be very interesting. More later.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

P.S.--Thanks for the photo check - Some more photos will be sent in next few days.

S.

Feb. 9, 1950.

Mr. L. L. Shenfield,
% Doherty, Clifford & Shenfield,
350 Fifth Ave.,
New York 1, N.Y.

Dear Larry:

Re - yours of the 7th, and a use of a Charleston, S.C. P.M.P. from Tudor Hall, Va. The answer to your query is "yes." Tudor Hall was not permitted to recognize the use of the Charleston stamp but the Charleston office should have disregarded a "due" marking. Offhand I do not know if Charleston is over 500 miles from Tudor Hall. Could it be possible that the distance is less than 500 miles and the letter was a 3 times 5¢ with one rate paid by the Charleston stamp? No Larry, I have no record of your cover but I would like to see it and make a photo.

Regarding the Fox cover with the "Illegal Stamp" marking. Do you think that the cover is genuine? If the marking is genuine do you not think that it is strange that only two covers are known with this marking? I think the cover originated at Vera Cruz but did not go thru the Mexican P.O. - carried by ship to New Orleans - postmarked on face by that office and rated "Ship 6" - then by U. S. Mail to New York. One in the New Orleans P.O. it had to go by a U. S. Mail Route - by how and when? Here is a point to bear in mind - There is no proof that the use was during the War. And further, the rate "6" shows that the use was after July 1, 1863.

I haven't had a chance to make prints of that recent "Mails Suspended" cover but I will send you a print later.

I am returning herewith the letter from Dietz and your reply. I do hope that he can find the photostat.

Would you like to have photos of the Fox cover "Illegal Stamp?"

Best wishes -

Yours etc.,

Letter
Dated
Feb 7
1950

I now have the illegal stamp cover from John Fox. No, I never saw this marking before and I never saw a cover from New Orleans even with the old stamps not recognized marking. It is difficult for me to read its cover since I do not know the town cancel on the stamp. Obviously it arrived by ship from Vera Cruz through New Orleans to New York City. From the look of the New Orleans cancel on reverse, I would say it is very late in the war although I notice that the New Orleans cancel on the reverse contains the word "Free" at the bottom. The inscription at lower left looks as though the letter was carried out of the mail by an individual to New York City - could that have been?

Best regards,

Harry

March 4, 1950.

Mr. L.L. Shenfield,
350 Fifth Ave.,
New York 1, N.Y.

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S.

FINNEY · WOLCOTT · AND · ASSOCIATES — ARCHITECTS
10 WEST 25TH STREET - BALTIMORE 18, MARYLAND BELMONT 1845

EBEN D. FINNEY A-1-A
JOHN WINTHROP WOLCOTT A-1-A

EUGENE R. SMEALLIE A-A-1-A

December 11th, 1949.

Mr. Stanley Ashbrook,
33 North Ft. Thomas Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Kentucky.

Dear Stanley Ashbrook:-

Once again I am going to impose on you to the extent of getting you to draw on your amazing fund of philatelic knowledge and experience.

I am enclosing two covers. The first is merely an early copy of the 5¢ H&L green on a folded letter. However, it is the finest copy of that stamp which I have ever seen, and I just want you to tell me whether you have ever seen any better. Also, as you will note, it is a very early date, and as far as my limited knowledge of the subject will go, I would call it the true olive green shade. If you ever have the chance to pick up a block or piece of this stamp in unused condition, and as fine as this copy, please get it for me.

The second cover is one that appeared in the last Harmer sale, at which I purchased the SOUTH LETTER UNPAID, - about which I received your opinion, and for which I thank you again. This cover, - called "REPEAL STAMP" in the sales catalog, was acquired by John Fox. He spoke to me about it when he was here in Baltimore for Perry Fuller's Peters sale.

I am not going to give you any of my reactions or opinions regarding this cover, as that would be unnecessary. What I want is your reaction and opinion. Frankly, I have never heard of a REPEAL STAMP marking, and you do not list anything like that in your two 1¢ '51-'57 volumes. You do take up the OLD STAMPS NOT RECOGNIZED and the SOUTH LETTER UNPAID, with all of the various methods of their use. I am sure that if this other marking had been known to you at the time you would have treated it also. On this cover please do not miss the following facts:-

- 1). There is no year date given, and the enclosed letter is not available.
- 2). The post mark on the stamp, -(probably New Orleans), - shows Dec. 28th, and you can see the La. for Louisiana at the bottom. This is obviously a different marking from the one on the reverse.
- 3). The post mark on the reverse shows plainly New Orleans, Dec. 28th, with FREE at the bottom. It is obviously a different canceller from the one on the front.
- 4). The dates as indicated by the cancellation and also by the pen notation on the front lead us to believe that the letter was mailed, - or certainly was written, - in Vera Cruz, Mexico, by Mrs. Gen'l. Stevens, (whose monogram appears on the flap), on Dec. 15th. The letter was received in New Orleans on Dec. 28th, and was delivered

Mr. Stanley Ashbrook,

(2).

Dec. 11th, 1949.

- i
- in New York on Jan. 16th. (From the stamp used, we can probably assume that this was in the years 1860-1861, or 1861-1862. We do not know.)
- 5). Do not miss the SHIP 6. This could have applied between Vera Cruz and New Orleans, or, more probably, between New Orleans and New York.
 - 6). The note "Politeness of Col. George H. Sweet" very probably means that the letter was taken by this officer and put in the mail at New Orleans. I can't see how it would be applicable in any other way.
 - 7). And that brings us to the REPEAL STAMP. In the first place, is it REPEAL STAMP? The word STAMP seems to be unimpeachable, but the word REPEAL seems to be almost anything the longer you look at it. It could be STEAM without a great deal of imagination. Anyway, the term REPEAL STAMP sounds kind of silly to me. Do you know of any such term, or anything like it?

All of which seems to sum up to the following, as far as I am concerned. If this cover was dated in the years 1861-1862, and if this marking is really REPEAL STAMP, - having to do with the demonetization of this 3¢ '57 issue, - why then it is a very unusual item, - possibly unique, - and hence very desirable. I might have added above that if all of the foregoing really is true, I should think that there would have been a DUE 3 somewhere on the cover. However, possibly this Col. Sweet found out in New Orleans that they were going to disallow this stamp, and possibly he paid the SHIP 6, which allowed the Post Master to affix the cancellation on the reverse, i.e., NEW ORLEANS, DEC.28 FREE.

And then still further, - New Orleans was still in Southern hands until May 1862. There is no evidence of Confederate postal rates on this cover, unless the SHIP 6 would take care of that.

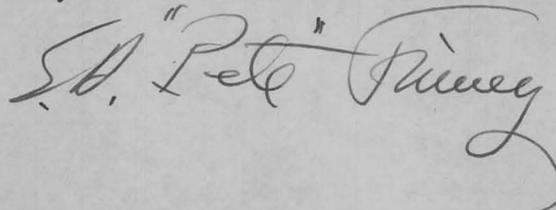
Finally, what I want you to tell me is this: Is this a remarkable cover and worth having, or is it just some freak which has the ear-marks of one of the rare demonetization letters, but never-the-less is just run-of-the-mill stuff? If anyone can tell me about it, certainly you are the one.

Enclosed is postage money, and I expect a consultation bill on this if it runs you into time and trouble.

Incidentally, John Fox believes 100% in this cover. He paid over \$100. for it, and is asking \$135.

Best Regards for the Christmas season, and I would appreciate an answer sometime soon, as I have to tell Fox either yes or no.

Sincerely,



two covers enclosed.

Dec. 15, 1949.

Mr. Eben D. Finney,
10 West 25th St.,
Baltimore 18, Md.

Dear Pete:

Yours of the 11th received with the two covers which I am returning herewith. I doubt if I can add anything to your remarks on the 5¢ 1861. The stamp is indeed an "early bird," a very fine sharp print and no doubt one of the earliest of impressions, also the stone was not over-inked. I note that Dr. Peters' memo stated "possibly olive green" - well, its an olive green all right but the "earlies" do come a bit more olive than this example. This may account for the "possibly."

Now for the 3¢ 1857 cover. First - this came from the Needham collection (so I understand) and that in itself, is bad. I don't suppose any big collection that has come on the market in the past 35 years contained more faked material. Suppose we try and analyse what evidence there is. The notation gives rec'd "16 Jany" and "Vera Cruz" "15 Dec." I also note "Mrs. Gen'l Stevens" and this may refer to the wife of Gen'l Walter Husted Stevens - a Brig. General in Lee's Army. In fact, his chief engineer. He died at Vera Cruz, Mexico in 1867 and prior to the war he had been stationed at New Orleans and Galveston. Thus we have a Vera Cruz connection.

Regarding the Ship 6. Suppose we go on the theory that the cover is genuine and that it originated in the Confederacy, was smuggled thru to Vera Cruz and sent over to New Orleans in Dec 1862. There is no evidence that it was placed in the Mexican mail, hence it could have been sent over to New Orleans by a private ship - and deposited in the New Orleans post office - As such it would have been rated as a Ship Letter. But what about the rate due at New York? Prior to the act of Feb. 27, 1861, the ship rates had been:

- (1) Addressed to port of entry - 6¢
- (2) To be conveyed beyond port of entry, regular postage plus 2¢ or 3¢ regular plus 2¢ --5¢.

The act above changed this to -

- (1) Addressed to port of entry - 5¢
- (2) Beyond port of entry - regular postage plus 2¢ -- 5¢.

Thus the Ship 6 did not apply to a period prior to the above act, nor

Mr. Eben D. Finney, Dec. 15, 1949.

and it apply to a use in Dec. 1862.

Let us consider a use as late as Dec. 1863. The act of March 3, 1863 provided - payment of 2¢ for each letter conveyed in any vessel, not employed in carrying the mail from one place to another in the U. S., "or from any foreign port to any port within the U.S., and deposited in the post office at the port of arrival." Such letters, if for delivery within the United States, shall be rated with double rates of postage, which shall cover the fee paid to the vessel." If we figure that the use was Dec. 1863 then the Ship 6 would apply. Perhaps the wife of Gen'l Stevens was residing in Texas and sent this letter via Vera Cruz to New Orleans - there to be forwarded to New York. New Orleans would have rated it as Ship 6 with 6¢ due on delivery in New York.

I never saw any such a marking as the one on stamp and cover that is stated to read "REPEAL STAMP," nor have I ever noted a New Orleans p.m. with "FREE" at the bottom.

Now suppose we figure that the cover is a fake - After the surrender of Lee's Army, Gen'l Walter Husted Stevens obtained employment as chief engineer on the Mexican Railway between Vera Cruz and Mexico City and at the time of his death - Nov. 12, 1867, was its superintendent and constructing engineer. An English company was building this road and during the Maximilian revolution, Gen'l Stevens remained in sole control and preserved the property thru that difficult period.

Perhaps this letter was actually written after the war, say in 1866 or 1867, when Gen'l and Mrs. Stevens were living at Vera Cruz - perhaps she did use an old 3¢ 1857 and it was not recognized at New Orleans and the letter rated as unpaid with 6¢ due. Was the 3¢ stamp used on this cover? Assuming that the New Orleans postmark on the face is genuine - and I do not doubt that it is - the outer ring of this marking on the stamp indicates it was handstamped - not painted - note the indentation of the ring on the inside of the envelope.

Re - the "Politeness of etc.", this appears to be in the same ink (?) as the address, but in a different handwriting. One wonders if Mrs. Stevens wrote the address and Gen'l Stevens this "Politeness etc.?" Perhaps "Col. Geo. H. Sweet" was Captain of the ship between Vera Cruz and New Orleans.

I am afraid that the above is about as far as I can go, and because the evidence is so meager and the source of the cover so bad, I would not pay \$135.00 for it without a certificate of authentication. If you feel like you want this cover may I suggest that you inform John Fox that you would like to have it, provided it is genuine and that in order to protect yourself you think you should have a Philatelic Foundation certificate. Please do not give him any of the information contained in this letter, and if you will give me permission I would like to write him and tell him that you sent the cover to me and it was my advice that you should have a P.F. certificate. I would like to ask John why he thinks the cover is genuine - especially in view of the fact that no such marking as "Repeal Stamp" is known. I would like to ask him to explain the "Ship 6" - because if he believes

Mr. Eben D. Finney, Dec. 15, 1949.

at the cover is genuine he should be able to explain why it is genuine. I would also like to ask him why he thinks that the 3¢ stamp originated on the cover.

In conclusion I might also mention that the New Orleans postmark is like the type used after the war.

This is Thursday so I am sending this air special registered so that it will reach you with as little delay as possible.

Please advise me as soon as possible regarding permission to write John. He is quite a good friend of mine and I am sure has a bit of respect for an opinion by me, hence no blame if I discuss this cover with him.

With Best Wishes and the Compliments of the Season -

Cordially yours,

FINNEY · WOLCOTT · AND · ASSOCIATES — ARCHITECTS
10 WEST 25TH STREET - BALTIMORE 18, MARYLAND BELMONT 1845

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JOHN WINTHROP WOLCOTT A-1-A

EUGENE R. SKEALLIE A-A-1-A

December 17th, 1949.

Mr. Stanley Ashbrook,
33 North Ft. Thomas Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Kentucky.

Dear Stanley Ashbrook:-

Thanks very much for your speedy diagnosis on the REPEAL STAMP cover. Frankly, I did not like the looks of this cover from the first.

I told John Fox at the time that I sent the cover on to you that I was going to get your opinion on it. I raised several questions about it to him, and said that I was not qualified to answer any of these, and that I would not even consider acquiring it unless you could see your way toward giving it a "clean bill of health". I did not know at the time that it had also come from the Needham stuff.

For that reason John Fox will know that you have given an opinion on this cover. I will not, however, tell him what you said about it, but will let you do that when you contact him. John is also a very good friend of mine, and I would not hesitate to talk things over very frankly with him. I have always found him to be honest and reliable, and also a very nice, helpful fellow.

You took the attitude in your diagnosis that this cover originated in Texas, and was taken from there into Mexico. I am not arguing against that theory, but I believe that the cover could have originated in Mexico, before the Civil War, and was taken by courtesy of the officer designated on the front of the cover to New Orleans. There it was placed in the mails in the normal way, and went by ship to New York. I believe that the FREE post mark from New Orleans, and also the entire REPEAL STAMP, were added to this cover much later. You yourself say that you have never heard of either of these markings. Neither has anyone else. I do not believe that the Philatelic Foundation would ever give a certificate to anything so controversial, and for that reason I wouldn't care to have such a questionable item in my collection. Of course, there is always the possibility that the whole thing is genuine, but in the absence of anything else even faintly resembling it, it would never be classed in the category of really desirable items.

Best wishes to you and Mrs. Ashbrook for a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

J. D. "Red" Finney

Dec. 19, 1949.

Mr. Eben D. Finney,
#10 West 25th St.,
Baltimore 18, Md.

Dear Pete:

First let me thank you most sincerely for the wonderful Maryland ham, which arrived in fine shape several days ago and the three of us have been feasting on it ever since. Stan Jr. loves ham better than turkey and I believe I do also, so we certainly are enjoying it. It has a wonderful flavor and we are cutting the slices very thin. Mrs. Ashbrook seldom eats any pork but she has had her share of this delightful ham.

Now for yours of the 17th. I have just written John Fox about the "Repeal" cover and I asked him if he didn't think it was a rather bad policy to sell a cover such as this unless he could give some positive assurance that it was genuine and was actually in a class that entitled it to sell for a reasonably high price.

Regarding my diagnosis of the cover, I was trying to consider every angle of it. In other words, I tried to explore each possibility and my theory that it might have originated in Texas was really just a mere possibility. You state that you believe that it might have originated in Mexico before the Civil War but Pete I don't think this is possible, because of the "Ship 6" rating. If the cover had originated in Vera Cruz for example, and had it been addressed to New Orleans, the "Ship 6" would have applied, but the letter was addressed to a point beyond New Orleans, consequently, 6¢ due at New York would not have applied. If the cover is genuine and if the "Ship 6" is genuine, then I am strongly of the opinion that in all probability the actual use was after the close of the war.

I wish that you could persuade John to send this to the Philatelic Foundation. I would like to find out if there is any student known to the Expert Committee who could give some definite information regarding the cover.

Wishing you and yours a Very Merry Xmas, I am

Cordially yours,



"Repeal
Stamp"

Dec. 19, 1949.

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

Dear John:

Thanks very much for your kindness in sending me the beautiful book and also for the fillers for the handy little monthly diary. Both of these are most welcome and I want you to know that I deeply appreciate your kindness and thought of me at this time of the year.

Our mutual friend Pete Finney, sent me the 3¢ 1857 cover and gave me permission to write you regarding it. I gave him what information that I had on this cover, both pro and con, and did not advise him to purchase it or to turn it down. Pete wrote me that you were very positive that the cover is genuine and that you considered it in the class of Old Stamps Not Recognized. It has been stated that the straight-line marking reads as follows:

"REPEAL STAMP."

To be quite frank, I don't know whether it reads that way or not. I never saw anything like this marking before and further, the term sounds silly to me. In other words, why should it be called a "Repeal Stamp?" If the 3¢ 1857 was no longer good for postage, its use was surely not repealing anything that I know of. I wonder if you have ever heard of another use of this marking. The postmark on the face appears to be New Orleans and the one on the back appears to have "FREE." One more important point is that there is absolutely no evidence of year use. In selling a cover such as this at a pretty stiff price, don't you think that it would be safer to give the buyer some convincing evidence that the cover is perfectly O.K. and is actually as represented? For example, have you any idea as to where the cover originated? Can you explain the manuscript

#2. Mr. John A. Fox, Dec. 19, 1949.

marking "Ship 6"? At the left end is a notation indicating that the cover was from a Mrs. Gen'l Stevens and that it was from Vera Cruz. I believe that I could give you some very valuable information on all the above questions but I judge that you already have the answers. One more point - Suppose for example that this cover was actually used in Dec. 1865 or Dec. 1866, would you still consider that this was a valuable cover? Do you think that the attempted use say in 1866 would make the cover valuable? I ask these questions for the simple reason that I have some circumstantial evidence that the cover might have been used in 1866. May I suggest that you see if you can locate the addressee in the 1865 or 1866 directory, or the firm the letter was addressed in care of. No doubt you are aware of the fact that the rating of Ship 6 would have quite a bearing in determining the period of use. John I don't want you to think I am a bit presumptuous in discussing this cover in the manner above. I know full well that you would be the last person in the world to sell a cover at a stiff price to a good client unless it was exactly as represented.

When you get a little time write me regarding the above.

With best wishes for a very Merry Xmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year, I am

Cordially yours,

STAMPS
COVERS
ACCESSORIES

JOHN A. FOX

116 NASSAU STREET
NEW YORK 7, N. Y.

BEEKMAN 3-5443

RETAIL
WHOLESALE
AUCTIONS

December 30, 1949

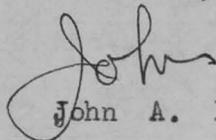
Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.
Ft. Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Stan:

Thank you for your letter of recent date. The cover postmarked as I thought "REPEAL STAMP" was purchased by me in the Harmer Rooke sale of recent date. Upon close examination I have made a very interesting discovery. I now believe that this mark is not "REPEAL STAMP" but "ILLEGAL STAMP". I am sending the cover to you for further check and your opinion.

With kind personal regards,

Sincerely,



John A. Fox

JAF:ff

Jan. 7, 1950

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

Dear John:

Herewith the 3¢ 1857 cover. Regardless as to whether the S.L. marking is genuine or not I agree with you that it was surely made to read "ILLEGAL STAMP." It is too bad that there is no year use on the cover.

I don't know whether this cover is good or bad, and I doubt if anyone could certify one way or the other. But suppose we give the cover the benefit of a doubt and see if we can reconstruct a use that might fit.

The memo at left end indicates that it originated at Vera Cruz, was from a "Mrs. Gen'l Stevens" and was brought into New Orleans as a "Ship Letter" and forwarded to New York as such with 6¢ due on delivery. This rate of 6¢ did not ~~have to~~ apply prior to July 1, 1863 - but it did on and after that date. (Prior to July 1, 1863 it was - regular postage (3¢) plus 2¢ ship fee or 5¢ - After July 1, 1863 - it was double the regular postage (2 x 3¢))

Thus if this cover is genuine, I assume the rate of "Ship 6" is also genuine, and indicating a use after July 1, 1863.

Because of the "Vera Cruz" and the "Mrs. Gen'l Stevens," it is possible that this letter was from the wife of the Confederate Gen'l Walter Husted Stevens. Perhaps this could be established if we knew the maiden name of Mrs. Stevens. The monogram on the back appears to be

E.F.C.S.

Why not call up the New York Public Library and find out if those are the initials of Mrs. Gen'l Walter Husted Stevens?

Brig. General ^{Stevens} was Chief Engineer in Lee's Army, and prior to the War he had been in the Federal Army and stationed at New Orleans and Galveston. After the close of the war Gen'l Stevens obtained employment as Chief Engineer on the Mexican Railway between Vera Cruz and Mexico City with headquarters at Vera Cruz. Thus we have a Vera Cruz connection. An English Company was building the railroad and during the Maximilian revolution, Gen'l Stevens remained in sole control and preserved the property thru that difficult period. Gen'l Stevens died at Vera Cruz in 1867.

It seems rather improbable that Mrs. Stevens sent this

#2. Mr. John A. Fox, Jan. 7, 1950

letter from Vera Cruz prior to the close of the Civil War - so the use could have been - if genuine - in December 1865 or December 1866 - probably not in 1867 as the General was not alive in December 1867. If my analysis is correct, then this is not a Civil War cover - "OLD STAMPS NOT RECOGNIZED," but an attempted use of a 3¢ 1857 after the War.

I am sending Mr. Eben Finney a copy of this letter, as he might wish to reconsider purchasing the cover now that you were able to decipher that straight-line marking.

Later

Since writing the above I made a very thorough search of my files and found that I have a record of this straight-line marking "ILLEGAL USE" I refer to a cover loaned to me by Dr. A. J. Hertz. No doubt you are familiar with it and it was the Hertz cover that enabled you to decipher the "Stevens cover." But if not, here is a memo of the Hertz cover - A U.S. 3¢ 1853 stamped envelope postmarked "CANTON KY" - month and day not legible - no year indicated. Addressed to Messrs Carroll Hay & Co New Orleans La. In black, handstamped "DUE 3" and also "ILLEGAL STAMP" - same size as on the Stevens cover.

I will be much interested in your comments on the above.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

Copy to
E. B. FINNEY

Jan. 6, 1950

Mr. Eben D. Finney,
10 West 25th St.,
Baltimore 18, Md.

Dear Pete:

John Fox returned the 3¢ 1857 cover to me and requested me to take another look at it. John suggested that instead of that marking reading "REPEAL STAMP" that it actually was meant to read, "ILLEGAL STAMP". Regardless of who or when this was applied I guess there is no doubt that this is the wording that was intended. I don't know why I was so dumb as to overlook the word illegal. I don't know whether this cover is genuine and I don't believe that anybody could certify that it is even if a similar use from New Orleans was discovered. It seems rather odd that if a handstamp such as this was used at a large post office such as New Orleans that only one cover would be known. In addition, the fact that it came from the Noodhan collection is bad.

Under the circumstances it might be possible that you might want to change your mind and acquire the cover from John, so when I return it I will request him to give you first call on it.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

STAMPS
COVERS
ACCESSORIES

JOHN A. FOX

116 NASSAU STREET
NEW YORK 7, N. Y.

BEEKMAN 3-5443

January 10, 1950

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

Dear Stan:

I am enclosing both covers for you to check, the one marked "Illegal Stamp" which I sold to Dr. A. J. Hertz some time ago and the Stevens cover. Is it not possible that this illegal stamp marking was in use in New Orleans. The Carroll Hay cover is addressed to New Orleans and the marking could have been placed on the envelope upon receipt. Would appreciate having your opinion regarding these.

I wish to thank you for the appointment to the Publicity Committee of the Confederate Stamp Alliance and assure you that I will do my best to help Colonel Finney.

With kind personal regards,

Sincerely,



JOHN A. FOX

JAF:ff

Jan. 13, 1950.

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

Dear John:

Herewith the two covers as per yours of the 10th. The answer in reply to your query is this - Yes, this handstamp could have been applied at New Orleans provided the marking is genuine.

It is my understanding that the Stevens cover came from the Needham collection and I have a suspicion that the entire came from the same source. It does seem rather odd that the only two known covers with this marking (to me) came(?) from Needham.

Consider the entire. This envelope was not demontitized until August 1861 and at that time the New Orleans Post Office was in Confederate hands - (June 1, 1861 - May 1, 1862). Thus this use was after May 1, 1862. The question arises - When was this cover used, and how did it get "thru the lines" from Western Kentucky to New Orleans after May 1, 1862? Well the answer could be via New York and sea to N.O.

I don't recall at what period the firm of Buchanan Carroll & Co. was changed to Carroll Hay & Co. but that data might have some bearing on the entire.

John, it would be nice if we could locate other covers with this "Illegal Stamp" marking. I sure would like to see any that you could turn up.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

JOHN A. FOX

116 NASSAU STREET

NEW YORK 7, N. Y.

BEEKMAN 3-5443

STAMPS
COVERS
ACCESSORIES

RETAIL
WHOLESALE
AUCTIONS

January 16, 1950

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

Dear Stan:

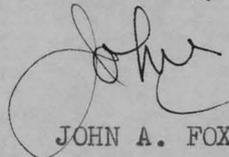
Thank you for your letter of January 13th. I appreciate your interest in the two covers with the markings "ILLEGAL STAMP".

As to your statement regarding the Stevens cover, you are correct. It did come from the Needham collection. However, the other cover absolutely did not come from the Needham collection. I do not know who gave you that information but they are definitely in error. In view of this and knowing that it is definitely from a different source I believe there is a great possibility that they are genuine.

I will definitely contact you should I strike any others of a similar nature. Again many thanks for your kindness.

With kind personal regards,

Sincerely,



JOHN A. FOX

JAF:ff

Jan. 19, 1950.

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

Dear John:

Re - yours of the 16th. I think that we should make quite an effort to establish whether or not that marking, "ILLEGAL STAMP" is genuine or not. It does seem strange that if this was used at New Orleans P.O., that only two covers bearing it are known. I state only "two" because it seems to be unknown to Confederate collectors. Shenfield never heard of it and the only one that MacBride has ever seen was your Stevens cover. Of course, its extreme scarcity could be accounted for by the fact that the New Orleans P.O. was in Confederate hands from June 1, 1861 until May 1, 1862. I advised Larry Shenfield to contact you with a request to see the cover. If you have no objection I will insert a notice in the C.S.A. Bulletin requesting any owner of a cover with this marking to submit same to me. Let me know.

I haven't a doubt that Perry is more than correct about Needham. In fact, my guess is that Perry is aware of only a small part of the fake stuff that came out of Needham's hands. For many years I thought Perry was just plain nuts and that all his charges against Henry were pipe-dreams. Now I know better. I knew Henry Needham quite well and was entertained in his home on numerous occasions. I even discussed the Perry stuff with him but he assured me that Perry was a mental case and that he didn't want to add to Perry's troubles by refuting his charges.

Consider the Hertz cover. A faker could make such an item with the greatest of ease - no year use - just the New Orleans address. If the handstamp was applied at New Orleans one wonders why the office of origin recognized the obsolete entire. Well, I suppose a faker could laugh that off with the explanation - small county P.O., etc.

Yes John, I think we should see if we can't dig up some more evidence on these two covers. I am still quite skeptical.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

Mr Genl. Stevens

Via City 15 Dec.
Recd. 16 Jan'y

Ship 6

Wm Putson Mearns
Mearns, Brothers
New York City

Politeness of
Genl. Geo. H. Sweet.

DEC 15 1851



"REPEAL STAMP"

ERWIN AGNEW FIERO
140 VALLEY ROAD
ARDMORE, PENNA.

Dec. 4, 1949

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

In accordance with the request in your postcard of 12/1, I am glad to enclose for photog'raphing the block of pine - 5 cts #28 - together with the single which I believe belonged to it.

As per my conversation with you over the phone, I am agreeable to your offering this block to one collector client - customer if you wish with commission of ten per cent to you if sold. I should like to receive not less than fifteen hundred net and, of course, if you feel that the item can command a higher price, so much the better for us both.

Sincerely,

Pat Fiero

May I have a print from your negative?

Dec. 8, 1949.

Mr. Erwin A. Fiero,
140 Valley Road,
Ardmore, Pa.

Dear Mr. Fiero:

Perhaps I was mistaken but it was my impression that the block had not been offered, but I was today informed that it was offered to a number of people at the recent Philatelic Congress and it was intimated that it could be had for \$1,200.00.

The above came to the ears of my prospective buyer so I called the whole thing off and informed him that I was returning the block to you and if he wished he could take it up direct with you.

I made a photograph of the block and single and I will send you a print later.

Herewith I am returning both.

Sincerely yours,

Enclosed herewith
5/ 1857 - Type I - Red Brown - block of 9 plus single.

P.S.--Since writing the above I am in receipt of your telegram.

S.B.A.

ERWIN AGNEW FIERO
140 VALLEY ROAD
ARDMORE, PENNA.

Dec. 12, 1949.

Dear Mr. ~~Webb~~brook:

your letter returning the stamps
was received this morning.

Please bear with me through
this lengthy explanation:

Before sending the block to you, I had
been very careful neither to show it around
nor even to show it.

When I made up my mind to sell it
and had decided upon a price which I
thought fair, I selected Donald M. Steele,
a well-known collector here, as one likely
to be most interested. I knew him but
slightly. However, he stands well locally
in both philately and business so I called
on him at his office and told him that
no one else had seen the block. He
examined it very carefully, pointing out
to me all of its faults, said that he
liked it and asked how much I
wanted for it. I told him 1750.-
and he said "I'll take it." Then
he asked if I could wait a couple
months for payment as he was about
to buy an air invert. I said
there was no rush to be paid, left the
block against receipt and received
his "thanks" as I left.

When I got home that night, I wrote (and mailed next day) a confirmation of the sale to him at 1750.- Settlement 60 days.

Ten days later, the block came back by letter saying: "I have had the enclosed stamps checked very carefully with four people who (whom) I consider authorities on 19th century U.S. stamps, and the average value that they put on this particular piece was 500.- If you are interested in selling it at this price, etc."

Among others, he had shown it to Ward. (Steele is Ward's current meal ticket)

So, with the sale queered and then killed and with the (as I thought) local market ruined, I hastened to think of a likely out-of-towner. Hence my call to you about Mr. Newbury and my letter agreeing to have you offer it "to one collector." I didn't want it shopped around.

I am sorry that my having been the victim of a broken gentleman's agreement and of poor business ethics has involved you. It was not in my mind to risk injuring you in any way. On the contrary, I hoped that I would do you some good.

Sincerely,
E. A. Fero

P.S. I had expected to keep all this to myself but developments seem to warrant its disclosure.

E. A. F.

Dec. 15, 1949.

Mr. E. A. Fiero,
140 Valley Road,
Ardmore, Pa.

Dear Mr. Fiero:

I am in receipt of yours of the 22th and I have an idea that one of your dealer friends down in Philadelphia run the block down to such an extent that the sale was killed. Naturally when I saw the block I realized that much was desired in the way of condition but regardless of this fact the block is indeed a rarity and as far as I am aware its size is unique. When it comes to unique items one cannot be over-particular as to condition. The famous British Guiana is nothing beautiful to look at but every time it changes hands it seems to sell at a higher figure. If one wants to collect condition alone they shouldn't collect 19th Century but should specialize in 20th.

For your own information, my prospect was not Mr. Newbury as Mr. Newbury has been ill for over a year and confind to his room for the past eight to ten months, during which time he has not given any attention to philately. It was very embarrassing when my friend informed me that the block had been offered to him subject to sale at \$1,200. He did not disclose who was offering it at Columbus but told me that I could get the information from Anthony Russo if I desired. Inasmuch as I told you that I would only offer the block to one person I had no choice but to return it to you. I have little doubt but what you know who is to blame in Philadelphia but of course that is gll guess-work on my part.

I sincerely thank you for giving me the correct story and ~~that~~ it will be different the next time.

With the Compliments of the Season, I am

Sincerely yours,

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

December 9, 1949

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

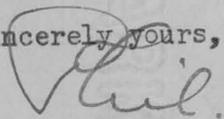
Dear Stan:

I am very glad to have your note regarding the 5¢ 1857 red brown block and am surprised the information got down as far as Cincinnati. The block, unfortunately, is not as in nice condition as one would like. It is a block of eight with an extra stamp to the right of the upper right corner of the block and none of the stamps have gum. The left vertical pair is cut into and right in the middle of the three right stamps is a big spot, possibly a time stain which I do not believe can be removed without injuring the stamps. If it belonged to me I would remove the left pair and the right pair of three, leaving a very nice ungummed block of four.

The owner wants \$1,750 which would be all right if it could be broken into two nice blocks but from my way of figuring there is only one block and it is certainly not worth what he is asking. Something could be salvaged out of the other five stamps but two are badly off center and two of the other three have stains.

Thanks greatly for your postal which is appreciated. Continue to keep me posted on Philadelphia and New York affairs for honestly it is the truth something can happen in New York and I hear about it from you before I do direct--for instance, Souren's death. With kind personal regards,

Sincerely yours,



PHILIP H. WARD, JR.

PHW, JR:rmw

11/21/49

sorry that I missed that 69 cover.

For the public record:

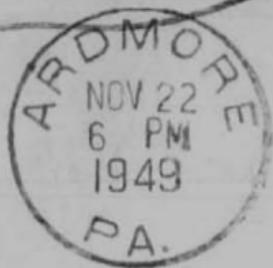
Among "Fiero's Find" was -

5 + 1857 - Red Brown Type I Blk. of nine
(5 over 4)

and a single believed to be the 10th.

ERWIN A. FIERO
140 VALLEY RD.
ALDERSGROVE, PA.

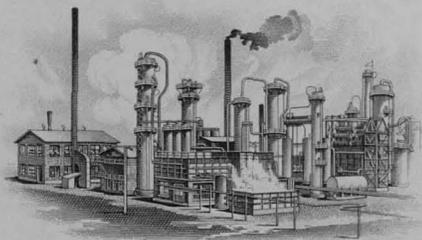
E. A. (Pat) Fiero



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

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

PHONE 125



CRYSTAL Refining Company OF CARSON CITY
INCORPORATED

CRYSTAL PETROLEUM PRODUCTS

CARSON CITY, MICHIGAN

419 Union Street,
Ionia, Michigan.
December 21, 1949.

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

Dear Stan:

Is the enclosed cover OK?

I discussed it at some length with Harold Stark at his office in Detroit Monday, and since he had no reference material at hand, he was somewhat handicapped in forming a definite opinion and suggested I send the cover to you, Stan, and said he would appreciate it if you would send him copy of your reply on this cover, as he thought it was an interesting cover. Harold did not like the looks of the cover for the following reasons that I noted:

- (a) Never saw the particular black grid used in conjunction with the red N.Y. marking, and doesn't look like a genuine N.Y. grid canc.
- (b) Long time in transit - Feb 19 - Mar 5 - 14 days.
- (c) If went on a French boat, would have French marking with SAME date as the N.Y. canc - viz - FEB 19, and this is lacking. Stark says that from memory, he is of the opinion that no French packet boats operated out of New York in 1861 - thinks the earliest was around 1865 but you can check this. If the cover went by American packet direct to Havre, the marking in the red N.Y. postmark should be a "6" instead of a "24".
- (d) Cover is endorsed by sender "Stm Canada." If it went direct from New York to Havre, on what boat did it go? The registry of this Steamer Canada might be the key to the genuineness of faking of this cover. If the Steamer Canada was a British boat, the cover would not carry the red hexagon shaped French postmark reading "Havre Mars 5 61" but would have instead the more common marking "Brit Calais" with date etc, indicating it went via England and across the Channel.

I have studied carefully pages 321-346 of your Vol. II on these French rates, but am as puzzled as ever over this cover. Stark says it is either a most unusual and desirable cover, or an outright fake, and he is inclined to the latter opinion, but when I ask him "why" he is not sure why. It just looks fishy, he says.

If genuine and OK, Stan, please endorse same on the back of the cover for me. If not OK, tell me why, and send Harold copy of your letter. Am enclosing five to cover postage etc.

Regards!

Sincerely,

J. G. Fleckenstein.

Lot 471
L&S
Nov 8 1946

JGF/k

Enc: REG: \$5.00

Dec. 23, 1949.

Mr. J. G. Fleckenstein,
419 Union St.,
Ionia, Mich.

Dear Jack:

Re - the 30¢ 1860 cover as per yours of the 21st and which I am returning herewith. This cover was Lot #471 in the Laurence and Stryker sale of Nov. 8, 1946. I cannot lay hands on that catalogue at present so I don't know what it sold for. However, I have a photo of it in my files and I am sending Harold a print, just to refresh his memory, and a copy of this letter. At the time of the sale I evidently did not question this cover because I fail to find any memo to that effect.

Here are some points: (1) The letter went prepaid and of course it could have been a stampless because prepayment by stamps was not required on foreign mail at that period. (2) New York did use a ringless grid such as this on foreign mail in 1860 and 1861. It was generally applied in red but occasionally in black. No doubt Harold has examples in both red and black. I have tracings which I laid over the strike on your cover and they match. (3) The French marking is not a "French Packet" but a French Receiving at Havre. It reads, "Et Unis Serv. Br. - 5 Mars 61 - Havre" - translated meant, "From the United States by British Packet to Havre."

The "Canada" was a British Packet of the Cunard Line. The rate was surely 30¢ and the credit meant that we retained 2 x 3¢ which was correct. In other words, we credited 24¢ to the French, and they in turn kept 6¢ and 18¢ went to the British. It took 13 to 14 days in 1860-1861 for an Atlantic crossing.

It is just barely possible that this might have been a prepaid stampless cover and that someone attached a 30¢ 1860 with a New York foreign mail grid but I doubt this suggestion very much. Fakers are not quite that clever. They don't know that three things have to match like they do on this cover:

- (1) French Receiving showing "SERV BR"
 - (2) 24¢ credit
 - (3) 30¢ rate
- and (4) a New York foreign mail grid.

After the above I feel confident that Harold will agree with me 100%. To sum up, I believe the cover is genuine.

With Christmas Greetings-

Cordially 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 5-6380

EVANSVILLE • 11 • INDIANA

**PHILATELIC
LINES**

SOUTHWESTERN INDIANA
POSTAL HISTORY

GERMAN POSTAL HISTORY

FRENCH REVOLUTIONARY
& NAPOLEONIC COVERS

STEAMBOAT COVERS

CAPE TRIANGLES

BRAZIL • HAWAII

May 15, 1949

Dear Stan:

In Laurence & Stryker's sale of May 12, 13, 14, lot 324 reads as follows: "V. F. Stampless, from New York to Albany 1816, Steam Boat in manuscript, also large B in red (One of the earliest markings indicating Steamboat use)."

For your files, here is a photograph of the cover thus described. I verified the date; 1816 is right. That really does make it a very early steamboat letter. The words "Steam Boat" are probably a directive mark applied by the sender, indicating his intention to mail it at the wharf, not at the post office. Right? But the big B is a new one to me. I'll be horribly busy for the next three weeks, but wanted to get this off right away.

Yours sincerely,

Henry

May 23, 1949.

Mr. Henry A. Meyer,
516 Read St.,
Evansville 11, Ind.

Dear Henry:

I expect you are quite busy with the end of the school term but perhaps you can give this a moment's thought.

Re - the cover of which you sent me a photo. First - regardless of the "Steamboat" what made you think that this passed thru the U. S. Mail? If it did not then it is not a philatelic item. It bears no postmark and I know of no 7¢ rate in April 1816. The graduated rates in that particular month were:

8¢
10¢
12½¢
17¢
20¢
25¢

← Correct

My guess is that this was simply a private message conveyed outside of the mail and if so then the "B" has no philatelic significance.

Your opinion will be appreciated.

With best wishes -

Cordially 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 5-6380

EVANSVILLE • 11 • INDIANA

**PHILATELIC
LINES**

SOUTHWESTERN INDIANA
POSTAL HISTORY
GERMAN POSTAL HISTORY
FRENCH REVOLUTIONARY
& NAPOLEONIC COVERS
STEAMBOAT COVERS
CAPE TRIANGLES
BRAZIL • HAWAII

June 6, 1949

Dear Stan:

This is my first chance to write since receiving your letter of May 23. My school year end Friday, June 3, and I am using today to clear up some correspondence and to clear off a work table heaped high with letters, Indiana covers, etc.

Tomorrow I must get to work mounting the Hawaii collection. I am to speak to the C.P.S. on June 16 on Hawaii, and wish to show some pages in the Balopticon. During all the years when I was working on the book, I never had a chance to mount the collection. From now until June 15 is not too long to get it all mounted, since many pages will not work out as I want them the first time. Even so, this will be a "temporary" or "study" mounting, something like the way the Admiral does it, and not in ornamental finished style. The way things stand now, I will never again get to do up a collection in display style; it takes more time than I can give to it.

Regarding the cover from the Laurence & Stryker sale, with big manuscript "B," you are definitely right when you point out that there was no 7c rate in April of 1816. Neither was there a 5c rate, with 5c plus 2c ship fee making 7c. Funny I did not question that. Then what does the "7" mean? We often run into cases where the receiver of letters numbered them according to some system of his own, but not so big as this "7."

I am not so much impressed with the other point you make, that the cover bears no postmark. I wonder if I have told you that I am working on a compilation of all obtainable types of the handstamps STEAM, STEAMBOAT, and WAY, the point being to identify the towns at which each type was used. I have accumulated a collection of several hundred such covers, and my observation is that about half the covers bear no townmark, when the city of address is the same as the city at which the letter may logically be supposed to have left the boat and gone into the post office. Apparently the postal officials considered it unimportant to apply a townmark when the letter went no farther by mail. That would cover the case of a letter which presumably left the boat at Albany and was addressed to Albany. That leaves us wondering only about the big "7." We will probably never have a solution of that problem.

Messrs. Huber and Wagner, down at New Orleans, writing the work "The Great Mail," have developed a theory that although a 1c WAY fee was charged in 1851-52, no 2c STEAM fee was charged at that period, and that STEAM was an origin mark only, not an additional 2c rate mark. Can we quote them any authority in PL&R or in any printed contemporary list of rates to prove them wrong? Granted that the captain of a non-contract boat got a 2c STEAM fee, have we any evidence that it was charged and collected? As ever, *Henry*

Miss D. P. Townsend
Merchants
Steam Boat Albany

N. Y. April 13. 1816

Oct. 31, 1949.

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

Dear Win:

I am returning herewith #2015 and #2040 as per yours of the 26th.

Regarding the 90¢. For my files I would like to have more data to include on the "trial target cancel" - I had quite a bit of correspondence with Gene Klein and also some correspondence with Clarence Brazer on this subject back in 1936. I have a memo that it was also applied in blue but I was never able to verify the report. If you can get any data on the subject for me, I will appreciate the favor.

I do not think that expert committees should pass on such items as the enclosed 30¢ 1869 cover. Most anything in the world could have happened to this.

Lack of time prevented me from making a more thorough examination of the defects of the 90¢ but I didn't think that you were especially interested in my remarks along that line as you have the equipment in the Luff room for that purpose.

Have you heard what disposal is to be made of Souren's "Laboratory" equipment? I heard it intimated that it was to be left to the C.C. or the P.F. - It is a nice lot, believe me.

I will greatly appreciate the favor if you can obtain those back numbers of the C.C. Philatelist.

I heard that Perry was contemplating republishing his 1925-1926, 10¢ 1847 plating article with new and finer illustrations. What a grand thing that would be!!! It should be done and it should be published in book form. Have you any information on this?

With regards -

Cordially yours,

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

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SAUL NEWBURY
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October 26, 1949

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

We enclose item #2015 which you may have seen before but nevertheless I think you ought to see it and would appreciate your opinion on this.

A In regard to your postcard concerning the Collectors Club Philatelist with the Perry plates, I regret to say that there were only a few copies available and they were picked up immediately. I will, however, keep you in mind and if I should be able to locate one, will try and get it for you.

I also enclose #2040 on which the Committee would also appreciate your opinion.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,

THE PHILATELIC FOUNDATION

Winthrop S. Boggs
Winthrop S. Boggs
Director

wsb/l
encls.

From the desk of

1/5/50

MR. VAN DYK MAC BRIDE

To

SBA

Please make quick
photo of this one
I send me, & Larry,
prints soon as possible
Like Lot #619 Peter's Sale
cover, it is from one
of the Hilton Head P. of W.
I am writing them up
for the A.P.

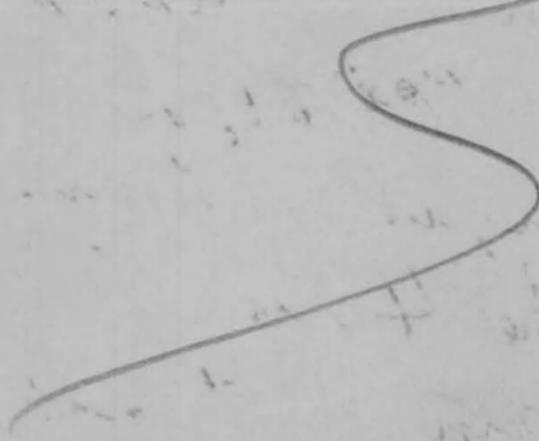
Not sending you the original
letter enclosed as it is in faint
pencil, - but here's a transcript
of it, which please return with
over

cover. Owner of the cover
is Col. H. L. Morris, of Atlanta
Ga., - not me, so don't
put my name on it when
you photo.

Thank!

Hastily

Maie



Dear Stan -

L. L. Shenfield
% Doherty, Clifford & Shenfield
Empire State Bldg.,
350 Fifth Avenue
NEW YORK (1) N. Y.

Dec
28
1949

As I suspected when I bought
Lot # 619 - Peters Sale - it was a
Hilton Head cover - as Mac so
heartily proves after I found that
Forney was captured at Gettysburg.
but showed up at Appomattox as
a Brig. Gen'l.

Thought perhaps you would like to
read the enclosed - please return to me
for my records.

Dear Stan - As I suspected when
I bought Lot # 619 - Peters Sale -
it was a "HILTON Head" Cover as
Mac so proves after I found
that FORNEY was captured at
Gettysburg but showed up at
Appomattox as a BRIG. Gen'l.
Thought perhaps you would like
to read the enclosed - please
return to me for my records

Doherty, Clifford & Shenfield, Inc.

ADVERTISING

350 FIFTH AVENUE • Empire State Building • NEW YORK 1, N. Y.

December twenty-eighth

19

49

Dear Stan:

Thanks for sending me the enclosed which I return, together with some notes written while I was at home ill. I also send some notes on a Hilton Head cover, together with Mac's analysis. He is going to write an article on it.

On Bd Prison Ship
Off Hilton Head S C
July 7, 1864

Mrs. McKay
University Va

My dear Madam

On the 24th June I parted with your son Capt C D McKay at Ft Delaware and at his request write to say that he was well and tolerably comfortable at the time. He had received kind assistance from friends those I recollect are Mrs. Col Brewerton (formerly Miss Courtney) one gentleman at Pottsville Pa and one at Cincinnati O. He sends nothing. I regret I could not remain with him. Have been sent here with 49 other officers of the C. S. Army as hostages for the safety of certain Federal Officers held by Maj. Gen. Sam Jones in Charleston S.C. supposed to be in danger. My kind regards to Miss Kate Whitehead.

Very truly & Respectfully
T. E. Upshaw
Maj. 13th Va Cov.
Prisoner of War

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Off Hilton Head S C
July 7, 1864

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University Va

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T. E. Upshaw
Maj. 13th Va Cov.
Prisoner of War

Re: Prisoner-of-War cover
from Col. W.H.Forney

On June 27, 1864 Major General Halleck, Chief of Staff (U.S.) ordered Major General J.G.Foster in charge Department of the South at Hilton Head (Port Royal) S.C. to take a number of "Rebel generals and field officers" equal to those U.S. officers being held in Charleston, S.C., and to treat them "in precisely the same manner as the enemy treats ours, that is to be placed in a position where they will be most exposed to the fire of the Rebels".

On June 23, 1864, Major E. N. Strong, A.D.C. was ordered by the Office of the Commissary of Prisoners to conduct to Major General Foster at Hilton Head, S.C. certain prisoners then being held at Fort Delaware. They included Major Generals Edward Johnson and Franklin Gardner, C.S.A., three Brig. Generals, fifteen Colonels; thirty Lieut. Colonels, and one Major. These included Col. W.H.Forney of Alabama.

They left Fort Delaware a few days later and were duly delivered to Major General Foster at Hilton Head, S.C. It was his intention to place them on Union-held Morris Island in Charleston Harbor under first from the Confederate batteries in Charleston. However, as a result of correspondence with General Sam Jones, C.S.A., commanding in Charleston, in which letters from the Union officers held there were received stating that they were being well treated and were not unnecessarily exposed to fire, an exchange of prisoners rank for rank was arranged on July 29, 1864, and these Confederate prisoners were never placed under fire.

The actual exchange took place early in August, and the success of this manouver then induced the Confederate authorities to bring some 600 other Union officer prisoners of war to Charleston and attempt to arrange a further exchange for Confederate prisoners. However, General Grant refused to permit further such exchanges, and on August 20th 600 more prisoners were sent from Fort Delaware and actually put in a stockade on Morris Island. Subsequently they were sent to Fort Pulaski, Ga. and to Hilton Head, - the survivors to be finally freed at end of the War early in 1865.

From all this it appears that Col. Forney's letter was written from Hilton Head, S.C. probably late in July, was taken by boat to Charleston, S. C. under Flag of Truce, and was mailed from there on Aug. 2, 1864, about the time his exchange had been arranged for and was effected.

V.D.MacBride

Dec. 15, 1949.

(Data obtained chiefly from "The Immortal Six Hundred" by J. Ogden Murray, Winchester, Va., 1905).

Re Lot #619 - Fuller-Peters Sale, Nov. 29/30/1949.
Cover belongs to L.L.Shenfield.

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from Col. W.H.Forney

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Cover belongs to L.L.Shenfield.

Flag of



27. 2. 64.

From

W. H. Forney.
Col. 10th Reg.



88 619

Miss Forney
Cypress

Mrs Eliza Forney

July 25, 1864.

hh.

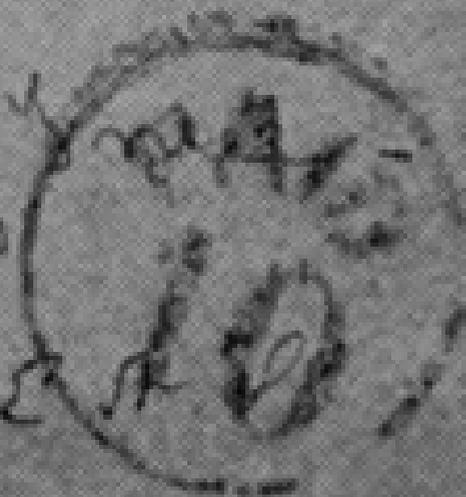
Jacksonville

Alabama

Lot
619
Peters
Sale

Play of

22



619

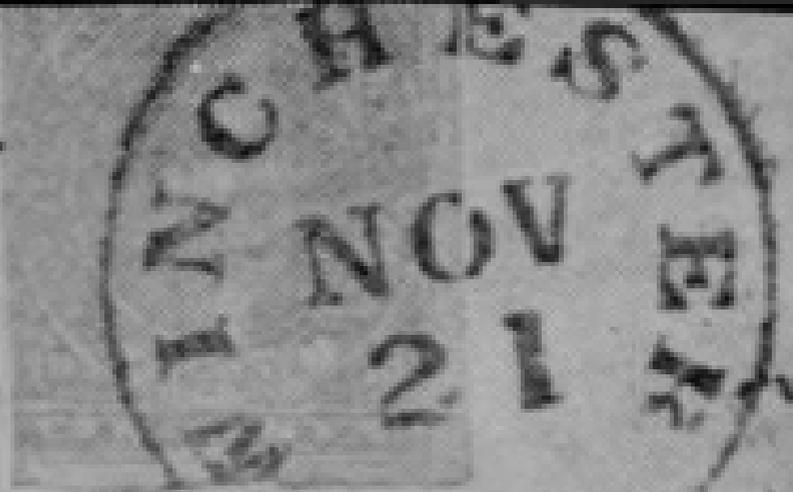
From

W. H. Farnley
Col. 10th Regt.





641



Miss Coroline G. Harvey

619 Charleston, S. C. Aug. 2 and handstamped "Paid 10" and marked in
mms "Flag of Truce Exd. E. A. S." sent by Col. W. H. Forney to
Miss Eliza Forney, Jacksonville, Ala. Why Flag of Truce or Exam-
ined? Certainly neither of these places was "occupied territory".
Figure this out. — PHOTO

	Elmira Prisoner's Letter handstamp, type I	35.00
607	Johnsons Island, O. Prisoner's Letter—Examined by J. Berry, type I, Postmarked Sandusky, O. May 10, 1865 on 3c rose	15.00
608	Fort Delaware, Del.—cancelled "Delaware City, Del. Jul. 27", forwarded to Charles, S. C. where the (Paid) "10" of this city was	

By MacBride. 1/7-50 - Property of H. L. MORRIS Atlanta Geo
Sent 2 Prints To Mac And 1 To Shentfield -
See Copy of Letter in S. O. # 18 P. 12

DOY L. MCCALL
MONROEVILLE, ALABAMA

Dec. 18 1949

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook;

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter offering me a letter written from Rome, Italy by a former U. S. Senator and Vice President, for which I thank you.

I presume this letter was written by William R. King, whom was the only Alabamian that would fit the above. I would like to have the letter, but as the greater part of the value of it is in the stamps, and as I have long since given up the idea of collecting stamps, I will pass it up.

I like to study ours and the Confederate postal history, and still try to collect some Confederates, To me, the stamp business is a racket, and it didn't take me long to find out that I couldn't buck it.

I might add that in 1912 we rented an apartment from a Mrs. Williams, this was about three miles from Selma, Ala. Mrs. Williams was a neice of William R. King, and I remember she had a great many letters that were written by King. At the time she was very old, and has been dead for agood many years. William R. King is buried at Selma. He was a native of Dallas County, and resided on the Alabama river, about fifteen miles below Selma, at King's Landing. Back during Steamboat days, all planters on the rivers of any consequence had their own landings. I have a list of landings on the Alabama river from Mobile to Wetumpka a distance of 437 miles by river, and there were 326 boat landings.

I recently ran into a few Confederate covers at Lower Peach Tree, Ala. One of these is a Patriotic Cover like Tye E*A-1, page 188 of Dietz's hand-book with an un-listed slogan as follows:

"Run, Yank, Or Die!"

Unfortunately some one had tried to remove the stamp, but did not get it all. If you would care to see it, I will send it to you. I also have a rather interesting letter written in 1880 from South America from one of the ex-Confederates that left the South after the civil war. There were quite a number of them from this section that went there.

Wishing for youSand yours a very Merry Christmas, and a prosperous 1950, I am

Sincerely

D. L. McCall
D. L. McCall.

Dec. 24, 1949.

Mr. Doy L. McCall,
Monroeville, Ala.

Dear Mr. McCall:

Thanks very much for your interesting letter of the 18th. Yes, you are quite right, the letter is from Wm. R. King, and naturally its value is in the stamps.

I was sorry to learn that you had come to the conclusion that the stamp business was a racket. There is no question but what we have a lot of crooks in our midst but don't you think it would be strange if it was otherwise? After all, one can, if he chooses associate with decent and honorable people and have no contact with the scum.

Yes, I would like to see the Patriotic you mentioned and also the letter from the South American Confed. Would you mind if I published it in "Stamps?"

With Holiday Greetings -

Cordially yours,

DOY L. MCCALL
MONROEVILLE, ALABAMA

John Dec. 3 1950

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook;

I am glad to pass the the two items along to you, The "Run, Yank, or Die!" cover for your inspection, and the ex-Confederate Soldier's letter for you to see. You have my permission to use this in an article you will have published in "Stamps", and may publish it in its entirety.

I got the Patriotic cover from a member of the McLauchlin family, and it came from Lower Peachtree. In the past a member of the family collected stamps, and the several covers I saw had been treated pretty much the same as this one. I didn't find out wheter or not her collection is still over there.

I got the Marion, Miss. cover several years ago at Tompinksville, Alabama from the old Simmons home. At the time I wasn't very much interested in covers, but was still doing a little stamp collecting, and was told about this old correspondence by a friend who was an "Antiquer," There was an enormous amount of old correspondence and at least 500 old newspapers in this attic. When I was there I picked up a small carton and filled it full of old letters. When I got them home I looked them over, and noticed at least a half dozen envelopes made of wallpaper, also I noticed I had brought along his diary while he was a prisoner of war in Wisconsin and Camp Douglas, but there were no prisoner of war covers, and later he was released through an exchange of prisoners. Unfortunately after I got interested in collecting Confederate covers, before I had an opportunity to get back to this place, it was all destroyed. Mr. Burnett, the owner, advised me at the time I got what I did that he was going to destroy this old correspondence, that his mother had been after him for 10 years to clean it out. There were three rooms in this attic, and they were about 2 feet deep in old clothes and other junk, and mixed in were the old letters. There were some 15 to 20 large boxes and old trunks, which his boys had emptied all this stuff looking for money. I have often wondered what I missed by not getting all of it. I t probably had a letter in it when I got it, but my boy would bring his friends around any they would read these old letters, and left the letters out of covers. I feel reasonably sure it is a bona fide Confederate cover.

I would like to have your opinion of it and the other three hand stamped paid. The last three I got from a dealer in Atlanta, Ga.

Sincerely
D. L. McCall.

D. L. McCall.

The following is a copy of the letter enclosed in the envelope from
the Ex-Confed in Brazil

Estacao de Santa Barbara
Dec 29th 1880

Dear Capt.

I wrote you last month and afterwards received your last. On Sunday the 26th the race came off. Our colt got the second place and second purse. He failed to win the race through the fault of the rider, whose judgement was worse than mine though he had 20 yrs experience in riding. My horse was only beaten 1/2 length, he started behind the 1st horse in which case he should have run for the inside track when entering the straight, which was my order and which he did not do. My colt had more bottom and equal speed and runs better up here, (the quarter is up hill) better than the winner of race - he could have taken the track & even had he failed the other would have been done up by the time he entered the home stretch. 4 horses ran. Our scrub horse & one other was left standing at the Post through villainy or mismanagement of the Starters while the 2 which had no chance ran by themselves. We would have won easily & we lost on days transaction only \$80.00 & I was so disgusted that I sold my colt for \$1,250.00 as it is too much trouble & expense & interruption to other business to train race horses. Had we let Reece ride we would have won the race & \$500.00 & could have sold for \$2,000.00, but let it rip, it will make no difference 100 yrs hence.

Our crop is looking fine both corn & cotton, no worms as yet. We will sell this year rather lower than last. 31.00 pr hundred in the seed. Say to Frank & ? that Dick Bryan died 60 miles from home, very suddenly, with an apoplectic attack, he had been in very bad health for 12 months. My plow business is still good with fair prospects of being better though the price of exchange takes off some of the profit being 15 per cent below your currency on ? blades we make 400 pr cent, ? less than 100 pr cent, & on ? Plows, 60 pr cent, ? 100 pr cent, on double and single trees only 20 pr cent. So you see ? only ? large sales to do a big paying business. When I get on a good lot I shall travel around as drummer & hope in next 12 months to sell \$10,000.00 worth.

I think slavery will go up in this country in from 3 to 6 years, perhaps sooner, as far as I am personally concerned the sooner the better as those who know how to use their own hands would have all underhold. I feel sure in this case that I could make 100 ? de Reis, or \$50,000.00 in 3 years. We could plant 50 acres in cane by our own labor, hire hands to help make it up - this province only makes 1/5 of its sugar & rum, none would come from abroad & consequently sugar would be to 16 to 18 cents a lb. & rum to \$200.00 a pipe. 5 pipes can be made to the acre. Some people think slavery will not last 2 years: if so you and Boys could come out & make your fortune very "suddenly" (as old Uncle Buck would say). But I still hanker after the old Country & in spite of the election of Garfield I don't think the country is yet ruined but still I think the best thing for you all in the South to do is to join the Rogues & get part of the spoils. The success of the Democratic party is far in the future, but even should they succeed it would only be a change of thieves. I would like very much to pay you all a visit but can neither spare the time nor money. If I had money enough to buy a fine stallion & 1/2 doz. mares I should be sure to give you a call but the

expense on these animals would be at least \$500.00 a head to this station & consequently I couldn't buy what I should want.

I have bought 1 whole & 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ tickets in the Ypiranga (?) lottery - Capital \$500,000.00, 2nd \$200,000.00 etc. Should I draw even 5 or 10 thousand I could stand a trip to the States. This drawing is to take place 30 inst., but I rather think will be deferred as the tickets have all been bought on speculation & to favor them the drawing will be deferred 1 month.

Jane's hair is getting pretty white & I am 53, but yet a boy physically. I shall try to hold out to 100 yrs. Col. Norris, family are all well & so is ours. We will have our crop laid by in 10 or 12 days but will have plenty to do, such as cleaning pasture, repairing fence, making cotton house & building anything in shape of a ?? can tell you is an expensive & slow business.

I shall write you again next month. All join me in love to you and yours. Sincerely yours

Geo G. Mathews

The Following is a copy of the letter
enclosed in the envelope from the
E-Camp in Brazil

Estacao de Santa Barbara
Dec 29th 1880

Dear Capt.

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afterwards received your last. On
Sunday the 26th the race came
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case he should have run for the
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straight, which was my order and which
he did not do. My colt had more
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even had he failed the other
would have been done up by the time
he entered the home stretch. 4 horses
ran. Our Scrub horse & one other was
left standing at the Post through
neglect or mismanagement of the (over)

Starters while the 2 which had no chance
ran by themselves. They would have
won easily & we lost an days
transaction and \$80⁰⁰ & I was so
disgusted that I sold my calf for
\$1250⁰⁰ as it is too much trouble
& expense & interruption to other
business to train race horses. Had
~~we~~ we let Reece ride we would
have won the race & \$500⁰⁰ &
could have sold for \$2000⁰⁰, but
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difference 100 yrs hence.

Our crop is looking fine both
corn & cotton, no worms as yet.
We will sell this year rather lower
than last. 31⁰⁰ pr hundred in
the seed. Say to Frank & ? that
Dick Bryan died 60 miles from home,
very suddenly, with an apoplectic
attack, he had been in very bad
health for 12 months. My PLOW
business is still good with fair prospects
of being better though the price of
exchange takes off some of the profit
being 15 per cent below your currency
on ? blades we make 400 pr cent,
? less than 100 pr cent, & on ? Plows,
60 pr cent, ? 100 pr cent, an double

and single trees only 20 ~~to~~ per cent. So
you see? only? large sales to do
a big paying business. ~~When~~ When
I get an a good job I shall travel
around as drummer & hope in ~~next~~
next 12 months to sell \$10000⁰⁰ worth.

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to help make it up - this province
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I still hanker after the old country &
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over

I don't think the country is yet ruined but still I think the best thing for you all in the South to do is to join the Rogues & get part of the spoils. The success of the Democratic party is far in the future, but even should they succeed it would only be a change of thieves. I would like very much to pay you all a visit but can neither spare the time nor money. If I had money enough to buy a fine stallion & 1/2 doz mares I should be sure to give you a call but the expense on these animals would be at least \$400⁰⁰ a head to this station & consequently I couldn't buy what I should want.

I have bought 1 whale & 2 1/2 Tickets in the YPIRANGA (?) Lottery - Capital \$500,000⁰⁰; 2nd \$200,000⁰⁰ etc. Should I draw even 5 or 10 thousand I could stand a trip to the States. This drawing is to take place 30 inst, but I rather think will be deferred as the tickets have all been bought on speculation & to favor them the drawing will be deferred 1 month.

Jane's hair is getting pretty white & I am 53, but yet a boy.

physically. I shall try to hold out to
~~to~~ 100 yrs. Col. Norris, family are all
well & so is ours. We will have
our crop laid by in 10 or 12 days
but will have plenty to do, such as
cleaning pasture, repairing fence,
making cotton house & building
anything in shape of a ?? can tell
you is an expensive & slow business.

I shall write you again next
month. All join me in love to you
and yours. Sincerely yours
Geo G. Matthews

March 4, 1950.

Mr. E. T. Merrill,
1214 McConnell Ave.,
Portsmouth, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Merrill:

Herewith the seven covers as per yours of the 2nd. I regret to state that five of these are fraudulent. The other two "stampless" are O.K., but no doubt valueless.

The stamp "Helena" is a counterfeit and so is the Texas postmark. The St. Louis stamp is a counterfeit, also the marking on the cover. The small HONOUR stamp is a counterfeit, also the Charleston postmark. The red Camden postmark is a fake and also the stamp on this cover. This also applies to the red New York cover.

I would appreciate any information that you can give me regarding the source from which you obtained these fakes.

There is no fee for this examination.

Sincerely yours,

E. D. WARSHAUER
901 HILLSIDE BLVD.
Carrcroft,
WILMINGTON 281, DELAWARE

Dec. 28, 1949

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Many thanks for the information contained in your letter of the 21st re registration. I have made a little study of foreign rates during the 1869-1870 period and in regard to the 4¢ rate to France I believe in 1870 arrangements were made by which letters could be forwarded to France via England upon prepayment of only 4¢ the balance to be collected by the British post office. If this is not correct will you please advise me. I would like to obtain one of these covers and if you do locate any please send along on approval. Incidentally I believe I "discovered" a rate of 19¢ to Sweden which I have never seen published. In Nov. 1869 thru 1870 the postage on letters which were sent via Germany direct was 14¢ if prepaid; if not prepaid it was 16¢. Such letters which were sent in the mails for Germany via England for forwarding onward to Sweden were subject to prepayment of 19¢ or collection from

address of 21¢ when not prepaid.
Perhaps you already know of this
rate but it was new to me.

With best wishes for the new year

Sincerely yours,

E. S. Warshaw

Dec. 31, 1949.

Mr. E. D. Warshauer,
901 Hillside Blvd.,
Carrcroft,
Wilmington, Delaware.

Dear Mr. Warshauer:

Yours of the 28th received.

You are quite right about the 4¢ rate to France via England but perhaps some additional data regarding it might add a little to its interest. Our postal treaty with France expired as of Dec. 31, 1869, hence arrangements were made to forward mail to England under the U.S.-British treaty and to France under the Anglo-French treaty. On Jan. 1, 1870, the new treaty with Britain went into effect - the rate being fixed at 6¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce. This was arrived at as follows: 2¢ U.S. 2¢ British - 2¢ sea - transmission of mail at the expense of the forward country, with each country retaining all postages collected. Thus the "4¢ rate" was not actually a rate to France but a payment to the British Frontier, in fact, a part payment.

The letter was laid down in England the same as if it had originated there and was not prepaid to French destination. Incidentally, it is well to remember that French rates were fixed at $\frac{1}{2}$ oz., whereas the British and U.S. were on the $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. basis.

Re - rates to Sweden in the late seventies. I do not seem to be familiar with a 19¢ rate. According to my data, the rates were as of May 1, 1868,

To Sweden - Via the North German Union,
 "Direct" - prepaid 16¢
 unpaid 18¢
 " " - Closed Mail, Via England
 Prepaid 21¢
 Unpaid 23¢

These same rates were still in effect on January 1, 1870. Later in 1870 - exact time? - the above prepaid rates were cut to 11¢ (direct) and 14¢ (via England).

Sincerely yours,

E. D. WARSHAUER
901 HILLSIDE BLVD.
Carrcroft,
WILMINGTON 281, DELAWARE

Jan. 3, 1950

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Thank you very much for the additional data contained in your letter of Dec. 31st concerning the 4¢ rate to France. I am pleased to add it to my files.

Perhaps you would care to record the 19¢ rate to Sweden since you do not have it. I am enclosing the original letter* from the P.O. D. and might mention my research was based on a cover I owned at that time. The cover carried a rate of 38¢ - double weight, and no one could explain it until I wrote the P.O. D.

Incidentally I am working on that 4¢ domestic rate and hope to give you my explanation very shortly.

Sincerely yours,

* Pls. return when finished.

E. D. Warshawer

Jan. 9, 1950.

Mr. E. D. Warshauer,
901 Hillside Blvd.,
Carrcroft,
Wilmington 281, Delaware.

Dear Mr. Warshauer:

Thanks very much for a look at the letter from Mr. Grayson, which I am returning herewith. I have made a copy of it for my files.

I note that he states: "In November 1869 through 1870" the rates were,

	<u>Paid</u>	<u>Unpaid</u>
To Sweden Direct to Germany	14¢	16¢
To Sweden Via England to Germany	19¢	21¢

I have before me an official booklet issued by the New York Post Office for their "Letter Carriers" and dated January 1870. The rates as of Jan. 1, 1870 for Sweden are given as follows:

	<u>Paid</u>	<u>Unpaid</u>
"British Mail direct"	16¢	18¢
Closed Mail via England	21¢	23¢

The Annual Report of the Postmaster General, dated November 15, 1870, gives some interesting figures on foreign rates but the figures evidently refer only to prepaid mail. For example -

	<u>Dec. 31</u>	<u>Apr. 1</u>	<u>Nov. 1</u>
<u>To Sweden</u>	<u>1867</u>	<u>1869</u>	<u>1870</u>
German Mail Direct	21	16	11
German Mail Via England	34	21	14

There must be some explanation for the discrepancy in the above figures.

Searching thru my files I ran across a memo from a letter that I received from Elliott Perry in August 1942. He stated that he had just sold a cover that went to Sweden "about 1870" and which had a 30¢ 1867, a pair of 3¢ 1869 and a single 2¢ 1869. This was doubtless the cover referred to in your letter.

With kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

Jan. 19, 1950.

Mr. L.L. Shenfield,
350 Fifth Ave.,
New York 1, N.Y.

Dear Larry:

I am sending a copy of this letter to Mac and any help either of you can give me will be appreciated.

Please note the enclosed photo print. The original is supposed to be a genuine cover from New Orleans to Paris - in July 1862 (via New York). There are three 5¢ 1857 - Type II - one of which is an orange brown (marked on photo as "O.B."). Note the New Orleans postmark. If this cover is genuine, why were the old stamps recognized at New Orleans? Also at the Foreign Division of the New York Post Office? The targets on the stamps are a very dark blackish blue, or blue black - or indigo. The postmark is also in a very "dark bluish black" - but in my opinion, different from the ink of the targets.

The question that bothers me is not whether this cover is genuine or not but rather - what about that New Orleans postmark? Is it genuine? It is easily identified by the "S" of Orleans as it is cockeyed. Will both of you look thru any covers that you have with the double circle postmark and see if you have a cover showing this particular stamper with the cockeyed "S." And further - I do not recall that I ever saw a use of a dark blue or blackish blue ink for a postmark at New Orleans. All targets and postmarks have been in black, according to my recollection.

Both of you may have covers with a double circle New Orleans used in 1861 and early in 1862. Will you please see if you can find one like this one? Thanks in advance.

Yours etc.,

Telephone : GERARD 4900

BANKERS:
BARCLAYS BANK LTD, PICCADILLY CIRCUS,
LONDON, W. 1.



GOVERNING DIRECTOR:
O. BACHER, D. PHIL.
MEMBER AMERICAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY,
BRITISH PHILATELIC ASSN. AND OTHERS.

The WESTMINSTER STAMP CO.

LIMITED

THE ONLY SPECIALISTS IN U.S.A. STAMPS IN GREAT BRITAIN.

Regency House

1-4, WARWICK STREET, (PICCADILLY CIRCUS)

LONDON, W. 1.

Dec. 11, 1949.

My dear Mr. Ashbrook,

It is a long time since you heard from me last. There has been, so far, nothing special to report to you.

Business is very brisk again since devaluation and prices for all sorts of US are on the upcurve in England, as it was to be expected as a result of the currency cut.

May I have the great pleasure of seeing you here next year on the occasion of our London Exhibition? I could imagine that the journey to Europe would not only make a nice change for you and Mrs. Ashbrook, but might also turn out as of considerable philatelic interest to you. If I can be of any assistance to you in this respect, please let me know. We have, of course, a booth at the show and I expect the one week, during which it will be open, to develop into the usual pandemonium.

As you have such marvellous records, I wonder whether you can tell me if there are more copies known of 11P (1851, 3c. original plate proof) than the 6 copies ex Crawford collection that Dr. Chase mentions in his 3 c. book on page 210 (1942 edition). I would be grateful for any information, you may be kind enough to give me.

I take the opportunity of wishing you a happy Christmas and New Year and am looking forward to hearing from you.

Kindest regards

cordially yours

O. Bacher
Otto Bacher.

Dec. 17, 1949.

Dr. Carroll Chase,
R.F.D. 1,
Milford, N.H.

Dear Doc:

Re - 3¢ 1851 original plate proofs of the
3¢ 1851 - Dr. O.Bacher inquired in a letter received
today if more than six copies were now known? These,
Ex-Crawford, mentioned in your 1942 book, page 210.

Perhaps he wrote you the same inquiry but if
not I would like to accommodate him.

Regards -

Yours etc.,

Dec. 17, 1949.

Dr. Carroll Chase,
R.F.D. 1,
Milford, N.H.

Dear Doc:

Re - 3¢ 1851 original plate proofs of the
3¢ 1851 - Dr. O. Bacher inquired in a letter received
today if more than six copies were now known? These,
Ex-Crawford, mentioned in your 1942 book, page 210.

Perhaps he wrote you the same inquiry but if
not I would like to accommodate him.

Regards -

Yours etc.,

Miller

Dec 21 49

Dear Doc:

I never saw or heard of any 3¢ 1851 plate proof
except the six mentioned above. Except that a full
page of 100 from Plate 4 turned up in England a few
years ago & was bought by an American collector. This is
the full page mentioned by Simpson in Words article in
Miller's Weekly Stamp News for Dec 19 49. This sheet is
a proof & not an issued stamp. As far as I
know the page of Plate 4 is still intact. I've not
heard from Bacher.

Best

as ever

C.O.

Dec. 28, 1949.

Dr. O. Bacher,
% The Westminster Stamp Co. Ltd.,
Regency House,
1-4 Warwick St.,
London W - 1, England.

Dear Doctor:

It was nice to hear from you after such a lapse. I believe in your last letter you mentioned you were going on an auto trip on the Continent. I trust you had a most enjoyable vacation.

I would like very much to attend the London Exhibition next spring but it is out of the question because of a heart condition that does not improve and even short trips out of town don't do me any good. International philatelic exhibitions are rather strenuous affairs. It would be a great pleasure to attend and to have my first sight of England.

I wrote Chasell Chase regarding plate proofs of the 3¢ 1851 and here was his reply:

"I never saw or heard of any 3¢ 1851 plate proof except the six mentioned above. Except that a full pane of 100 from Plate 4 turned up in England a few years ago and was bought by an American collector. This is the full pane mentioned by Simpson in Ward's article in Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News for Dec. 19 '49. This sheet is a proof and not an issued stamp. As far as I know the pane of Plate 4 is still intact."

It is barely possible that Clarence Brazer may know of some items that are unknown to Chase so I suggest you write him.

Chase mentioned Mekeel's of Dec. 19th. I note that I have the issues of the 12th and 26th, but no copy of the 19th, so I presume it was lost in the tremendous volume of Christmas Mail. Perhaps you receive Mekeel's.

With every good wish for a healthful and prosperous
New Year -

Cordially yours,

Telephone : GERARD 4900

BANKERS:
BARCLAYS BANK LTD, PICCADILLY CIRCUS,
LONDON, W.1.



GOVERNING DIRECTOR:
O. BACHER, D. PHIL.
MEMBER AMERICAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY,
BRITISH PHILATELIC ASSN. AND OTHERS.

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LIMITED

THE ONLY SPECIALISTS IN U.S.A. STAMPS IN GREAT BRITAIN.

Via Air.

Regency House
1-4, WARWICK STREET, (PICCADILLY CIRCUS)
LONDON, W.1.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

Jan. 4, 1950.

From your kind letter I note with great regret that, for health reasons, you will not come to see us next May. I had lunch with Sir Nicholas to-day and he is disappointed, too, as he would have loved to meet you personally at last.

Thank you for the trouble you have taken to find out more in the proof matter. You gave me some valuable information and I wonder whether Dr. Chase would be good enough to divulge the name of the present owner of the pane of 100 or get his permission for me to contact him. No commercial transactions whatever are intended. You will understand why I want to contact him when I tell you that my latest find consists of a block of 60, marginal and with imprint, from the right pane of plate 4, paper, make-up, brush-cancel etc. exactly like the pane sold at Harmer, Rooke's on Nov. 5, 1938. Photo goes to you via second class airmail to-day. Keep it, please, for your records, but I reserve the right to write on the matter.

A Mr. Marsden wrote an article on a similar pane of 96, but the left pane from plate 4 and with the plate number in reverse, in the London Philatelist of August 1945. That full pane ~~less~~ four is in the possession of Mr. Bemrose jr., Derby, grandson of the owner of the firm of the same name where the sheet or sheets were sent to in 1855(?) for perforation trials. Dr. Chase does not know of that pane and you might tell him, if you like. The story is told in Brazer's Essay Proof Journal No. 9. Mr. Brazer whom I contacted meanwhile informs me that he possesses one of these proofs, namely 93 R4 which is, of course, missing from my block as you will see.

I may add that Harmer Rooke's do not seem willing to disclose the name of the 1938 buyer and before I ask them to get in touch with him, the direct way over you and Dr. Chase whom I thank very much for his kind help seems to be so much better.

I send Dr. Brazer a photo, too, but ask him not to write on the matter and not to publish it in any way.

I would like you to look at the enclosed cover. The very late use of the 5c stamps, among them a lovely orange-brown,

P-T-0

of course not, because of the red - New York" WB.
puzzles me. Is this perhaps a use during the Confederate occupation of New Orleans or was the place on July 24 just liberated by the Northern armies? On the face of it the cover looks quite all right to me and I gave very little for it to a man who had it for 30 years in his collection and sold me many other things.

As you have all the records you are the only person to verify the details and, backed up by your tremendous knowledge in these things, may be in a position to "O.K." the, if genuine, charming and rare little piece. I collect such out-of-the-way items and it would have a fine place in my private collection.

If you like to make a photo for yourself and, should it be O.K., write on it - you are welcome to both.

Very many thanks and I trust, I do not trouble you too much.

Please return via B.P.A., 3 Berners Street, London, W.1. as usual, by registered airmail.

Best regards

cordially yours

W.B.

P.S. Find similar target cancels, contemporary, used by the Confederacy, in Dietz' book. Frankly, the targets on this cover put me off a little. It may be lack of experience only or, perhaps, I have grown too suspicious regarding covers.

WB.

P.P.S. Have not received my Mekeel's of Dec. 19 yet. What a coincidence that Ward should have written just now on that matter!

WB.

Good. If Mr. Reply says for this return. Thanks!

WB.

Jan. 9, 1950.

Dr. O. Bacher,
% The Westminster Stamp Co.,
Regency House,
1-4 Warwick St.,
London W.I., England.

My dear Dr. Bacher:

Your registered air letter of the 4th with the 5¢ cover arrived this date, together with the photograph. Many thanks for the latter. It is indeed most interesting and I am forwarding it to Dr. Chase today. I know that he will be delighted to see it. I assure you that we will both refrain from using it in any way and will keep this discovery of yours confidential. I will make special mention of this point in my letter to the Doctor.

Offhand, it is my guess that Chase does not know the name of the owner of the pane of 100 - Left No. 4, but I will find out one way or the other. The Harmer Rooke sale was in London on Nov. 5, 1938. I have the illustration somewhere in my files. I have a copy of Brazer's Essay-Proof Journal No. 9 containing his review of the article in the London Philatelist.

Regarding the 5¢ 1857 cover. The New Orleans Post Office was operated by the Confederate Government from June 1, 1861 to May 1, 1862, on the latter date, the city fell to the Federal Forces. I do not see how this cover could be good because I cannot imagine a recognition at New Orleans of the old 1857-1860 stamps as late as July 1862. But even had the New Orleans P.O. recognized the old demonetized stamps I don't believe that the Foreign Division of the New York Post Office would have permitted them to go thru. Thruout the North the old stamps were invalid for postage during August and September of 1861, but were still good at some Pacific Coast offices until late in December 1861. The ink of the killers and the postmark are in a dark indigo, but I don't seem to recall that New Orleans ever used a dark indigo blue ink. However, I am conscious of the fact that they might have because there was plenty of trouble in New Orleans in the summer of 1862. Old Ben Butler was in complete charge and how the people literally detested him.

I have only glanced at the cover but I want to give it a very careful examination, because if it is good, (and I can hardly imagine how it could be), it is really some cover.

When the Federals took over in May 1862 they may have put into use new stampers and inks. Target cancels were used at New Orleans in 1864, so they may have been used earlier.

More later -

Cordially yours,

Jan. 9, 1950.

Dr. Carroll Chase,
R. F. D. 1,
Milford, N.H.

Dear Doc:

I am enclosing herewith from Dr. Bacher for your look and comment:

- (1) Photograph
- (2) Letter from Bacher
- (3) The cover mentioned.

What do you think of this cover? It can't possibly be good in my opinion, but I have only made a casual examination.

Envelope here for return. I am writing Bacher that I am showing the photo to you but that we will not show it or mention it to anyone.

I have a copy of the Proof Journal No. 9 and suppose that you have one but if not I'll loan mine to you - in case.

I'll make a photo of this photo if you wish.

Have you any idea who owns the left pane - Ex-Harmer Rooke sale of 1938?

With regards -

Yours etc.,

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

Jan 12 '50

Dear Stan :-

Thanks for your 7 of the 9⁵ with the interesting envelopes
which I return herewith. The block is nice but you made a note
of it or don't need a photo. I wonder how many more Beurre has.
I know who bought the complete pair but unfortunately gave out at
liberty to tell the main news. I think it is ^{probably} the market as
long as the man lives.

As for the cover. Of course it is bad. I don't care if
it cost nothing at all and that it has been in somebody's collection
for 50 years. Why should New Orleans use a blue target & a ~~black~~ ^{dark blue}
town or stamps that had been obsolete for some time? The damned
thing looks queer. New York would not have passed these stamps in
1862 even if New Orleans had done so. all bet the N.O. post office
got a supply of stamps from Washington when it reopened after capture -
and these stamps would not have been of the 1857 issue.

You just looked at the thing under the ultra-violet rays. The
target looks painted rather than hand-stamped. And, under the rays,
the target (the part that hits the cover) bleaches the paper around it while
the town postmark does not. One thing more - look at the orange-
brown stamp by transmitted light from the back. I think it shows a
thin spot on the forehead.

Please let me know what you think about it.

This reminds me of a bisected 10⁰⁰ 1847 " that has been in
my grandfather's correspondence since 1850 or 1851 " - so the man said
who sent it to me. The only trouble with it was that it was half
of an 1875 Government Counterfeit !

Best

As ever,

CC.

Perhaps the targets were hit by a false
handstamp (some of it looks pretty good) than then touched up by hand. Look at
the gum on the top stamp. It looks to me like paste.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

Feb. 8, 1950.

I have to thank you for your letters of Jan. 9, 17 and 26 and all the trouble you took to help me.

Starting with your last letter I searched in the meantime high and low to find a cover with the marking ENGLAND UEBER BREMEN. I was unable to unearth a single one. I remain on the look-out, particularly when I go to Germany again next August, and here where such covers should turn up.

Regarding the 5 c. 1857 cover, careful tests of the inks of the New Orleans postmark and the targets on the stamps have convinced me that it is the same. The cover still puzzles me. I assume you are right as usual. Surprising is, however, that the target ink resisted any attempt of removal by rubbing with a moist handkerchief. If painted in, it would "bleed" considerably. Further, a Grenz-Ray test proved that a mineral ink was used. Broadly speaking such inks were in use till about 1890 and then gradually and speedily replaced by aniline inks which were very much cheaper. Indigo blue was perhaps one of the last minerals to be replaced, but this would not have been later than at the beginning of this Century. So either the faking was done at a very early date, when covers were not yet collected and we must therefore fail to see the incentive for doing so, or the person who did the job about 30 years ago got hold of mineral indigo blue ~~by some~~ ~~means~~ and applied it in this case, anticipating unwittingly that only mineral would be right and aniline would be found out one day, in this atomic age when we have Grenz Rays at our disposal. That anybody was left with mineral indigo blue about 30 to 40 years ago, seems to me a most unlikely chance in a case like this.

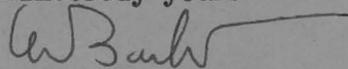
All this is, from a legal point a view, circumstantial evidence only. Though we may not be able to ascertain or, at least, to suggest, how, why and when the faking was done, the fact ~~may~~ remains that the cover ~~is phony~~ ~~is~~ ~~not~~ ~~intend~~ ~~to~~ ~~contradict~~ ~~you~~ may be phony. I do not intend to contradict you, I merely place before you some most peculiar features of the case that make one wonder whether the luck is here, as so often, with our opponents, the backroom boys, or with us who spend much of ~~their~~ time and work in running them down to earth. You hinted at the problem by expecting two distinguished expert bodies of probably pronouncing the cover as genuine. It wouldn't surprise me, if they would do so. I consider to submit it.

in his Journal

Mr. Brazer wants to write an article on my 3c. proof block of 60 and congratulated me on the find. Later in his letter he suggests that I should write it. I am not keen on either. Incidentally he does not know the whereabouts of the left pane ex Harmer Rooke's, now in America. Bemrose's assure me that they had only the one sheet on which Marsden wrote. Perkins Bacon ~~may~~ have had more. Including mine we have therefore on record three large units of 100, 96 and 60 respectively, the first two from the left pane, the third from the right pane; also about a dozen singles which all seem to come from the right pane, I surmise from "my" pane.

Best regards

very sincerely yours


O. Bacher.

BY AIR MAIL

AIR LETTER

IF ANYTHING IS EN-
CLOSED THIS LETTER
WILL BE SENT BY
ORDINARY MAIL.



Henry B. Ashbrook, Esq.
33 N. Ft. Thomas Avenue,
Fort Thomas
KY.
U.S.A.

First fold here

Second fold here

To open cut here

Sender's name and address :-

THE WESTMINSTER STAMP CO. LTD.,
REGENCY HOUSE, 1-4, WARWICK STREET,
LONDON, W.1. (off Regent Street)

To open cut here

Jan. 17, 1950.

Dr. Carroll Chase,
R. F. D. 1,
Milford, N.H.

Dear Doc:

Thanks for yours of the 12th with return of the photograph and the Bacher cover. I believe that the New York and French markings on the cover are genuine, but I am not so sure about the New Orleans. If it is genuine, then the cover was surely a prepaid stampless from New Orleans - if the New Orleans p.m. is a fake then the cover could have originated at New York as a prepaid stampless. The targets look to me like they were both handstamped and painted and the orange-brown single has a thin spot.

I don't seem to have any N.O. postmark of the 1861 period that is exactly like this, nor do I recall that N.O. used any such dark blue ink.

Thanks for your remarks on the 3¢ photo. I will convey them to Dr. Bacher.

What is your opinion of Bacher? He has always been on the square with me.

With best wishes -

Yours etc.,

Jan. 17, 1950.

Dr. O. Bacher,
% British Philatelic Association,
3 Berners Street,
London W.I. England.

Dear Doctor Bacher:

Herewith I am returning the U. S. cover contained in yours of Jan. 4th - (from New Orleans Jul 24 1862 - thru New York Aug. 2 - addressed to Paris France with three (3) U. S. 5¢ 1857 - Type II.)

I did not make a thorough examination of this cover, but it is my opinion that these three stamps did not originate on this cover, hence the three targets canceling the stamps are fraudulent. I don't seem to have any record of this particular New Orleans stamper - It is a different one from any examples that I have of the 1861-1862 period. Note the cockeyed "S" of Orleans.

I suggest that you make a careful test to determine whether the ink of the postmark is the same as that of the targets. If the New Orleans postmark is genuine, the letter could have been sent prepaid without stamps. I note the Orange Brown has a thin spot. I might add that the targets surely have every appearance of being painted rather than handstamped. The gum under the top stamp looks very queer.

If you submitted this to the Royal I believe that they would O.K. it. And further, the "Expert Committee" of the Philatelic Foundation would probably do the same. Of late, they have been authenticating fakes and condemning genuine covers. I would like very much to know what sort of an opinion they would actually render.

Regarding the 3¢ 1851 block from Plate 4 - Chase replied as follows:

"I know who bought the complete pane but unfortunately I am not at liberty to tell the man's name. I think it is probably off the market as long as the man lives."

I sent your letter to Chase and he surely noted your request that he have the owner contact you but he made no reference to your request in his reply. I do not feel that I can press the matter further. I surmise from the remarks by Chase that he believes that Bemrose had more than several sheets of two panes each.

With kindest regards - Cordially yours,

Doherty, Clifford & Shenfield, Inc.

ADVERTISING

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January twenty-sixth

19 50

Dear Stan:

Answering yours of the 19th -- so glad you got my message at the anniversary dinner. You deserved that message and a lot more. I think you know how I feel.

I have checked the print of the New Orleans cancel which you sent and the crooked S agrees with none of my cancels. I discovered that there were two versions of this cancel -- the one used in 1861 had a longer arc occupied by the letters N.O. -- the one used in 1862 had a shorter arc. The cancel on this cover seems to check with neither of them. For one thing, the inner circle is too large on this cover. I have no record whatsoever of a blue black or either a blue New Orleans used in 1862.

I have a cover June 13, 1862 North to South which is black. I have no record of ~~targets~~ used in 1862 in New Orleans. I notice also that in the cancel on this cover the letters like "e" and the strokes of the "n" do not seem to run to the center of the circle but each seems to be a little off line. Of course I haven't seen the cover but I sort of suspect this one. I think there are only two possibilities -- one because New Orleans was occupied the demonetized stamps were accepted and allowed to pass for foreign mail as per the Post Office circular of June 1861 which said that if fully paid mail was to be forwarded even from the South -- otherwise sent to the Dead Letter Office which of course would not obtain from occupied territory. Perhaps there were no 1861 stamps in New Orleans in June of 1862, but that's strange because of my cover above. or (2) That the cover is a fake in some way but as you say, we will leave that up to you.

Glad you enjoyed the Blackford book -- I will send you the Richland prison cover and a transcript of the Reagan letter tomorrow night. I understand now about unserifed APR in the cover. Thanks so much for the print and I am sending a check. Don't you think now that my Frameline is really April 21, 1863? It certainly is 21 and if it's an 1863 cancel that settles it. Caspary is away so I can't get his opinion on the 10¢ Charleston but will talk to Hall.

-2-

On the understanding that you won't make a bum out of the old man, I have written Dietz for a loan of a photo of the original Houston, Texas. with the Provisional over the fold.

Best regards,

Carry

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

Doherty, Clifford & Shenfield, Inc.

ADVERTISING

350 FIFTH AVENUE • Empire State Building • NEW YORK 1, N. Y.

February the second

19 50

Dear Stan:

Thanks so much for the print of the Mobile Post Office notice. I will call John Fox to have him send me the old stamps not recognized 1857 cover. I will try to examine it and let you know.

Re that 1857 fake cover from New Orleans, photo of which you said you sent me -- is it really a fake? Or does your last sentence mean that New Orleans did use blue in November of 1862?

Stan, what do you know of the Schenks Confederates? I notice they are going to be sold and although I never say them, I remember your mentioning his name very often in conversation. Did he have a lot of worthwhile things.

With best regards,

Carry

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



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February 10, 1950

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Thank you for your kind letter of February 6. I am afraid I did not make myself too clear in one of the sentences on page 41 concerning the Express Mail, but before going into a detailed discussion I will have to look up some of my notes which I have not had an opportunity to do.

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I did call on Mr. Wagner so as not to hold up the matter of the opinion that you requested on the photograph of the cover that you sent me. Unfortunately Mr. Wagner has sold his collection and I have no covers in mine on the period that you mention. However we are both agreed on the following:

1. That the New Orleans Post Office Department did use a target killer in 1862.
2. That the New Orleans Post Office used an indigo ink in 1862.

RESEARCH:

Edward L. Willard, Chairman
6 Leitzell Bldg., State College, Pa.

PUBLICITY:

Allan D. Parsons, Chairman
75 E. Wacker Drive, Chicago 1, Ills.

Departments

SALES:

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EXPERTIZING:

Warner Bates, Wardsboro, Vt.

Mr. Wagner has seen a number of covers with the blue target killer mostly on soldiers' mail originating at a Federal camp some miles below the city and which were mailed through the New Orleans Post Office in 1862. As far as the stamps are concerned, he points out that there is not much of a dissimilarity between the 1857 issue and #67, and that a green post office clerk might not have recognized the demonetized stamps.



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4841 Canal Street
New Orleans 19, La.

February 10, 1950

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook

Page 2.

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Like yourself, both Mr. Wagner and I feel that the stamps did not originate on the cover and that the targets are fakes. For my part, the targets look too thick and I don't like the position of the stamps. All the New Orleans targets I have seen have been thinner. There is also the fact that two of the stamps are brown and one of them orange-brown. If they were all of one kind, I would be more convinced that the cover as it now exists was genuine. Have you examined the stamps for washed out pen cancellations under the quartz lamp?

Both of us agree that the set up could be genuine and that perhaps we are just being too severe in our judgment. It is a tough one.

Please don't hesitate to criticize any part of "The Great Mail" that in your opinion doesn't coincide with the facts.

Thanking you, I am, with best wishes,

Cordially,

Leonard V. Huber

LVH:HH

Feb. 8, 1950.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

I have to thank you for your letters of Jan. 9, 17 and 26 and all the trouble you took to help me.

Starting with your last letter I searched in the meantime high and low to find a cover with the marking ENGLAND UEBER BREMEN. I was unable to unearth a single one. I remain on the look-out, particularly when I go to Germany again next August, and here where such covers should turn up.

Regarding the 5 c. 1857 cover, careful tests of the ink of the New Orleans postmark and the targets on the stamps have convinced me that it is the same. The cover still puzzles me. I assume you are right as usual. Surprising is, however, that the target ink resisted any attempt of removal by rubbing with a moist handkerchief. If painted in, it would "bleed" considerably. Further, a Grenz-Ray test proved that a mineral ink was used. Broadly speaking such inks were in use till about 1890 and then gradually and speedily replaced by aniline inks which were very much cheaper. Indigo blue was perhaps one of the last minerals to be replaced, but this would not have been later than at the beginning of this Century. So either the faking was done at a very early date, when covers were not yet collected and we must therefore fail to see the incentive for doing so, or the person who did the job about 30 years ago got hold of mineral indigo blue and applied it in this case, anticipating unwittingly that only mineral would be right and aniline would be found out one day, in this atomic age when we have Grenz Rays at our disposal. That anybody was left with mineral indigo blue about 30 to 40 years ago, seems to me a most unlikely chance in a case like this.

All this is, from a legal point a view, circumstantial evidence only. Though we may not be able to ascertain or, at least, to suggest, how, why and when the faking was done, the fact remains that the cover may be phony. I do not intend to contradict you, I merely place before you some most peculiar features of the case that make one wonder whether the luck is here, as so often, with our opponents, the backroom boys, or with us who spend much of our time and work in running them down to earth. You hinted at the problem by expecting two distinguished expert bodies of probably pronouncing the cover as genuine. It wouldn't surprise me, if they would do so, I consider to submit it.

Mr. Brazer wants to write an article in his Journal on my 3c. proof block of 60 and congratulated me on the find. Later in his letter he suggests that I should write it. I am not keen on either. Incidentally he does not know the whereabouts of the left pane ex Harmer Rooke's, now in America. Bemrose's assure me that they had only the one sheet on which Marsden wrote. Perkins Bacon's may have had more. Including mine we have therefore on record three large units of 100, 96 and 60 respectively, the first two from the left pane, the third from the right pane; also about a dozen singles which all seem to come from the right pane, I surmise from "my" pane.

Best regards

Very sincerely yours

(signed) O. Bacher.

Feb. 8, 1950.

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Best regards

Very sincerely yours

(signed) O. Bacher.

Feb. 16, 1950.

Dr. O. Bacher,
% The Westminster Stamp Co., Ltd,
Regency House,
1-4 Warwick St.,
London W.I. England.

Dear Doctor Bacher:

I was very much interested in yours of the 8th regarding the cover from New Orleans to Paris on July 24, 1862, and I have carefully noted your remarks.

There seems to be but one feature that indicates that the three stamps were actually used on this cover in the year 1862, viz., tests indicating that the ink of the postmark is the same as the ink of the three target cancels. Is this correct? Do you not think that a very careful fake artist would take the precaution to make the two inks match? I try to keep a very open mind whenever I examine any stamp or cover and endeavor to prove the truth rather than to prove any theory that I might consider the only solution.

I examined this cover very carefully under my quartz lamp and I got the impression that the targets had the appearance of some re-touching and that there was a slight difference in the dark blue ink of the targets and that of the postmark. Another point is the placement of the stamps on the cover. This unusual grouping suggested that the letter was a paid in cash stampless letter. There was no P.O.D. Regulation at that time that required postage stamps on foreign mail. But the feature that stands out above all others is this - It is inconceivable to me that this letter with invalid stamps would have passed the postal clerks, not only at the New Orleans office, but at the Foreign Division of the New York P.O.

It is true that occasionally we run across domestic letters with the old 3/4 stamps used from some small post offices in the middle sixties, but the invalidation of the old stamps was fresh in the minds of the postal clerks in 1862 and it does not seem reasonable to suppose that the New Orleans clerks would have passed this letter with the old stamps. New Orleans was occupied by the Federal Army on May 1, 1862. Surely the Confederate clerical force was replaced by men loyal to the Federal Government. If so, does it seem reasonable to suppose that the old invalidated stamps would have been recognized so soon after the occupation? You are doubtless familiar with the reason why the old stamps were invalidated. But even admitting that some careless clerk might have permitted this letter with invalidated stamps to get by unnoticed, I can hardly imagine that the clerks in the New York P.O. would have committed the same error, especially in view of the fact that the letter had its origin in a city which had been in the Confederacy less than 90 days previous.

Up to this writing I have not been able to locate a cover mailed from New Orleans in the summer of 1862 with a target cancel

#2. Dr. O. Bacher, Feb. 16, 1950.

in dark blue. A prominent student of postal markings informs me that it is his belief that New Orleans did use a dark blue target as early as 1862, but he thought the type used there was different from the type on your cover. He expressed the opinion that the genuine type had much thinner lines and was not so thick in appearance as the strikes tying the stamps to your cover.

Regarding your 3¢ 1851 proof block. I am very much in favor of an article on this entire subject, but rather than publish same in a publication of small circulation, I would like to see it published in "Stamps" which has the largest circulation of any U. S. philatelic publication. It is a subject that would be of wide interest as so many U. S. collectors collect the 3¢ 1851. If such an article was published in Brazer's E and P magazine it would reach a limited number of readers. Don't you think that you could spare the time to prepare a very fine article setting forth all the known facts? I haven't the slightest idea who owns the pane of 100 but I intend to try and find out. Chase must have some reason why he cannot divulge the owner's name - not even to me, and I think that I am his closest friend.

Thanks very much for any assistance that you can give me on that marking -

England
UEBER BREMEN

With kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

Feb. 16, 1950

Mr. Leonard V. Huber,
4841 Canal St.,
New Orleans (19) La.

Dear Mr. Huber:

Thanks very much for sending me the clipping with the review of the Hunter book. Up to this writing I have not received my copy though I ordered it several weeks ago.

I also wish to thank you for your comments on the cover with the 5¢ 1857 stamps from New Orleans in July 1862. This cover is owned by Dr. O. Bacher of the Westminster Stamp Co. of London, England. It seems that he had a scientific test (?) made of the blue inks of the targets and the postmark and I thought that you would be interested in a portion of a letter received from him this week which I am enclosing herewith.

In spite of his remarks I do not believe that the stamps were used originally on this cover, and if that is a fact, then the targets are fakes. This brings up an interesting point. Suppose for example, that Dr. Bacher's tests(?) are apparently true, and also that the targets are fakes, then this would indicate that some of the European fake artists are extremely clever (which they are) and are careful to make their fake inks match originals. I believe that this is entirely possible. It demonstrates what students such as myself are up against. I am sure that you can appreciate that fact.

Here is a cover and the question is -

Is it genuine?

I simply cannot imagine that it is.

No hurry about a reply to my letter of the 6th. The point is interesting - viz - What was the real reason that the Express Mail Service was abandoned in 1839? I had an idea that the new steamboat contract of 1839 - down the Ohio and Mississippi to New Orleans had much to do with the cut in the service.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

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

Feb 20 1910

Dear Stan :-
Thanks for your two letters of the 16th and
for the check in payment of the 3" 5's set of stamps.
I'm very much obliged for selling this for me.

I return herewith the items you sent.
If the rate is right (or I suppose it is) I see
absolutely nothing suspicious about that cover. I
do question the P.F. doesn't impress me - I
might say "as usual".

Regarding Badger's cover. If it is O.K.
it would have to mean that

1) someone found & used 2 different colors of 5[¢]
1867 stamps on which was then. I think it safe
to assume that he did not buy them at the N.O.
P.O. in 1862.

2) Both the N.O. & the N.Y. P.O.s must have passed
these ~~decolorized~~ stamps which seem almost
impossible - especially on a letter coming from
the South.

The fact that the four ~~postmarks~~^{postmarks} at the right end of the
cover ^{are good} ~~do not~~ ^{do not} ~~impress~~ ^{impress} me after the fact that it would be easy
enough to make a handstamp representing a target
(getting indigo printer's ink) & "cancelling" the stamps.
I think the possibility of the cover being genuine
as far as the 3 stamps are concerned is damned slim.

No chance for me to get to Cleveland next month -
will below goes here with the wind blowing & that
and!

But as ever

D.C.

U.S. Notes and Comments

By PHILIP H. WARD, JR.

In a recent column we discussed the coming celebration in honor of the 1, 3 and 12 cents issue of 1851. We mentioned several important collections of the 1c. In regards to the 3c Mr. Tracy W. Simpson, a member of the A.P.S. 3c 1851-57 unit, writes us as follows.

"Leo Shaughnessy has a marvelous lot of 3's. His reconstructed plates — the 2600 positions — are all practically with four margins on the individual specimens, or at least the full design and guide dot shows. As to covers showing postal uses, he has about everything one could wish. Also he has reconstructed plates well under way for the perforated varieties from plates 10 and 11 (with discontinuous inner lines) in their various states. His collection of specialties of No. 26 with continuous lines is also excellent. It has been some years since I've been down to see him, but if his mounting has been followed through as he indicated it to me at the time, he would have an outstanding showing at any exhibition. Even the showing of the complete reconstruction of the thirteen imperf. plates and states of plates is really outstanding, if one sees them exhibited — as I have seen them.

A. R. Rowell has a beautiful collection of 3's. He does not reconstruct plates but he develops his story from the historical angle — by use of photos and association material. His showing, when exhibited, is also outstanding, if I am any judge of those things.

Arthur S. Wardwell has just announced the completion of the recon-

struction of the 2600 positions of the imperf. plates. He collects only very fine copies, so it is probable that his showing is one of the best.

My own collection was good enough to take grand Prize at the APS annual exhibit in San Francisco in 1939, and it has since been considerably improved. The reconstruction of the imperf. plates shows about 95% in condition that shows the full outer line and guide dots. If any, or else there are two stamps from the same position that between them show the complete design. The perforated plates are shown mostly from the listed varieties and includes most of the known double transfers, flaws, and all of the listed recut triangles and recut inner lines. I am working on Plate 10 (e) right now, as a start on reconstruction. In addition to the completed plates, a superb duplicate is shown of each of the recognized plate varieties. The largest known used block on cover (of 12) and the second largest known used block not on cover (of 15) are included, as well as many good multiple pieces of the orange browns. I despair in getting the plate numbers. I have only 1, 2, 3, and 4. Shaughnessy has them all"

Mr Tracy also informs us that a full
(Continued on Page 444)

U. S. MINT SHEETS

	Per sheet	Per 10
907 2c U.N. (100)	2.25	22.00
908 1c Fr. (100)	1.15	11.25
935 3c Lincoln (100)	4.75	46.50
994 13c Harrison (100) ...	16.50	162.50

Above items may turn out to be "sleepers". Most mint sheet accumulators overlooked these small size stamps.

U. S. BLACK POSTAL NOTES

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TUNISIA, Children S.P.	(1) .31
VATICAN, UPU ahrs	(2)2.90
TURKEY, Red Cross	(2) .11

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2540 Hudson Blvd., Jersey City 4, N.J.

cialty and too, a general collection, however incomplete tends to keep one's philatelic interest alive.

With such a credo for a background I should like to outline certain possibilities for a general collection subject to the following limitations: (1) that I believe in the right of every collector to collect as he pleases; (2) that I have the right to set my own limits determined by my interests and the small size of my philatelic budget; (3) that anyone may get from the following remarks ideas for other procedures. There is no one way to approach the problem.

It should be clear from such an introduction that I do not contemplate a general collection to include all the stamps in the catalog. It should likewise be obvious that one can make a general collection and still omit certain groups of stamps. To form such a collection the eliminations are more properly based on types of stamps—locals, semi-postals, postage dues cancelled to order, and so on—rather than on geographical areas. Reducing the field on the basis of geography leaves one with a limited collection, perfectly good but not considered here.

We should remember that the distinction between so-called "major" and "minor" varieties is one thing in Scott, another in Gibbons, another in Zumbstein, etc. Such distinctions are of no significance to the collector who makes his own rules.

In general the following rules apply to my interests.

(1) I much prefer those stamps which can be considered to have been issued to meet legitimate postal needs. This is indeed a thorny question in which I do not propose to get deeply embroiled. My own criterion for determining which stamps fall into such a category is this: when I find a given stamp unused or cancelled to order I assume that it didn't meet a genuine postal need. Notice that this does not rule out unused stamps except in cases where they seem never to have been generally used. This does automatically eliminate most of the miniature sheets, contemporary Russia's endless commemoratives, and in general the stamps of those rather numerous "countries" that make their living off the philatelic world. At the same time, genuinely used copies of such stamps are to me perfectly acceptable, in fact prized items.

The search for postally used copies of

are interesting for their elusiveness. It is not a question of price. That merely indicates the situation.

(2) Since it is natural to want to attain some measure of completeness in any collection and only a millionaire can hope to acquire anything like a reasonably complete worldwide collection, one has to put other restrictions on his collection if he has any hope for completeness. My system has been to omit all overprints type-written, typeset, and handstamped adhesives. Granted that this eliminates in some cases rather interesting problems, it also does away with a good deal of monotonous repetition of certain overprinted designs. I would guess that those omissions reduce the total number of collectible varieties by fifty percent, and at the same time leave for our collections practically every different stamp design ever made. The above eliminations also cut out the group, of stamps most often counterfeited.

One can make further limitations of this sort without damage to the overall appearance of completeness: locals, state stamps, or the so-called postal-fiscals, for example. That, as in all cases, is a matter for the individual to decide.

To go a step further, the collector can always leave out perforation and watermark varieties, a step I prefer not to take because the study of both is much too interesting for me to drop.

Having reached this point the reader

1944-49 COMMEMORATIVE

We offer below an almost complete listing last 5 years.

Anything not satisfactory is of course r

	Pl.	Blk.	U.S.	Blk.			
	F.	V.F.G.	F.				
922 3c Rail..	—	—	.11	.13	943 3c Smith..		
923 3c Steam.	35	.39	.11	.13	944 3c Watts..		
924 3c Tele..	—	.35	.10	.12	945 3c Edison..		
925 3c Corr..	—	.59	.13	.15	946 3c Pul..		
926 3c Movie	—	.39	.13	.15	947 3c Centen..		
927 3c Fla..	.29	.35	.08	.09	949 3c Doctor		
928 5c Conf.	.28	.30	.09	.10	950 3c Utah..		
929 3c I. Jima	.18	.20	.09	.10	951 3c Const..		
934 3c Army..	.18	.20	.08	.09	952 3c Ever..		
935 3c Navy..	.18	.20	.08	.09	953 3c Carver		
936 3c C. G..	.18	.20	.08	.09	954 3c Gold..		
939 3c M. M..	.17	.20	.09	.10	955 3c Miss..		
930 1c Roose.	.10	.11	.05	.06	956 3c Chap..		
931 2c Roose.	—	.25	.11	.12	957 3c Wisc..		
932 3c Roose.	.19	.20	.08	.09	958 5c Swedes		
933 5c Roose.	.31	.34	.13	.14	959 3c Women		
937 3c Smith	.18	.20	.06	.07	960 3c White..		
938 3c Texas.	.18	.20	.10	.11	961 3c Can..		
940 3c Disch.	.18	.20	.07	.08	962 3c Key..		
941 3c Ten..	.18	.20	.08	.09	963 3c Youth		
942 3c Iowa..	.18	.20	.08	.09	965 3c Stone		

We desire to take this opportunity to wish and a very happy New Year.

STANLEY GIBBONS, INC., 38

MEKEEL'S WEEKLY

December 19, 1949

Submitted By Dr O. Bacher - LONDON - Jan 9 - 1950 - A Greenish
Envelope - Nothing on Back But Paris P.M. of
16 Aug 62 - Apparently OK

NEW YORK, September 3 1847.

U. S. Notes and Comments

(Continued from Page 436)

pane of the 3c 1851 from Plate 4 was found some years back. This is cancelled by horizontal pen marks along each row. As we have stated before, three mint panes are known, one from Plate 1 and two from Plate 3. We ourselves are still looking for mint blocks of the 3c from plates 1 early, intermediate, late, 2E, 5E, 6 and O. After many years searching we have located blocks from all of the 1c imperforate plates and all of the perforate mint blocks except plates 5 and 6. We have as yet to see any multiple mint pieces from these plates although a few used pairs and strips are known. In the perforate 3c plates we have as yet to record a mint block from plates 10 or 11. These are undoubtedly around but as few would recognize them they are undoubtedly in collections unknown to the owners. Used blocks are by no means common. We ran across a square block of nine with black town cancellation quite recently.

Later in his letter Mr. Tracy states: "The criticism I make of many of us 3c collectors is that we do not weed out the space fillers." Unfortunately, the remark applies to most collectors. This very fact tends to affect the value of a collection when it finally is sold. When you replace an average specimen with a fine copy why not dispose of the duplicate? When there are hundreds of duplicates of the same stamps it affects the value of the finer items. For instance, we have in mind a very beautiful specialized collection of a certain stamp. The owner bought hundreds of these stamps where the differences were so slight they could not be noted. Still he continued to buy. Now that the stamps are for sale they will be difficult for any dealer to handle. With possibly 6,000 to 8,000 of the same stamp listing around \$5 unused and a little less than half as much used, where will a dealer turn to sell them? Of course if they

can be bought at a price he can afford to hold them. But the owner naturally expects somewhere near his cost and is rightly entitled to it. In other words, if a man brought you a hundred 24c purple Bank Note issues you would gladly buy them at a good figure but if he brought you ten thousand it would be impossible to figure near as much per stamp for such a quantity would be difficult to sell unless at a materially lower price than the current market. What we are endeavoring to say is that in collecting, no matter how full the purse, do not buy several hundred of a stamp. Better increase the scope and have a more inclusive collection. When you go to sell, such a collection will command a much better price for it can be readily absorbed. If money is no consideration why, of course, collect the way you want.

HOBBS BUYS SHEETS

Hobbs is one of New York's largest buyers of U. S. Sheets. We will pay a top price for any quantity of any U. S. sheets.

We are now paying for U. S.:

724	724 3c Wm. Penn	\$ 5.00
725	3c Webster	6.50
726	3c Oglethorpe	5.00
734	5c Kosciusko	11.00
740-9	1-10c Parks	46.00
835	3c Ratification	2.75
838	3c Iowa	2.75
894	3c Pony Express	10.00
898	3c Coronado	3.00

Send any sheet you care to sell to us for our examination and appraisal. Our check will be mailed for our top price. Your stamps will be held in abeyance for your acceptance.

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SAVE TIME — USE THE

FOLD-O-HINGE

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TRADE MARK

FOLDED HINGES

15¢ PER 1000

From your dealer or direct

FOLD-O-HINGE CO., Niles 3, Mich.

With no exact date of issue stated the P. O. Dept. has released the following new denominations: 65 o. yellow green (double letter rate plus registr., 70 o. blue (for money orders of Kr. 500:—, etc.). Both these stamps are of the Scott A56 type (S. G. T43) and manufactured in coils only, perf. vertically 12½.

Simultaneously withdrawn because of small use are the Scotts Nos. 306, 286, 288 and 398 (S. G. Nos. 240, 225, 227 and 306), the last mentioned one was issued in 1948 and has had but slight use, consequently an awakened sleeper!

—Thorsten Ingeloff

Between the Book-Ends

Coin collectors will gladly welcome an excellent new book, published by Harper Brothers, 49 E. 33rd St., New York 16, N. Y. entitled "Early American Cents," an informative volume by Dr. William H. Sheldon, an authority on America's old coins. Numismatists will at once recognize the importance and usefulness of this work which embraces the U. S. cent-pieces from 1793 to 1814. We make an exception in our regular reporting of philatelic nature in order to announce this outstanding book. Price: \$10.00. 399 pages plus 51 additional illustrated pages.

"Austrian Stamps and Their Background, 1850-1937" by Marian Carne Zinsmeister, S.P.A. member, has recently been published by VanDahl Publications of Albany, Oregon. This worthwhile, 26-page booklet on the stamps of Austria will be popular among collectors of the stamps of this country. Price: 35c.

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Ask to see my complete series of approval booklets by country; want-lists cheerfully filled. References, please.

L. L. KAY

Box 526.

Richland Center, Wis.

CHRISTMAS GIFT

THE COUNTRY
#1-25, O1-024, U

#1-17—PICTORIALS & COMMEMORAT
#18-25—HIGH VALUES & AMIR KHAN
#O1-06, O11-015, O16—OFFICIALS 1945
#O17-024—1948 PICTORIAL OFFICIALS
RECENT UPU COMPLETE—(Postage e

THE HOME OF THE

BOX 30, JACKSON HI

J. Avery Wells,

Club Meetings

Paul Humes will show and tell about his prize winning collection of New Zealand at the December 23rd meeting which meets every Friday at 8 p. m. at of the Garfield-Perry Stamp Club, the Allerton Hotel in Cleveland, Ohio. Arrangements are being made for Garfield-Perry's Diamond Jubilee Show to be held March 17-19, 1950. Among the 200 frames in the exhibition will be frames from the Postal Museum of Sweden, of nation-wide interest, and Col. Hans Lagerloef's outstanding collection of Czechoslovakia. Don Lybarger will be toastmaster for the banquet, and an auction by Nelson P. LaGanke.

The Austin Philatelic Club of Chicago will hold a Christmas Party December 21. Meetings are held the first and third Wednesdays of each month at Austin Town Hall, Central and Lake, in Chicago, Ill. A newsy club bulletin "The Postmark", edited by Anthony Russo, brings latest club notes to the members.

NEWFOUNDLAND

ALL IN SELEC

Since Newfoundland has joined Confedera attractive issues. Complete your Newfoundland has been issued. Everything guaranteed s

No.	Blk.	Mint	Used
1, 3, 5 1857 1, 3, 5d			
Thick P.	—	33.50	48.50
2 2d Scarlet verm..	—	—	vg110.00
6 6d Scarlet verm...	—	—	150.00
7 6½d Scarlet verm...	—	100.00	g 75.00
8 8d Scarlet verm ...	—	24.00	—
11 1860 2d Orange...	—	32.00	—

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

Oct. 20, 1949.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Thank you for your note of the 17th and the Caben clipping. Like yourself, I don't see why he is a member. I don't consider such alleged reporting at all fair for a member. Anyway, events made him look foolish later on.

No, I'd rather you didn't address me as "Colonel." It took me 31 years, from cadet to major, and I never did rate even Lt. Colonel. I prefer "Mr." now.

I think Dietz started it at a dinner of the CSA after the 1946 STAMPEX at Newark. I was not present. It seemed to have made a hit with some members, but not with me. It got me in bed with our good member Harrie Mueller, of Wichita. He was a colonel in the war and I didn't know it.

Re "vigilante" activities, I'm always glad to give somebody a documentation such as I gave Linn - to which he did not reply - but I'm afraid there are subjects on which I am not as well qualified. Please count on me as far as my knowledge goes, but not on an unlimited basis.

Re the Herst article about Adams Express and the 7th Regiment, I think it was in "PHILATELY" for Feb. 1947 but have loaned out my copy.

My view is that that service was not a "between the lines", such as that performed after

normal mail service was suspended May 31, 1861. I regard it as a "blockade" cover source. There was a definite blockade for nearly a month, with the tracks torn up in Baltimore and Annapolis and no mail to or from Washington, except via Adams for the 7th Regiment only. As a blockade it was more effective than the Northern effort later on. Herst's story is wrong on one particular.

The 7th Regiment took a boat from Philadelphia to Annapolis, and marched from Annapolis to Washington, repairing the railroad as it went.

Shenfield is our authority on blockade covers and I have asked his opinion of this type of mark.

Shenfield was much interested in the cover of which I enclose a photo, which you may keep, if you wish. He mentioned it in an article on Edey's Express some years ago.

When I got this in 1937 the top left and lower left corners were missing. Imagine my surprise when I found the missing name in a Sat. Eve. Post story by Col. John W. Thomasson, Jr., U.S. Marines. He said Mark Smither, Sergeant Major, 5th Texas, was his uncle. In the story he mentioned the Richmond Depot.

I couldn't figure the rate or the route.

Shenfield's deduction was that a soldier from the front put the letter in the mail in Richmond and the P.O. delivered it to the Texas Depot there (or rather, its messenger picked up the letter at the P.O.) Then Sgt. Bayless gave it to somebody who was going to Texas — as requested in the lower corner: "Please forward by private hand." Edey's Express ran in 1862. In 1864 it apparently wasn't running & returning individuals took letters "by private hand." Regards, Tho. Parks.

From Marks in this Sgt Major 5th Texas



Care of

Sgt. W. W. Bayless

Sgt. 3rd Texas Regt

5th Texas Depot

Please forward Richmond Va

Mrs. C. E. Wynne

Hunterville

Walker Co

Georgia

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

Top left
and lower
left cor-
ners re-
stored.

In the Sat. Eve. Post, about 1940, in a story called
"The Stars in their Courses," Lt. Col. John W. Thomas-
son, U.S. Marine Corps, related many experiences of
his uncle, Mark Smither, Sgt. Major, 5th Texas,
and mentioned the Texas Depot at Richmond.

QUOTED FROM LETTER FROM AUGUST DIETZ, SR. - JANUARY 10TH, 1950

Van Dyk Mac Bride
744 Broad Street
Newark 2, N. J.

To
"NOW TO THIS SOMEWHAT UNFORTUNATE MATTER CONCERNING COL. HANCOCKS' PASTE-UP STRIP. I AM ACQUAINTED WITH THE CORRESPONDENCE. WITHOUT TELLING ME, AND BEFORE SENDING THE OBJECT FOR EXAMINATION, HE HAD SUBMITTED IT TO THE LABORATORY OF CRIMINOLOGY OF THE UNIVERSITY, WHERE PAPERS ARE MADE A SPECIAL STUDY, AND ALSO TO THE FIRM OF BLAKE MOFFITT & TOWNE, PAPER MANUFACTURERS, WHERE IT WAS EXAMINED BY THEIR CHEMIST. THE REPORTS WERE TO THE EFFECT THAT THE TWO PIECES OF PAPER MAKING THE JOINT, WHILE OF THE SAME FORMULA, WERE NOT OF THE SAME "BATCH" (THAT IS TO SAY, OF THE SAME MILL-RUN). I WAS GLAD TO NOTE THAT MY FINDINGS WERE CORROBORATED. IN FACT, THERE IS NO QUESTION IN MY MIND OF ITS GENUINENESS. NO ONE BEFORE, AS FAR AS I KNOW, EVER HEARD OF SUCH A PROCEDURE, AND, NATURALLY, HAD NO REASON TO LOOK FOR A PASTE-UP. I AM SURE THAT WAS MY CASE. WHILE I DO NOT HAVE THE TIME TO DISCUSS THIS MATTER--BESIDES I AM NO LONGER ON THIS COMMITTEE-- YOU AND COL. SHENFIELD, AND WHOEVER ELSE IS ON THAT COMMITTEE, WILL HAVE TO FIGHT IT OUT. BUT YOU MUST GET AWAY FROM THEORIZING--STUDY THE MAKING OF PAPERS.

AND NOW JUST A FEW SENTENCES CONCERNING REVALUED HANDSTAMPED PAIDS. I SHALL NOT BE LED INTO A DISCUSSION OF THIS QUESTION, LONG SETTLED IN MY MIND, AND CONSTANTLY BEING CLARIFIED BY COVERS THAT TURN UP AND ARE SUBMITTED TO ME. SINCE YOU AND COL. SHENFIELD ARE SWAPPING CARBONS OF YOUR LETTERS TO ME, I NEED NOT REPEAT FORMER STATEMENTS. I NEED ONLY ADD: IF EITHER OF YOU CAN EXPLAIN WHY UNUSED HANDSTAMPED COVERS (SOMETIMES ADDRESSED, BUT NOT USED) WITH THEIR "PAID" AND RATE FIGURE ARE COMING TO LIGHT, I WOULD LIKE TO HAVE THE INFORMATION. THAT SUGGESTION ABOUT "DOUBLE WEIGHT" OR "DISTANCE" DOESN'T HOLD WATER; OR ANY OF THE OTHER THEORIES ADVANCED.

EARLIER COLLECTORS IN THE SOUTH WHO HAD GIVEN THOUGHT TO THE HANDSTAMPINGS (AMONG THEM THE LATE DR. PETERS), WERE EVER AT A LOSS TO UNDERSTAND WHY RICHMOND, THE CAPITAL CITY, WITH PROBABLY THE GREATEST AMOUNT OF MAILING IN THE SOUTH, NEVER ISSUED PROVISIONALS AS DID OTHER CITIES. IT WOULD SEEM TO ANY ONE GIVING THE MATTER REAL THOUGHT, THAT POSTMASTER STEGER COULD NOT HAVE A LARGE CORPS OF CLERKS TO HANDSTAMP EVERY LETTER THAT CAME IN ON THE HEAVY AFTERNOON DEPOSITS BY THE BUSINESS HOUSES, AND WEIGH AND "MAKE CHANGE". SURELY HE DID NOT. BUT HE SOLD THESE HANDSTAMPED ENVELOPES IN QUANTITIES TO THE CITIZENRY, ESPECIALLY TO BUSINESS HOUSES. IN FACT, I LEAN STRONGLY TO THE BELIEF THAT EVERY RICHMOND "PAID 5 CTS." (TYPE III) MADE FROM THAT SPECIALLY ENGRAVED STAMPER REPRESENTS SUCH PRE-RATED STOCK IN THE RICHMOND POSTOFFICE.

THIS TYPE IS DIFFERENT FROM THE REGULAR "PAID" STAMPERS. IT HAS NO DUPLICATE IN ANY OTHER SOUTHERN POSTOFFICE THAT I HAVE EVER SEEN. IT IS DISTINCTIVE, AND STEGER OR HIS CLERKS COULD RECOGNIZE IT AS ONCE FROM THE OTHER TYPES. IT WAS CUT FOR A PURPOSE. IF NOT, WHY NOT USE THE OTHERS ON HAND?

BUT WHY GO ON? TIME WILL PROVE THESE THINGS. IN THE MEANTIME I WOULD SUGGEST INVESTIGATION INSTEAD OF THEORIZING. I HAVE HAD MY "SAY" AND WON'T BUDGE THE WIDTH OF A PERFORATION FROM MY BELIEF. BUT, TOO, I AM NOT GETTING INTO ARGUMENTS OVER THE SUBJECT. I NEITHER HAVE THE TIME NOR INCLINATION, ESPECIALLY WHEN THE QUESTIONS REMINDS ME OF THE AGE-OLD DISCUSSION OVER THE COLOR OF MOHAMET'S BEARD!

I DO NOT CLAIM THAT ALL REVALUED 10c. OVER 5c. ARE PROVISIONALS: BUT IN PRACTICALLY EVERY INSTANCE (UNLESS IT CAN BE PROVEN OTHERWISE) THE FIRST 5c. WAS A PROVISIONAL, REVALUED, UPON PAYMENT OF AN ADDITIONAL FIVE CENTS. I COULD NOT IMAGINE ANY OTHER EXPLANATION, UNLESS I TOOK SEVERAL STIFF DRINKS. THEN I MIGHT "SEE THINGS."

ABOUT THE DATE ON THE LONDON-PRINT FIVE CENTS. IF THERE IS AN EARLIER RECORD, IT WILL GO INTO THE NEXT CATALOG. THE BULLETIN PRINTS NEWS AS IT COMES IN. IF THERE ARE ERRORS, THEY WILL BE CORRECTED, AS YOU KNOW I HAVE CONSISTENTLY DONE. I DO NOT ANALYSE EVERY THING THAT IS SUBMITTED. I MERELY "TELL THE NEWS!"

To SBA

COPY

Van Dyk Mac Bride
744 Broad Street
Newark 2, N. J.

January 12th, 1950.

Mr. August Dietz,
109 East Cary St.,
Richmond, Va.

Dear Gus:

Thank you for your good letter of the 10th.

The matter of Colonel Hancocks and his paste-up strip, is indeed most unfortunate. At no time did the good Colonel tell us that he had had a laboratory examination made of the piece, until after he had "ordered" it returned to him, and this was in response to my letter stating that I would like the other members of our Authentication Committee to see it. Colonel Shenfield was the only other one I had time to show it to, and as I said in the letter in which I promptly returned the item to Colonel Hancocks, neither he or I felt "at all sure that the strip is an actual pasteup". There certainly was nothing offensive in my further suggestion that a "complete examination by expert photography or other means be made", but it resulted in a rather sarcastic reply in which for the first time he told us that it had been examined by qualified persons whose findings apparently confirm his opinion, and yours.

What you now tell me about that examination is in much more detail and is much more convincing than anything the Colonel provided. I think our Committee was entitled to receive this helpful information when we first took up the matter, instead of being preemptorily ordered to return the piece without it, and before we had an opportunity to take more than an off-hand look at it. After all, it is a service to the C.S.A. we are trying to render, and an uncooperative attitude such as this merely defeats that purpose. As Colonel Hancocks closed his last letter with the statement "as far as I am concerned no one will ever see this item again", - I should point out that there is nothing else we can do about it now.

As for the revalued Handstamped Paid's, - I am quite ready to admit that the locating of such envelopes in unused condition forms prima facie evidence that they were prepared for sale prior to use. Where such unused handstamped envelopes can be definitely tied in with the post office which issued them, I believe there is merit to the contention that they therefore are entitled to be classed as Postmaster's Provisionals. Following logically along with this, it might likewise be fair to class such known cases as P.M. Provisionals where the handstamp was revalued from 5¢ to 10¢, - IF there is nothing about the dating, destination, or other indicia which might produce some other "answer" in the case of a particular cover.

I am glad to note that you do not claim that ALL revalued handstamps are necessarily Provisionals, but I think the burden of proof lies with proving that a certain one IS, rather than having to prove that every one of them ISN'T. As you well say, however, "Time will prove these things", - in the meanwhile we all should continue to study the matter with open minds.

I might also add that you are quite right in continuing to point out that Richmond, the capital of the Confederacy, apparently never did issue a recognized P.M. Provisional, and that that is indeed strange. It is entirely likely that Dr. Peters and other early students including your good self, are correct in believing that the odd form of the Type 3 of the Richmond "PAID 5 cts" handstamp indicates that it was prepared to use on the vast number of Richmond envelopes used by business firms and others in that city, prior to mailing. Even though that is necessarily the very "theorizing" which you quite properly warn us against using, I do think it is logical. Perhaps again here, - time will prove these things! However, I am afraid that it still violates your "rule of not making a statement that you can't prove", as yet!

We all will of course, see to it that the correct earliest dates of use for the various regular General Issue stamps go into the next catalog. Thanks a lot for the duplicate unused handstamped envelopes with which you presented me. Also for tracing that Quartermasters Department handstamp which I sent you. And finally, thank you for your complimentary remarks about my recent articles in STAMPS and AMERICAN PHILATELIST.

As Ever,

MacB/HK

P.S. Put me down too, for an "underwriting" subscription for 10 copies of the new catalog! I'll be interested to know how the responses on that subject are coming in, as a result of the article in the last Bulletin.

COPY

Van Dyk Mac Bride
744 Broad Street
Newark 2, N. J.

December 14th, 1949.

Col. Robert Hancocks,
16310 Blanco St.,
San Leandro, Calif.

Dear Colonel Hancocks:

Thank you very much for sending me your "paste up" strip of the Confederate 10¢ Type I stamps for examination, which arrived today. It is indeed a most interesting object, and I have never seen one before.

Because of the unusual character of this item, I thought that the other members of our Authentication Committee would like to examine it. I am therefore taking the liberty of sending the piece to Mr. L. L. Shenfield, the Chairman, today, with the request that he forward it to Mr. Ashbrook, who may wish to photograph it for the record. He will then return it directly to you, together with any comments thereon which may seem applicable.

I trust that this will all meet with your approval, and I want to thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Cordially yours,

Mac B

MacB/HK

Have sent to Larry, who will send on to you. Please then photo, if you think worth while, & promptly return to Hancock, by Reg. Mail. I let me have comments, etc. Maybe Fred Grant would like to see or hear about this, as described by Gutz in last CSA Bulletin, foot of page 1. This is item Mac

COPY

Van Dyk Mac Bride
744 Broad Street
Newark 2, N. J.
CSA Letterhead

December 21st, 1949.

Col. Robert Hancocks,
16310 Blanco Street,
San Leandro, California.

Dear Colonel Hancocks:

In view of the contents of your letter of December 17th, received this morning, I hasten to return your "paste-up" strip of the 10¢ Engraved Confederate blue stamps. You will find it enclosed.

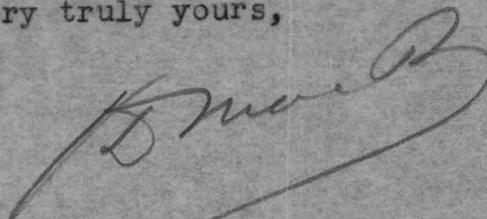
The motive involved in my desire to have my associates on the Authentication Committee, Cols. Shenfield and Ashbrook, see this item, was the very natural one of having it examined, noted, and photographed for the general good of Confederate philately. I have, however, had time to show it only to Col. Shenfield, but I am sorry to say that neither of us feel at all sure that the strip is an actual "paste-up". Possibly there are points about it which we could not see or did not recognize, but thus far at least we fail to find sufficient evidence to prove that two pieces of paper were joined together before the printing in this case.

A more complete examination by expert photography and other means, might prove that we are wrong in the matter, and I venture to suggest that you have this done by some recognized authority before doing anything else with this piece. Certainly the information which you say you got "sixty five years ago from the man who printed it", and which I assume is that quoted in the C.S.A. Bulletin #22, cannot serve to prove anything about this particular piece, which you state you acquired "only last February". In all the minute study which Confederate stamps have received over the years, and particularly recently, we understand that no paste-up piece has ever been discovered, and therefore it would seem that a most careful examination of this particular piece would be needed to substantiate your present opinion of it.

Until this is done, and depending upon the results thereof, I would of course be entirely unable to advise you as to its probable price valuation.

Very truly yours,

MacB/HK



Stan,

Enclosed is block of 8 of 10¢ imperf. These beyond to Jack who is here now. He claims they are plated by Chase and contain one re-cut 74L. Under high power mag. it does not look so to me. Also the right stamp in the second row should then be "Curl in forehead" variety. I see no curl. Maybe the piece has been scuffed up too much. What is your frank opinion of this piece.

send to me .

Jack says Hello.

Mr. HAROLD W. STARK
P. O. Box 288
Ann Arbor, Michigan



Hotel HAYES

F I R E P R O O F

Jackson, Michigan

January 12 - 1950

Dear Stan -

Harold Stark is sending you via registered mail an interesting used block of eight of the ten cent green insign of 1855 that I ran across the other day & which I can get for \$500⁰⁰. I stopped at Harold's tonight & showed it to him - (see sketch on reverse of this sheet for types & plate positions which I am sure are in Dr. Chase's handwriting.) Maybe you have seen the piece before! If plated correctly - it shows all four types in this block & would go well with Harold's other unique block that he got from Ward in Uly in '47.

I told Harold I would let him have it if he wants it - he was sending you some material registered so I included it with his registered letter - I would have sent it to you myself but wouldn't have gotten around to mail it until Monday & this way, you should receive it by Monday. If you could place this at a substantial profit to yourself, I am sure

- over -

Harold would agree with me to let you have it at my cost. Harold tho thinks it is plated incorrectly & that no stamp in the block is Type IV. Block is same with block "longue Va" and some manuscript lines. Personally I agree with the plating shown on the reverse side and the writing sure looks like Dr. Chase's. Know you will be interested in seeing this item.

Thought I might trade this for Harold's mint block of 36 from Plate Twelve of the 12-57. Is this a fair trade? Regards & in haste.

Jack Fleckenstein

Type II	Type IV 74-L	
Type III	Type III	"curl" Type III 85-L
Type I	Type I	Type I

Jan. 17, 1950.

Mr. Harold W. Stark,
P. O. Box 288,
Ann Arbor, Mich.

Dear Harold:

Yours with enclosures received. I will reply to your letter later as I am sort of under the weather today - feeling rotten. Maybe it is the weather or maybe "it is somethin I eet."

Re - the 10¢ block. I remember this block quite well and I have a photo I made of it in 1919. At that time it belonged to Chase. The pencil marks on back are his but the plating is mine. The stamp in upper right is the recut 74L1 and the 85L1 sure does show the "curl" in the head. When I last saw this block - 30 years ago - it had heavy pen lines across the top and the recut top of 74L1 could not be detected under the heavy ink cancel. Chase didn't know the positions when he sent it to me. I had plated the entire bottom row and the 85L1 curl. Thus, thru the "curl" I was able to plate the block and to state that the upper right stamp was the 74L1 recut though no recutting could be seen, because of the heavy ink cancel.

I never knew what became of the block after I returned it to Chase, and, therefore, I have no idea who cleaned off the pen marks at top.

When I return the block to you I will include a photograph that I made in 1919 - but please take good care of it as it is the only one I have. As a pen cleaned block I really don't know what to say about the value. It may be worth \$500.00 but I doubt it. Most everyone, like yourself, would have to take my word that the plating is correct and that the 74L1 is a Type IV. I never considered that this block showed all four types. While it was a block that contained positions that included all the four imperforate types it certainly did not show the four types. Whether it does even now after the cleaning is questionable. Even under your binocular you were very doubtful and you have an eye far superior to the average student or collector. It certainly is not comparable to your block in any way.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Jack.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

Jan. 19, 1950.

Mr. J. G. Fleckenstein,
419 Union St.,
Ionia, Mich.

Dear Jack:

I am today returning to Harold the block of eight of the 10¢ 1855, and with it I am sending him a print of the photograph that I made of this item many years ago.

You inquired of me if I thought it would be a fair trade if Harold would swap his 1¢ 1857 - Plate 12 block for this piece. I suppose you refer to a block that Harold purchased in a Harmer Rooke sale. I have a photograph of it somewhere. I do not recall what Harold paid but I do have a recollection that the 1¢ block was in rather fine condition. Whether such a swap would be fair or not I do not know, but I can answer in this way. If I owned Harold's block I would not make such a trade. It would be an entirely different proposition if the Type IV was in fine condition. It certainly is not, as I wrote Harold on the 17th.

I congratulate you on your remarks on the block of 10¢. You were very sure that the Chase markings were correct - This displayed quite a keen eye - but Jack, its always a safe bet that Chase is right. When Chase sent that block to me years ago he had no idea as to its plate positions. I was the first one to plate the bottom row - While he may have noted the small curl, on 85L, he had no idea as to the plate position. At that time, there were several large collections of the 10¢ and I borrowed each one - the Chase collection, the Hammatt collection, the Alvin Good collection, the Emerson collection, the George Walcott collection and many smaller ones. With all this material I was able to reconstruct the greater part of the plate.

One of the most interesting features of the 10¢ Plate 1 are the misplaced transfers in the top row of the left pane. Similar to the 1¢ Plate it is possible to get in a horizontal pair a combination of two types - Types III and II. In all the 200 positions, this occurs only once - viz - 2L1, a Type II and 3L1 a type II. Such imperf pairs are very, very scarce. You wouldn't think it to be a fact, but such a pair is worth about \$250.00. They are many times as rare as a pair including 4R1L - the one Type II on Plate One Late.

With best wishes -

Yours etc.,

Jan. 10, 1950.

Mr. Earl Antrim,
319 Holly St.,
Nampa, Idaho.

Dear Earl:

Herewith the covers as per yours of recent date. These are quite a nice and interesting lot and I enjoyed going over them. I have numbered each one for reference so here are some comments:

No. 1 - I think it is fortunate that this was not mailed at Charlottesville, Va. on May 31, 1861. Had such occurred it would have required a 3¢ U. S. and it would have been delivered just the same, thus it would have been a last day U. S. and not nearly so desirable as it is now, a First Day Confed. Post offices in the Confederacy didn't pay any attention to Blair's order but rather to Reagan's. I would rather have this cover than the next one - No. 2.

No. 2 - A nice item. I had several or more May 31 at one time - all C.S.A. post offices.

No. 3 - A beauty - never saw this before.

No. 4 - Ditto.

No. 5 - Yes, this is just about tops in Confed Packets and your analysis is correct, but what was pasted in the upper right corner?

No. 6 - I do not recall that I have ever seen this sticker before.

No. 7 - The Amer. Letter Express covers with the paste-up on back are very rare. This is nice. Mailed under separate cover to the company at Louisville. One wonders why the Northerner used a U. S. Star die. It was still good in the North but no good in the South.

No. 8 - I thought your remarks on this cover referred to your No. 1 cover here. This cover is certainly a wonder. Mailed at Boston on May 28th, 1861 with instructions to send by a coast-wise steamer the Emily Keith. Boston should have sent it to the D.L.O. but instead it was probably handed to the ship. Into the Charleston P.O. on June 4, 1861 it was, of course, unpaid and rated as a ship letter. Someone stamped it with an "8" but this was marked out with the grid. Why 8? I do not know.

No. 9 - Adams New Orleans in green. Also new to me. Quite a nice cover.

No. 10 - 20¢ Bisect. Very late use. Most interesting.

No. 11 - Interesting.

No. 12 - I agree with your remarks - very properly - not thru the blockade but around. I fail to see much difference.

No. 13 - Nice pair of K & B.

No. 14 - Most interesting

#2. Mr. Earl Antrim, Jan. 10, 1950.

No. 15 - Not day of secession but the day after, as you stated.

No. 16 - This cover of Aug. 16, 1862 is the earliest use known to me of the 5¢ Richmond print on local paper. The earliest use of a Richmond print on De LaRue paper is Aug. 15, 1862.

You might quote me to Mrs. Antrim to the effect that I consider money wisely invested in Confederates as one of the safest forms of investment. By wisely I mean, that it takes brains and knowledge to invest wisely. One has to know his stuff as you do - They haven't made any genuine Confederates for 85 years and none will ever be made again. It is true that one sacrifices income but safety of principal is far more important than income, provided one can do without the latter.

Wives of philatelists are apt to get the impression that we spend money to satisfy our craving to collect - the fact is, we are putting money away for our family. The more expensive the items purchased, the better the investment - that is, if the buyer knows what he is doing. You certainly do.

Yes, there is some talk that Dietz will issue a new catalogue in the near future, but possibly not during 1950.

Again thanks for your kindness.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

EARL ANTRIM
319 HOLLY
NAMPA, IDAHO

Jan 14

Dear Stan, just received the covers
back a way thanks for the notes on them
w. hls they are still fresh in your mind all
explain two of them to you that you
was questioning, that is my idea about
them.

The May E. Kern Packet, I think they
tried to stick the half dime in the upper
right hand corner & the glue wouldn't hold so
they tried another kind of glue & on the lower corner
the handstamp didn't stick to the glue showing
it was on before the handstamp. it spoils it a
little.

The cover from Boston, I think is the right
explanation. This cover was sent due which
would be 6¢ ^{or double rate} and 2¢ for the ship rate making
8¢, the amount crossed out, when it arrived at
Charleston this was probably paid & then marked out
& stamped due .5 the forwarding rate. Do you
agree?

Sincerely

Earl Antrim

P.S. Due 21 first full day of recession have you any
recd of first day use? Dec. 20, 1860

EARL ANTRIM
319 HOLLY
NAMPA, IDAHO

Enclosed is a photostatic of a cover I received just after I had sent the bunch of covers to you. The enclosed letter says the prisoner is sending this letter by a prisoner who is being exchanged. Dated Feb. 25, 1865, the "John J. Mann" is ordinarily used just as a corner card adv. but here it is used as a censor marking. Your No. 34 ^{in your Postal Register note} is also used as censor marking. I have had this where it was used as a corner card as

No. 281 in John Fox sale of Confederates. I have been intending to write you for a couple of years about No. 36 in your Postal Register note. I have seen a cover where the 10¢ carried the letter to destination & a 2¢ brown put on as advertised due 2. Postal Act Feb. 23, 1861 "and all letters which shall hereafter be advertised as remaining over or uncalled for in any P.O. shall be charged with 2¢ each in addition to the regular postage." This would not exactly suit me on this letter as it certainly wouldn't have been advertised the same day as received, would it? The 2¢ was just dabbed on as if by the postmaster while the 10¢ was placed right side up where it belongs. The 10¢ was 8¢ on payment for drop letter. I have a similar cover without the 2¢ & Richard cancel.

Earl

Jan. 23, 1950.

Mr. Earl Antrim,
319 Holly - Box 749,
Nampa, Idaho.

Dear Earl:

Yours of the 14th received and I think that your solution of the Mary E. Keene cover is correct.

Re - the cover from Boston into Charleston. I May-June, 1861, there was no U. S. double rate for unpaid mail. The Act of March 3, 1863 provided for a double rate on unpaid mail. I suppose the "8" on your cover was simply a case of picking up the wrong stamper. The Boston P.O. surely knew the letter would reach Charleston after June 1st, so why should Boston bother to rate it. Perhaps the "PAID" was applied at Boston and perhaps the letter was dropped into the Charleston P.O. with no accounting of the "Ship" rate. After all, why should they bother about it? It was no expense to the C.S.A. P.O.D. Perhaps the forwarding postage was not prepaid but that the "5" indicated the Confed. postage due from Charleston to Greenville, S.C.

First Day - Dec. 20, 1860. I never took time out to record covers used on dates of secession but I am positive I have seen a cover with a South Carolina use on Dec. 20, 1860. I recall selling a cover to an Alabama collector used on the day that state seceded.

John J. Manor - Thanks for the photostat. The cover is a rarity. I think this handstamp was used more as a censor marking than a corner card. Harold Brooks had a cover with a 2¢ Red Brown tied by this marking and a Richmond postmark. See Fig. 34 in my Confed. Book. It was addressed to Richmond and, of course, sent under separate cover with the U. S. postage paid. I have seen other covers from "W.J. GREEN" - For example, two were addressed to "Mrs. Wharton J. Green, Henderson, N.C.", and both had 10¢ Confed stamps - (#210) - Both were sent under separate cover or perhaps by hand. No censor marking on either one. Lot 281 in the Fox sale looked like a corner but if it was addressed to within the Confederacy it must have been a censor marking. Can you give me the address?

Re - Cover #36 in my Confed. Book. I never heard of a prepayment of the advertised rate. Such a fee was collected from the individual upon delivery. I don't think that they would put a 2¢ stamp on a letter and cancel it just to show that an advertising

#2. Mr. Earl Antrim, Jan. 23, 1950.

fee had been paid. Cover #66 belongs to Phil Ward and I examined it very carefully. It is undoubtedly genuine. I suggested a 6 x 2¢ Drop, but I think otherwise. No one that I know of has ever been able to explain why there was 12¢ on the Ward cover. I note you have a 10¢ Drop - but just because your cover has a Richmond p.m. is no certain indication that it originated in Richmond. It could have been prepared for mailing elsewhere and was carried privately to Richmond and mailed there. As such it would not actually be an over-paid Drop.

With regards -

Cordially yours,



744 BROAD STREET
NEWARK 2, NEW JERSEY

January 21st, 1950.

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

Dear Stanley:

This is about the enclosed fake Confederate cancellations, which you said you would like to see. Most all of these originally came out of the Knapp collection of counterfeits and fakes, which you know I bought at the Knapp sale some years ago.

No.1 - Apparently has that same Sperati(?) New York PAID cancel as on the 2¢ Red Browns, except that this one is in blue on the 10¢ Engraved Type I stamp. The two 2¢ Red Browns I sent you recently, are again enclosed for comparison, comment, etc.

No.2 - Providence, R.I., in red, on 10¢ Engraved Type II stamp!

Nos.3-4 - Two fake Richmond cancels on 20¢ Green stamps.

Nos.5-6 - An oval Atlanta, Ga. cancel in blue, on a 5¢ Green, a 2¢ *red-brown* Lithograph and the 20¢ Green.

No.7 - Blue circular Atlanta, "63", cancel on the 2¢ Red Brown.

Nos.8-9 - "Modern" black cancels on the 2¢ Red Brown and the 10¢ Blue Type I.

No.10 - Charleston, S.C. Cancel on a fake 10¢ Frameline.

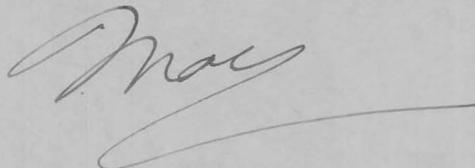
No.11 - Grid cancel on a fake TEN.

No.12 - Charleston, S.C. cancel on 20¢ Green, on piece.

You may find something which differs from my descriptions above, - which I would be glad to hear about. Do anything you wish with these as to noting, photographing, etc. for possible future use and reference. Then return to me at your convenience, - no hurry.

I have quite a few more fake cancels, and many on cover. The latter include several Richmond, Va., Princeton, Va., Auraria, Ga., Emory, Va., Staunton, Va., Mobile, Ala., Norfolk, Va., Memphis, Tenn., grids, etc. etc. All and any are of course available to you at any time!

As Ever,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'MacB', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

MacB/HK

COMMISSIONS EXECUTED
APPRAISALS

EZRA D. COLE RARE POSTAGE STAMPS

NYACK, N. Y. - - - Telephone Nyack 964

TELEPHONE NYACK 7-0964

January 25, 1950

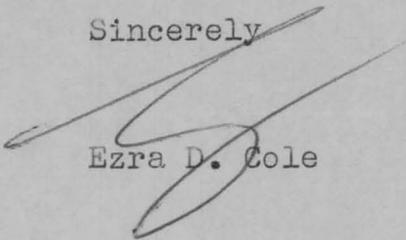
Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
33 N. Fort Thomas Avenue
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Stan:

Look this cover over and see whether we think we could make anything on it if we have to pay \$100.

The two bottom stamps are bad. As a block I think it would be better off the cover, but what are your ideas? This comes in a trade with a lot of other material to a dealer who does not handle U. S. stamps. If it is not worth \$100, what could we pay for it.

Sincerely



Ezra D. Cole

EDC:hk

Enc.

*Please RETURN WITH your comments.
WRITE ON BACK OF THIS LETTER TO
SAVE TIME*

E2

Jan. 28, 1950.

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

Dear Ez:

Herewith by return mail the cover with the block of six of the 10¢ 1857 - No Ez, I think that this would be a poor buy at \$100.00. Its value is only as a block of four off cover and its not so hot as a block of four, as per's cut at bottom. With all the Eno 10¢ material coming on the market, this (in my opinion) would not be an item that could be moved very fast. And finally I do not have much of a demand for 10¢ 1857 material.

Regards -

Yours etc.,

Jan. 5, 1990

Dr. Carroll Chase,
R.F.D. 1,
Milford, N.H.

Dear Doc:

Yours of the 2nd received with return of the Charleston, S.C. 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ rate cover. I am sorry but I haven't any of these left with the Havana. I find that I have either one like the one that I sent you - the full letter sheet - dated "Habana - 21 March 1851" - Addressed to Philadelphia and the Charleston P.M. with "12 $\frac{1}{2}$ " dated "MAR 25." - Also routed Per "Isabel" (spelled YSABEL)

Here is some data on the 1836-1839 Express Mail (sometimes called the First Pony Express).

Service inaugurated

Washington to New Orleans Nov 15 1836
Columbia, S.C. to Charleston May 11, 1837
Washington to Cincinnati July 1, 1837
Dayton, O. to St. Louis Oct. 1, 1837
Cincinnati to Montgomery, Ala Oct. 1, 1837

Prepayment

Required by Act of Congress Oct. 12, 1837.
Probably went into effect Nov. 1, 1837.

Latest Use

I cannot find my memo but I think the latest use I have ever seen was sometime in June or July 1839. A use even in May 1839 is very scarce. Strange to relate, I have never seen but one cover from Philadelphia. Uses from St. Louis or Cincinnati are very scarce and a handstamped "U. S. Express Mail" is a most desirable item. Last week, I sold a cover from New Orleans to London. Such are good things to hold onto.

With best wishes -

Yours etc.,

Jan. 13, 1950

Dr. Carroll Chase,
R. F. D. 1,
Milford, N.H.

Dear Doc:

Yours of the 10th received with check for \$6.00.

Herewith the Charleston "12 $\frac{1}{2}$ " cover. If this is not the type that you want don't hesitate to return it. I put a memo on the back but if you don't care for it use an eraser.

Re - Express Mail covers - You will recall that these come in four rates, viz:

Single - \$.75
Double - 1.50
Triple - 2.25
Quad - 3.00

I have several good buyers for these in Detroit but confidentially I don't like to feed them to them to fast, so Doc if I let you have any, all I ask is that you don't offer any of them in the Detroit area. I have very few of the triple and quad rates left and I generally charge about as much as I think the buyer will pay - according to the buyer - I try to get from \$8.00 to \$10.00 for a triple and from \$10.00 to \$15.00 for a quad according to condition, but the latter are really worth more and whenever I sell one I find it almost impossible to replace. I'll make you a special price on any I send you. If you would be satisfied with single 75% rates let me know and also how many you would like to have - half a dozen or a dozen or?

With best wishes -

Yours etc.,

Express Mail

Jan. 20, 1950.

\$125.00



Dr. Carroll Chase,
R. F. D. 1,
Milford, N.H.

Dear Doc:

Under separate cover, by insured parcel post, I am sending you a very fine selection of 35 Express Mail covers - singles - doubles, triple and quad. I am making you a special price of \$125.00 for the lot. If you don't care for the entire lot, keep what you want and pay me whatever you think is right. As I wrote you I have been getting excellent prices for these covers and I have refused to sell any to dealers because I didn't want to run the risk of anyone cutting my prices.

I regret to state that at the present time I haven't any from any cities except Mobile and New Orleans. The plain truth is - whenever I can lay hands on any other cities I have several buyers.

I am enclosing herewith an article by Hinman that appeared in "Stamps" - please return. I also have some other data - very fine - very interesting - and I'll submit if you care to see it. I have long intended to write an article on the E.M. and have Lindquist publish it in booklet form. I think that it would have a good sale and would create quite a demand for the covers. The only trouble is that they are so darn scarce.

I very foolishly told Ward about the E.M. five or six years ago and he has been buying up every one that was a bit unusual. I should never have mentioned them to him. Would you believe that I have never seen but one from Philadelphia - and Ward has never been able to acquire one.

A dealer down East wrote me last summer and stated he had some E.M. covers for sale. I wrote him to submit. He had about four or five, none priced under \$25.00 each. He got peeved because I advised his prices were much too high and that I would supply him with single rates at a third of his prices.

A handstamped cover is something out of this world. I would be surprised if as many as a dozen are in existence.

Re - my letter of the 10th returned herewith. The 1853 was an error. What I want is a set of the 3¢ 1851 year colors. I would like as complete a set as possible - that is - various 1851 O.B.'s - the various 1852 shades - 1853 - 1854 - 1855 - 1856 and the various clarets, browns and plums of 1857. Plated copies not required.

This has been the queerest winter I ever experienced. This is Jan. 20th and so far we have had no snow except just a trace on several occasions. And this in spite of a lot of rain and several

Form 3813

RECEIPT FOR INSURED MAIL

CAUTION—Indemnity will not be paid unless this receipt or other equivalent evidence of insurance is submitted.

No. 1785 -----

Postage 15 cts. Insurance fee 30 cts.

Special delivery ----- cts. Special handling ----- cts.

Return receipt ----- cts. Restricted delivery ----- cts.

Fragile ----- Perishable -----

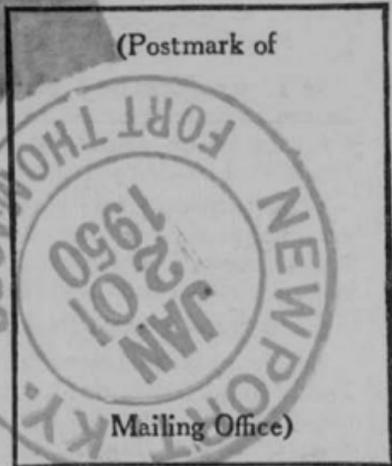
(Other endorsement)

NOTICE TO SENDER.—Enter below name and complete address of addressee. Show also if addressed in care of person, hotel, etc.

SENT TO -----

IMPORTANT.—READ OTHER SIDE REGARDING ENDORSEMENTS AND INDEMNITY.

SAVE THIS RECEIPT UNTIL PARCEL IS ACCOUNTED FOR



69-16-13285-8
POSTMASTER,

By [Signature] -----

SAVE THIS RECEIPT

It is understood that unless specially noted on face of receipt parcel contained no fragile or perishable matter. No indemnity will be paid for damage to fragile or spoiling of perishable matter resulting from the absence of the required endorsement.

If this receipt is not available in case of damage, spoiling, or partial loss, the wrapper of the parcel bearing the endorsement "INSURED No.," together with the serial number assigned to the parcel, may be submitted for consideration as evidence of insurance.

Claim must be filed within 6 months from date parcel was mailed.

Each article for which claim is filed should be described and value stated. Receipted bills, cash sales slips, if available, or other suitable evidence of value, should be submitted. IF ARTICLES WERE NOT NEW make allowance for depreciation due to age or use.

SCHEDULE OF DOMESTIC INSURANCE FEES

FEES	(Including Canada and Newfoundland)	*INDEMNITY
5 cents	-----	Value up to \$5
10 cents	-----	Value up to \$10
15 cents	-----	Value up to \$25
20 cents	-----	Value up to \$50
25 cents	-----	Value up to \$100
30 cents	-----	Value up to \$200

*Maximum indemnity in case of Newfoundland, \$100. Apply at post-office window for information concerning fees applicable to insured mail for foreign countries.

(Claims may be filed at any post office)

#2. Dr. Carroll Chase, Jan. 20, 1950.

colds spells with drops below 20. We have had a lot of fog and dark overcast days with no sight of the sun for days.

People around here have been saying for a number of years that the weather in the Ohio Valley was changing - It certainly seems to be a fact.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

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

Jan 16 '50

Dear Stan:- Thank for your two letters of the 15th and for the enclosure. I am much pleased with the Charleston at 12 1/2. I think, however, that I'll return the others. I have no one definite in mind except for the Charleston - paid for so I guess I'll not stock them.

The Express Mails however are a different story. Here I would like a dozen or so if you can spare them conveniently. I'll promise not to sell any in the Detroit region. If you wish, make me up a selection, priced separately, and I'll probably take a hundred dollars worth - perhaps even considerably more. I'll like at least one double, triple & quadruple. Have you any fine cities other than New Orleans & Mobile?

Nothing new up this way. No snow at all! Most unusual.

Best to you both
as ever

C. C.

Jan. 30, 1950.

Dr. Carroll Chase,
R. F. D. 1,
Milford, N.H.

Dear Doc:

Yours of the 27th received with return of the E.M. article and check for \$125.00. Thanks very much. Next time I won't bother with the insured parcel post as it is just about as expensive as registered mail. I was glad that you liked the lot and I'll see if I can't dig you out another quad. I think that I have three or four left. If I get any from any other cities I'll send them to you.

My copy of Huber's book did not arrive until this morning. I haven't had a chance to do more than just glance thru it. I read some of his chapters in manuscript but I don't think he submitted the one on the E.M. I believe that I sent him some photographs. Delf Norona wrote an article for the A.P. about fifteen years ago but it was not as good as the one by Ward Hinman.

I have a lot of additional data and if I had the time I could put together quite an interesting story.

I had my collection down to New York at the Cipex. I should have shown it to you. Soon afterward I sold it for \$800.00. I would like to buy it back at \$1,000.00.

I am sure that I have been selling covers too cheap. What prices do you suggest? I'll go right along with you and help in any way that I can.

Still no snow.

Regards -

Yours etc.,

President
STANLEY B. ASHBROOK
33 North Fort Thomas Avenue
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

General Vice-President
LAWRENCE L. SHENFIELD
40 Highland Circle
Bronxville 8, New York

Southern Vice-President
DR. MARYE YEAMANS DABNEY
3206 Cliff Road
Birmingham 5, Alabama



Secretary-Treasurer
T. W. CRIGLER, JR.
Macon, Mississippi

Trans-Mississippi Vice-President
EARL B. ANTRIM
319 Holly Street
Nampa, Idaho

Northern Vice-President
VAN DYK MACBRIDE
744 Broad Street
Newark 2, New Jersey

Authentication Committee
LAWRENCE L. SHENFIELD, Chairman
40 Highland Circle
Bronxville 8, New York

January thirtieth
19 50

Dear Stan:

Herewith the Richland Prison item - rather interesting, especially the note at top on purchase of stamps. Note that Confed postage paid (apparently) but not indicated and completely unsealed. I have another with letter headed "C.S. Military Camp, Columbia, S.C. Nov. 15, 1864" (originally Richey) photo of which I enclose for your interest. It may also be "Richland" tho not so marked. The censor's name is not the same as on the "Richland". Please return the photo for my files.

Also herewith is transcript of the Reagan letter which I think is a wonderful item, even tho 1867.

Sending copy of this to Mac.

Regards,

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

Regular Mail

Jan. 17, 1950.

Mr. R. M. Wilkinson,
Box 129,
Shelby, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Wilkinson:

Herewith is a very rare P of W cover - with letter enclosed - from a Federal officer confined in a Southern prison.

From "Richland Prison - Columbia S.C." This is a new one to me and also to MacBride - never before have I heard of "Richland Prison" - This is not very pretty to look at but it is a rarity and even if you do not care to acquire, I am sure you will enjoy seeing it and reading the letter.

It was undoubtedly sent to Richmond under separate cover - perhaps with other letters to go via Flag of Truce, thus no Confederate postal markings - It entered the U.S. mail at Old Point Comfort, and being unpaid was charged with double postage on delivery. You will note that there is no evidence on the envelope that the letter was from a member of the Federal Army, hence the double postage due.

The price is \$25.00.

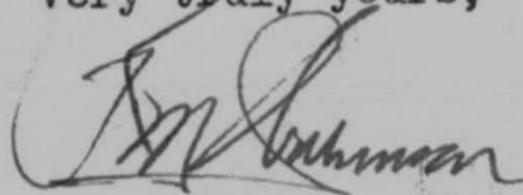
Sincerely,

Shelby, Ohio
Jan 31, 1950

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

In my hurry to complete some letters today I made the statement to you 'or Castle Thunder' - this is incorrect. I just was not thinking what I said. I think Castle Thunder was at Richmond wasn't it? and the spelling of Castle Pickney was incorrect. This was at ~~Charleston~~ Charleston, S. C.

Very truly yours,



I discovered this on copy



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

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

Shelby, Ohio
January 31, 1950

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

My dear Mr. Ashbrook:

First, I must be excused for being so tardy in replying to yours of the 17th containing the 'RICHLAND PRISON' item. It is indeed beyond my fondest hopes - and I appreciate this. You will of course find the check herewith for same. We have been away, my reason for not replying sooner.

Your statement: "it is not pretty to look at" is correct - but, it advances a pet theory of mine. I have always contended that any place that was thought safe was used to house prisoners. As time goes on others might show up. It is like the un-listed censors markings of Johnson's Island, Ohio. I have several that are not listed. Old tobacco warehouses or jails large enough were used more than we will ever know, even if only temporarily.

^{At Charleston S.C.}
The only fortification in South Carolina in which P O W were confined (as far as known) was at ~~Castle Thunder, or more correctly - Castle Pinckney~~. And since, all penitentiaries or jails were used I for one, think this a remarkable item.

The name of the prison was correct and is correct. There was a large three storied prison located in Columbia, S. C. and from the name of the county (Richland) the name of the prison was taken. This prison was located on Washington Street immediately in the rear of the City Hall and Market. This, in 1856 was very densely populated and today, upon the direct site of the old Richland Prison the negro Masonic Temple stands today. It is interesting to note that their temple is also three stories high. This old Richland Prison was burned during the sacking of Columbia upon the arrival of Sherman's Army in 1865.

Almost as soon as Sherman's Army reached Columbia the prison and guard house were fired. It is stated in histories that huge piles of cotton were placed in the streets and these were burned. At about twelve o'clock during these events the prison caught fire from within. It is thought that some former escapees from the Asylum (another place of confinement for Federals) were the instigators of the first fire. This fire was soon extinguished. These escapees had been secreted and sheltered by some citizens of Columbia. But, about half past one another fire broke out which finished the prison.

Of course, the Federal prisoners were released and subsequently followed the army.

The fact remains, that since, these released prisoners attached themselves to the army and that we have this cover and letter it verifies another prison - which to date so little is known about.

Thanking you and assuring you that I will appreciate any other additional information you can furnish, I remain,

please advise Mr. MacBride.

Very truly yours,
Sam Johnson

Re - Richland Prison

R.M. Wilkinson wrote S.B.A. under date of Jan. 31, 1950:

"The only fortification in South Carolina in which P O W were confined (as far as known) was at Castle Pinckney at Charleston, S.C. And since, all penitentiaries or jails were used I for one, think this a remarkable item.

The name of the prison was correct and is correct. There was a large three storied prison located in Columbia, S.C. and from the name of the county (Richland) the name of the prison was taken. This prison was located on Washington Street immediately in the rear of the City Hall and Market. This, in 1856 was very densely populated and today, upon the direct site of the old Richland Prison the negro Masonic Temple stands today. It is interesting to note that their temple is also three stories high. This old Richland Prison was burned during the sacking of Columbia upon the arrival of Sherman's Army in 1865.

Almost as soon as Sherman's Army reached Columbia the prison and guard house were fired. It is stated in histories that huge piles of cotton were placed in the streets and these were burned. At about twelve o'clock during these events the prison caught fire from within. It is thought that some former escapees from the Asylum (another place of confinement for Federals) were the instigators of the first fire. This fire was soon extinguished. These escapees had been secreted and sheltered by some citizens of Columbia. But, about half past one another fire broke out which finished the prison.

Of course, the Federal prisoners were released and subsequently followed the army.

The fact remains, that since, these released prisoners attached themselves to the army and that we have this cover and letter it verifies another prison - which to date so little is known about."

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R. M. Wilkinson

Box 129

SHELBY, OHIO

Feb. 3, 1950

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

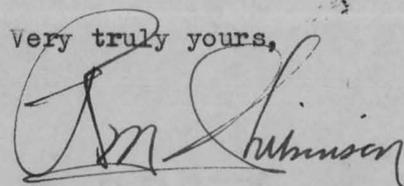
I was in too much of a hurry in my reply to you, because I had a tremendous amount of work piled up. I always pay for a few days away.

I would like your opinion as to whether or not it would pay to do a short article, with the few facts I have on Richland Prison.

One might be able to pick up more material on this. And if you do think so, what type of title should be used?

Your opinion rules.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "R. M. Wilkinson". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "R. M. Wilkinson".

REPUBLIC BOND

CONFIDENTIAL

Mr Sylvester Colby

505 Fifth Ave

New York N.Y

TELEGRAM

Prospect turned it down because
he was fearful of defects stop
Have several more and
will keep you advised

Stanley B. Berman

Feb. 13, 1950.

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

Dear Sy:

I have had several turn-downs on the
7RLE but I am today sending it to a prospect and
I have hopes that he will like it sufficiently
to keep it despite the thin spots.

I appreciate the fact that you would
like to move it as soon as possible and I will
make every effort to that end.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

U.S. POSTAGE
THREE CENTS

sylvester colby
505 FIFTH AVENUE • NEW YORK 17 N.Y.

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

February 11, 1950

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

Dear Stan:

Just for the record, may I say that we appreciate your efforts in trying to get the stamp placed. It is too bad the first try ~~ended~~ out. There is no particular rush, though it is understandable Bruce and I would like to move it.

Best regards.

Sy



505 FIFTH AVENUE

NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

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

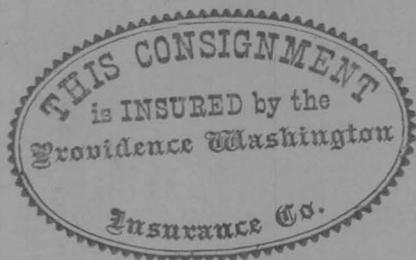
Dear Stan -

Please check the enclosed for me
Seems to be a good one -

Postage etc is enclosed

Regards

Sy



Jan. 30, 1950.

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

Dear Sy:

This will confirm receipt of the One Cent 1851, single off cover, Type I, 7RLE, also our phone conversation.

After I talked with you I put the opy in tetro and found it had some thin spots at top and one in the back of the head. These are on the back and do not show on the face. There is also a horizontal crease across the top which does show on the face.

I will hold the stamp pending further advice from you.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

Feb. 13, 1950.

Mr. N. A. Woodworth,
1300 E. Nine Mile Road,
Ferndale 20, Mich.

Dear Woody:

Yours received and here is the stamp
described in mine of the 4th.

I think that it speaks for itself. I
have signed it on the back.

The price is \$1,275.00.

In my very humble opinion I think that
the beautiful appearance of this copy will always
make it a very safe investment at the price.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

NEWTON A. WOODWORTH
FERNDALE, MICHIGAN

February 10, 1950

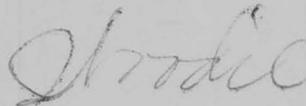
Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook,
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.,
Ft. Thomas, Kentucky.

Dear Stan:

I am sorry for the delay in answering your letter of February 4th which was caused by my absence from the city.

I might be interested in buying this stamp you mentioned in your letter, but I would much rather see it in the flesh first.

Very truly yours,



N. A. Woodworth

NAW/b

Feb. 3, 1950.

Mr. Ben B. Newman,
175 W. Jackson Blvd.,
Chicago 4, Ill.

Dear Ben:

Why do you suppose it takes a registered letter from Wednesday to Friday A.M. to get down here? Note the back handstamps herewith.

Thanks for the return of the 7R1E. Ben, I am so nuts about any copy of a 7R1E that my opinion is not worth a darn. I am so prejudiced in its favor that I suppose I am not capable of rendering a fair and impartial opinion.

This copy on the face is the most beautiful one that I have seen in years - full margins all around and no cancelation to cover up any part of the design. I realize and did realize that it had some defects, otherwise I think that this copy would easily be worth \$2,000. In other words, I think that its low price has discounted the defects. You see Ben, I am prejudiced and biased and not capable of an accurate opinion on this copy, but I would be willing to bet that you will never have an opportunity to purchase another copy as beautiful as this at such a low price. Its my opinion that the beauty of this copy will always make it a desirable addition to any collection. But that is just my opinion and its prejudiced, so don't hold it against me.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

\$ 1275⁰⁰

Feb. 4, 1950.

Mr. Mortimer L. Neinken,
49 West 23rd St.,
New York 10, N.Y.

Dear Mort:

Herewith the strip of three as per yours of the 1st. You are quite right - this strip is from the top row of Plate 3 but I do not know the plate positions or even the pane. I might get some idea as to the latter on the spacing and alignment but it would not be accurate.

In the West sale back in 1943, Lot 311 was a cover with a very fine single - a top row copy from Plate 3 - Because I described it as such, Souren paid \$100.00 for it. Here is a photo of the West stamp - You will note it is the same as your center copy. If I wanted to do a little guessing (which is bad in plating) - I would make a guess that this strip is 1R3 - 2R3 - 3R3.

Mort, I know you won't mind if I make the following comments:

(A) Plate One Early prints were never in a shade like this.

(B) Note the film of ink across lower part of this strip - This is a typical Plate 3 characteristic and we never find this on Plate One Early prints - Plate One Early must have had a very highly polished surface - no grainy surface to hold ink - impressions generally razor sharp.

(C) To my eye - Plate One Early prints are as different from any from Plates 2 or 3 as day is from night but that faculty comes from years and years of close study. In time it will also come to you. I think you have accomplished wonders in your study of the One Cent stamps. In fact, if I was as smart as you are I would have accomplished what I did in a half to a third of the time - Now I am not kidding or trying to be funny but I am serious and mean every word that I say. In fact, Mort, if you doubt the above statement you can get it confirmed by E. Perry, Rich or Konwiser. They will tell you that I am an awful dumb cluck. I don't argue with them.

I noted very carefully how you arrived at the positions on the Plate 12 block and I think your deductions were very clever as well as being very accurate. A close observation of every detail is half the battle in plate reconstruction.

#2.

Mr. Mortimer L. Neinken, Feb. 4, 1950.

Re - the Jefferys collection. Several have taken the matter up with me about writing a booklet on the One Cent Plate 3. All of the Jefferys material would be loaned to me - (1) to check his plating - (2) make photographs - (3) and make an exhaustive study of all my notes with his material - (4) for the purpose of publishing the fullest information possible on Plate 3 so that specialists could plate material. It certainly is a grand idea so far as everyone is concerned but me. I went worse than broke in writing the One Cent book and I don't want another experience like that. Such a work as proposed would entail long hours of hard work with no financial compensation whatsoever. That's the reason why I mentioned that the proposal was a grand idea for everyone concerned but myself.

Mort, I have a perfectly marvelous copy, off cover, of the Type I - 7R1E - a sidewalk all around - and so lightly canceled it is practically unused. It has a slight crease across the top and a small thin spot on the back - in the back of Franklin's head. Without these minor defects I think this copy would be worth \$2,000. It is really beautiful and on its face it is the most superb looking 7R1E in my records. The price is \$1,275.00 and I think the low price more than discounts the minor defects. It is so beautiful that I think its beauty will always make it a very desirable investment. If you want to see it, I'll be glad to send it down for a look. Wire me on receipt of this letter if you are interested.

I also have a 5¢ 1856, vertical strip of three on a piece, very fine, Price \$275.00. The latter is offered subject to confirmation.

With all good wishes -

Cordially yours,

Feb. 4, 1950.

Mr. N. A. Woodworth,
1300 E. Nine Mile Road,
Ferndale 20, Mich.

Dear Woody:

I have been offered a gorgeous looking copy of the One Cent 1851, Type I, 7R1E, off cover, with full margins all around, beautiful color, and very lightly canceled. In fact, the cancel is so slight that the copy almost appears as unused.

Of all the singles of this stamp that I have seen, I recall none that is any more beautiful in appearance. It seems to be the rule that if a copy is not cut into it is heavily canceled, and when lightly canceled, it is cut into at some part of the design.

This beautiful copy has a crease just above the top of the design - It is not noticeable and in my opinion, it is of no importance. The stamp also has a minor thin spot on the back in the back of Franklin's head. I mention these, otherwise would term the copy superb. Without them I think the copy would well be worth \$2,000. As it is, it is a very safe investment at the price asked. Would you be interested?

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

Feb. 21, 1950.

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

Dear Sy:

I sold the 7RLE @ \$1,275.00 and received the check this afternoon. If you want the name of the buyer I'll be glad to give it to you.

On account of the fact that I had several turn-downs I wouldn't want that fact to get back to the owner so I suggest that we make no mention of this transaction to anyone.

Herewith check as per agreement for \$750.00.

With best wishes -

Yours etc.,

\$1,275
225
<hr/>
\$1,050
525
225
<hr/>
\$ 750

N. A. WOODWORTH COMPANY

FERNDALE 20, MICHIGAN

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

February 20, 1950

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

My dear Stanley:

I am enclosing a cashier's check in the amount of \$1,275.00 in payment for the stamp received from you a few days ago.

I am glad to get this stamp and I wonder if you would tell me how many of these are available at the present time. This is a very nice looking copy and, except for the tin spot in the stamp, it will pass very nicely for a very good copy.

With kindest regards, I am,

Sincerely yours,



N. A. Woodworth

NAW/b
encl.

Feb. 22, 1950.

Mr. N. A. Woodworth,
Ferndale 20, Mich.

Dear Woody:

Yours of the 20th with check for the 7RLE received.
Thanks very much.

I am sure you will never regret the purchase of that
copy and I dare state that it will create a lot of envy when-
ever shown.

Regarding the number of known copies of the Type I.
It must have been along about 1914 or 1915 that I began making
a record of every copy that I could locate - past records, in
collections, auction sales, thru advertisements, etc., etc.
In other words, over a period of about 35 years. Your copy re-
ceived the No. 60 on my list but I have no way of knowing how
much duplication exists because in certain listings I simply
have the memo that Mr. X has a used copy or that Mr. Z has a pair
with a 7RLE, etc. In quite a number of my listings I have
actual photographs that I made or had made. I estimate, that
eliminating possible duplication that my record probably consists
of fifty different copies of the stamp - on cover - off cover -
in singles - pairs - strips, etc., and all sorts of condition,
cut into, badly damaged, heavily canceled, etc. etc. If you
could go thru my file with me I am sure that you would be sur-
prised at the small number of copies that are of record in really
good condition. Among singles very few are not cut into or with
fair margins, or not heavily canceled or a faded color.

Someday you must pay me a visit in my stamp room and
see for yourself a portion of my philatelic records.

I was grieved at the news of Don Bennett's passing.
He was greatly loved by all who knew him.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

U.S. POSTAGE
10c
EUREKA, CALIF. 1915

syvester colby
505 FIFTH AVENUE • NEW YORK 17
INC.

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

1950 SCOTT SPECIALIZED U. S.
ORDER NOW - \$3.50

February 23, 1950

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

Dear Stan:

"SC" Many thanks for your kindness in taking care of the stamp. Receipt is acknowledged of your check for which Bruce and I thank you. We are quite content to let the transaction rest.

"SC" There is just one thought that comes to me, and that is, if you had a photo made of the stamp, we should like to have a copy for our files.

"SC" Best regards.

Sy

SC:am

WILLARD C. JACKSON

STAMPS AND SUPPLIES FOR COLLECTORS



A. P. S. 20832

T. P. A. 515

325 Bewley Building
FORT WORTH 2, TEXAS

February 8, 1950

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

I am enclosing herewith a copy of what I believe is a Type 1C of the 1 cent blue perforated. It has all these earmarks according to your description in your book on 1 Cent Blues. However, since the stamp is rather hard to classify my customer has asked me to send to you for your comments. I would appreciate your remarks and send me bill for your services.

Thanking you in advance, I remain,

Very truly yours,

Willard C. Jackson

P. S. In addition to the above mentioned 1 cent blue, I am enclosing herewith two (2) 1869 covers, the 15c Type I and the 30 cent. Would like to know if these two items are genuine used covers. WCJ

Enclosures

1 copy 1 cent blue 1857-61 U. S. issue
1 U. S. 119 on cover
1 U. S. 121 on cover



HERMAN HERST, JR.

SHRUB OAK, N. Y.



to put it briefly

I am sending you herewith a 30c 1869 cover which just came in, which I would appreciate your looking over in order to tell me what you can about it. I want you to know that in the event it is o.k., I may use your letter to substantiate the cover, so when you reply let me know how much I owe you for your opinion. With best wishes, I am

Herman Herst, Jr.

Feb. 17, 1950.

Mr. Herman Herst, Jr.,
Shrub Oak, N.Y.

Pat -

Herewith the 30¢ 1869 cover as per yours of the
13th.

Frankly I do not like to pass on a cover such as
this where the evidence, one way or the other is so meager.
However, here are some comments:

Apparently the use was April 1870 from New York. I
examined the year dates on the back very carefully under my
lamp and microscope and I failed to detect any tampering so I
assume that the use was actually April 1870. One point I
never like on such a cover is the missing part that had the
written year - You will note it is missing. I suppose the
fakers find it much easier to change stamped year dates (for
example "76" to "70") than to change pen dates so they simply
tear them off. But assuming that the use was actually April
1870, the rate by closed mail thru England to Sicily, was 15¢
per $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce. Thus this could have been a double rate. I
suppose the green "2" might indicate a double, but inasmuch as
I have never seen any covers with green pencil marks from the
New York Post Office in 1870, I assume this "2" was applied by
the sender. The New York red postmark was of a type used in
1870. I tried to detect evidence of substitution of another
stamp but failed to find any, therefore, everything considered,
I believe that the cover is genuine but inasmuch as I am not
sure, I would prefer not to be quoted. For that reason, I am
not making any charge for this examination.

In this case I think that the cover should be sent to
the Philatelic Foundation for their opinion, not that I would
give a damn for it, but for your own protection.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

E. D. WARSHAUER
901 HILLSIDE BLVD.
Carrcroft
WILMINGTON, DELAWARE

Sept. 6, 1950

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

You may recall the early part of the summer Pat Hurst sent you a cover he purchased abroad bearing the 30¢ 1869 for your inspection. I understand you gave no definite opinion but pointed out several facts in its favor. Pat offered the cover to me and although I am usually not interested in this type of material - sold without guarantee - I really believe it is genuine so I bought it. In attempting to prove this I discovered the following facts which may "help the cause". First of all upon examining the paper I found it was watermarked "1867" with the name of the manufacturer. I contacted his agent and learned the date signifies the year it was made. Since the paper came from England I do not think it would be unusual for two years to elapse before it was used. This would pin the date down to after 1867 usage and eliminate any earlier issues. Secondly I

found the addressee was located at the Broadway address between the years 1869-74 which would seem to further tie the date to 1869.

Knowing of your interest in this value on cover I wonder if you have any further comments or suggestions that might assist me in proving the cover is genuine. Incidentally I did send it to Stanley Gibbons and while they state (quote) "It is our opinion that the 30¢ stamp was used on the cover" (unquote) they cannot agree regarding the date.

By the way I have now received replies from Kimble + Lundquist and they cannot locate the article mentioned by you.

Cordially,

E. S. Warshaw

Sept. 9, 1950.

Mr. E. D. Warshauer,
901 Hillside Blvd.,
Carrcroft,
Wilmington, Delaware.

Dear Mr. Warshauer:

Re - yours of the 6th. I recall the 30¢
1869 cover that Pat Herst sent me last February and
I have before me a photo-print of it, and also a copy
of my letter to him. I doubt if I can add a thing
at this time.

I note that in my letter I expressed the
opinion that a doubtful item such as this should not
be sold without a certificate by the Philatelic Founda-
tion.

When I get a little time I will attempt to
locate that article for you.

Sincerely yours,

BRASINELLI
TORINO

By H.H. Jr
2/17-1950

On Back "70"



Recd

Place

Big Giuseppe Verde

Trayna Marina

Palermo
Sicily

35000

30¢ 1869 Cover, New York To Palermo Sicily - By Herman Herst, Jr
Feb 17 1950. See Scrap Book 18 - Page 28 - Apparent Use
APR 10 1870 - Opinion Was - Probably Genuine But
Little Evidence One Way or Other -

GREEN
SEC F 128

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HERMAN HERST, JR.

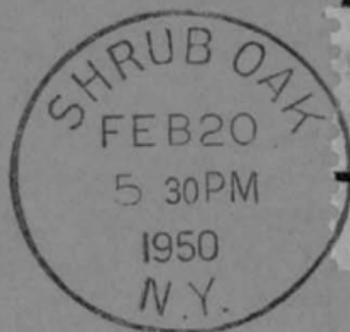
SHRUB OAK, NEW YORK

TELEPHONE: LAKELAND 3331

Thanks a lot Stanley for your comments on the 30c 1869 cover sent you. If the owner permits, I agree with you that it would be best to send it to the R Foundation, but I shall have to get his consent S since this is likely to take a month or two. T I am grateful to you for your help, and appreciate your courtesy. I only wish that there F was some way in which I could reciprocate. I With best regards, I am

Pat

YOU HAVE A FRIEND IN THE BUSINESS!



Stanley B. Ashbrook
33 No. Ft. Thomas Ave.,
Ft. Thomas Ky.

Van Dyk Mac Bride
744 Broad Street
Newark 2, N. J.

Quoted from letter of Leonard V. Huber dated January 30, 1950:

I think you have the answer as to how the N.O. Post Office receipted for postage paid between June 1 and June 12, 1861. Judging from the scribble on Mr. Somdal's cover, they must have had to write it on all. Things must have been in a terrible mess at the time and apparently the "N.O.P.O." handstamp had not yet been thought of.

I think I can answer your question about the use of the "N.O.P.O." handstamp to cancel Riddell's adhesives. They seem never to throw anything away in post offices, particularly handstamps. I have seen examples of handstamps in use in the 1840s on 3¢ greens twenty five years later, so it is not too much to reason that after the appearance of the adhesive stamp they merely used the "N.O.P.O." stamp as a killer. This is frankly a guess, but it is a guess based on some knowledge of the habits of postal employees. We know also that only certain clerks handled the steamboat mail. This would account for the use of the double circle N.O. postmark together with the N.O.P.O. stamp. These clerks probably appropriated the stamp for their own use after its use as a provisional handstamp was ended.

As the times were extremely confused and people were not acquainted with the raise in rates, it is quite possible that the "PAID 5" was put on your cover of July 29, 1861 by some postal official or steamboat clerk who was not acquainted with the 7¢ rate. When the mail arrived at New Orleans, it was stamped "Steam 7" and the extra 2¢ collected from the recipient.

Van Dyk Mac Bride
744 Broad Street
Newark 2, N. J.

February 6th, 1950.

Mr. Leonard V. Huber,
4841 Canal Street,
New Orleans 19, La.

My dear Huber:

Thanks a lot for your fine and interesting letter of January 30th.

I guess that unless we learn otherwise, we will just have to assume that postage paid in New Orleans between June 1st and June 12th, 1861, was simply noted in manuscript on each cover, as in the case of the Somdal cover which you illustrated in your book. It is of course possible that the post office did this while awaiting delivery of the adhesive stamps and handstamps which it had ordered, but in view of the size of the city it must have been quite a chore! I will hope that we can locate some more examples of this on covers sent during that period, - I suppose that relatively few of them were saved, however, because of the very fact that the postage was written instead of handstamped.

However, I am afraid you still haven't the complete answer as to why the N.O.P.O. handstamp was so often used to cancel the Provisional stamps. It was placed too carefully to just assume that the clerks picked it up and used it as a "killer". Every example I have seen shows that it was hit very carefully on each stamp, - twice when a pair of stamps was used, and that the 5¢ handstamp was used only on the 5¢ stamps, and the 2¢ one on the 2¢ stamps! Also, the "J. L. Riddell" handstamp was impressed on each such cover, and the small double-circle New Orleans postmark was almost invariably used in each such case. I think that these stamps were attached to the envelopes at the post office, cancelled with the N.O.P.O. handstamp, the Riddell handstamp impressed, and that they then were sold across the counter as "stamped envelopes", and were addressed, mailed, and postmarked later. This is the only tenable theory I can think of, - but others do not agree with me, - and we all await something more to confirm or deny it.

As for my "STEAM 7" cover, I think it quite possible that the PAID 5 was written on it at the point of mailing, and that when the cover arrived in New Orleans by boat, it was stamped STEAM 7 and the extra 2¢ was then paid. My present question was whether the 2¢ was collected from the recipient, or was paid by the post office as part of its services, and the letter delivered without collecting this extra charge, *as I think you said in your reply,*

If you have or develop any further information on these matters at any time, I would be most happy and grateful to have you pass them along to me.

Sincerely yours,

Check this

MacB/HK

COPY

Van Dyk Mac Bride
744 Broad Street
Newark 2, N. J.

February 11th, 1950.

Mr. Frederick J. Grant,
2901 Los Feliz Boulevard,
Los Angeles, California.

Dear Fred:

I realized that you were in one of your very busiest periods, both when you didn't reply to my several communications, and when I read that your firm had an outstanding showing of china at the big Chicago merchandise fair! But, - I always allow for such circumstances in your case, and I don't mind a bit not hearing from you promptly!

I am glad to hear that you got and have read a copy of "The Great Mail", - which I quite agree is a very fine piece of work and contains a lot of information which will be very useful for future reference. I noted that the authors did not include several express markings of the period, such as the Southwest Express and the Pioneer Express, - and I called the latter to their attention. On the chance that they might put out another or expanded edition, why not write Mr. Huber of your fine cover, - which I am sure he would be very glad to know of.

It is interesting to have Warren Colson's opinions on the N.O.P.O. handstamps. I already have records of some which show offsets of the postmark on their reverse sides, and of course I think that this is a further indication of their undoubtedly Provisional preparation. Incidentally, this has been a pretty well-known feature in establishing the manufacture of handstamped Confederate Provisionals from other places, in the past.

The more I study this N.O.P.O. thing, the more I am convinced that these handstamps were used to make Provisional envelopes. Also, I still think that when they were used to cancel the Provisional adhesive stamps, that they actually formed Provisionally issued "stamped envelopes", prepared at the post office and sold prior to usage. In this connection you once told me you had one or more where the adhesive stamp had been placed over a portion of the written address. I would greatly like to see an example of this if possible, for I admit that it would weaken my theory considerably. Have you one or more which I could examine?

*Think they are
Provs.*

I am continuing my study on the N.O.P.O. handstamps, and have just about finished a listing of all that I have seen or have been able to locate. The listing is in considerable detail, including the type of postmark and date of each cover and where addressed, and with comments pointing out any outstanding features, etc. I shall send a copy of this to you as well as to Shenfield and Ashbrook, and from it we may well be able to reach some useful conclusions.

I am glad you liked the photostat of the New Orleans stamp money I sent you. They certainly are odd things, but I don't believe there can be any doubt that at least the smaller denominations, - up to 15¢, - were actually issued and used, to some extent.

Cordially yours,



MacB/HK

c.c.:

S.B. Ashbrook
L.L. Shenfield

COPY

Van Dyke & Co. Inc.
744 Broad Street
Newark 2, N. J.

February 24th, 1950.

Mr. Frederick J. Grant,
2901 Los Feliz Boulevard,
Los Angeles, California.

Dear Fred:

Thanks a lot for your cooperation as to your N.O.P.O. covers. I note you have two covers and one piece with two stamps cancelled N.O.P.O. Also, that the small postmark is used on both covers, etc.

Will you now be good enough to give me this additional, brief information? What is the full date in each of these two cancels? What are the names of the steamers written on each cover? Are the two stamps on the piece two singles or a pair, and is the N.O.P.O. cancellation struck twice?

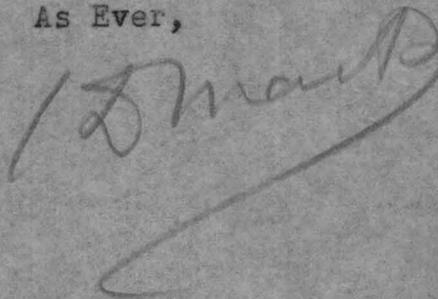
In the analytical list of these markings which I am working on, I have now decided to add a description of any covers used with either the New Orleans Provisional stamps OR Confederate General Issue stamps which are cancelled with the small double circle postmark. I own one with the Provisional stamp which you generally presented to me sometime ago, on which the cancel is dated October 1, 1861. Then I have a photo of that one with a rouletted 5¢ Green which you own, with the cancel dated April 18, 1862. I know you have others, - will you please give me the dates in the cancellations, the place to which addressed, the adhesive stamp used, and any other cancels, handstamps, steamer names or other notations which may appear thereon?

Shenfield has a cover bearing the 5¢ Provisional tied with a double-circle cancel dated October 9, and also the large single circle cancel dated October 10, addressed to Natchez. Do you have any covers showing both these cancels, and if so will you please describe, giving me the same details as asked above?

A collector-friend of mine has a cover which apparently ran the blockade from England to New Orleans. It has "Due \$1.50" and "2" written on it in blue pencil, - for the blockade and ship postage, - but I was chiefly interested to note that it has the small double-circle New Orleans postmark dated Jan. 4, 1862. Thus it seems that this type of postmark was used on ALL mail arriving in New Orleans by boat, - whether by river or by ocean!

Finally, some time I would greatly like to see that cover or a good photograph thereof, which shows the Provisional adhesive cancelled N.O.P.O. and applied over a portion of the address. No hurry about this, but I would appreciate receiving the other data asked for herein as promptly as possible.

As Ever,

A handwritten signature in cursive, appearing to read "J. M. Smith", written in dark ink. The signature is written over a large, faint, circular scribble or mark.

MacB/HK

c.c.: L.L.Shenfield
S.B.Ashbrook

March 2nd, 1950.

Mr. Van Dyk MacBride,
744 Broad St.,
Newark 2, N.J.

Dear Mac:

I have your memo of the 27th re - the N.O. post office covers. I looked up both of the articles but doubt if I can add anything to the published accounts. The Steve Brown cover is very interesting and the facts as set forth are very convincing. I note that this cover did not come up in the Brown sale, so I suppose that Steve borrowed it from some collector. If you publish an article you may turn it up.

Considering the Brown and Somdal covers, it is my guess that the former was probably an actual P.M.P., whereas the latter was simply a H.S.P.

You are doing some nice work on this subject. Perhaps a short advance article in "Stamps," outlining what you are trying to develop and soliciting assistance might bring some good results.

Yours etc.,

PUTNAM SUPPLY COMPANY

OFFICE AND YARD: FOOT OF SPRING STREET • TELEPHONE 9133
PEORIA, ILLINOIS



Feb. 27, 1950

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

Dear Stan:

I am enclosing a very interesting cover for your inspection and O.K.

While the price is high I am inclined to feel it is enough unusual if O.K. to even now add to my collection. What do you think?

Will be very much interested in hearing from you on the Herst item? As to what I might have to pay for it and whether or not we can arrange a party to purchase for us in Boston.

The coal business is about over. This week all of our supplies will have run out and the weather yesterday was 10 below zero.

Sure will welcome anything from what we are having to go thru now.

My best to you and Mildred, I remain,

Sincerely,

Charlie
Chas. M Putnam Jr.

If you feel that I should add the item to my collection will you kindly sign it on the back as genuine. Will get all settled up with you one of these fine days.

March 2nd, 1950.

Mr. Charles M. Putnam, Jr.,
% Putnam Supply Co.,
Foot of Spring St.,
Peoria 3, Ill.

Dear Charley:

Herewith the 5¢ 1847 cover, which in my opinion is a fake - that is, the 5¢ stamp never originated on this cover. I don't think that there is any doubt whatsoever but what this was a stampless cover and that someone added this stamp and painted the "tie" on the cover - and incidentally a very poor job, not at all convincing, so evidently done by some amateur faker in this country or Canada. The foreign crooks take time and at least make their work look very genuine.

The blue of the postmark is surely not the same blue as on the stamp. With a cover such as this the quartz lamp is of little assistance - the blue on the buff envelope shows to a disadvantage.

By all means return the cover and if you want to use my name - tell them that I informed you the cover is a fake.

There was never any 5¢ rate to Canada, and the writer, from the handwriting must have been intelligent and aware that 10¢ was the rate - The 10¢ in the Buffalo postmark shows the letter was sent unpaid - and the Canadian "6D" was the 6pence due - equivalent to 10¢ in our currency. Whoever sent this to you should have known better.

So far Herst has not sent the 5¢ plate proof to me but when he does I will write you. There is a young chap in Boston who is under some obligation to me - His name is Molesworth - maybe I could get him to buy the item for me. I could also get Kelleher to attend to it or my good friend Maurice Blake. No doubt he would be the best choice.

I have been following the coal situation and it is simply terrible and the end is not yet. Perhaps some good will come out of it - perhaps the end of John L.

I note it was ten below up your way Sunday morning. It dropped to Zero here. Some weather.

Mildred says "Hello" to Caro and our best to you both.

Cordially yours,

Confederates,

Cover To France

From or Thru
Old Point Comfort



March 2nd, 1950.

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

Dear Stanley:

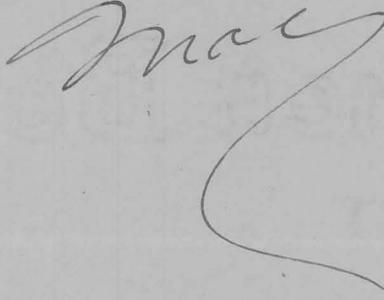
I send you herewith a photograph of a most interesting cover. The cover will be offered by John Fox in a sale in the near future, and he had this photograph made for me. Obviously, my interest is as to its possible bearing on my Confederacy - to-Europe study, and I would greatly like to have your opinion and comments, with that thought in mind.

The Old Point Comfort postmark dated December 16 (1861) is of course the "key". Unless written by someone in that village, or in Fortress Monroe or elsewhere nearby, it seems apparent that this folded letter originated at some point in the Confederacy. Who more likely would be writing to France than someone in New Orleans, for instance? Incidentally, part of the original letter has been destroyed, and all that remains on the reverse is the ending written in French and the signature of the sender. I suspect that this letter travelled in another cover bearing Confederate postage, flag of truce markings, etc. to Fortress Monroe, where it was taken out, examined, and sent on "Due" to France. Unfortunately, - that is necessarily all guess work! Also, I would like to have your comments on the markings and rates, - particularly as to the DUE 15 in a circle, - which is a new one to me.

Larry Shenfield sent me a copy of his recent letter to you in which he referred to certain things about the C.S.A. monthly Newsletter. This is to say that I wholly agree with him that it should cease making ANY offers to SELL anything. However, it should continue to list WANTS to buy, - information inquiries, etc. - as a service to the members.

I also think that we should give some careful thought to a possible scale of charges to be made by the Authentication Committee for its services. My present thought is that a nominal charge of 50¢ to \$1., plus postage and registry, might be made for examining each "ordinary" item sent in, - that is one requiring no research, correspondence, or special work. On the latter items, it might be an idea to recommend that they be submitted to the Philatelic Foundation, either directly by the owner or by our Committee, ~~and~~ their regular charges to be paid thereon. Thus we would not be "competing" with the Foundation, and we would be supporting its work. All of this might obviate the "free riders" who now come to our Committee, - mostly to Shenfield, - for free information, particularly dealers, - who thus gain financially thereby.

As Ever,

A handwritten signature in cursive, appearing to read 'MacB', with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right and then curves back down.

MacB/HK

c.c.: L.L.Shenfield

March 4, 1950.

Mr. Van Dyk MacBride,
744 Broad St.,
Newark 2, N.J.

Dear Mac:

Yours of the 1st received.

Herewith the John J. Manor cover of Jan. 10 '65, also the O.P.C. Due 6 - and the photostat of Earl's cover. He sent me a print a few weeks ago. Yesterday I wrote him to please send the cover as you wanted a print. I believe that Earl does not consider a use such as yours as a censor mark but rather as a corner card. I think he is wrong - absolutely wrong - I think the Manor marking is a censor's mark - on his cover - and on your cover. Note your "Due 6" - this is Atlanta not Augusta. I never saw a finer strike of the MANOR. I will send Earl a print.

Re - the N.O. P.O. - Ex-Richey cover. I never kept a separate record regarding sales of the Richey covers. The only record I might have would be my reports to him and it would be quite a job to search thru these to find a sale of an individual cover - might take considerable time which I can ill afford unless you have to have the information. I have no recollection who got that particular cover. It might have been Fred Grant but I doubt it.

Yes, the stamp is over part of the address and certainly indicates that this cover was not prepared and sold in advance of use. It seems odd that the Riddell handstamp is on this cover. Why not send your print to Fred and inquire if he owns the Richey cover.

With this I am returning the photo of the cover to France. Here are some points - The rate to France was 15¢ per $\frac{1}{4}$ ounce. Mail could be sent unpaid. This was sent unpaid - the Due 15 was surely applied at O.P.C. The New York marking is the Foreign Exchange - in black and the 3, our debit to France for our share of the rate. The large "8" is the French Due of 8 decimes, equivalent to 15¢ U. S. currency. I agree this could have originated in the South and went by F. of T. to O.P.C. On the other hand, it could have originated at O.P.C.

I agree one hundred percent that no material should be offered in the Bulletin and I wrote Larry to that effect. I also agree that a fee should be charged by the A. Committee and advised him to consult with the members of his Committee and to formulate a plan. No doubt he has taken the matter up with you by this time.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

H. W. STARK & CO.

18652 BIRCHCREST DRIVE

DETROIT 21, MICH.

April 4, 1950.

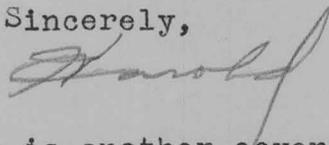
Dear Stan,

Thought you might be interested in the enclosed stampless cover. Red---Thamesville, U.C. Nov. 10, 1843; Thru Windsor, C.W. (strait line) (on back of cover). Thru Detroit Nov. 12, to Bethlehem, Pa.

There were three of these covers and I took the earliest date. Note canadâan red Paid 7. and our 25¢.

Dont know if Boggs would be interested but you can send it to him if you want to.

Sincerely,



P.S. Here is another cover that I believe to be rare. I have not seen anything like it before. I am going to repair the cover at the top. I have never seen "SHIP LETTER" cancelling the stamps. What do you think of it.

April 8, 1950.

Mr. Harold W. Stark,
P. O. Box 238,
Ann Arbor, Mich.

Dear Harold:

Herewith the two covers as per yours of the 4th.
Both are rather unusual and interesting.

The cover from Canada. This shows a payment "to the Lines" of seven pence (in Canada), and thru the Windsor Exchange Office to Detroit where it was rated as an unpaid letter with 25¢ due. It is my guess that this is not a very scarce item because there must have been quite a lot of mail thru the Windsor - Detroit offices in the early forties.

SHIP LETTER. The 6¢ rate to B.N.A. became effective on April 1, 1868. This "SHIP LETTER" marking was no doubt applied at St. John's, N.B.

St. John's exchanged with Portland and Eastport, Maine and Boston, Mass. (see 1867 P.L. & R. - Regulations - page 36). This was not placed in the Boston P.O. but mailed direct aboard ship and thus received the New Brunswick marking of "SHIP LETTER." Thus a 3¢ 1867 grill with a Canadian marking used as a killer. Quite nice. I made photos of front and back as the latter markings are very important. This cover and marking is very rare and the reason is quite obvious. It did not go thru the Boston P.O., but was mailed direct aboard ship.

I failed to find this marking listed in the Jarrett or Boggs books

Thanks very much for yours of the 2nd with check for \$65.00 for the three covers. Also thanks for return of the straight-line and the Confed. Patriotic.

As far as demoralizing a family is concerned a television set bad enough but a pool table is even worst as it takes up the time in the daytime. I have a television set that I bought in Jan. and I don't think Mildred and I have been away from it more than three or four nights since we have had it. It really has made regular buses out of both of us. If I would get a pool table I suppose we would wind up in the Poor House in a few month's time.

Mildred joins me in best wishes to Ruth, the family and you.

Cordially yours,

DONALD MACGREGOR
A.P.S. 15160 - C. C. OF N. Y.
1602 HOUSTONIA AVENUE
ROYAL OAK, MICHIGAN

April 6, 1950

Dear Stan:

Here is the cover - you will note the $\frac{1}{2}$ is not too clear.

Bill Stewart of Chicago was in town yesterday and he got me to go to the Kellogg Stamp Co - you probably know the proprietor - Alex Kellner. I showed him the cover and he said the $5\frac{1}{2}$ was put on over the crown marking. Even got out his binocular microscope to look at it. I showed the cover to Harold last night at D.P.S. and he said that the inks would run together and it is impossible to tell which was put on the cover first. He feels the cover is perfectly O.K. and offered me three times what I paid for it. I think Kellner may be right when he says the stamps have been removed from the cover and replaced in a slightly different position but that is a thing that is done sometimes to see if the stamps are O.K.

There are too many things right about the cover that too few people know

DONALD MACGREGOR
A.P.S. 15160 - C. C. OF N. Y.
1602 HOUSTONIA AVENUE
ROYAL OAK, MICHIGAN

about to make me think it is a phony. Note the number 3751 in lower right and compare the writing and color of ink to the number on my other cover to England (the Richey cover I got from you). That number must have been put on in New York. The color of the ink of the N.Y. postmark and the $5\frac{1}{2}$ are the same - a dirty red.

I felt sure you would be interested in this cover. It was in a lot of covers advertised on the back page of "Gossip" by a Mr. Virden who lives in Holton, Kansas where Gossip is printed. I had never heard of him before. He is not a dealer, I am sure. I sent for the cover hoping it would turn out to be an example of the 20¢ rate to England but I am not too disappointed. However I need two covers to England with the 20¢ registry rate paid in cash and in stamps to give me a complete showing of all rates abroad.

Yours very truly
Don

-over-

P.S.

Stan

Return the cover to me at my office as the mail carrier is rather rough on stuff in Royal Oak. The address is.

2126 Grand River Ave.

Detroit 1, Mich.

P.S.

After talking to Kellner I had made up my mind to send the cover to you tonight for your examination and I asked Jack Heckerstein what I should send you for your work. He said that 5 bucks was about right, so if it is not you blame Jack and let me know. Jack is broad-shouldered - he does not mind taking the blame.

Dan

April 10th, 1950.

Mr. Donald MacGregor,
2126 Grand River Ave.,
Detroit 1, Mich.

Dear Don:

Herewith your 12¢ 1857 cover to Scotland and in my opinion it is as good as gold. I failed to note a single suspicious feature and there is not the slightest doubt in my mind that the cover is perfectly good and does not show any sort of monkey business.

The "5½" is in the same ink as the New York postmark, as my quartz lamp demonstrates and inasmuch as the "Crown Registered" is a British marking, the latter was applied over the "5½." Any visual indication to the contrary is an optical illusion, in my opinion. The stamps are from Plate One, the only plate of the 12¢ that was in use at the time. Surely stamps were used to pay the rate and surely two stamps were used, hence they had to be 12¢ from Plate One. The stamps do not show any evidence that they were removed and replaced on the cover, in fact, there is rather definite evidence that they have not been disturbed.

I examined this cover very carefully under my quartz lamp and under my binocular microscope because I wanted to be sure. I also made a negative thru a green filter. Perhaps it will bring out the faint red brown "5½." In addition I made an exposure (F 128) under my quartz lamp (one hour 15 minutes). One can never tell how such a negative will turn out, but it might bring up the "5½" very plain.

Don you are doing a fine piece of work on "Registered Mail" and it is always a pleasure for me to lend you any assistance in my power. In fact, it is a privilege, so under such circumstances I would never think of charging you a fee. Thanks a million for your kindness in sending the check which I return herewith.

I think this is a very wonderful cover and I was delighted to see it. Whether my negatives turn out good or bad, I will at least send you some prints.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

May 27, 1950.

Mr. Don MacGregor,
2126 Grand River Ave.,
Detroit, Mich.

Dear Don:

Here is a letter from Arthur Pierce regarding Ethel Harper's opinion of your "5 $\frac{1}{2}$ " marking. I doubt if she could have done worse.

I sent my good friend Maurice Blake a photo-print to see if I could stump him but he came right up with the correct answer.

Do you correspond with Elliott Perry? If so, why not send him a photo-print and ask him if he can explain it? Offer to pay him a fee (I will reimburse you) and make out like you don't know the answer. He is such a big-know-it-all.

My regards -

Cordially yours,

May 26, 1950.

Mr. Arthur Pierce,
% Robson Lowe, Inc.,
225 S. Fifteenth St.,
Philadelphia 3, Pa.

Dear Mr. Pierce:

Thanks very much for your kind letter of the 24th.

Here is the explanation of the "5 $\frac{1}{2}$ " marking on the Registered rate cover from "West Union, Iowa", (Aug. 11, 1859) thru New York to Scotland.

This letter went thru the "Foreign Exchange" office of the New York Post Office and it was there that the "5 $\frac{1}{2}$ " was applied. This was evidently done with two stampers, a "5" and one with " $\frac{1}{2}$." It represented a credit to the British Post Office Dept. of 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ cents, U. S. currency. This letter was forwarded by an American Packet (meaning at the expense of the U.S. P.O.D.) and the British share of the single 24¢ rate was 3¢ (U.S.cy.). The 24¢ rate was as follows:

5¢ U.S.
16¢ Sea
3¢ British.

The U. S. registration fee at that time on mail to G.B. was 5¢, and such fees were equally divided between the two countries. Incidentally the registered fee was a fee payable by the sender in cash, not in stamps. Hence when the sender registered the letter at origin, he paid a fee in cash of 5¢. Thus the credit to the British P.O.D. was 3¢ plus $\frac{2}{3}$ ¢ or 5 $\frac{1}{3}$ ¢.

Additional articles to the U.S.-British Postal Treaty of 1848 were signed at Washington on March 20, 1856 and at London on April 9th, 1856. These articles provided for the registration of letters exchanged between the two countries. Each country had the right to fix the amount of the registration fee, and the fee collected was to be equally divided.

In all my experience I have seen very few registered covers (prior to 1860) from the U.S. to G.B. and this particular cover is the only one that I have ever seen with the credit handstamped.

Perhaps Miss Harper would like to retain the enclosed photograph.

#2. Mr. Arthur Pierce, May 26, 1950.

I doubt if more than a dozen advanced collectors in this country could explain the meaning of that "5 $\frac{1}{2}$."

With kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

Robson Lowe, Inc.

Philatelic Auctioneers and Publishers

LONDON AND PHILADELPHIA

225 S. FIFTEENTH ST.

PHILADELPHIA 3, PA.

TELEPHONE:

KINGSLEY 5-4324

GOVERNING DIRECTOR
ROBSON LOWE
AMERICAN DIRECTOR
ARTHUR PIERCE

June 5, 1950

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

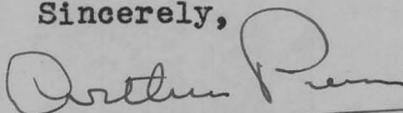
Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Many thanks for your letter containing your explanation of the cover.

I know Ethel will be glad to see it, and I will show it to her when she comes over.

Thanks and best wishes.

Sincerely,



Arthur Pierce, Managing Director
ROBSON LOWE, INC.

AP/mc

GEORGE W. LINN
PRES. & TREAS.

CARL P. RUETH
VICE PRES.

GEORGE W.

LINN

INCORPORATED

COMPANY

HAZEL L. MORGAN
SECRETARY

L. F. TURLEY
ADVERTISING

PUBLISHERS OF
LINN'S WEEKLY STAMP NEWS



PRODUCERS OF
LINN PHILATELIC PRODUCTS

119-121 EAST COURT STREET

Sidney, Ohio, U.S.A. April 3, 1950

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

Dear Stanley:-

First let me say AMEN to the decision of the PF on letting you in on their secrets. I can quite agree with you that they are not doing the right thing in this matter for I believe that you have been known and recognized as one of the outstanding students of early U. S. issues. Is there another man on their Committee who bears a reputation in this field to match yours?

As for the Cole cover. This certainly could not have been used for a 1c rate as you point out. In the first place you say the letter was sealed. That leaves it out. If cut for a bisect for 1c why would they make 2/3 of the stamp do the duty when one third would have been proper. The bisect if it is such might have been for a 2c rate but certainly not for a 3c rate. If it was intended for a 1c rate why cut it 2/3 size, why in the hell did the fellow not stick the whole stamp on it and let it go at that for he certainly did not save the other piece and use it for one cent on another letter. Then if cut why was it not cut straight rather than in the wiggly shape it is. Who would cut a line that crooked with a pair of shears.

Another matter you call attention to is the merk in center of circle. That of course would show up better on the original than on the Photo. Was the mark the color of the cancel. Wouldn't photography show it up in some manner that would be helpful.

Then there is a point I see which you have not mentioned and that is the Baltimore date stamp in circle is different than on the cover you have sent me. It is a much smaller size one than on your cover. The SEP and JUL are the same type, but the figures 5 and 8 are a different font of type, one being a couple MM higher than the other. Maybe those points checked with other cancels will show something. I believe I have a number of Baltimore Stampless and intend to check them tonight and see just what they show if I find I have them. Just noted that the photo attached to your photo of Certificate is not actual size as the stamp is smaller, so that probably accounts for the above differences. Sort of misled me till I checked. Yet however if the figures 5 and 8 are different on these pieces, why do the SEP and JUL measure the same. This indicated that the SEP must be taller than the JUL. This would seem to indicate that there were two fonts of type for these months and figures and that the 8 in your cover should belong with the SEP as it would be about the same height. While the JUL on your cover belongs with the 5 in the photo. Also is it not a fact both of these markings are on one cancel stamp or are they. If both on one stamp distance apart could be checked. It is hard to compare photos with real things.

GEORGE W. LINN
PRES. & TREAS.

CARL P. RUETH
VICE PRES.

GEORGE W.

LINN

INCORPORATED

COMPANY

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LINN PHILATELIC PRODUCTS

119-121 EAST COURT STREET

Sidney, Ohio, U.S.A.

Personally I think the PF are expecting too much from you and not playing fair for certainly they should not object to getting the best opinion based on all the knowledge they can find.

Why not try~~ing~~ being hi-hat with them on some requests that they might make of you. It can work both ways.

When anyone thinks they know it all and that no one else has a right to question their opinion, then that someone is just silly for there is always a possibility that they can be wrong.

Never mind bothering Kershner about those other photos. He has probably been given hell by the P. F. for letting you have a set and is stalling about sending out another set. It makes no difference.

Have you seen the catalogs of the Schenck material. The second one has his British in it and some nice material. The next one is to be U. S. and we will see what Harmer does with the Portsmouth cover. I am all on needles and pins to see if they include it and what they say when they do. One thing is certain. If it brings a good price I will let mine go if someone wants to take a flyer, but it will not go at any measly figure. I do not need a couple hundred and such money would not tempt me to sell. I will either get a Postmaster Provisional price for it or keep it.

Will let you hear if I have any Baltimore stampless with any similar caccels on them.

Cordially,

George W. Linn

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

EXPERT COMMITTEE

We have examined the enclosed...United States.
1861, 3¢, rose, #65, on cover, blue Baltimore
cancellation -----

submitted by --Mr. Ezra D. Cole -----
of which a photograph is attached on the reverse ---
and are of the opinion that ~~xxxx~~ the cancellation
is genuine -----

Mary M. Goddard

For The Expert Committee
Chairman

Mary M. Goddard
Elliot S. Gorin
Howison D. S. Howes
John K. Bush



Alfred M. Brigham
Natick
Mass

Photograph

March 25, 1950.

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

\$45.00

Dear Edgar:

As per yours of the 20th, I am returning herewith your 10¢ 1857 cover of S.F. Mar. 19, 1852, also the single 1¢ 1851, (6RLL). And with them I am including two photo prints (my compliments) and also a superb 12¢ 1851 with a magenta cancel which I thought you would like to acquire. This jumbo copy is not mine but placed in my hands to sell @ \$45.00.

Re - the photo of the 10¢ 1857. This is a photo by my quartz lamp - exposure one and a half hours. It was an attempt to bring out very plain the cog and "10" on the stamp. I had a photo of this cover but only half of it, so I made a new one at a reduced size. This cover is wonderful. It is "Old Stamps Not Recognized" - Due 10¢ - I have it filed under the S.F. section of "O.S.N.R." in my files. The only other cover in this class (S.F.) that I have seen is the 3¢ 1857 cover that is in the Admiral Harris collection. Your cover and my single off cover are the only 10¢ 1857 that I have ever seen with the "cog." When I wrote you, I forgot about your cover because I had it filed under "O.S.N.R." I neglected to put a notation of it in my file of "S.F."

I have to do a lot of cross filing and due to the lack of spare time I frequently fail to make notations. Yes, this cover is a honey - no doubt about that - in fact, the sort of thing that we both like very much. Perhaps Dr. Polland would like a print - If so, send him this one and I will send you another. Impress upon him how very unusual this is - how rare - and how very desirable. It is an item like this that develops a real collector like Polland. I think that he has the makings of an unusual collector - a real student. One of his class is worth 10,000 of the space filling class. I am so glad that you are friendly with him because he can learn so much from you. We need collectors of his type to carry on.

Re - the Polland 1¢ '57 cover with square grid. Yes, where was it mailed? I wish I knew. Inasmuch as I never heard of the use of a square grid at S.F. I was amazed to see it. But I have seen very, very few printed circulars to California addresses from S.F. so I surmised that such a killer might have been used there. I considered the possibility that a large amount of circulars could have been printed in New York and mailed there but I never saw a late use at New York of this grid. An 1852 use there would be late.

Sacramento Early Postmark. Nathan did not send me his S.L. cover of Oct. 21, 1849 but a photostat. It is addressed to Covington, Ky. No doubt you have seen it or have a print. Re - my record of Aug. 7, 1849. It is a manuscript as follows - folded letter

SACRAMENTO CITY - AUG 7 - 40

Mrs. E. D. Gooding

Goodings Grove

Will Co

Illinois

#2.

Mr. Edgar B. Jessup, March 25, 1950.

Way back in 1935, someone sent some covers with the letters enclosed (or folded letters) to Fennel, as Editor of the A.P. - not for sale but to look at. I have no idea who owned them. My record shows that there were four covers in the lot. The Sac City letter was dated inside July 30, 1849. They were from a man on his way across the plains to the gold fields. One was Marysville Apr. 29, 1851.- another New Orleans (date?) - another into St. Louis with a pencil date on face of Apr. 12 - 1849. I only have one print of the Sac. City. If you would like to see it I will loan it to you.

Polland 90¢ '61 on piece. Since my last letter, I found the large photos that I made but have not been able to find any notes that I made regarding my opinion of it. Is it your recollection that I thought someone removed a 3¢ 1861 and substituted the 90¢? You perhaps recall the way that Ernie considered fakes that were very clever. It was this - "as long as they look O.K. what's the difference?" Perhaps the Polland item is O.K. - Perhaps my analysis in 1943 was in error. He sent it to me after he acquired it and I advised him that I questioned it some years ago but no doubt it was genuine. If you locate my letter regarding it I would like to see it.

S.F. Double-circle Postmark. Your cover with SEP 19 1861 is still the earliest known in my records. Incidentally I have a very poor photo of this cover. Will you please send the cover to me so that I can make a new negative?

Re - the latest known use - Sam Richey had a cover with three 10¢ 1869 stamps from Shanghai, Cina - MAY 12. It had a S.F. p.m. of JUN 15 - no year on the cover. It is possible that the use was actually 1870 because I doubt if any supplies of the 1869 stamps were on hand in China as early as May 12, 1869. If so, then supplies were sent there as soon as the stamps were issued - (around April 1, 1869).

S.F. cog - My earliest is your Patriotic of Dec. 27, 1861, and the latest is Sep. 16, 1867, though I feel rather sure that the type was used much later. Don't you? Incidentally in a sale of the same Mercury Stamp Co. in June 1943 there was an off cover copy of a 90¢ 1867 grill with a cog cancel. The grill might have been a fake.

You stated in your letter that you were enclosing a "news item" but you failed to do so.

One Cent Book. I don't know what the last brought at auction, probably \$25.00 to \$35.00. Whenever a dealer gets a pair they ask \$40.00 to \$50.00. I have a pair that belongs to Will Aull that he cut. I can sell it under N.Y. prices - whatever they are. The Chase 3¢ 1851 - original edition is a slow sale - I have a duplicate copy for sale. If you want to send your copy to me plus the One Cent pair I'll insert an ad in "Stamps."

I was pleased to learn in your last letter that you had a letter from Hugh Clark. Several days later I received a long letter from him. He stated he was much better and had purchased a big lot of covers from Gordon Harmer and was having a grand time. I sure would like to see him.

You probably meant that Hugh has 500 different Patriotics -

#3.

Mr. Edgar B. Jessup, March 25, 1950.

His collection must surely contain many thousands. I started him to collect them way back about 1917.

Walter Born - Give the Borns our kindest regards. Very sorry to hear that he is not in top health.

New York Ocean Mail - marking with the small grid. Our earliest of record (Blake & S.B.A.) to California - is Mar. 6, 1854 - a cover to Sacramento - the latest is your 5¢ 1861 Buff block - Is this the data you wanted?

Later

Very seldom, if ever, am I able to find something I misplaced. But here is an exception - In my box on S.F. cogs - a lot of photographs - tracings - etc - etc - way down at the bottom of the box - I found the copies of some letters I wrote you in August 1943 relative to the work I was doing at that time on the S.F. cogs and double-circle postmarks.

It seems that the 90¢ on piece first came up in a sale by the Mercury Stamp Co. on June 17-18, 1943. It was purchased by Souren for \$50.00. In the same sale there was a 90¢ 1867 grill - single off cover. I mentioned this above. Here is a portion of my letter to you, dated Aug. 8, 1943:

"Now for your letter. First the 90¢ 1861 on piece with the cog. I didn't know who bought the 90¢ 1867 grill copy so when I wrote Souren several weeks ago I only requested that he send me the 90¢ 1861. This he did and the item arrived last Tuesday. I examined it very carefully and made several photographs. I delayed writing you on this matter because I hoped to send prints to you with the letter regarding it.

One thing is sure, if that cog is genuine, then its type is new to me. I never saw a S.F. cog like that one, by which I mean, I have no record of a cog on this piece of cover. The postmark itself is genuine I am quite sure, because it has defects which are common to other examples, I have. I think we were wrong in assuming that there were only three types of the cog. I think our Type III is O.K. but I think there is some confusion about Types I and II. All that we supposed belonged in these two types may belong in three and maybe four types. I think we are especially wrong on the Type I.

All of the above has nothing to do with the Souren item. It is unlike any type I have on record. I don't know whether it is genuine or not. No evidence that I could see disclosed any faking. If the item is genuine then the 'cog' is surely a type that was not used on the low values of the 1851-66 issues.

The stamp itself was gorgeous, perfectly centered, the paper fresh and white, the color superb, the engraving superb. The color was especially attractive. It is a pale soft blue, in fact, sort of a velvet shade, very warm and soft. And one more word - If the item is genuine it is worth from \$150 to \$200. I asked Souren if it was for sale and his reply was to the effect that he bought the item for his own collection and did not care to part with it for less than \$250. By Jove I am almost inclined to believe it is worth such a price provided it is genuine.

#4.

Mr. Edgar B. Jessup, March 25, 1950.

"To show what a lot of dubs there are in New York, they let Souren have this item for \$50. Of course, no one suspected it might not be O.K. One would have to know the cog types to suspect such a thing. I returned the item to Souren and merely told him that the cog type on this item was new to me, hence I was delighted to see the item. I asked him to check it carefully and to refer the matter to Teddy and to tell Teddy that I would like to see an exact duplicate of this type if he could show one to me. I also called his attention to the fact that a 'cog' on an 1867 grill was unknown to me, and asked him to check with Teddy on this point. No doubt the 'cog' was genuine but the grill was a fake. If Souren bought this item maybe he will send it on later. I'll keep you advised. Cole sat in on this sale and let this item go to Souren for \$50, yet if the thing is genuine it is the most beautiful 90¢ 1861 that I have seen in many a day."

Attached to the above is your reply dated Aug. 12th, but you made no mention of the 90¢ '61 piece. Incidentally I may send Dr. Polland a copy of the above quote.

Under date of Aug. 28th, 1943 I again referred to the 90¢ on piece as follows:

"Again re - that Mercury item, the 90¢ on piece. I have the postmark listed as Type 'A,' (see photo here) but I have no other record of a strike quite like this one. Do you suppose it is a fake? I believe that the 'Feb. 28, 1862,' alongside of it is the same type but I am not sure. The letters seem to line up but I am not sure."

Under date of Sep. 2nd, 1943 you wrote:

"The Souren piece is a puzzle to me."

I have a vague recollection that this 90¢ on piece came up again in a sale along about 1946 or 1947 but I may be mistaken on that. I have no record in my card files of such a sale. Back in 1943 I seemed to be rather suspicious of that 90¢ on piece but I evidently wasn't sure whether it was good or bad. And further, it was that item that started me on my study of the S.F. cogs. I continued the study for several months - issued a Research Bulletin - did not receive any co-operation from anyone but you - got busy on other things and never resumed the study. If you and I had any correspondence later on about the Mercury item I have no memo of same or any recollection.

With regards -

Yours etc.,

April 8 - 1950

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

I enclose 4 covers I would like to have you look over.

The 10¢ Geo. Wells Fargo imprint I recently got from Stephen Lyon who now tells me that Mr. A. G. Guenther of Lebanon, ^{Pa.} Pittsburg, Pa. wishes to see it because it may have some bearing on the 4 ^{England} ~~über Bremen~~ with 10¢ 1847.

I don't think there is any relation except that both markings were applied in Bremen. The "England über Bremen" I should say is a very scarce marking because most letters went direct. The "America über Bremen" was more common during the early part of the Bremen agreement. On my cover it seems to have been used because the letter was not fully prepaid, the rate to Prussia was 15¢. I imagine that 2 Groschen (2.4¢ = ^{abst.} 5¢) was collected upon delivery. However this may be, if Mr. Guenther would like to see my cover please send it to him & he can return it to me. I have no idea what the 4 stands for in this ^{early} period. I have covers with British Transits in the 1870-75 period but I don't think this has anything to do with the 1847-4.

Cover #2 - with 3¢ 1851 to Italy, plated by Dr. Chase and its use pretty surely 1851 as the stamp is an early impression & shade

from Pt. 1st. Portsmouth, until the appearance
of the 1852 P.L. r.k. (or previous notification)
must have been under the impression that
the reduction of 7/1/1851 to 3¢ also applied
to the U.S. portion of Foreign Rates & the
N.Y. Exchange let things go through for a while.

Cover #3 to Paris. Would you call the ⑩ a
debit against France to cover the \$510 from
Alabama? This doesn't seem to fit in the
Treaty Rates but seems logical.

Cover #4 - SHIP ⑫ looks like Philadelphia.
I can't imagine a whaler coming around
the Horn & putting this letter in the mail
at Vera Cruz though I suppose this is
just what happened unless we have
here an early use of the Tehuantepec
Route.

I will appreciate hearing from
you whenever convenient. There is
no hurry.

Very sincerely yours
Eugene Jaeger

37. Sumner Ave.
Edgewood 5, R.D.

April 11, 1950.

Mr. Eugene Jaeger,
34 Sumner Ave.,
Edgewood 5, R.I.

See Photos
Here

Dear Mr. Jaeger:

I am in receipt of yours of the 8th with the four covers which I am returning herewith. Here are some comments:

(A) Cover to Prussia. I am well acquainted with Mr. Guenther and I located for him a stampless cover a few weeks ago with the "England - Bremen" marking. He wanted such an item because he has a 10¢ 1847 on a piece of cover and tied by such a marking. I have numerous examples of the "America - Bremen" marking and advised him regarding same but it was the "England" type that he was trying to locate.

I do not think the "America" is scarce. Your cover is quite nice. It evidently originated on the Pacific side and was carried privately to New York by a Wells Fargo messenger and mailed there. You will note that the rate was paid only to Bremen. The rate to Prussia via Bremen was 15¢. You are quite right about the "England" marking, that is, on mail from the U. S. I don't know why the marking should be scarce on mail from England, because a lot of English mail surely went to Bremen and thru that port to other destinations in the German States. Likewise I have no idea what the "4" meant in the "England" type.

(1) Cover to Italy. The stamp is surely not an O.B. and my guess is that the use was Dec. 1854 or possibly 1853. At any rate the 3¢ payment did not pay anything and the letter was forwarded under the British Treaty as unpaid. No doubt thru Boston. It is strange there is no 5¢ debit to the British P.O. as there should have been.

(2) Cover Havana to Paris. It is my guess that this went from Havana to New Orleans where the "Steamship 10" was applied, thence to New York where the encircled "10" was applied. The French due shows "12 decimes" was due in France and that the U.S. was entitled to 10¢ and the debit was to England rather than to France. In other words, our interest in this letter was the collection of the 10¢ Steamship rate, and not any portion of the rate to France.

(3) "Ship 12" - We have very little evidence here to go on, except the year use of 1846 - the origin in Hawaii (?) - the "Vera Cruz" and the Philadelphia "Ship" and "12." There was no "Tehuantepec Route" in 1846 but it is quite possible that this letter was landed at a Pacific Port of Mexico carried overland to Vera Cruz

#2. Mr. Eugene Jaeger, April 11, 1950.

with the Mexican postage prepaid. At Vera Cruz it was put aboard ship for the U. S. and landed at Philadelphia. I have little doubt that much better time was made by that route than around the Horn.

These four covers are very interesting studies.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

April 15-1950

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Thank you very much for your kind letter of the 11th & covers returned. Your explanations have helped me a great deal.

There is, however, one thing not clear in my mind. It is in reference to the cover with 3¢ 51 to Italy via England (& France). You say the 3¢ stamp paid nothing & the letter went under the British Treaty unpaid. I have always been of the opinion that while prepayment to England proper at the 2¢ rate was optional, all letters via England to other countries always had to have at least 5¢ prepaid that is under the British open mail. In other words you could not just mail a letter to Italy, Spain etc. via England & expect the N.Y. Exchange to debit the 5¢ to England. Page 21 §2 of the 1852 P.L.R. seems to bear on this matter & was probably put in to remind P. Masters that Foreign Rates were still under the old act or agreeable to those printed in the new regulations. I have yet to see a letter by British open mail that did not have at least 5¢ prepaid going or 5¢ due coming during this period.

There must have been some that reached N.Y. improperly rated. Whether they let them pass or how they disposed of them I don't know but I think that my cover to Italy is one they simply let go through, losing 2¢.

Of course, the British Paid Mail with full rates paid only in the U.S. was a different matter.

I realize that Foreign Rates are complicated and more so when we come across some that just don't seem to make sense.

If it isn't too much trouble I would appreciate your help on the above question.

Sometimes I think I am in the position where "a little knowledge is dangerous" and I have a lot more to learn.

With best regards

Sincerely yours
Eugene Jaeger

34 Summer Ave.
Edgewood 5, R.D.

April 18, 1950.

Mr. Eugene Jaeger,
34 Sumner Ave.,
Edgewood (5) R.I.

Dear Mr. Jaeger:

Yours of the 15th received and I was very much interested in your comments. I am inclined to believe that your analysis is correct as per the 1852 P.L. & R. - see my One Cent Book, Vol. 2, page 324. - viz - "Naples - Kingdom of - Via Marseilles" - The prepayment of 5¢ was required on such mail via that routing.

In the case of your cover, I judge that they permitted the letter to be forwarded in spite of the fact the payment was 2¢ short.

Yes, "foreign rates" are indeed complicated and no matter how much one has studied them, there is always something new to learn.

Whenever a problem presents itself to you, I'll be glad to try and assist. In that way we both can profit.

Sincerely yours,



No Year

Blue
AMERICA

Fräulein Elise von Preseker
per address of Mad. Emilia Preuss

Blank

By Joeger
4/11 - 1950

Blue

Paid to Bremen
Blue

Rosel.
Ober-Caflesim.
Prussia.

Red
"7"
Etc

See Scratch
Book 18 - p.36

No Year
But 1853 - or
1854
No Debit

163

Serry

VIA DI
THE AUSTRIAN



Mrs Marshall Ward
Care of Major C. Foquet
& G. L. ... Agents of Messrs
Brother & Co.
Naples
Italy



from ...
Liverpool
see
S. Book
18 - p. 36

54 R 1

Reserve to Wiley

10/26.46.

WOAHOO

(Oahu, Hawaii)

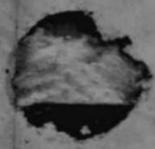
Letter Inside
Headed

"WOAHOO"

Oct 26 1846

From A Whaler

From Hawaii To
Mexican Port of
Pacific. Mexican
Postage Paid There
(No Such postmark)
Sent To Vera Cruz.
- Thence By Ship To
Philadelphia



Pale
Gray

See Scrap Book 18-p. 36

By E. Jaeger
4/11-1950

Blue

Blue



Wiley
Wentworth & Allen
No. 111 N. 4th St.
Philadelphia



See
Senats Book
B - p. 36

Via Atlantic



Black
(No. 3)

Wm. R. Hunter

43 Ave. Wesley

Black
Engraved 10
N.Y.?

From Havana
Jan 23 1860
ON BOARD
Brown New York
Grolier Br. PKT -
Feb 1

Black
12 decimes

5v
Jaeger
4/11-1930

Paris

Dear Stan-

Just a question by pen. I repeat
what do you make out of the "10"
in the Adams cover with 10¢ Washville -
The one Arthur got from Washburn. I pre-
sume you made photo of it. Why the "10"
for "paid" I presume when the stamp is
fixed by the Adams oval cancel. I don't
recall now seeing this 10 on a Washville
cover. I am curious because of the Washburn
origin. What do you say?

Best

Ray.

March 25, 1950.

Mr. Earl Antrim,
316 Holly St.,
Nampa, Idaho.

Dear Earl:

Re - your Adams cover with 10¢ Nashville addressed to Dr. Leavenworth of Petersburg, Va. Gus Dietz sent me a photo of this cover back in 1942 and I made a rough sketch of it. I would like to replace it with an actual photo print. Would you mind sending the cover to me so that I can get a good record of it?

How do you explain the "10" which is handstamped on face? Did you acquire that by private source or was it in a sale? I do not seem to have any record of it at auction. I have a memo "Needham," so I suppose Dietz borrowed it from Needham and made a photostat. I have seen other covers to Dr. Leavenworth. Do you know anything about that correspondence?

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

March 25, 1950.

Mr. L. L. Shenfield,
Empire State Bldg.,
New York 1, N.Y.

Dear Larry:

Thanks for a look at the photostat which I return herewith. I find that I had a record of this but not a photograph. Back in Feb. 1942 Gus Dietz sent me a photo print and I made a rough sketch of it. It was marked "Kelleher cover."

Do you know anything about the "Rev. O.J. Leavenworth" covers? Also do you know where Antrim got this cover? I have a faint recollection that he wrote me that he had acquired a 10¢ Nashville on cover.

I have no memo on the sketch I made nor do I remember anything about Dietz sending the photo to me. That "10" on the cover does look suspicious. On your photostat it is marked green - on the Dietz print, no mention was made of the color. Here is my analysis -

First - I believe the cover is genuine provided there is not a "PAID" under the stamp. Second - I think the "10" was applied at Petersburg. It looks like a type used at that office. You surely have examples on H.S.P.'s. Third - I suppose the cover could have been over a half an ounce - with the 10¢ stamp paying the $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce rate with an extra rate due at Petersburg. Opposed to this theory is the supposition that the Adams Office at Louisville didn't notice it was a double rate because of the 3¢ U. S. envelope. Adams at Nashville supposed Louisville was correct so rated it as a single rate. It was carried to Petersburg by Adams - not by the C.S.A. mail - hence entered the C.S.A. mail for the first time at Petersburg where it was found to be a double and was rated with the "10" as 10¢ due - One wonders why the Petersburg Office did not apply a postmark? They should have done so.

The absence of a Nashville p.m. indicates that it was not placed in the mail at Nashville - How can we account for the absence of a Petersburg postmark? Did the Adams Office take the letter to the P.O. there? Did that office note it was short paid 10¢? Because of that did they rate it as a double and did Adams pay the extra dime? If so, why didn't the P.O. stamp "PAID?"

I would like to examine the cover and see if there is a "Paid" under the stamp. You will recall that the Adams Office used a handstamp "Postage Paid." They used that stamper before the

#2. Mr. L. L. Shenfield, March 25, 1950.

Nashville stamps were ready. All things considered, I think the cover is genuine - that it was a double rate and Petersburg discovered this and marked it "10" and this was collected from the addressee.

I will write Earl to send the cover to me. I will also request him to explain the "10." I doubt if he will be able to do so. Somewhere in the back of my head I have a recollection that he wrote me he paid \$700 for the cover. Do you know?

Brooks paid Sam \$1000 for a similar cover - see my little Confed booklet - I think I sold it for the same amount - maybe \$1200 - or \$1250. Don't recall.

I trust you have fully recovered.

Best wishes -

Cordially yours,

#2. Mr. L. L. Shenfield, March 25, 1950.

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I trust you have fully recovered.

Best wishes -

Cordially yours,

President
STANLEY B. ASHBROOK
33 North Fort Thomas Avenue
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

General Vice-President
LAWRENCE L. SHENFIELD
40 Highland Circle
Bronxville 8, New York

Southern Vice-President
DR. MARYE YEAMANS DABNEY
3206 Cliff Road
Birmingham 5, Alabama



Secretary-Treasurer
T. W. CRIGLER, JR.
Macon, Mississippi

Trans-Mississippi Vice-President
EARL B. ANTRIM
319 Holly Street
Nampa, Idaho

Northern Vice-President
VAN DYK MACBRIDE
744 Broad Street
Newark 2, New Jersey

Authentication Committee
LAWRENCE L. SHENFIELD, Chairman
40 Highland Circle
Bronxville 8, New York

April the fifth
19 50

Dear Stan:

Thank you for yours of the 31st with the dope on Antrim's Nashville cover. You can see why I started the question on the cover because coming from Needham, as I have written you before, I was a little suspicious. I never had a chance to examine it very closely but I do know the stamp is genuine.

Of course part of the cancel could have been painted in but if so, the original impression should show under the stamp unless it had just been strengthened by some extra painting on the stamp. The rate on the cover is a little confusing and leads me to believe that it probably had a 10¢ Nashville on it in view of the absence of the Paid 10 of Nashville or any express marking indicating the payment like the postage paid that we know of.

What could have been done is a damaged stamp removed and a good one supplied and the cancel painted in. On one other 10¢ Nashville cover in the Needham lot, Needham had written "repaired" next to the stamp so at least he was honest on that one. Yes, I believe the magenta pen "2" indicates the double rate, especially with the Petersburg 10 slapped over it.

I do not have a catalog of the Harmer Rooke Sale in which the cover was sold but it was in a sale following the big sale of the Needham Confederates. And it was shoved in along with some hang-overs that Costales had tried to sell, including this 10¢ Nashville cover.

I will be very careful and probably won't do anything because I mistrust Needham so completely.

Best regards,

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

Carry



Different
Blue

Blue

10



Blue

ADAMS EXPRESS

2
in
Magenta

Black
JUL
30
1861

Prof. Agnew
&
Sundry others

Very
Dark
Green

AUG 1 1861
NASHVILLE
Prof. J. Agnewworth,
Petersburg
Va.

April 12, 1950.

Mr. J. G. Fleckenstein,
419 Union St.,
Ionia, Mich.

Dear Jack:

Yours of the 9th received.

Re - the 1¢ 1851 cover (V.S. of 3). A strong glass shows definite signs of pen removal - tears and creases - repaired, etc. Whether the postmark is genuine I do not know as there isn't much of it to judge by. I suppose it is immaterial whether it is or is not as the pen removal and attempted repair makes the item valueless. While I did not plate the strip I am quite sure it is from Plate 2, (no use wasting time to plate it). A Plate 2 item could come in this pale blue shade but the chances are the acid affected the original color. My quartz lamp shows the pen removed lines very plain and the center stamp shows pen marks that look like Feb or Feb with faint day figures. I suppose it is possible that the strip was badly creased and torn before it was put on the cover - that it was postmarked as we see it and also pencanceled. I think I can make a good photograph of this by quartz lamp, so I am holding it over until I can make a few experimental negatives and develop them.

We were both glad to receive word about the girls. Joan deserves a lot of credit for her work at M.I.T. - A student, especially a girl - has to be good to stay down there. More power to her for her determination.

Stan Jr. is going "steady" with his little blond but it is only puppy love and won't last. A youngster his age should look the field over very carefully before he decides to get serious. I think he would like to stop by and take Jackie out to dinner some night but fears to do so because that might be construed as untrue to his girlfriend. A damn lot of foolishness if you ask me.

Jack, I do hope you make the trip to London but I doubt if you will find much U. S. in the Show. I am enclosing copy of a letter I received last month and which I was requested to keep confidential until Apr. 15th. Please return. If you see Harold, Charlie or Hutch you might tell them about this. The D.P.S. will now have a member enrolled on the British Roll of D.P.'s (not displaced persons or dependent people).

Give Miss Rene our love and tell her to drop in on us at anytime - the latch-string is always out to that little girl.

#2. Mr. J. G. Fleckenstein, April 12, 1950.

I note I overlooked the answer to your query - Could I make the trip to London? The answer is "no" but with no regrets. I enclosed this copy so that you could see that I would have an excellent excuse.

I will return the cover in the next few days.

Yours etc.,

Later

F.S.--After examining the red postmark on the cover under the binocular microscope, it looks very much like a paint job, but there was an office by the name of "Cook's Store" in Appling County.

S.

THE GLIDDEN COMPANY



11001 MADISON AVENUE

CLEVELAND 2, OHIO

April 10, 1950

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

Dear Stan:

I have your letter of April 8th together with contents and I immediately dispatched today your friends order by airmail to Mons. Jean and I should get the "stamps" within the next ten days. I hope your friend gets his money back and I don't see why he can't when the dealer is confronted with the actual proof.

I am sorry Stan, but I don't have a copy of Mons. Jean's 5¢ New York. As to the B.N.A. (Newfoundland) reproductions which Mons. Jean has for sale, they are as follows:

1857 -	Scott #4 -	4P Vermillion	(used)	\$15.00
	#7 -	6½P "	"	\$12.00
	#9 -	1 SH. "	"	\$18.00
	#9 -	1 SH. "	(unused)	\$35.00
1860 -	#12 -	4P Orange	(used)	\$ 8.00
	#15 -	1 SH. "	"	\$25.00

Allow the same, \$1.00 for postage and \$5.00 for my fee.

If your friend cares for any of the above items let me know and I will be happy to accommodate him.

Best regards to you Stan.

Cordially yours,

H. T. Zinsmeister

EKR



"ABOUT TRANS.-MISS. NEWS AND MAIL CONDITIONS"
from
"35,000 DAYS IN TEXAS"
The history of the Dallas News and its Forebears"
(MacMillan Co. 1938)

As of old, New Orleans continued to be the chief outside source of news. The twenty-two and one-half hour connection by way of Berwick's Bay had been disrupted by the water blockade, but New Orleans papers could still reach Houston within four days. This was made possible by the recently completed Texas & New Orleans Railroad extending from Houston to Beaumont. There remained only a two-day gap by stage between Beaumont and the western terminus of the New Orleans and Opelousas Railroad. But New Orleans was soon to be isolated from Texas, for the same papers which told of the Battle of Shiloh in April, with its depressing report of the death of General Albert Sidney Johnston, also gave the alarming news that Federal gunboats had run past the lower Mississippi forts and were even then threatening the imminent capture of the city. This was, in truth, bringing the war close to home. THE NEWS called for conscription in Texas.

May 1, 62 The Picayune and other papers arriving in Houston on May 6, 1862, confirmed the fall of New Orleans before the gunboats of David Farragut, flag officer of the Western Gulf Squadron. THE NEWS wailed over this surrender of "the First City of the Confederacy"; it was a calamity affecting the people of Texas most seriously "because of our proximity to New Orleans, our long continued intercourse with that city and our dependence upon it for much of our trade and all of our intelligence from the seat of war and from all parts of the world." Richardson pondered in public about the receipt of future news. "How it will come, we cannot foresee. All we can say is that we shall give our readers all that can be had from whatsoever quarter it may come."

Fortunately, two main river crossings above New Orleans remained for a year more in Confederate hands -- Vicksburg and Natchez. As yet there was no telegraph connecting Texas with any other state. But, by two overland rail-and-stage lines, communication was promptly set up with these river gateways. The first led from Houston, by way of Shreveport, to Vicksburg. Thirty-five miles of the route, or from Houston to Navasota, could be traveled in the cars of the Houston & Texas Central Railroad. The second, more southerly route, lay across Texas to Beaumont and the Louisiana border, thence northeastward to Alexandria and Natchez. Here, again, the first leg from Houston was by train as far as Beaumont. Thus by the middle of 1862 these two channels were furnishing, "By the Central Train" and "By the Beaumont Train," enough information to justify the NEWS and the Telegraph in issuing morning and evening editions of their tri-weekly editions and a mounting number of extras. This news -- true as well as false -- was always from seven to fourteen days old.

* * *

July 3 '63
Soon, however, the effect of the fall of Vicksburg began to be felt harshly in Texas. Regular mail service became impossible, despite the best efforts of the Postmaster General, a Texan himself, John H. Reagan of Palestine. Newspaper readers, on the other hand, were demanding more and fresher news from the distant war centers. Printing supplies were getting lower. In the midst of these perplexities, David Richardson without warning announced dissolution of the old partnership in THE NEWS and claimed full ownership for himself of THE TEXAS ALMANAC. Terming this act "an unparalleled audacity," Willard Richardson denounced it from Houston, with the result that no regular TEXAS ALMANAC was issued during

the remainder of the war. The dissolved partners were also to remain enemies for the next four years.

Oct(2) 1863 In these circumstances, the editor of THE NEWS felt he could only congratulate his rival when Cushing of the Telegraph announced that he had completed arrangements for a Pony Express to expedite the receipt of news from east of the Mississippi. Richardson was indignant, however, when it was disclosed that Confederate military authorities rather than Cushing were subsidizing the Pony Express, together with a telegraph line which had just been strung from Houston to Beaumont. Flake in Galveston joined Richardson in disputing Cushing's exclusive right to dispatches through this new service. A row in the grand manner ensued and was settled only after the military agreed that all papers should have equal access to such information. The authorities also improved communication with headquarters of the Trans-Mississippi department at Shreveport by a through telegraph line early in 1864. Still no wire connections were made east of Shreveport or Beaumont during the war, so that word of the closing events of the great conflict reached Texas from one to two weeks after they had happened.

The staff of THE NEWS grew in the latter part of the war. A business and news office was opened at Shreveport with Dr. M. Estes in charge. L.K. Preston did more work as correspondent than as traveling agent and W.P. Doran served as war correspondent on the Texas fronts, particularly along the southwestern coast, where the Federals had been able to lodge themselves in footholds at Indianola, Corpus Christi and in the border section around Brownsville. General N.P. Banks had captured the latter city for the purpose of stopping trade across the Rio Grande between Texas and Mexico. His border blockade became increasingly effective. Adding to the shortage of supplies

was the relentless inflation of Confederate currency. The most acute shortage of newsprint occurred in 1863. Richardson, for a time, was forced to reduce THE NEWS to the size of a dodger and to print it on yellow, straw wrapping paper. Subscription rates soared to as high as \$48 a year, Confederate currency. There was also a period in which butter, eggs, poultry and other produce were accepted in barter. But in May, 1864, both Richardson and Cushing were forced to ask specie payment, the subscription price being \$8 a year, gold.

* * *

On April 2, 1865, while the eyes of Texas were focused on the campaigns to the east, military authorities at Houston handed THE NEWS and the Telegraph transcripts of important conversations held closer home. These were discussions begun March 11 at Point Isabel between Major General Lew Wallace, sent to Texas on a warship by General Grant, and Confederate officers on the Mexican border. The future author of "Ben Hur" had proposed that the whole Trans-Mississippi Department give up the contest. Wallace had made the offer as attractive as possible to Texans by urging that Confederate and Union forces unite and cross into Mexico, join the Juarez faction to expel the French troops, depose Maximilian, and thus preserve the Monroe Doctrine. Although the Confederates refused the offer and made the conversations public in an effort to bolster morale, a virtual armistice resulted between the opposing forces on the border. This lasted, with one notable exception, until the close of the war.

* * *

So earnest was Richardson in his desire to uphold the morale of his readers that he persuaded even himself there was yet hope for the Confederacy. Thus, when the last big story of the war, Lee's surrender to Grant on April 9, reached Houston nine days later, he refused either to believe it or to publish it. Less conservative but professing equal skepticism, Cushing at once issued an extra of the Telegraph. The latter warned his readers that it was based on "Yankee sensation dispatches" seeping into Texas from New Orleans. The next day Richardson commented on these same dispatches in which "The downfall of the rebellion is for the hundredth time pronounced certain."

But two days later, on April 21, the twelve-day old catastrophe at Appomattox was confirmed by wire from General Kirby Smith at Shreveport. It was doleful intelligence to be received in Texas on this the twenty-ninth anniversary of the great Texan victory at San Jacinto. Detailing the capitulation of Lee and the Army of Northern Virginia, Smith pleaded with the Army of the Trans-Mississippi to "stand by your colors; maintain your discipline; protract the struggle. You possess the means of long resisting the enemy."

* * *

In the meantime, April 20, 1865, the morale of the Trans-Mississippi Department was cracking. Troops began to get out of hand. The State government withered away at Austin, despite the inability of THE NEWS "to believe that a Confederacy of eight millions of freemen, covering a territory nearly equal in area to all Europe, is going to collapse in a day merely because we have lost one of forty or fifty able commanding

generals." There was talk already of the Reconstruction which Lincoln had planned for the Southern States. THE NEWS quoted Nathan Bedford Forrest's definition of that plan: "not only destruction; it is degradation and disgrace as well." But, by the twenty-fourth of May, THE NEWS was forced to admit that "if our people are not prepared to undergo the dangers and privations of such a protracted struggle, the sooner we give up, perhaps the better."

* * *

At that moment Confederate authorities at Shreveport, as if in response to the advice of THE NEWS, were considering the best means of surrendering this last remaining Department of the Confederacy. They ordered Colonel Ashbel Smith, commander at Galveston, to open negotiations on May 30 with officers of the blockading squadron offshore. Colonel Smith was received on shipboard by Edmund J. Davis, the only Texas Unionist who had reached the rank of general in the Federal Army. Smith and another commissioner were taken at once to New Orleans to treat with General Phil Sheridan.

But reports of the more bellicose reaction of Kirby Smith, THE NEWS and various Texans to Lee's surrender had reached New Orleans ahead of the peace commissioners. Ashbel Smith found Federal officers preparing to send an army of 100,000 into Texas and, consequently, much surprised that this new conquest would not be necessary. The New York Herald on May 27 had explained these plans fully:

The rebel Trans-Mississippi generals -- Kirby Smith, Sterling Price and Magruder -- have probably now within call armed forces of 50,000 to 60,000 men. These forces, largely composed of border ruffians, bush-whackers and veteran guerrillas, are among the

most desperate fighters and reckless adventurers of modern times. They are headed by desperate military and political leaders, ready for any enterprise that will save them from "submission to the Yankee government." The great body of the planters of Texas are possessed of the same implacable spirit. The whole batch of them, leaders and followers, soldiers and civilians, are in a state of hot excitement for continued war. The government, according to our advices, fully comprehends.

But by now the government comprehended otherwise. Ashbell Smith returned from New Orleans with the terms of surrender, which were finally ratified on board a gunboat in Galveston Harbor on June 6. The war, so far as Texas was concerned, was officially over. The next day THE NEWS also bowed to the verdict:

We have laid down our arms, disbanded our troops and surrendered our whole country. Our military having thus given up all means of self-defense, it would only expose a journalist to ridicule and contempt to talk any longer of resistance By the terms of surrender we cease to be free men, and whatever of life, property and personal security we can now claim are just such as our rulers may grant us, and no more.

Newspaper sensationalism? Hardly. The curtain would now be raised on Reconstruction in Texas.

Robson Lowe, Inc.

Philatelic Auctioneers and Publishers

GOVERNING DIRECTOR
ROBSON LOWE
AMERICAN DIRECTOR
ARTHUR PIERCE

LONDON AND PHILADELPHIA
225 S. FIFTEENTH ST.
PHILADELPHIA 3, PA.

TELEPHONE:
KINGSLEY 5-4324

April 24, 1950

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

We have a cover scheduled for our May auction, and Dr. Carroll Chase has suggested that I write to you concerning it.

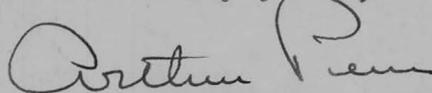
This cover contains a 5c 1847 doubly struck with a red grid, untied, and stated to be a pre-cancel. It is on a cover with a date-stamp of Tallahassee. With the cover is a statement in Dr. Chase's handwriting to the effect that it was, in his opinion, a genuine pre-cancel.

Since the item was "a new one" to me, I wrote to Dr. Chase and just received a letter from him. He is just leaving for France and thus lacks the time to check up. However, he said you would know all about the cover and advised me to write to you concerning it.

I would appreciate any information you can give and if you wish me to send the cover on to you I'll be glad to do so. Our description mentions the fact that it is accompanied by the statement of Dr. Chase, but I would like to know all I can about this item before it is offered for sale.

Your help on this will be much appreciated.

Sincerely yours,



Arthur Pierce, Managing Director
ROBSON LOWE, INC.

AP/mc

April 23, 1950.

Mr. Arthur Pierce,
225 S. Fifteenth St.,
Philadelphia 3, Pa.

Dear Mr. Pierce:

My good friend Dr. Carroll Chase is leaving for France this week and in his rush to get away did not have time to reply to yours of recent date regarding a so-called 5¢ 1847 cover with a Tallahassee, Florida postmark. He sent me your letter and requested me to write you as I am thoroughly familiar with the item and the background.

In my opinion the item is not a "precancel" and Hardy has been advised to that effect, not only by me but perhaps by others. I am fully aware that Hardy has a memorandum which appears to be a notation in the handwriting of Chase, but the Doctor has no recollection of having written it and assured me some years ago that even if the memo is in his handwriting that it was surely written many years ago and that if he had any idea at that time that the cover was a Tallahassee "precancel" that he was entirely wrong and entertains no such opinion today.

I examined the cover very carefully some years ago and at that time I made photographs of it and also the reputed Chase memo. In the Fall of 1947 Hardy attempted to sell this cover thru H.R. Harmer, Inc. of New York. That firm submitted it to the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Foundation. The Committee sent the cover to me for examination and I furnished them with full details. The Committee issued their certificate #786 dated Dec. 1, 1947, stating that in their opinion the cover, was, quote:

"NOT a genuine pre-cancel".

I have a photograph of the certificate in case you would like to see it.

I would hesitate to put on paper what I think of Jim Hardy.

With kindest regards -

Sincerely yours,

Robson Lowe, Inc.

Philatelic Auctioneers and Publishers

GOVERNING DIRECTOR
ROBSON LOWE
AMERICAN DIRECTOR
ARTHUR PIERCE

LONDON AND PHILADELPHIA
225 S. FIFTEENTH ST.
PHILADELPHIA 3, PA.

TELEPHONE:
KINGSLEY 5-4324

April 25, 1950

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Practically the fastest reply on record is your very helpful letter of April 23rd-although I did not mail the letter that you now have received until that same day!

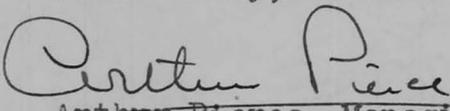
I had grave doubts about this item, which is why I wrote to Dr. Chase. It was not time to run it through the Foundation and the owner did not suggest to me that it had ever been passed on by the Foundation.

I do not like the entire situation, and I shall yank the entire item out of the proof. I can quite agree with your penultimate paragraph. I also have, from the same source, a cover with a rectangular label "CONCHAS", with a fancy border. The cover purports to have been mailed in Mexico. I wonder if you have ever bumped into that one! I ruled that out from the start, pending evidence as to its status.

I certainly appreciate your having written me because I think you know we do not wish to offer anything that is not on the up and up. I particularly resent it, when someone tries to put a fast one by.

With sincere regards,

Yours truly,


Arthur Pierce, Managing Director
ROBSON LOWE, INC.

AP/mc

April 27, 1950.

Mr. Arthur Pierce,
Robson Lowe, Inc.,
225 S. Fifteenth St.,
Philadelphia 3, Pa.

Dear Mr. Pierce:

Thanks for yours of the 25th.

There are some people who are totally devoid of any principles. People who would cheat, lie and steal. And in addition, if the opportunity offered, to resort to blackmail.

I have a photograph of a letter that was sent to Dr. Chase - in which the writer stated that a certain cover with a 5¢ '47 that Chase had pronounced in writing was a certain variety, had been declared otherwise by the Expert Committee of the P.F. Under the circumstances would it not be to the good Doctor's interest to buy the cover (at a very high price) in order to destroy all the evidence. Chase sent the letter to me and asked my advice. In reply, advised him to tell the blackmailer to go to hell and do anything he damn well pleased. I doubt if there is anything lower than a blackmailer.

Full photographic evidence of the above rests in my files and you or anyone else are welcome to inspect same.

Only trouble can result in the long-run with any contact with a lousy crook. I am sure you understand.

I regret to state that I do not recall such a cover ("mailed in Mexico") as mentioned. Keeping track of the fake material that that fellow has handled would require a special file.

Sincerely yours,

11 Mason Street,
Brookline 46, Mass.
April 30, 1950.

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

I am writing to enclose
four covers with markings that
proved puzzling to me in compiling
The Boston records.

Your solution or comments
on these would be helpful and
much appreciated.

Every now and then I come upon
a previously unnoticed error in the Boston
Book, such as on page 170, data for PLATE 47,
No. 809 A the description should read: m/d/40
(deleting in this case PAID printed after 40). A
few that are not merely proof-reading or typographical
have shocked me, as in the abbreviations

on page xv, "P. P. (Fr.) paid to a point,
part paid" was copied in from
pencil notes I made in regard to an
inbound cover to U.S. from France -
but I do not now recall where
I ever got the idea of "paid to a point"
for the French "P. P.", which generally
meant "Port Payé," and "P. D." "Payé à
destination." Post gives "port payé"
for "P. P." Is there any good authority
for "Payé au Point" for P. P. on
outbound foreign mail from France?

In any case this "P. P." abbreviation
notation was not intended for the Boston
book in which it does not actually occur.
Rather the entry intended here was
"P. P. P" Penny Post Paid, which
does occur on PLATE 27: 476; 492A.

Sincerely yours,
Maurice C. Blake

May 3, 1950.

Mr. M. C. Blake,
11 Mason St.,
Brookline 46, Mass.

Dear Mr. Blake:

Herewith the items as per yours of the 30th. I must confess that my knowledge is very limited on foreign rates to the U.S. and rather frequently I turn up covers that puzzle me. If I do a little guessing on your covers, please bear that fact in mind.

Regarding your No. 1. It is my opinion that 37¢ was the total amount collected at destination and inasmuch as the letter arrived by Cunard Line our share was but 5¢. The 32¢ was probably the British debit. I will admit that it was most unusual to add our share to the British debit but it appears that it was done in this case. I think that both of us have noted a number of covers carried in open mail thru England with the 32¢ credit - For example, to China, etc. - (32¢ plus 21¢ - 53¢ etc. etc.) - so this 32¢ debit represented the British share from Palermo to the U.S. Frontier. Would this be "Via Marseilles"?

Cover #2 - The large "30" was a French marking and is shown on page 92 of the French book, "Catalogue des Estampilles Et Obliterations Postales" etc. published by Yvert. The explanation is as follows:

"Lettres don't la marque exprimant la taxe a ete surchargee d'un timbre obliterated on barree de traits a la plume." I really do not know what the answer is to this combination of markings, viz: French 12 decimes (approximately 23¢ to 24¢), (2) "30" - no doubt 30 centimes or about 5¢ to 6¢ - (3) Boston "15" due. With 15¢ due at Boston, and the letter brought in by Cunard it would seem that 3¢ belonged to the U. S. and 12¢ to the French.

Cover No. 3. From Paris to Boston in May 1863 - From England by Amer. Pkt. It would seem that 15¢ should have been collected and the 6¢ was the French debit. The thought occurred to me that the Boston Due was in U.S. Notes or 20¢ due in Notes or 15¢ gold. However, the other cover seems to dispute this as the "15" indicates notes or gold.

Somewhere in my files I have a record of the earliest use known to me of the depreciated currency markings, but though I have searched I cannot locate it. I have a vague idea it was sometime in 1863. Could it be possible that the following is the solution of these two covers? The Boston of May 23, 1863 was before the P.O.Dept.

#2. Mr. M. C. Blake, May 3, 1950.

differentiated between gold and currency? Was the June 8, 1863 cover after a new P.O.D. ruling went into effect which made the public pay in gold, or its equivalent in currency? If this pure guess of mine has any truth then these two covers are most remarkable.

Re - the Forwarded cover. How is this for a guess? To New York, forwarded to Boston with 13¢ due. This sum was paid at Boston and the letter forwarded to Salem with the Boston "Due 3 cents." It appears to me that the Steamship "10" was crossed out - and the "13" was also crossed out with the mis-directed. If so, then the MISDIRECTED must have been applied at Boston. (I have not looked this up in your book.) My guess is that only 3¢ was collected at Salem.

"P.P." and "P.D." Chase advised me back in 1936 that "P.P." was the abbreviation for "Port Paye" (as you stated) and that it was generally used on French domestic mail, and meant "Postage Paid." When the initials were used on mail to foreign countries I think the meaning was postage part paid, but not paid to destination. I never heard of such a term as "Paid to a Point" but I know of no reason why it would not apply - viz - "Part Paid" or "Paid only to a certain point." Chase further advised that "P.D." was used almost exclusively on foreign mail, (outgoing or incoming) and meant, "Paid to Destination." I recall that the above Yvert catalogue illustrates a number of examples.

I will be interested in your comment on the above.

Sincerely yours,

11 Union St., Brookline, Mass.
May 5, 1950.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Since enclosing to you a cover with large **30** a few days ago, I have obtained "Cancellation on French Stamps" by Lazard and Minigerode, showing (p. 15, Fig. 33) a similar **25** called a "large double line numeral postage due handstamp" sometimes found on letters prepaid by stamps "presumably as a result of carelessness". On this Bordeaux 7/M 4/63 stampless cover the **30** may be a carelessness. Perhaps, however, it indicated the French part of the total debit - 30 centimes (15 centimes (3¢) Fr. internal + 15 centimes (3¢) from France via Britain). That is 30 centimes (or 6¢) French debit to Br. account) and 12 = 12¢ total debit (including 6¢ Fr. + 6¢ Br. sea), leaving the regular 3¢ U.S. internal of the 15¢ collected at Boston.
M. Maurice Blake

May 10, 1950.

Mr. M. C. Blake,
11 Mason St.,
Brookline 46, Mass.

Dear Mr. Blake:

I have your note of the 5th.

Re - the large "30." Our good friend Carroll Chase is in Paris at present. In my next letter to him I intend to have him try and obtain an explanation over there for me but it has been my experience that French collectors in general don't know very much about the markings on mail from France to the U. S. and very little about U. S. markings on mail from the U.S. to France.

It is possible that the "30" could have been a "30 centimes" debit. I thought of that possibility when I examined the cover but did not consider it regular as the Treaty provided that debits and credits be in U. S. currency. However, this might have been an exception. As you state, "A careless use." The "way bill" would have shown the debit to be 6¢.

I am wondering if you noticed Lot 725 in the Costales Sale of Apr. 26-27 - Costales stated (as I recall) that this was a Boston grid. I do not recall seeing such a grid used at Boston and although I made a search thru your very fine book (a marvelous study) I could not find an example. Can you enlighten me?

Here is a photo of a cover that belongs to my friend Don MacGregor. It has a "5½" marking over or under the Crown. I don't suppose this marking would puzzle you for a minute but I think it would stump the average student. Please return the print.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

11 Mason Street
Brookline 46, Mass.

May 8, 1950

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Thank you for your letter of the 3rd received to-day.
Your solutions are most helpful and probably correct.

The private ship letter rate of 37¢ presumably was not via Marseilles, but by ship from Palermo in Sicily direct to Liverpool to enter the British mail, as indicated by the first postal handstamp on reverse 8 AU1850/LIVERPOOL/SHIP in black octagon.

It would seem that the guess which I followed to you by air mail may explain the large French 30 centimes (6¢) as the French portion of the total 12 (¢) debit, allowing Britain only (?) the 6¢ sea.

I think your surmise regarding the BOSTON AM.PKT/JUN/8/20 postmark in 1863 as indicating 20¢ due in U.S. Notes for the 15¢ gold rate from France prior to the introduction at Boston of a hand-stamped U.S. NOTES is ingenious and highly probable. The earliest Boston Notes charge shown in the published book is June 11, 1863, PLATE 55:910A, when handstamped 63 was used but without U.S. NOTES. Handstamped NOTES was first recorded on July 1, 1863 (Pl. 55:914). Since publication one has been reported on June 22, 1863 handstamped 33/IN U.S. NOTES (two SL) for 24¢ legal rate, which like the 63 for 48¢ rate closely corresponds to 20¢ in Notes for the 15¢ legal rate, the figures in Notes being about 1/3 larger than those in specie par. The only other record for a BOSTON, AM.PKT. 20 postmark is of June 19, 1865 (Pl. 50:844) from a tracing submitted without the cover or data as to its origin or usage. Perhaps you have additional records for this Boston marking in your files. Apparently Boston did not charge in Notes May 23, 1863 with postmark BOSTON/MAY/23/ 15 (Pl. 52:862). Latest record for this postmark of 7/2/63 was used with 21/IN U.S. NOTES (Pl. 55:924 Note). I think your guess is right and these two covers, which I borrowed from Arthur R. Davis, are as you say remarkable.

You have doubtless presented a logical solution for that MISDIRECTED puzzle, except that I wonder who paid the 13¢ at the Boston Post Office. This is a cover I acquired after the Boston book was published. This (SL) MISDIRECTED is new and may be listed on PLATE 125:2217A, preceding chronologically MISDIRECTED (in Circle) Pl. 125:2218.

Somewhere I saw or heard of P.P. as 'payé à point' (?) on outbound foreign mail from France, but I fear it may be fanciful.

Sincerely yours,

Maurice C. Blake

May 11, 1950.

Mr. M. C. Blake,
11 Mason St.,
Brookline 46, Mass.

Dear Mr. Blake:

Yours of the 8th arrived after I had posted my note of the 10th.

Re - the French "PD". I note in the U.S.-French Postal Treaty of 1857 - Article XI - stated in part (exact words), quote:

"On its side, the French post office shall cause the impression (P D), stamped in red ink, to be placed on the letters prepaid to destination, etc., etc.

Belgium mail was also stamped with a "PD" and the Belgium Treaty of 1860 - Art. XXI had the following:

"Letters originating in Belgium and paid to their destination in the United States shall be stamped 'P.D' (paid to destination)."

And also -

"Letters of every other origin despatched from either country by virtue of the stipulations of article 10, and the prepayment of which is rendered obligatory to a certain point within either country, shall be stamped 'P.F.', (paid to the frontier."

Re - the "Depreciated Currency" markings. I was greatly pleased to receive all the data on this subject in your letter with the references to the markings in your fine book. I have always been so busy trying to figure out the markings on outgoing foreign mail that I never had much time to devote to the incoming mail. The combination of the two does make a most interesting study.

As the price of gold went up during the war, I suppose there is little doubt that the P.O.Dept. decided to shift the loss of the postal settlements with foreign countries to the public. I wonder if the P.M.G. did this without any authority from Congress. I suppose he did because he had the right to fix the foreign rates of postage. I do not recall that I have ever noted any article in the philatelic press on this subject.

Re - the "MISDIRECTED" cover. It seems to me that the "10" was crossed out by pen and the "13" in pen was canceled by the "mis-directed" marking, so evidently the "13" due was paid by someone in Boston who re-forwarded the letter on to Salem, where 3¢ was collected.

#2. Mr. H. C. Blake, May 11, 1950.

Had the letter gone on to Salem without any payment it seems to me there would have been a "16" due. The pen "3" was not crossed out and I judge this was left on the letter as it corresponded with the Boston handstamped Due 3 Cents.

With kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

P.S.--My good friend Arthur Davis has the luck to pick up some very interesting covers.

May 17 '50

Dear Stan:-

Found rail 13th at least. I had an easy trip over - in 12 hours flat from Boston to Paris!

On the photo of the cover the 30 evidently was used to change the tax (Kontagi dec) from 12 decimes to 30 centimes. The 30 is a common French marking on letters mailed within France. That is the best I can do with that.

Six left the hotel Sou. le Grand and am now staying with a friend. Address further letters to me

Care du Chac Bank

41, RUE CAMBON

PARIS 1^{er}

I don't believe I care much about going to see Sparta. I am a bit leary of all levys - on general principles. I don't know him.

I am having a good time. Finding considerable French material but no U.S.

Back July 1st.

Best

as ever

C.D.

To *Stamford via*
Sicily



Palermo July 17th 1850
32 Cts
37

Ms Mary A Hunt
No 49 South Fourth St
" 80 South Sixth St
Williamsburgh
Long Island
New York

(729 A)
Ship to L post
see Bristol Postal Act
p. 149 Fig 33
(just before Table 2)

Black

See S.B. 18
P. 43

702

From
Palermo
Sicily
July 17 1850

By
M.C.B.
5/3-50

8 AUG 1850
LIVERPOOL
SHIP

on
Back

Via Angleterre Quai

BOSTON
MAY 23
15

POST OFFICE
7
MAY
63
(32)

30

Mrs Charles J. Indenwood
Box
Boston
Mass
U.S.A.

See
S. B.
18
PH3

By
M.C.B.
5/3-50

Via Panama
Red

From
Valparaiso
Chile

PAID TO
PANAMA

3

MISDIRECTED

13
[673B]

657A
Lakot

[673A]

NEW YORK
JAN 13 1880
60
B

See
S.D.
P.43

NEW YORK
JAN 13 1880
Z 23

One Cent
Pictorial
667

U.S. POSTAGE
10

Black

Black
No. 7

By
M.C. Blake
9/3-50

~~New York~~
Dexter Galeman Mann

Via Anglaterre

1863



See

S.B. 17

Black

P 113

From

PARIS

May 25

1863

By

M.C.B.

5/3-50

Red
Am



Black

U.S.A.

6
Mr Charles J. Underwood

COMMISSIONS EXECUTED
APPRAISALS

EZRA D. COLE RARE POSTAGE STAMPS
NYACK, N. Y. - - - Telephone Nyack 964
TELEPHONE NYACK 7-0964

March 30, 1950

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

Dear Stan:

Many thanks for the photographs of the cover. It is such an interesting piece that I want a record for my files, even though the condition is not all we can desire. Just imagine what I cover like this would be worth if it were perfect and the stamps were perfect, but then we probably would never have it.

This cover, remember has never been on the market, never been in an auction sale, and nobody can say we are too high. They may or may not want to buy it, but they can't throw a lot of figures in our face.

After all, we have to pay \$200 for it, and it seems to me that \$400 is worth trying. It is \$100 apiece. I think I would have no trouble in selling it for \$300 myself, but I want you to make something and you are entitled to it.

I don't think \$50 will make or break the sale. If you should get a counter-offer of \$350 that is something else. You can stall and maybe work it so that we can get that much anyway.

No need of my commenting on Larry. We understand the gentleman 100%.

Sincerely

Ezra D. Cole

EDC:hk

March 29, 1950.

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

Dear Ez:

Here are photos of the 10¢ 1857 cover. I worked on this - pressed it out and it looks better - The 10¢ stamps are all Type II and III - one stamp is 31R1, a double transfer, but it is not so hot as a variety, because the D.T. is minor. There are three blocks of six and two vert. pairs - both blocks to left have straight edges - no perfs on two sides and both have horizontal creases - the block at top right has a bad horizontal crease at upper right stamp is torn and in bad condition. Both pairs are pretty lousy. The 1¢ pair is in bad shape.

I think \$400 would be plenty high, in fact, if we asked more it would leave a bad taste. Here is the chance we run. Every prospect I have might return it and in such an event let us agree that we will not cut the price. In other words, if I am unable to sell it I wouldn't want to get in bad by having it offered at a lower price. What do you think? Do you think we should risk asking \$400 or play it safe by asking \$350.? I think we could get \$350.00. I don't think Jessup would be at all interested. He has plenty of 10¢ 1855-57 and isn't buying any so far as I am aware unless its Western or California.

I do not recall any fake Western covers from a Tandler correspondence. I have no such record.

I will send the old lot of covers to you from time to time in small batches and you can advise me re - adjusting prices.

I agree with you one hundred percent on Larry. I get along with him fine but I never have any financial transactions with him. Anything I could sell to him I could sell to most anyone else with a tenth of the trouble. In spite of what he says I don't think he has many Confed items submitted for an opinion. I am better known to Confed collectors than he is and I receive very, very few in a year's time.

I will not offer the 10¢ cover until I hear from you.

Regards -

Yours etc.,

EZRA D. COLE

Rare Postage Stamps

NYACK . NEW YORK

Commissions . Appraisals

TELEPHONE NYACK 7-0964

March 22, 1950

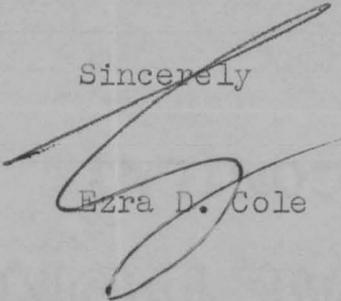
Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
33 N. Fort Thomas Avenue
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Stan:

Enclosing the damndest cover I have seen in a long time. Notice it is from the Pierce correspondence and went to Russia. I know the condition and so does the owner, and it cost us \$200. There are twenty-two 10¢ stamps on it to begin with, let alone the value of blocks, the cover or anything else.

I would like to have a good photograph made of this before you sell it.

Sincerely



Ezra D. Cole

EDC:hk
Enc.

March 25, 1950.

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

Dear Ez:

That sure is a most unusual cover but you didn't give me any idea as to what price we should put on it. I have made natural size photo and also a reduced size and I will send prints to you. It was a 6 x 3 7/8 rate to Russia "Via Prussian Closed Mail." A high 10¢ 1857 rate - Let me know what you think we should charge. I don't want to price it too high, nor do I want to take the responsibility of pricing it too low. We could overprice it so it would not sell. Krug did that on a number of his better covers and the prices prevented their sale. Now if I sell them I'll have to go back to original buyers with a cut and that's bad. There should never be but one price. So give me your idea on this item.

Re - C.S.A. Expert Committee. Larry Shenfield was laid up at home for a week but is now back to his office. Last week I suggested that he call a meeting of his Committee and discuss the situation and I believe that he will arrange to do so real soon.

With regards -

Yours etc.,

COMMISSIONS EXECUTED
APPRAISALS

EZRA D. COLE RARE POSTAGE STAMPS
NYACK, N. Y. - - - Telephone Nyack 964
TELEPHONE NYACK 7-0964
March 27, 1950

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

Dear Stan:

First, if you made a photograph of the Brattleboro cover, I would like it for my files.

Did I send you the fake Western covers that I have from the Tandler correspondence. I think we discussed this several years ago. There were several fakes.

With further reference to reducing the price on the covers. There might be some of them that I could sell myself later on. There is no hurry about this.

Re your special delivery about the unusual cover. I don't have much of an idea of what we should charge for that. Did you look it over carefully to be sure there were no varieties of the 10¢ stamps? I looked at it hurriedly and thought there were only type II's and type III's in the blocks, but some of the copies overlapped and I did not want to disturb it.

A block of the 10¢ type II is now priced in the Specialized Catalog used, but not on cover. Of course, a block of type II and III should be priced, too, but not at such a high price.

You will recall you sold that other cover with a block of six on it for \$75, which cost us \$50. This cover costs us \$200. You gave me no indications of what you thought the cover was worth. It is to Russia, which should help it if sold to the right man. I suspect that even Ed Jessup might be interested in it at a price. Is \$400 too high or too low. Should we ask more?

Re Larry Shenfield and the Authentication Committee. While Larry Shenfield is honest, in that he would pay any money he owed anyone, he would do his best to owe anyone as little as possible, and I have a feeling things have been going on that we know nothing about. He is just a little too shrewd to suit me. Anyway, I hope he can arrange the meeting.

Sincerely

March 29, 1950.

Mr. Chas. A. Shierson,
322 State St.,
Adrian, Mich.

Dear Charlie:

Here is a cover that is rather sensational and it contains more 10¢ 1857 than I have seen on any previous cover. It has -

Three blocks of six

Two vertical pairs of the 10¢

and a vertical pair of the 1¢ 1857 - Type V.

A used block of four of the 10¢ 1857 Type II catalogues @ \$200.00.

Upper block at left has the following types:

III III III

II II II

Lower block at left has the same types - and block to right also has the same types. It is true that some of the stamps are not in fine condition but this is offset by the fact this is -

- (1) a big rate of \$2.22 to Russia in 1858
- (2) Twenty-two 10¢ stamps on one cover.

This went by Prussian Closed Mail (thru England) and the single $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce rate was 37¢. Our share was 23¢ - Prussia's, 14¢ - hence the six (6) times credit of 14¢ - 84¢.

The owner wants \$400 for this cover and I think it is worth it. I will have to let him know as soon as possible, so will you please let me have an answer as soon as possible. The owner did me a favor by turning it over to me to sell and I would like to show my appreciation by giving him an answer as soon as possible. I think the cover is really sensational and would add a lot to most any collection.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

May 10, 1950.

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

Dear Ez:

Yours of the 6th received with return of the 24¢
1861 Violet cover - vertical pair.

I may have a buyer for this.

Also thanks for return of the "Via N" photo-print.
If you would like one of these I'll print one for you.

Yours of the 5th also received.

I mailed the Costales price list to Em Krug with
request to return to you.

Thanks for the cover with the pair of 2¢ Bank Notes
to Zurich. I enclose check herewith for \$12.00. Yes, this
was in the second Knapp sale, but it sold too cheap.

I also acknowledge receipt of the 12¢ '51 vert. pair
and return of my 1¢ copies. I will write you later regarding
them.

Yours etc.,

April 17, 1950.

Mr. Mortimer L. Neinken,
49 West 23rd St.,
New York 10, N.Y.

Dear Mort:

Here is a cover that has been placed in my hands for sale. It is really sensational in spite of the fact the stamps are not in superb condition. I never saw a cover before with three blocks of six of the 10¢ 1857 from Plate One.

The price is \$400.00

I will reply later to yours of the 14th just received.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

10¢ 1857 Plate I
Rate to Russia

April 3, 1950.

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

Dear Edgar:

Krug has cut the price on his Fort Bridger straight-line cover to \$250.00. Please wire me collect if you want it.

Here is a photo of a most remarkable 10/ 1857 cover - three blocks of six and two vertical pairs - all Type II and III - blocks have some cut straight edges and some creases but this is the only cover I have ever seen with three blocks of six - most remarkable. The owner assures me this is a recent find and has never been in a collection or in a dealer's hands. The price is \$400.00 but I can only offer it subject to prior sale as I haven't an option on it. A high rate to Russia in 1858 by Prussian Closed Mail.

If you do not care for either of these covers will you call up Dr. Pollard and ask him if he is interested. Please explain that I was obligated to offer them to you first.

Please note the enclosed copy of a letter received from England. You will note that this "news" is not to be released until April 15th, so please keep it confidential. I am indebted to Harry and Theo Steinway for this "honor?" as both recommended that I be elected. They also chose Les Brookman and turned down Max Johl but he will likely be elected next year. Harry seems to think that this is a very great honor but if I am put in the same class as Les I don't think much of it. I don't know of any real philatelic research work that Les accomplished outside his work on the 1867 grills. All the rest of his "work" has been merely a compiling job. I am sure you agree. Ned Knapp was a real student but he never was picked for the honor so far as I am aware. If it wasn't for Harry and Theodore I would refuse to accept it. I have not forgotten that I am not eligible for membership in the Royal, so I haven't much use for that lousy bunch of British snobs. Just a lot of cheap "has-beens" in my opinion. Now Ed, you are a real philatelic student and I ask you this - Would you feel highly honored if you were put in the same class as Les? Now would you?

Best regards -

Yours etc.,

IN
Red
on
Face

LC
MY16
1857

SHIP LETTER
FREE
D. MY*16
1857
D. VICTORIA

IN
RED
ON
BACK

BOSTON
23
JAN
BR. P.M.

ON
Back
IN
Black

By Clinton B Vanderbill
See Serph Book II For Solution

Black

56



"Kenny"
Mr John C Kenny Red
Melbourne
Australia
20/1/57

EARLY PRINT

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK

A. P. S. 2497

33 N. FT. THOMAS AVE.

FT. THOMAS, KY.

April 17, 1950.

Mr. Mortimer L. Neinken,
49 West 23rd St.,
New York 10, N.Y.

Dear Mort:

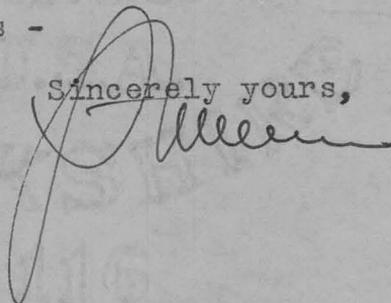
Here is a cover that has been placed in my hands for sale. It is really sensational in spite of the fact the stamps are not in superb condition. I never saw a cover before with three blocks of six of the 10¢ 1857 from Plate One.

The price is \$400.00

I will reply later to yours of the 14th just received.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,



10¢ 1857 Plate I
Rate to Russia

Member of
STAMP DEALERS
CREDIT BUREAU

CLINTON B. VANDERBILT

7 Mountain Terrace
Upper Montclair, N. J.

A. P. S. No. 15408

POSTAGE STAMPS for COLLECTIONS

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
Fort Thomas, Ky-

Jan - 9 - 1944

Dear Mr. Ashbrook-

The enclosed items have come my way recently and I think you would be interested in seeing them. The cover to Australia in particular. It has me puzzled and the couple of chaps I showed it to in N.Y.C. could not figure it out either. The 5¢ in stamps, of course, paid our inland postage to Boston whence it went via British Packet boat. But did it go direct to Victoria or via England? The "LC" in oval on front was evidently put on at the same time as the Victoria back stamp (the color seems to match and the dates are the same.) There are traces of a red marking on the bottom of the left stamp and directly below it but these I think are an offset from a backstamp on another cover.

rather than an erased or rubbed out transit mark - The "56" in the upper left corner and the straight, slightly diagonal, mark across the back seem to ^{have} been made at the same time. Is this a rate mark? If so why the FREE in the Victoria back stamp? Also what is the significance of the large Mrs. Q in the lower left corner? Could it be that Mr. Kenny was in Government service and rated a ~~free~~ "free"?

The pair 15-16 L14 show two rate markings. Looks like the 12 was applied first and then for some reason re-rated 18. There ~~is~~ are "New York slip" markings are they not? I know I've seen these illustrated somewhere but cannot find the article -

The 1¢ stamp on the cover front to Canada I have identified as G R but cannot satisfy myself as to whether it is from the early state of the plate or from the late state. If from the late state it must be a very early printing for the bottom recut is not at all distinct (to my eyes at least). What is your opinion?

I shall certainly appreciate your comments on the Australian cover and

Member of
STAMP DEALERS
CREDIT BUREAU

2

CLINTON B. VANDERBILT

7 Mountain Terrace
Upper Montclair, N. J.

A. P. S. No. 15408

POSTAGE STAMPS for COLLECTIONS

re: the markings on the pair and if there
is any fee involved for your trouble
please advise me -

Enclosed is a stamped
return envelope for your convenience
in returning the above items -

Best wishes for a happy
and prosperous New Year -

Sincerely

Clinton B. Vanderbilt

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Jan. 12, 1944.

Mr. Clinton B. Vanderbilt,
7 Mountain Terrace,
Upper Merion, N.J.

Dear Mr. Vanderbilt:

I am returning herewith the various items as contained in yours of the 9th.

Cover to Australia. Boston British packet meant that this letter went from Boston by Cunard Line to England. The 5¢ payment was our "shore to ship" rate. Had this letter been entirely prepaid, the rate would have been 33¢ of which our share would have been 5¢. From the markings I assume that while we rated the letter as a single ($\frac{1}{2}$ ounce or less), the British rated it as a double (over $\frac{1}{2}$), thus the "2" for a double rate.

It might be assumed that the "56" was the sum due, that is, 2 X 28, but the British would hardly mark the due figure in our currency but rather in sterling. However, there does seem to be some connection between the 56 and 2 X 28, because if the letter had been prepaid (at 2 X 33) we would have credited the British P.O. the sum of 56¢. I have no idea why the letter is marked "free" on the reverse. Your guess may be correct.

Later

Since writing the above, I note that the rate to Australia of 33¢ (single) had to be prepaid. See my One Cent Book, Vol. 2, page 342. Hence I assume that the British rated this letter as prepaid to destination and charged the U.S. P.O.D. with 56¢. As the letter was paid to destination, it was rated as "free" at Victoria. This is "Free of any postage due." In such a case as this, it would appear that the U.S. P.O.D. stood to lose the debit, that is, 56¢. Perhaps the solution may be that although the sender only put 5¢ on the letter, the postmaster charged him with the difference, (66¢ less 5¢), and way-billed the letter as fully prepaid to the Boston Foreign Office, in which event the "56" was a credit. However, the credits were supposed to be marked in red.

Re - the off-cover pair of 1¢. The "12" and the "18" are both "New York Foreign Mail Debit Postmarks." In other words, out of the total postage paid, or to be collected, the U.S. P.O.D. debited this sum to the corresponding foreign office, which in the case of these two markings was France. Evidently the "12" was an error and was corrected by the "18," which indicates that this pair was on a letter to Italy via French mail. Further that the rate was "Short Paid," hence out of the 42¢ to be collected our share was 2 X 9 or a

#2. Mr. Clinton B. Vanderbilt, Jan. 12, 1944.

debit of 18¢.

The 1¢ stamp on the letter to Canada is a Type IV.

Sincerely yours,

MEMORANDUM

A. P. S. No. 15408

CLINTON B. VANDERBILT

7 Mountain Terrace
Upper Montclair, N. J.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook -

June 27-1958

I still have the "Kenny" cover and altho I've shown it to several cover buys no one could say for sure about it - It has been a puzzle to all.

If you wish to see it again to study I shall be pleased to send it down - Just let me know by the enclosed envelope -

Best wishes - Sincerely Clinton B. Vanderbilt

June 23, 1950.

Mr. Clinton B. Vanderbilt,
7 Mountain Terrace,
Upper Montclair, N.J.

Dear Mr. Vanderbilt:

I am wondering if you still own, or recall, a cover that you sent to me back in January 1944. It was to Australia in Jan. 1857 and had a 3¢ 1851 and a pair of 1¢. It was addressed to Mr. John C. Kenny, Melbourne Australia.

I note from my records that the item puzzled me and I advanced several theories.

Did you ever develop anything further?

I have lately run across another cover from the same correspondence with a vertical pair of the 3¢ 1851 and similar markings including the "Ship Letter Free" of Victoria.

I enclose a stamped envelope for reply.

Sincerely yours,

MEMORANDUM

A. P. S. No. 15408

CLINTON B. VANDERBILT

7 Mountain Terrace

Upper Montclair, N. J.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook -

7/19/50

Thank you very much for sending the "Tenny" cover along. I regret that it will not fit into my collection since it has no 1¢ blue '51 on it - so I return it herewith -

No, there is no British transit mark on my cover. In fact there is no Melbourne receiving mark on mine. My (LC and date in oval) is in red while this one is in black - Why and what is its import? My hunch is that the cut out was because of something inside the letter - of course I may be all wrong on this - (over)

Do you know was there a thru closed pouch from
Boston to Australia & how come free postage on the
British ship. Evidently this was more or less customary
on account of the "FREE" handstamp - The 5th ^{postage} M. May
cover paid the shore to ship rate. U.S. Believe me
your item the pr. of 34 '51 overpaid this fee by 1¢.
As opportunity presents I shall make inquiries and
perhaps some day we will have the correct info. on
these items - Anything I learn about these I'll transmit
to you -

Suchy you sent the cover when you did for in
another couple of days my vacation starts and I'll be
on my way to Canada - Thanks again and kind regards.
Sincerely Clinton B. Vandubelt

Cole
Cover
351

July 14, 1950.

Mr. Clinton B. Vanderbilt,
7 Mountain Terrace,
Upper Montclair,
New Jersey.

Dear Mr. Vanderbilt:

I trust you will pardon my negligence in replying to your kind note of June 27th.

I am enclosing herewith the cover referred to in my letter of the 23rd. You will note that this has a piece cut out in the back and the question was raised - did this contain a postmark applied in England? You will note that this cover is quite similar to yours, and may I inquire if your cover has any markings that were applied in England? I doubt if such is the case as my record of same does not mention any.

In case you wish to purchase the enclosed it was offered to me by an Eastern dealer @ \$12.50.

Sincerely yours,

Enclosed
#351 - Price \$12.50

(S.B.A. Reference
S. Book 18-45)

July 24, 1950.

Mr. Clinton B. Vanderbilt,
7 Mountain Terrace,
Upper Montclair, N.J.

Dear Mr. Vanderbilt:

No doubt you are away on vacation but this can reach you on return.

Yours of the 19th with return of the Kenny cover received. I do not think that the red and black of the "L C" markings had any special significance. There seems to be no explanation for the cutout on the back of my cover.

No, I am quite sure that there was no closed mail from the U. S. via Great Britain at that period. The puzzling feature is the "Free" on both covers.

Yes, I think my rate was overpaid by one cent.

Sincerely yours,