

1	E.D.Cole 3 Covers To Singapore	35	E.D.COLE Re Bids At Auction
2	Raynor Hubbell - Various Conted Covers	36	Roger Weill - 30¢ 69 Proof
3	Philip G. Rust 30¢ 1869 Cover (slow) Stalow 24 1869 Bisect. Cover "	37	E.C.KRUG - 4 Covers Laurence sale 7/12-54 -
4	Philatelic Foundation 5¢ Hawaii Cover	38	Dr O. Bacher Re - Sperati's
5	David Lidman Re Pony Article	39	MacBride Re Scruggs
6	E.C.KRUG Re 9¢ 1860 - Baltimore Md	40	Burleigh Jacobs Re Mr X
7	J.D.Baker 2 Covers J.F. To France	41	Henry Hill Re Illustration LNW
8	E.L.GORSON #1857 Copies To Type	42	W.H.Kiefaber Re Fake 30¢ 1869
9	Geo.W. Linn - Re. 7 Covers	43	C.W. Brazier " " "
10	Edgar B Jessup. Re 13¢ Hawaii Cover	44	Elliott Perry " " "
11	Jack Molesworth Re Cover To France in 1857 - 26¢ Rate	45	E.D.Cole " " "
12	L.V.Huber Re Captions For His C.S.A. Steam BOAT	46	L.G.Brookman " " "
13	John A Fox Re The Babcock 24¢ 1869 + 10¢ To HONG KONG.	47	E.C. Krug " " "
14	Richard J. Borden Re 10¢ 1855 Proof	48	R.J. Mechin " " "
15	Millard H. Mack 6¢ 1869 - 30¢ 1869. } OFF Cover	49	P.G. Rust " " "
16	H.B. Young Re 12¢ 1851 IIII Fake D.T.	50	Dr. Carroll Chase, " "
17	Donald Milligan 12¢ 1851 1¢ 1857	51	E.D.COLE Re 10¢ 55" X " Variety
18	R.C. Hoogh Kirk Re 5¢ #7 Cover (12)	52	E.D. Cole S.F. TO FRANCE 10¢ 61 " PONY "
19	F.W. Bohle Re 10¢ 47 Pen Cleared	53	Philatelic Found. 90¢ 1860 + 3¢ 57
20	Chas D. Lurgio 9¢ Rate France	54	B.D. Harmer 2 - 1869 Covers EARLY DATES
21	Paul Rohloff Various Items	55	Robt A Siegel - WF & Co PONY COVER
22	Philatelic Foundation - 30¢ 1869 Cover 5041	56	Jack Fleckenstein 1¢ 1851 III PL3. 61L3
23	Limestone Springs S.C. Article By Weatherly	57	Dr O. Bacher Re 1869 Covers EARLIEST
24	Burleigh Jacobs Re R.E. Manson	58	MILLARD MACK 30¢ 69 <del>Louise Browne Re Portrait</del>
25	Harry Ketter Re Cover 24¢ + 1¢ To G.B.	59	Louise Browne Portrait
26	Howard P. Helmer 3¢ Columbian COLOR CHANGE	60	
27	Dr Griffin G. Frazier Re C.S.A. Frameline	61	
28	E.C.KRUG Re - 2¢ B.J. Grill Sheet	62	
29	Philip G. Rust Re 24¢ Cover To Peru (S.A.)	63	
30	E.D. Cole Re 3 Conted Cincels	64	
31	E. Perry Re Prepaid WAY - Holyoke MA	65	
32	H.F. French 3¢ 51 India (?) 3¢ 57 FLAW	66	
33	d.H. Barr Re 24¢ Continental	67	
34	H.L. LINDQUIST Re Ads On Export	68	

Submitted May 12 1952  
The Expert Committee of  
THE PHILATELIC FOUNDATION  
25 EAST 58th STREET  
NEW YORK 18, N. Y.

No. 4880..... Meeting of.....

Dear Mr. ALABROOK:

Herewith is an item described by the applicant as follows:

Country U.S...... Issue 1860 Denomination 90¢.....

Color Blue..... Cat. No. 39.....

Brief Description

Cancelled by "BLUE BALTIMORE  
TOWN"



IS THIS GENUINELY CANCELLED?

The Expert Committee requests you to examine the item and give us your valued opinion. All expressions given are strictly confidential between you and The Committee.

(Details of opinion on inside)

Please write clearly in pencil, and sign your opinion.  
(Do not use pen and ink.)

THE PHILATELIC FOUNDATION

OF THE UNITED STATES

WASHINGTON, D. C.

P.F. 4880 - 904 1860

Blue Cancel.

I Regret That I Am  
Able To Give A  
Definite Opinion Regarding  
The Cancellation on This  
Stamp Because of The  
Lack of Evidence.  
However I Believe  
That The Cancel Might  
Be A Genuine Strike

William H. Burrows  
May 14 1934.

The United States Post Office requires that its stamps be cancelled by hand and that the cancellation be made in pencil. All cancellations must be made in pencil and must be made in the United States.

Please write clearly in pencil, and sign your opinion.  
(Do not use pen and ink.)

THE PHILATELIC FOUNDATION

30 EAST 42ND STREET

NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

PF. 4780 - 904 1860

Blue Cancel.

I Regret That I Am  
Able To Give A  
Definite Opinion Regarding  
The Cancellation on This  
Stamp Because of The  
Lack of Evidence.  
However I Believe  
That The Cancel Might  
Be A Genuine Strike

Allen G. Sweeney  
May 14 1954.

Submitted May 14 1954  
The Expert Committee of  
THE PHILATELIC FOUNDATION  
22 EAST 59th STREET  
NEW YORK 18, N. Y.

No. 4150

Meeting of

Dear Mr. ALBROOK:

Herewith is an item described by the applicant as follows:

Country U.S. Issue 1860 Denomination 9¢

Color Blue Cat. No. 39

Brief Description

Cancelled by "BLUE BALTIMORE  
TOWN"



IS THIS GENUINELY CANCELLED?

The Expert Committee requests you to examine the item and give us your valued opinion. All expressions given are strictly confidential between you and The Committee.

(Details of opinion on inside.)

May 31, 1954.

Mr. Ezra D. Cole,

Nyack, N.Y.

Dear Ezra:

Herewith the three covers to Singapore. The one of "Sep 10" is surely Sep 18 1861, hence rather an early use.

Re - the 24¢ from Boston on Dec. 11, 1861. Would you call this a Steel Blue? In my opinion this is a typical example of a natural color changling of the 24¢ violet.

I wonder if I could sell these three covers to Jack Fleckenstein? The stamps are in rough condition and he might turn them down on that condition. If you think it worth while, price them and I will submit them to him.

Re - Lot 66 in the Fox 1¢ sale. I have never been able to get any line on who bought it.

Regards.

Yours etc.,

Via Marseilles

Type I



George H. Dana.

Red

Hodgson & Co.

Red

Singapore.

Butt

By E.D.C.  
5/27-64

on Back

"Rec 2/22-62"

A 496



Via Marseilles

52

Red



GRAY  
Lilac  
A "Steel Blue"?

Geo. H. Dana

By F.D.C.  
5/27-54

Hodgson & Co.  
Singapore.  
E. I.

On Back  
Rec  
2/4-62

White Enr

- Red

Also  
Boston  
Br PKT  
Dec 11

A 496

*Via Marseilles*



Red



Butt

Type II

*George H. Dana*

*Hodgson & Co.*

*Singapore.*

Red

This is  
1861  
Cunard  
Sailing  
Boston  
Sep 18  
1861

Boston  
Br Pkt  
on Back

Pay E.D.C.

*E. J.*

*2 letters  
1 package*

36

B500

'E' FILE - F128-5 SER

**RAYNOR HUBBELL**  
**SPECIALIZING IN THE PURCHASE OF OLD STAMPS**



COLONEL C. S. A.  
MEMBER: A. S. D. A.  
A. P. S.  
S. P. A.

BOX 573

GRIFFIN, GEORGIA

June 7 / 1954

Dear Stanton  
Adding to the problems  
which I am putting up to you  
and for all of which I expect  
to pay a fee - who do  
you figure on the enclosed  
Cover - Captured Munfordsville  
Ky - Post marked Chattanooga  
Via Montgomery to be  
forwarded from Montgomery  
by boat to Bull Landing  
Alabama

The U.S. envelope "captured" by Confederate soldier  
in operations around Munfordsville Ky?  
Mailed from Chattanooga?

(over)

and on this year cover  
official Business from San  
Antonio to Houston =  
I presume no question of  
its being a 20¢ stamp. - Was not on  
40¢ paid - 5 20¢ changed  
to 10¢ and then a 20¢ stamp.  
was on 5 - No San Antonio  
Paid stamp Paid listed was  
this. *Quarrell*

Not my property, - but  
I want authentication with  
a view to possibly purchase.

June 9, 1954.

Mr. Raynor Hubbell,  
Box 573,  
Griffin, Georgia.

Dear Raynor:

Herewith the cover with the vertical pair of the 5¢ 1862  
Litho on U. S. envelope, from Chattanooga, Tenn. to Alabama.

My analysis of this would be as follows: It was from a  
Confederate officer writing to his wife and mother and he was using as  
an envelope, a U. S. 3¢ml861 that he had "captured" at Munfordsville, Ky.

I do not believe that the "captured" had reference to a  
letter that had been captured in Kentucky and taken to Chattanooga and  
mailed.

Of course, an item like this is rather interesting, a nice  
pair of the 5¢mlitho used on a 3¢ U. S. envelope of 1862.

I believe that General Bragg's army captured Munfordsville,  
Ky. along about Sep. 17, 1862, but you can look up the history. This  
postmark appears to be Sep 27. The letter could have been written there  
and sent back by military mail to Chattanooga for entry into the C.S.A.  
mail.

Sincerely yours,

June 9, 1954.

Mr. Raynor Hubbell,  
Box 573,  
Griffin, Georgia.

Dear Raynor:

Herewith the cover from San Antonio, Texas to Houston with a 20¢ 1863 green. The 20¢ stamp was not used originally on this cover and the large grid is a fake. The ink of this grid is "modern" and is not the same color as the genuine black ink of the postmark.

Originally this was a stampless cover, handstamped "PAID 20" at the San Antonio Post Office. There is no actual evidence that the use was during the four years Texas was a member of the Confederate States but perhaps it is safe to assume that such was the case.

My fee on this cover is \$3.00.

Sincerely yours,

June 8, 1954.

Mr. Raynor Hubbell,  
Box 573,  
Griffin, Georgia.

Dear Raynor:

I am in receipt of yours of the 4th with enclosures as stated. I wrote you yesterday that I would hold the Reagan cover pending a further study of it.

In my letter of the 17th, I mentioned that I was sending you under separate cover a sample copy of my May 1st "Special Service," but I note that I failed to give you any particulars regarding it. This Service is issued once a month to a close circle of advanced collectors who are interested in 19th U. S. From time to time I have items on Confederates and in the future I intend to add more and more as I am encouraging subscribers to include Confeds in their collections. With the Service I include actual photographs of the subjects discussed. The Service does not include any free service such as the authentication of stamps or covers, etc., etc., etc. The annual subscription is \$100.00 per year payable in advance. The 1954-1955 Series commenced with the June 1st Issue which was mailed last week. If you think you could derive benefit from the Service I will be glad to have you subscribe.

In my letter of the 17th, I mentioned that I would later on send you a color slide of the Sperati counterfeit of the Confed 10¢ Rose. Here it is as Slide W16. I am charging you \$1.00 for it but return it if you do not care for it.

Regarding the "KNOXVILLE" which I am returning herewith. In my former letter I recall that I stated that I was no authority on Confederate Provisionals and I advised you to submit the stamp to the Philatelic Foundation Expert Committee. I note that Mr. Shock submitted this to the Committee in April 1948 and they pronounced it a counterfeit. As you are surely aware, the finest collection of Confederate Postmaster Provisionals is owned by Mr. Alfred H. Caspary who incidentally is and has been a member of the Expert Committee of the Foundation. It is my understanding that all Confederate Provisionals sent to the "P.F." are submitted to Mr. Caspary and it is my guess that this stamp was no exception and Certificate #895 was issued on the strength of Mr. Caspary's findings. When I wrote you, you will recall that I expressed a doubt that the stamp was genuine. On the strength of the P.F. certificate I feel convinced that it is a counterfeit.

Raynor you inquired of me regarding two points, viz., no expert or expert committee can always be right and especially in this day and age where faking and counterfeiting in certain European centers is big business. Big business because there are so many damn fool Americans who think they can tell the good from the bad. And further the crooks are equipped with all the modern tools of sciences. A philatelic expert of today really has to be a scientific student. I make no claim to such distinction but rather to ~~try~~ try to do the very best that I can with what knowledge that I possess. If I had in my possession for comparison, a genuine unused copy of a 5¢ Knoxville, I believe I could give a fairly accurate opinion.



#2 Mr. Raynor Hubbell - June 8, 1954.

Of course, no one could criticise you for requesting an opinion from me on any item, U. S. or Confederate. Because I happen to be a member of the C.S.A. Expert Committee entails no obligation on your part not to request a personal opinion of me nor any obligation on my part to act only thru the Committee.

Yes, of course, the P.F. Committee could be wrong, in fact, I have differed with them on several occasions, but when a certificate on a Confederate provisional is issued by them on a stamp of considerable value I would hesitate to differ with them because I would feel I was questioning an opinion by Mr. Caspary.

I don't think it would do a bit of good to request a reconsideration of their original finding unless you could produce some convincing proof that a re-opening of the case was justified.

Bear in mind that Shenfield did not see the actual stamp, I merely submitted to him the color slide. I believe that if he examined the stamp he would pronounce it a counterfeit.

Regarding the Jonesboro, Tenn. covers. I have carefully studied these three items and I know of no reason why two of these should be classed as P.M.P.'s. Of course, I am fully aware that is the way the catalogue sees fit to classify them. I doubt very much if No. 2 could be considered a P.M.P., but surely a "H.S.P." Inasmuch as the envelopes of #1 and #3 are the same as #2 I would be inclined to believe that all three are actually handstamped PAIDS. Without some actual proof that #1 and #3 were prepared in advance and sold the same as stamped envelopes, I would surely not buy them on the theory they are Provisionals, regardless of what the catalogues list.

I am returning the items herewith.

I am not making any charge for the above. All you owe me is \$2.00 for two slides and the return postage on this package. I will reply later on the Reagan item.

- With regards.

Sincerely yours,

Slide S5  
Slide W16 .....\$2.00

2.00

June 14, 1954.

Mr. Raynor Hubbell,  
Box 573,  
Griffin, Georgia.

Dear Raynor:

Re - your letter herewith. The answer is "purely elementary, my dear Watson." No evidence whatsoever, just an attempt to reconstruct a background. I believe my theory could be true in some respects if not in all.

Because of the handwriting I suggested an "officer" - no other evidence. Who would he be writing to? The chances are to a wife or mother but this was just a pure guess.

Re - the Confed booklet, you will note I charge \$2.25. I will supply you copies at \$1.25 net in lots of five or more.

Re - the Sperati 10¢ Rose. I do not recall that he wrote this up in his "Supplement," but I suppose he may have done so. I recall that he wrote an article about the "Sperati" TEN in the Supplement and explained how Sperati made it. I suggest you write him. The Sperati 10¢ Rose is not near as good as his "TEN." I am not sure but I may have a color slide of the "TEN."

Thanks for your check for \$6.34, which balances us up to date.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

FAKE 1869 COVER - A 'ZARESKI' - 15¢ 1869 REMOVED  
AND 30¢ SUBSTITUTED. PART OF NEW ORLEANS  
POSTMARK ON STAMP A PAINTING, ALSO THE  
"TIE" OF NEW YORK. Stamp Placed Upside Down  
Because of Cancel In That Part of Stamp.  
Stanley B Ashbrook

New Orleans 14 June  
1869  
A. Carrington

B5011  
BY P.G.R.  
6/9/54

73-14



*Refused to mail*



Red



*Mess Laplante fils*



Black

*Bordeaux*



Red

B5011 By P.G.R.  
6/9 1954

FAKE 1869 COVER - A'ZARESKI' - 15¢ 1869 REMOVED AND 30¢ SUBSTITUTED. PART OF NEW ORLEANS POSTMARK ON STAMP A PAINTING, ALSO THE "TIE" OF NEW YORK. Stamp Placed Upside Down Because of Cancel in That Part of Stamp.

Stanley B Ashbrook

FF 8

4

73-13



*Peu post stimer*



*Mess Laplante fils*



Black

*Bordeaux*



Red

B5011 BY P.G.R  
6/9 1954

FAKE 1869 COVER - A 'ZARESKI' - 15¢ 1869 REMOVED AND 30¢ SUBSTITUTED. PART OF NEW ORLEANS POSTMARK ON STAMP A PAINTING, ALSO THE "TIE" OF NEW YORK. Stamp Placed Upside Down Because of Cancel In That Part of Stamp.  
Stanley B Ashbrook

73-13

5



FAKE 1869 COVER - A 'ZARESKI' - 15¢ 1869 REMOVED  
AND 30¢ SUBSTITUTED. PART OF NEW ORLEANS  
POSTMARK ON STAMP A PAINTING, ALSO THE  
"TIE" OF NEW YORK. Stamp Placed Upside Down  
Because of Cancel in That Part of Stamp.  
Stanley B Ashbrook

B5011 BY P.G.R.  
6/9 1954

New Orleans 44 June 1869  
A. Carrington

73-14

9

St. Louis 14 Juin 1869

Monsieur Laplante fils  
Bordeaux

Depuis notre lettre du 10 courant dont vous avez  
incluse la duplicata, nous avons été favorisés de votre estimée et  
de l'envoi dont nous avons retiré notre premier traite de 100 francs  
de S. 775. *musis nous vous en remercions.*

B501 By P.G.R.  
6/9 1954

de surplus d'accord *quant pas de répression spéciale, nous*  
avons recommandé à votre banque *la somme de 100 francs*

FAKE 1869 COVER - A 'ZARESKI' - 15¢ 1869 REMOVED  
AND 30¢ SUBSTITUTED. PART OF NEW ORLEANS  
POSTMARK ON STAMP A PAINTING, ALSO THE  
'TIE' OF NEW YORK. Stamp Placed Upside Down  
Because of Cancel in That Part of Stamp.  
Stanley B Ashbrook

suivant les  
n. 4377  
4380  
4387

95.  
S. 5631.95 au dit de votre Compte,  
Bonne, Messieurs l'amis, nos salutations cordiales  
A. Carnier

15 / 6

*ok \$100 over*

PHILIP G. RUST  
WINNSTEAD PLANTATION  
THOMASVILLE, GEORGIA

June 6th. 1954

Mr. S. B. Ashbrook  
33 No. Ft. Thomas Ave.  
Ft. Thomas, Ky.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Enclosed are two covers for authentication:

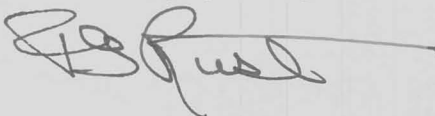
1. To Bordeaux; has 30¢ 1869 tied
2. To Canfield Ohio, has 1 single & diagonal bisect of 2¢ 1869 tied

I am not commenting on either one, mainly because I 'm not qualified!

\*\*\*\*\*

Please find check for \$100 (and invoice to be receipted) for one year's Spec. Service. I hope everyone enjoys this as much as I.

Sincerely yours,



June 10, 1954.

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

Dear Mr. Rust:

Herewith the "30¢ 1869" cover as per yours of the 6th. This is a cover from New Orleans on June 14, 1869 from the firm of "A. CARRIERE & CO." of New Orleans with their handstamp of "JUNE 14 1869" and addressed to "Mess Laplante freres - Bordeaux" (France). The New York postmark is "June 19" and the credit is "6."

This cover is fraudulent in so far that this 30¢ stamp was not used originally on this folded letter. The date of use is correct, namely, June 1869 but the original rate was 15¢, not 30¢, and I feel certain a 15¢ 1869 stamp was removed and the present stamp substituted. The part of the New Orleans postmark on the stamp is fraudulent, a hand-painted piece of work. The part of the red New York postmark on the stamp is also "painted." The 30¢ stamp was placed upside down, in the substitution because this was a canceled copy with the cancelation in the lower left portion of the stamp, and of course smudges were put in the upper right hand of the cover in an attempt to "tie" the stamp to this part of the cover. The blue French receiving postmark shows "SERV. AM. CALAIS," which meant, "From the U. S. to England by American Packet, thence across Channel thru Calais." Going this route the portion of the U. S. single rate of 15¢ would have been 9¢, that of France 6¢. Had this rate been 30¢, the French share would have been double or 2 x 6¢. You will note the U. S. credit is 6¢ or a single rate of 15¢ per 1/4 ounce.

I have records of covers that went from New Orleans to France by this same mail on this same date and the stamps do now show any such a canceling device was used at the New Orleans Post Office on mail bound for France on June 14-15-16 of 1869.

I might also add that this is a cover from the well-known "Carriere" correspondence to the Bordeaux address on this cover. The Paris philatelic crook and counterfeiter - M. Zareski is credited with obtaining a large lot of the "Carriere" correspondence and faking many of the covers in the manner in which this has been faked. It is my firm belief that this is some of Zareski's work.

Back in 1938, I was shown a similar cover to this, a cover from this same correspondence which originally had a 15¢ 1869, that had been removed and a 30¢ '69 substituted. It was from the Carriere firm to the same address, but mailed from New Orleans on "Jun 15" but has the same New York postmark and date of "JUN 19."

Sincerely yours,

June 9, 1954.

To

PHILIP G. RUST,  
Route 5  
Thomasville, Georgia.

For examination and opinion on  
"304" 1869 cover from  
New Orleans "Jun 14" 1869 ----- \$5.00

Received payment

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

June 10, 1954.

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

Dear Mr. Rust:

Herewith the 2¢ 1869 cover as per yours of the 6th. I dislike to pass on an item such as this, because even if the cover is genuine, it was probably sent thru the mail for a philatelic purpose and not because there was any scarcity of 3¢ or 1¢ stamps at the mailing office. In addition, such a use as this was forbidden by Post Office Regulations and had been prohibited since the late fall of 1853. The S.U.S. lists a 2¢ 1869 "bisect" but fails to give any quotation. I consider such things as "sucker items" that have no legitimate place in a sensible collection. As for this cover I suppose such a thing would be very easy for a Zareski to manufacture and don't you think I would be very foolish if I attempted to express an opinion that this item was genuine in view of the fact there is just practically no evidence to substantiate such an opinion? Dealers have to make a living and some have to handle sucker items.

The above is just one man's opinion.

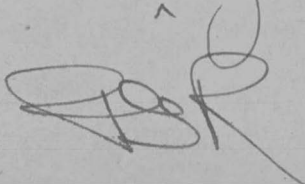
With regards -

Cordially yours,



Many thanks  
for your in-  
teresting anal-  
ysis of the  
Stolow <sup>sale</sup> lakes!

I've not  
paid for  
them!!



*Our first cover*



Red



*Messrs Laplante freres*



Black

*Bordeaux*



Red

B501

By P.G.R.  
4/5/1954

FAKE 1869 COVER - A 'ZARESKI' - 15¢ 1869 REMOVED AND 30¢ SUBSTITUTED. PART OF NEW ORLEANS POSTMARK ON STAMP A PAINTING, ALSO THE "TIE" OF NEW YORK. Stamp Placed Upside Down Because of Cancel In That Part of Stamp.  
Stanley B Ashbrook

*Ashbrook*  
The Expert Committee of  
THE PHILATELIC FOUNDATION  
22 EAST 35TH STREET  
NEW YORK 16, N. Y.

No. 5010

Meeting of June 1954

Dear *Mr. Ashbrook*:

Herewith is an item described by the applicant as follows:

Country Hawaii & U.S. Issue \_\_\_\_\_ Denomination \_\_\_\_\_

Color \_\_\_\_\_ Cat. No. U.S.#24 & Hawaii #8

Brief Description

cover with Hawaii #8 tied by black bars  
3 copies U.S.#24 tied by San Francisco  
town

Is cover genuine in all respects - give particular attention to the 5¢ Hawaii. Were the U. S. stamps in payment of the ship postage or for forwarding the letter?

The Expert Committee requests you to examine the item and give us your valued opinion. All expressions given are strictly confidential between you and The Committee.

(Details of opinion on inside.)



#74

#2

*Ashbrook*

The Expert Committee of  
THE PHILATELIC FOUNDATION  
22 EAST 35TH STREET  
NEW YORK 16, N. Y.

No. 5010

Meeting of June 1954

Dear *Mr. Ashbrook*

Herewith is an item described by the applicant as follows:

Country Hawaii & U.S. Issue \_\_\_\_\_ Denomination \_\_\_\_\_

Color \_\_\_\_\_ Cat. No. U.S.#24 & Hawaii #8

Brief Description

cover with Hawaii #8 tied by black bars  
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town

Is cover genuine in all respects - give particular attention to the 5¢ Hawaii. Were the U. S. stamps in payment of the ship postage or for forwarding the letter?

The Expert Committee requests you to examine the item and give us your valued opinion. All expressions given are strictly confidential between you and The Committee.

(Details of opinion on inside.)



*Ashbrook*

The Expert Committee of  
THE PHILATELIC FOUNDATION  
22 EAST 35TH STREET  
NEW YORK 16, N. Y.

No. 5010

Meeting of June 1954

Dear *Mr. Ashbrook*:

Herewith is an item described by the applicant as follows:

Country Hawaii & U.S. Issue \_\_\_\_\_ Denomination \_\_\_\_\_

Color \_\_\_\_\_ Cat. No. U.S.#24 & Hawaii #8

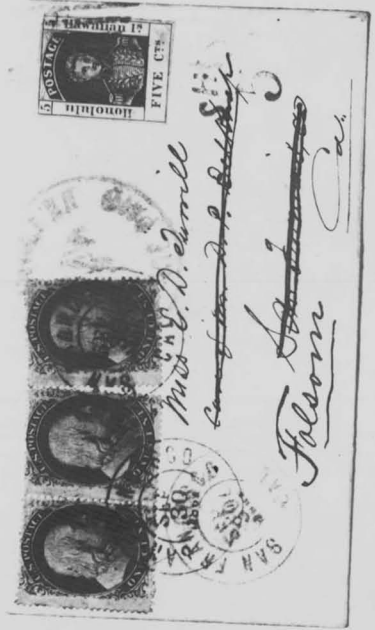
Brief Description

cover with Hawaii #8 tied by black bars  
3 copies U.S.#24 tied by San Francisco  
town

Is cover genuine in all respects - give particular attention to the 5¢ Hawaii. Were the U. S. stamps in payment of the ship postage or for forwarding the letter?

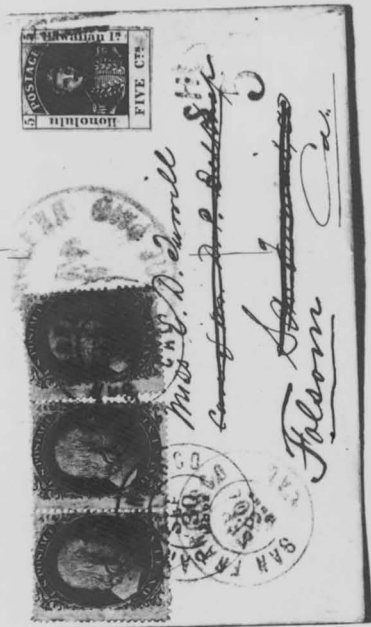
The Expert Committee requests you to examine the item and give us your valued opinion. All expressions given are strictly confidential between you and The Committee.

(Details of opinion on inside.)



ITEM AFFIXED  
HERE

Please write clearly in pencil, and sign your opinion.  
(Do not use pen and ink.)



Send to Ashbrook

P.F. 5010 -  
Cover - Hawaii 5¢ Blue - with H.S. of 3 of the U. S.  
1¢ 1857 - Type V - San Francisco date SEP 30 1861.

In my opinion this cover is genuine in every respect.  
The 5¢ Hawaii paid the Hawaiian postage. The "Ship 5"  
was the due postage at San Francisco. The 3¢ U. S.  
was the U. S. Forwarding postage from San Francisco  
to Folsom, Calif.

"Ship 5" The law, "Every letter xxx brought into  
the United States xxx in any private ship xx shall be  
charged with 5 cents, if delivered at the post office  
of arrival. etc. etc." (Act Feb. 27, 1861)

J. P. Folsom  
Feb 12 1954

ITEM AFFIXED  
HERE

Please write clearly in pencil, and sign your opinion.  
(Do not use pen and ink.)



Send to Ashbrook

P.F. 5010 -  
Cover - Hawaii 5¢ Blue - with H.S. of 3 of the U. S.  
1¢ 1857 - Type V - San Francisco date SEP 30 1861.

In my opinion this cover is genuine in every respect.  
The 5¢ Hawaii paid the Hawaiian postage. The "Ship 5"  
was the due postage at San Francisco. The 3¢ U. S.  
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John Ashbrook  
Feb 12 1954

74-1

C207 - 208 - F128 - GREEN  
WHAT HAPPENED TO THIS



C207 - See S.F. 32 - p. 4. By P.F. 6/2-54 - N. 5010

SEE COLORSLIDE

June 1, 1954.

To .....

.....

For "WA

Page #254

ASHBROOK SPECIAL SERVICE (Third Series 1953-54)

ISSUE NO. 35 - FEBRUARY 1, 1954

CORRECTION OF AN ERROR

In last month's issue of this Service on page #245, I stated that at Columbia, S.C. on Dec. 20, 1860, the state of South Carolina passed the "Ordinance of Secession." Mr. Van Dyk MacBride very kindly called my attention to this error. The Convention convened at Columbia on Dec. 18, 1860, but because of an epidemic of small-pox, which was prevalent in the city, the Convention adjourned the next day to Charleston, S.C. and at that city on Dec. 20th, 1860, adopted the ordinance seceding from the Federal Union.

In the finely specialized Confederate collection of Mr. Earl Antrim of Nampa, Idaho, is a U. S. stamped envelope - a 3¢ Star Die. It is addressed to Statesburg, N.C. and is plainly postmarked, "CHARLESTON DEC. 20, 1860 - S.C." Quite an important date and city in American history. I have an idea that such a cover is far more rare than a St. Louis Bear.

REGISTERED MAIL

Again we refer to the fact that from July 1, 1855 to June 1, 1867 registered fees were payable only in cash and not in postage stamps. It was unquestionably the original intention of the Washington P.O. Department to discourage the use of any markings on a letter that would identify such as registered. And surely a 5¢ stamp on a 3¢ letter would have meant "REGISTERED."

A correspondent has recently furnished me with the following from an Eastern newspaper dated Monday, July 2, 1855, quote:

REGISTERING LETTERS.- The system of registration of valuable letters, prescribed by the Post Office Department, went into operation yesterday, the 1st inst. The regulations provide that, on payment of a registered

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# The American Philatelist

The Journal of The American Philatelic Society

DAVID LIDMAN, Editor

~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~

Park Ridge, N. J.

6 Sixth S.



February 16, 1953

Dear Stanley,

Well, we are on the way with the Pony Express story.

I enclose photostats of the entire article, and also a copy of a letter to Mr. Loeb. The cuts have gone on to the Stowells and I've asked them to send me proofs of same so that we will know what we have or don't have.

I have meant to answer your letter of Jan. 7 a lot sooner, but expected the material from Mr. Loeb momentarily, and thought that I would wait until it was in hand before writing.

As to the means of presenting the new information; there are two methods:

1) It would be prepared as a supplement to the original, the letter to be corrected to the extent of any errors that may have crept in, or

2) The new material could be prepared as inserts into the original--in italic type to indicate that it is additional to the original. In this way, the reader has all the information on the immediate point right at hand, and does not have to refer to the "back of the book".

If (1) should be preferred, then I think that where some additional material is at hand, that foot-note type numbers should be inserted at the point in the original to call attention to the place in the supplement at which it can be found.

Personally, I prefer the (2) method for the reason as stated--all the information is in one place. However, I do not want to be arbitrary on this.

As mentioned in my letter to Mr. Loeb, I think that we can plan on this for the Fall--for I've planned ahead for the next two or three issues, and I may have to cut down the number of pages in the summer months to keep within my budget--so we might give the first Fall issue--say October--a bang-up start for the new volume.

Most sincerely,

XXXXXXXXXXXX  
6 Sixth St.

February 16, 1953

Mr. Julius Loeb  
1617 Broadway  
Oakland 12, California

Dear Mr. Loeb,

The cuts arrived, and were trans-shipped to our printers the very next day. My thanks.

I am forwarding by first class mail the copy of The American Philatelist of November, 1930, which you so kindly loaned to me, plus photostats of all the pages.

I would appreciate it very much if you would mark any changes you deem necessary, and return the 'stats to me.

I am also sending a set of the photostats to Mr. Ashbrook. He has expressed the view that there were no errors at all in the original, but that there have been some additional material developments since the article was published. This additional material will be added to your article, either as inserts where proper, or placed at the end as a supplement.

Your co-operation has been most helpful. As I have had to plan ahead for several months, and as the summer months are "doldrum" months, I would suggest that we plan the reprint for the Fall--to give the new season a "bang." However, I would appreciate any suggested corrections or changes as time permits you.

Most sincerely,

David Lidman.

Feb. 25, 19

Mr. David Lidman, .  
6 Sixth St.,  
Park Ridge, N.J.

Dear Dave:

I am in receipt of yours of the 16th with the set of photostats of the Loeb article. Thanks very much. Perhaps it would be wise to wait until you have an expression from Loeb as to how he would prefer the article to be published. It might be that he would demand it be published in the original text. At any rate, any way that Loeb and you decide is best will be OK with me. I suppose it could be arranged to make insertions in the original text in such a way - smaller or larger type, etc., to show that such insertions are ours and were not in the original. You could head the article with an Editor's Note explaining that we had added additional illustrations and data.

I am glad that you put the publication off until fall as it will give us plenty of time to turn out a good job.

With kindest regards -

Cordially yours,



THE JOURNAL OF THE



# *The American* **PHILATELIST**

DAVID LIDMAN, EDITOR

SIX SIXTH STREET

PARK RIDGE, NEW JERSEY

~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~

March 14, 1953

Dear Stanley,

Just a note to let you know that I have not as yet heard from Mr. Loeb. I'll wait another few days and then write to him. Apparently, he doesn't get around to letter-writing too often, but has to be prodded.

My thanks for your comment, which will be followed.

Sincerely,

*Lidman*

POST CARD

MAR 19 1953

POST CARD

Mr David Lidman  
6 Sixth St

Park Ridge N. J.

Dear Dave

I have yours of the 14<sup>th</sup>  
Our mutual friend to Loeb  
loebentz does not like to write  
letters, but I suppose he will  
come around in time and  
help us to present a fine  
follow up on his original  
With Regards  
Sincerely yours

# The American Philatelist



The Journal of The American Philatelic Society

DAVID LIDMAN, *Editor*

6 Sixth Street,

Park Ridge, N. J.

June 22, 1953

Dear Stanley,

Do pardon me for my delay in answering your letter of May 15. I've been abbit under the weather, and although Karen has helped a lot in keeping letters going, I have fallen behind on some that I wished to answer myself.

I am pleased that you agree with the advisability of the insertions--and we very definitely can include a supplement. I am quite certain that Mr. Loeb will not object to any insertions or supplementation of his fine article.

Where it has been discovered that earlier information was incorrect, I feel certain that he will not be amiss to having the later discovery and information presented so that the study can be brought up to date. Any realy student would welcome such additions--and, after all, his study is more than 20 years old, and mach new material must be in ha nd.

I am OK, as far as the indi~~ap~~position mentioned in the first paragraph--just have to lose weight, take care of myself a bit more, etc. Karen and Tjinker are both fine. Tjinker is almost up to her mother's height now, and is quite a lovely girl. She is now in the seventh grade--or will be starting there in the Fall, and is really turning out to be quite a young lady.

Of course, your own lad, I know is a chip off the old block, and I feel certain is making a~~ll~~ the progress parents ask of their children. You know, of course, that you have our very best regards.

Sincerely,

*Lidman*

July 6, 1953.

Mr. David Lidman,  
Park Ridge, N.J.

Dear Dave:

Upon my return from a short vacation I  
found yours of the 22nd which will have my attention  
in due course.

We were pleased to hear about Karen and Tinker.  
The latter surely must be quite a young lady.

Mildred joins me in regards to both and you.

Cordially yours,

# The American Philatelist

The Journal of The American Philatelic Society

DAVID LIDMAN, *Editor*

6 Sixth Street,

Park Ridge, N. J.



July 18, 1953

Dear Stanley,

Many thanks for your note of July 6. I do hope that the vacation was a most pleasant one. My own has been deferred to September so I can get down to Houston for the Convention.

I will look forward to the Pony Express material as you have time to prepare it.

This is a beastly hot day--more than 100° in the sun; Tinker is busy practicing her piano; Karen is relaxing reading a play in which she is to appear for the local woman's club, and I'm trying to catch up on correspondence.

Our best regards to you, Mildred and the Big Fellow.

Sincerely,

*id*

# The American



# Philatelist

*The Journal of The American Philatelic Society*

DAVID LIDMAN, EDITOR

6 SIXTH STREET

PARK RIDGE, N. J.

June 10, 1954

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook  
P. O. Box 31  
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stanley,

As you will recall, you and I have been in correspondence for some months--and in communication with Mr. Julius Loeb--regarding the reprinting of his article on the Pony Express that appeared in the November 1930 issue of *The American Philatelist*.

Photostatic copies of that article were provided for your use, so that pertinent information discovered after, or since, the appearance of the article could be inserted. Mr. Loeb was kind enough to also supply us with the cuts that were used with the original article.

Although I have written to you several times of late regarding the preparation of this material for use either in the AP, or as a reprint, I have not had a reply.

I was therefore quite surprised to note in the current issue of *Philatelic Literature Review*, Vol. 4, No. 3, that you were offering for sale photographic reproductions of the pages containing this article by Mr. Loeb.

I assume from this that you are no longer interested in aiding in the revision of the Loeb article for the AP.

I think that in all fairness that the photostatic copies of the article that I furnished you should be returned to me. I also question whether or not you have the right to sell copyrighted material without specific permission to do so.

Yours very truly,

cc: Julius Loeb  
Burleigh E. Jacobs  
Earl P.L. Apfelbaum

*David Lidman*  
David Lidman.

## RECEIPT FOR INSURED PARCEL No. \_\_\_\_\_

Addressed for delivery at

Park Ridge N.J.

(Post office of address)

WRITE PLAINLY

(State)

Postage 8 cts.

Special handling \_\_\_\_\_ cts.

Insurance fee 10 cts.

Return receipt \_\_\_\_\_ cts.

Special delivery \_\_\_\_\_ cts.

Restricted delivery \_\_\_\_\_ cts.

Fragile \_\_\_\_\_

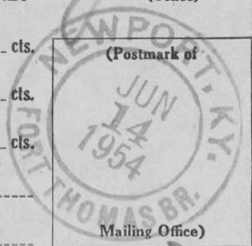
Perishable \_\_\_\_\_

Other endorsement \_\_\_\_\_

SENDER.—Enter name and address of addressee on other side and read information regarding endorsements and indemnity.

POSTMASTER,

By \_\_\_\_\_



# SAVE THIS RECEIPT UNTIL PARCEL IS ACCOUNTED FOR

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

SENT TO .....

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

This receipt must be submitted if claim is made for loss. In cases of damage or spoiling, the wrapper of the parcel with the insured serial number may be accepted as equivalent evidence of insurance.

Claim must be filed within 6 months from date of mailing. Receipted bills, cash sales slips, if available, or other evidence of value, should be submitted.

## SCHEDULE OF DOMESTIC INSURANCE FEES

Fees subject to change—Consult postmaster

FEES	INDEMNITY	FEES	INDEMNITY
5 cents .....	Value up to \$5	20 cents .....	Value up to \$50
10 cents .....	Value up to \$10	25 cents .....	Value up to \$100
15 cents .....	Value up to \$25	30 cents .....	Value up to \$200

(Claims may be filed at any post office)



STANLEY B. ASHBROOK  
P. O. Box 31  
FORT THOMAS, KY.

COPY

June 12, 1954.

Mr. David Lidman,  
6 Sixth St.,  
Park Ridge, N.J.

Dave:

I am in receipt of your insulting letter of the 10th and I wonder who you really think you are to address such a communication to me? I don't think your letter deserves any sort of a reply, much less an explanation, but nevertheless you shall have one.

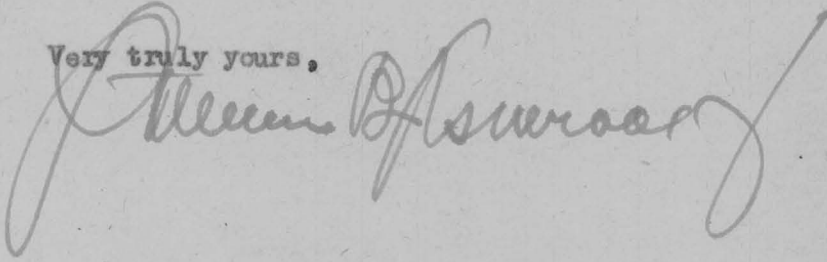
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Copy to Julius Loeb  
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74-3

# The American



# Philatelist

The Journal of The American Philatelic Society

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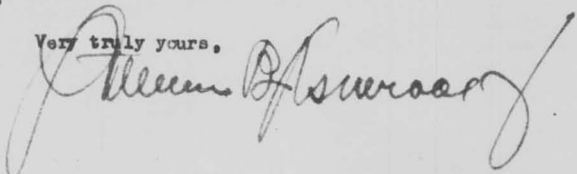
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Under separate cover I am returning the photostats that you sent me. And as far as you are concerned, I want nothing more to do with you in any way, shape or form.

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74 -4

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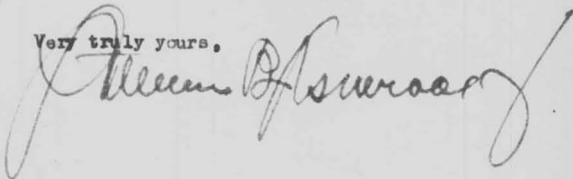
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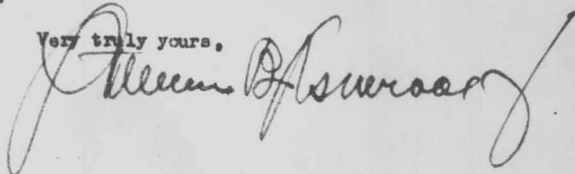
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## The PONY EXPRESS

In the November 1930 issue of The American Philatelist appeared one of the finest philatelic articles on the famed Pony Express that has ever appeared in print. For my files I have recently made photographic reproductions of the pages containing this outstanding article by Julius Loeb and can supply duplicates sets for \$5.00 each, post-paid.

**STANLEY B. ASHBROOK**

P. O. Box 31

Fort Thomas, Ky.

Advertisement in The  
PHILATELIC LITERATURE  
REVIEW  
Vol. 4. N<sup>o</sup> 2. Second Series  
N<sup>o</sup> 14  
First Quarter 1954.

## The PONY EXPRESS

In the November 1930 issue of The American Philatelist appeared one of the finest philatelic articles on the famed Pony Express that has ever appeared in print. For my files I have recently made photographic reproductions of the pages containing this outstanding article by Julius Loeb and can supply duplicates sets for \$5.00 each, post-paid.

**STANLEY B. ASHBROOK**

P. O. Box 31

Fort Thomas, Ky.

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PHILATELIC LITERATURE  
REVIEW

Vol. 4. No. 2. Second Series  
No. 14.

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74-5

**The American Philatelist** *The Journal of The American Philatelic Society*

DAVID LIDMAN, EDITOR

6 SIXTH STREET


PARK RIDGE, N. J.

---

June 17, 1954

This will acknowledge receipt of photostatic copies of the Pony Express article by Julius Loeb.

*David Lidman*



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS



Stanley B. Ashbrook  
P.O. Box 31  
Fort Thomas, KY

# The PONY EXPRESS

In the November 1930 issue of The American Philatelist appeared one of the finest philatelic articles on the famed Pony Express that has ever appeared in print. For my files I have recently made photographic reproductions of the pages containing this outstanding article by Julius Loeb and can supply duplicates sets for \$5.00 each, post-paid.

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headed the team and carried the major part of the work; she set up the descriptive copy and assigned subject headings. A philatelist and an experienced subject cataloger assisted her.

### Subject Cataloging

No attempt was made to classify the material, but intensive subject cataloging was undertaken. This was made necessary by the fact that very few philatelists use an author approach.

The primary problem in cataloging any special collection is, of course, the setting up of subject headings which are intelligible and useful both to the specialist and to the general reading public. Certain aspects of this collection—its location in a room by itself, and its separate catalog—made immediately apparent some simplifications which could be used in formulating the subject headings.

First of all, the use of the words "stamp" and "postal" was cut to a minimum, since in a philatelic liter-

stamps appear in issues, somewhat as books appear in editions. Each issue of a given denomination is used for a certain length of time (which varies according to the country, period, and other factors) before being replaced by another issue. Thus it was necessary to break down the country heading used to designate the whole history of a country's stamps into chronological sub-divisions. In this case a three-part heading was used: Country—Period—Denomination; e.g., for the 1851-1857 issue of three cent stamps in the United States, the heading would be: U. S.—1851-1857—Three Cent. The period here covers the year or years during which the particular issue was current. Another breakdown was used when a book concerned a subject other than the simple history of the postage stamps of a country, or discussed only a particular aspect of that history. Under these conditions, the heading form employed was: Country—Subject. Therefore a book on commemorative stamps issued by the United States



Advertisement In The

PHILATELIC LITERATURE

REVIEW

Vol. 4. No. 2. Second Series

No. 14

First Quarter 1954.

New Orleans, June 29, New York, July

MORRISON CAFETERIA COMPANY  
INCORPORATED

Birmingham, Alabama.  
Saturday, June 12, 1954.

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

Dear Stan,

Here is an article I tore out of the magazine section of the New York Times. Thought it might be of interest since it is about the Pony Express.

About the first of last year, Jan. 4th, 1953, to be exact, I sent you a used single of the 90¢ 1860 which I had bought at a Harmer auction. It was cancelled in what appeared to be a blue Baltimore town P.M. but you did not have time nor maybe the filters to photograph it and returned it to me with the notation that there was not enough to go by to expertize it and that the P.F. would and should return it, if submitted by me, with the note that no opinion would or could be given. Or words to that effect. I promptly "filed" it away in my collection as a doubtful item but not as a fake. In the latter case I would have rid myself of it.

But then last fall, as you may recall, I bought at an auction a couple of stamps in a lot that had belonged to Dr. Polland, namely a Orange Brown and a Brown of the 1857 type II, both similarly cancelled by a Baltimore town in blue. This blue and the general layout was so close to what was on the 90¢ that I refer to above that I took the three stamps down with me to New York when I was there in April and took them down to the P.F. to get their opinion.

It is quite possible that the 90¢ was sent to you and that you advised them what to do. But after the May sitting of the Foundation committee I got a note saying that the stamp had been held over for further study at the next meeting which was last Monday, June 7th. Now, this morning I received a registered letter returning the three stamps and a form note reading "The Expert Committee respectfully declines to give an opinion on item #4880 U.S. Blue Baltimore Town #39." Material returned herewith. W.S. Boggs, etc.

What does this make the 90¢ stamp I own? It seems to be that some stand should be taken by them. I know we don't agree on this point but I ask you this question- "What is a collector to do with a stamp on which no opinion is given, a stamp like mine that shows no tampering nor faking evident. The stamp is apparently cancelled just like the 30 & 30A which you and they have approved. That is the ink looks to be the same yet neither one is very clear as to reading.

On a cover there are provable facts that can make it good or disprove it as such. But what should one do about an off cover stamp?

Have no word from the Kuhlmann sale of last Wednesday so guess I missed. I wonder if you have any word from Paris yet.

Sincerely,



June 14, 1954.

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

Dear Em:

I have yours of the 12th re - the 90¢ 1860 with Baltimore postmark. As I read your letter, the following thought occurred to me. If you were totally disinterested and wanted to see the P.F. Expert Committee function to the best of their ability would you advise them, when they were not sure, to do a lot of guessing? If you felt that an opinion rendered by them was pure guess-work would you have any confidence in them? When I feel that I am not sure or should I state "reasonably sure" I do not hesitate to refuse an opinion. I am not such a silly ass as to kid myself that I know all the answers, hence I do not hesitate to state at times - I don't know. Some, consider that a disgrace but I don't and that is the sort of advice I give the P.F. Expert Committee. I was indeed pleased to learn that they are heeding my advice.

Now for your 90¢ stamp, I have no record that they submitted this to me, though they generally send used 90¢ 1860 copies to me for an opinion, but generally they are red grids. I almost invariably return them and state I don't know whether the cancel is good or bad, and if there was any way to determine I would like to know how.

Now I do recall that you sent a 90¢ 1860 with a blue Baltimore postmark to me but I am not looking up the record. It is my recollection that there was too little to go by to give an opinion, one way or the other, because of a blue marking, dark blue on a dark blue stamp. Am I right? On the other hand, a dark blue postmark on a 5¢ 1857 Orange Brown is a different proposition. In the case of the latter, I was of the opinion the O.B. copies are genuine. However that is my opinion, and I certainly would not guarantee I am right. Which do you think I should have done - (1) State that in my opinion the O.B.'s are genuine or (2) refuse an opinion? I believe I was justified in the latter from what evidence I had, though I believe that Zareski could easily make such a fake.

I have about come to the conclusion that in the future I will refuse an opinion on cancels on off cover stamps because such things are very easily made by an expert with experience who is engaged in such work.

For several days I have been examining a fake 30¢ 1869 o.g. copy. Paper and perfs appear genuine - gum a fake and grill very faint. The blue part of the stamp (design) seems to be genuine - but the red design - shield with 30 and the eagle is a fake - a counterfeit. How would you figure this out? Did some faker bleach out the red of a regular stamp, also the cancel without harming the blue design? Was the purpose to print in upside down, a fake red design? When he made this copy I have, was he experimenting?

#2. Mr. Emmerson C. Krug - June 14, 1954.

I mention this just as one example to show that if they go to such lengths, just imagine how perfectly easy it would be to make an imitation Baltimore postmark and apply it to a 90¢ 1860. I don't think you should have been peeved because in this instance the P.F. Expert Committee tried to do the right thing. Am I wrong?

With regards -

Yours etc.,

P.S.--Thanks Em, for the clipping on the Pony. It is a favorite subject for articles.

JOHN DAVID BAKER  
3909 NORTH DELAWARE STREET  
INDIANAPOLIS 5, INDIANA

June 12, 1954

Dear Stanley:

Enclosed are two covers from the same correspondance, mailed under the same regulations from the same place to the same place but with different postal markings. Why does the one cover have the 30 in circle and the other doesn' t. Why does the cover showing double rate also have the New York Paid mark as well as other PD marks if the cover is a double rate cover? I have been trying to solve this by reference to the February 24, 1951 article in Stamps by Eugene Jaeger. I don' t find the answer there.

I am expecting to continue with your service for another year. My payment will start in a few weeks on the installment plan as usual.

First class postage is enclosed for returning these covers to me.

Thanks.

Sincerely,

*David*

## Post Office Department

Received from: STANLEY B. ASHBROOK

P. O. Box 31

33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.,

FORT THOMAS, KY.



One piece of ordinary mail addressed

to Mr. J. DAVID BAKER

3909 North Delaware St.

Indianapolis, Indiana

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

500

June 15, 1954.

Mr. J. David Baker,  
3909 North Delaware St.,  
Indianapolis, Ind.

Dear Dave:

Herewith the two covers as per yours of the 12th. In my opinion, both are genuine in every respect. Here is some data regarding them -

5¢ Buff. This cover was in the Wm. West sale by Ward, April 1943. Lot 986. It was purchased by Keffer @ \$28.00. West bought it in 1927 and paid \$75.00 for it. I have a photograph that I made of it at the time of the West sale. Incidentally, I was employed by the West Estate to assist Ward in writing the catalogue. The encircled "30" was applied at San Francisco. That office rated it as over 1/4 ounce, hence requiring a double rate of 30¢ but when it got to New York, they rated it as not over 1/4 oz., hence a single and fully paid. It went to England by Cunard Line (Brit.Pkt), hence our share of the rate was only 3¢, thus the N.Y. credit of 12¢ to France. The N.Y. red shows a fully paid letter and of course France marked it "PD" or literally, "Paid to Destination." All these facts disprove any supposition that this might have been an unpaid stampless with 30¢ due, to which someone might have added the two stamps. That unfounded fear caused the low price at the sale.

The other cover with the 12¢ and 3¢ 1861 is perfectly normal and genuine. This was also sent from New York by British Packet and while the credit figure in the Red New York postmark is not legible I am quite sure it was a "12."

For authenticating these two covers I am charging you a fee of \$5.00.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,





30<sup>00</sup> - OK

# HUGH J. BAKER AND COMPANY

POST OFFICE BOX 892

TELEPHONE: PLAZA 3326



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**STEEL**  
602 WEST MC CARTY STREET  
*Indianapolis 6, Indiana*

July 6, 1954

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

Dear Stan:

Enclosed is a check for \$30.00 in payment of the fee for examination of two covers and the first installment on your Special Service.

For three weeks now Hugh and I have made plans to next week go to Cincinnati. However, as each week comes along, something happens and we haven't been able to make the trip. Who knows -- maybe we will finally make it down to see you!

Sincerely yours,

J. D. Baker

(32-7)

EXPANSION BANDS

EXPANSION BANDS

NO CONTENT

Eh. Carson  
#661 Spring St  
Atlanta, Ga

REGISTERED

NO. 531

P.O. Box 31



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



661 Spring St

Atlanta, Ga.

June 12 1954

Mr. Stanley Ashbrook

Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Sir:

I enclose stamps of 1851 & 57 one cent Franklin regarding which I desire information.

Card No 1 -6 stamps in top row 5 or 5a Type ?

5 Type 2 Stamps - What plates are they from?

Card No 2- 3 stamps in top row. Type & Plate?

2 Strips of 3 type 5. Plates?

Card No 3- 1 pr look like 3 or 3 a pl 4 .What are they?  
12 Type 5 What plates ?

3 Covers Type & Plats ?

I enclose check for \$ 500 on what I will owe you.

Please return to me registered value \$ 200.00 with your bill. Please note on back of any that a worth such notation. I am not as arule interested in plate position s except items of note.

I am collecting anumber of items from each plate .

*E. L. Garrison*

---

June 16, 1954.

Mr. E. L. Corson,  
661 Spring St.,  
Atlanta, Ga.

Dear Mr. Corson:

Herewith the various U. S. One Cent items as per yours of the 12th. Below you will find a description of each. I believe that you requested that I put a notation on the back of the copies of the probable value of each, but expressing an opinion on values is a bit out of my line and I beg to be excused. There is too much of a difference of opinion on the subject. I feel sure that your guess would be as good as mine.

I am wondering if you have copies of my two volumes study of the types and plates of the One Cent of 1851-1857? In typing some of the copies I mentioned certain pages in Volume One. I have a copy of Vol. One that I can offer you @ \$20.00. I do not have a Volume Two on hand at present.

A word regarding the classification of Type V stamps. While it is possible to identify many singles copies as coming from a certain plate, this certainly does not apply to the great majority of copies. Worn plate impressions from Plates 5 - 7 - 8 are very similar and practically impossible to identify as coming from a certain plate. Early impression, which show the plate wear are apt to show certain plate characteristics and plating marks, and thus can be identified and plated. It must be borne in mind that the plating of the One Cent 1851-1857 is not a simple plating proposition but on the contrary is difficult and in many cases requires a process of elimination and this requires time as well as infinite patience. I am still working on Plates 3 - 4 - 5 and 6, and also on Plates 11 and 12.

For example, much work has been accomplished in the past five years on Plate 6 and quite an important discovery was made. I had for many years considered it a fact that no Type V stamps with "side scratches" came from Plate 6, hence whenever I had under consideration a multiple with "side scratches" I never even considered the possibility that it might come from that plate. Thus I was never able to complete the left pane of that plate. It was not before I discovered a H.Strip of three that showed stamps with and without "side scratches" that I learned how wrong I had been for over 30 years.

The One Cent stamp is truly a wonderful study. The following is the list of your copies:

Card #1 -

No. 1 - Plate 6 - Late worn impression - Probably the "D" relief.

No. 2 - Type V - Relief B - side scratches at right - Plate ?

No. 3 - Type V - right pane - Plate 7 - bottom row - variety, "curl below the "O" of One." See Vol. 1 - page 273.

#2. Mr. E. L. Corson - June 16, 1954.

- No. 4 - Plate 6 - Relief "D"  
No. 5 - Type V - Double transfer - Relief "A" - Plate 8 - top row - 8R8  
See Vol. 1, page 278.  
No. 6 - Plate 6 - Relief "E" - Crease in paper during printing.  
No. 7 - Type II - Plate 2 - "B" Relief  
No. 8 - " II - " 2 - "A" "  
No. 9 - " II - " 2 - "B" "  
No. 10 - " II - " " - "A" "

No. 11 - Plate Eleven - This stamp is badly cut into at top and it is the top line that determines the type. Hence this is a "WAS TYPE." For example, "This was a Type IIIA before the perforations at top destroyed the type." Before perforation the top line was broken - hence a Type IIIA. This is what I call an EUNUCH. Not something that is, but rather something that WAS. This stamp is the Plate Eleven "B" relief and is from the bottom row of the plate. Pane? Position? See Vol. 1, page 305.

Card No. 2

No. 12 - Type IC - uncatalogued - Plate 4 - Relief "E" - A rare stamp. See Vol. 1, page 237, Figure 20L.

No. 13 - Plate 4 - Relief "C" - a "WAS" type. This was either a Type III or a Type IIIA before the perfs at bottom destroyed the type. To determine which type, it would be necessary to plate the stamp.

No. 14 - Plate 4 - Relief "F" from the 6th row of the plate - Type IIIA - an interesting stamp as it comes from the 6th row of Plate 4. This is the relief with the "Flaw" and it is the relief that transferred the bottom row of Type IA. See Vol. 1, chapter on Plate 4.

No. 15 - Vertical strip of 3 - with plate imprint at left - Type V - Plate 9. Reliefs from top, "E" - "F" - "C" - Positions 4L9 - 5L9 - 6L9.

No. 16 - H.S. of 3 - from top row of plate. Badly worn impression - plating marks have disappeared. Probably Plate 7 - right pane, positions 1R - 2R - 3R7, but not verified.

No. 17 - Pair Type II - from bottom row of Plate 2.

Card #3

- No. 18 - Type V - top row - Pl. 8  
No. 19 - " V - " " - Pl. 9  
No. 20 - " V - Relief F - Pl. ?  
No. 21 - " B - " F - Pl. ?  
No. 22 - " V - " A - Pl. ?  
No. 23 - " V - " A - Pl. ?  
No. 24 - " V - Pl. ?  
No. 25 - " V - Pl. ?  
No. 26 - " V - Pl. ?  
No. 27 - " V - Red town - scarce cancel.  
No. 28 - " V - R--Pl. 3  
No. 29 - " V - Relief F - bottom row - Pl. ?

#3. Mr. E. L. Corson - June 16, 1954.

Three covers

A) Leominster, Mass. 1¢ 1851 - Type IV - very fine 1852 dolor. Stamp is a double transfer - use surely March 1853.

B) Boston F.L. Type V - Relief "F" - bottom row - fine color - early impression - (July 1858) Plate ?

C) Boston. This is a Type II stamp from Plate 2 - A relief - Repaired. The upper right corner of this stamp is missing and in its place has been added a piece of a Type V stamp. A stamp from a top row of one of the Type V plates.

My fee for the above examinattanniis \$11.55 plus 36¢ return postage on \$11.91, this sum less your check of \$5.00, leave a balance of \$6.91.

Perhaps you would like to know how I arrived at the above figure. For the following there was a charge of 15¢ each, 2 - 7 - 8 - 9 - 10 - 18 - 19 - 20 - 21 - 22 - 23 - 24 - 25 - 26 - 27 - 28 and 29, total 17 copies. A charge of 50¢ each for items 1 - 3 - 4 - 5 - 6 - 11 - 13 - 15 - 16 and 17 - total 10 copies. A charge of \$1.00 for No. 14 - a charge of \$2.00 for No. 12, for the three covers \$1.00.

Sincerely yours,

PAID

JUL -5 1954

Charge E. L. Benson

Balance Due 6 <sup>91</sup>         

See 32 — P. 8

PAID

JUL -5 1954



Atlanta Ga  
June 22/54

Mr. Stanley Ashbrook  
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Sir:

yours of the 16th received and check  
enclosed for balance due you.

I am sorry I did not make myself  
clear to you regarding request for  
notations on back of stamps. I  
did not mean value but Type  
Plate, position, as you usually do.

I enclose three items from  
the last lot sent you for such

notation #12 - 1 C

14 - 3 A

28 - Plate 3? Is this

correct I thought only Imp. came  
from 3

On items 1-2-3-4-5-6 -

What Type - What Plate -

7-8 - What Plate

an Items 9 to 19

Item	9	Plate-	position
	10	"	"
	11	"	"
	12	"	Pyper
	13	"	"
	14	"	Position
	15	"	Pyper
	16	"	Position
	17	"	"
	18	"	"
	19	"	"

Please note on back of stamps  
above.

I have your volume #1

E L Corson

2221 N Decatur Rd

Atlanta

Ga

E L CORSON  
2221 N DECATUR NE  
ATLANTA 6 GA

Please register  
return

400

July 5, 1954.

Mr. E. L. Corson,  
2221 N. Decatur Road,  
Atlanta, Ga.

Dear Mr. Corson:

Yours of the 22nd received (mailed June 29). May I thank you very kindly for your check of \$6.91. I am very sorry about the error on your Item #28. The statement this was from Plate 3 was a typographical error. Probably due to the heat. I will admit that a statement from me that a Type V came from Plate 3 was more than silly.

I note that you have a copy of my One Cent book - Vol. #1. Regarding the three stamps that you returned, viz:

#12 - 1¢ 1857 - Plate 4 - Type IC. I took time out and plated this copy for you. It is 8LR4, variety in early printings - "big curl on shoulder." See photo herewith of a pair of 1¢ '57 = 8LR4 - 8ER4. You may keep this print. I have endorsed your stamp on the back. (no fee)

#14 - I have signed this on the back as Type IIIA, Relief "F," 6th row Plate 4.

#28 - Common Type V former memo should have read - "Type V Plate?"

Regarding the additional items that you sent me. Comments are as follows:

#1 - Type V - Relief "F" - flaw at top - bottom row of one of the Type V plates - nothing unusual.

#2 - Plate 4 - Relief "E" - 5th row - Type IIIA - plate position 46R4 variety - "Big Dot in '0' of ONE." I have signed this copy on the back (fee \$1.00).

#3 - Common Type V.

#4 - Plate 4 - top row - Relief A - Type II - late state of plate.

#5 - Common Type V - Relief A - a top row stamp - Plate ?

#6 - Type V - a stamp from Plate 6, but not a Type Va as the right side is "short." Early impression. This is the "B" relief. Compare with illustrations in my 1¢ book - chapter "Plate 6."

#7 - Common Type V - Relief "F" - a bottom row stamp.

#8 - Common Type V - Relief "C"

#9 - Type IV - top row - recut twice at bottom - re-entry makes it

#2. Mr. E. L. Corson - July 5, 1954.

appear top line was recut which was not the case. You can very easily plate this.

#10 - Type IV - same stamp as #9 - same position.

#11 - Type IV - top row - right pane. This position shows a wonderful double transfer, especially at top. I am sure you will have no trouble in plating this copy. Fine early print. Late 1852.

#12 - Type IV - Relief A - recut once at top and once at bottom - fine early print. This surely came from the same sheet as #11. You should be able to plate this stamp.

#13 - Type II plate 2 - Relief A. A copy such as this in a single is most difficult to plate.

#14 - Type IV - top row - right pane - early color and impression - typical 1852. You should be able to plate this stamp. I now note you have it as 6R11 which is correct.

#15 - Type IV - recut top line only - Relief "B" - bottom row of plate. Not easy to plate but it is plateable. The top line is a long recut line.

#16 - Type IV - One of the "inverts" - You should be able to identify the plate position very easily. I signed this on the back.

#17 - Type IV - a first vertical row position - very easy to plate.

#18 - Type IV - another one of the "inverts" - very easy to plate. I signed this on the back.

#19 - Type II - from the top row of Plate 2. Because top row stamps from Plate 2 show few plating marks they are not easy to plate. I note from the back that I plated this at some time in the past as 7-8L2 which is correct.

I charged you with \$1.00 for item No. 2 and for the balance of the information in this letter I am charging you with \$3.00. If not perfectly agreeable you do not owe me a cent.

I did not plate various items as I figured you could do the work yourself, hence no use paying me. However, I will be glad to plate any of the items for you and make a modest charge based on time consumed.

Sincerely yours,

Charge

JUL - 6 1954

Carson

\$ 11.00

PAID  
AUG - 7 1954

See

32 — 8

~~See Above~~

~~Did He Pay This?~~

GEORGE W. LINN  
PRES. & TREAS.

CARL P. RUETH  
VICE PRES.

GEORGE W.

**LINN**  
INCORPORATED

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SECRETARY

L. F. TURLEY  
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**LINN'S WEEKLY STAMP NEWS**



PRODUCERS OF  
**LINN PHILATELIC PRODUCTS**

OFFICE OF  
GEORGE W. LINN  
EDITOR

119-121 EAST COURT STREET  
Sidney, Ohio, U.S.A.

PLEASE ADDRESS REPLY:

HOWEY-IN-THE-HILLS  
FLORIDA  
June 14, 1954

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

Dear Stanley:-

I was down to Sebring, Florida and picked up a small lot of covers that I am certain have some very nice items in the lot.

I will not try to identify them as I am not familiar enough with them and want you to identify them for me and if agreeable give me approximate valuations on them.

There are two 1c 1856 with red carrier cancels on each. One or both of these I believe is Type I as line shows at bottom thru the tips of the perfs. and the balls appear to be there.

Then there is a cover with a pair of 1c 1856 which shows the imprint in the perfs at one side, looks to me like a Type V. Has red carrier cancel also BLOODS~~g~~ cancels. Very nice item.

Then a City Delivery, dated Feb 13.

Also a CITY DESPATCH POST, Nov. 25.

A 3c 1851 on cover from Cooperstown, N. Y. Female Seminary.

Besides the above I got a cover from another party recently which is a 28c rate to CALCUTTA, India. I enclose it. Pity the two stamps are not better but the postal markings are splendid and clear. I am expecting to get more of these 28c rate covers as well as covers to London and possibly other ports.

Send me a bill for this work and will send check.

I have been working on 3c 1861 PAID cancels. I already have several hundred including many covers, some very unusual. I have thus far obtained 47 different and have more coming. Intend to attempt to classify and identify these, have good drawings made and then write them up for a small booklet. It will be some time yet before that can be done as I am getting new things almost daily. Thus far I have some of which I have only a single copy. The common BOSTON PAID in oval is in two easily identified types.

Enjoying life here in Florida. It gets hot in midday but cool as can be at night. Sitting here in my undershirt beside a window and nice cool air is coming in. Nights are cool also and sleeping is better than in Sidney as it was hot and humid there at night. Makes me think of first time I ever was in your home over in Ky. years ago. It was a hot day and you were in your undershirt working on stamps. You opened a trap door in the floor and took me and whoever it was with me into your den in the cellar, so Florida is no worse than you had to put up with.

Will appreciate an early reply. Charge in return registration etc.

Cordially,

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO THE CORPORATION AND NOT TO INDIVIDUALS

June 19, 1954.

Mr. George W. Linn,  
Howey In The Hills, Florida.

Dear George:

It was nice to hear from you and to learn that you like your new home in Florida. You have an excellent memory re - my old home in Fort Mitchell. Yes, I had a very cool grill room under a large solarium, and down there I had a safe cabinet where I kept my stamps. I remember that you were down to Cincinnati to a stamp show in November 1917, so that must have been the time you were out home and went down thru the trap-door. That room saw a lot of good bourbon whiskey, also some darn stiff poker games that lasted all night. However, I never did any stamp work down there but up in a den I had on the second floor. I used to lug all my albums up and down two flights of stairs. Well, that was a long time ago as I sold the place in 1926.

Now for the covers you enclosed. I have penciled unnumbered the covers from #1 to #7 inclusive.

No. 1 - New York City delivery - stampless - unpaid - 1¢ due. Feb. 1857. A rather common marking - came into use in January 1856. I suppose a collector would pay from 50¢ to \$1.00 if he wanted it.

No. 2 - 3¢ 1851 - might have some value as a corner card.

No. 3 - Nov. 1842. I doubt if this has much value - maybe \$1.00 or \$2.00.

No. 4 - 1¢ 1857 - Type V vertical pair. Plate imprint at left. Boyd's oval marking. Boyd's carried this to the N.Y. P.O. A carrier delivered it. Carrier postmark on pair. I think a collector should pay \$5.00 for this. Pair is from Plate 8, a rather common plate, hence imprint does not add much value.

No. 5 - 1¢ 1857 - Type IIIA from Plate 4 with N.Y. red carrier postmark. This is S.U.S. #22 - "Red Carrier" - priced \$25.00. I think a collector should pay full cat. for this - quite a beautiful stamps.

No. 6 - 1¢ 1857 - Type IIIA - Plate 4 - relief "E" - Center line copy - left pane with New York Carrier - Same as above and a beautiful stamp - I think a collector should pay \$35.00 for this cover (S.U.S. \$25.00). I enclose a diagram of the "E" relief from Plate "4." This stamp is either 50L4 or 90L4 -

No. 7 - 28¢ rate to Calcutta in October 1872 - Via England and British Packet. The U.S. share of the rate was 4¢ and the British share 24¢ (per 1/2 oz), hence the "24" credit in the red N.Y. postmark. Stamps are poor condition, hence little value (in my opinion).

Because there is only minor value in the above I cannot charge you any fee. Of course, the best items are #5 and #6.

With every good wish - Cordially yours,

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**

OFFICE OF  
GEORGE W. LINN  
EDITOR

119-121 EAST COURT STREET  
Sidney, Ohio, U.S.A.

HOWEY-IN-THE-HILLS  
FLORIDA

PLEASE ADDRESS REPLY:

June 22, 1954

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

Dear Stanley:-

Thanks a million for your remarks on the covers sent you. I do not want to sell any of them as I have been trying to dispose of as much as possible of my stamps that run to quantities and get them into better single items. I feel that if I get rid of my cheap material which I have in quantity, now, and then amuse myself with only nicer single pieces of any sort that when I am gone the estate will have much less trouble in disposing of the stuff and will get a better price for what is left. Thus I am picking up material of this nature when the opportunity offers and I am glad to say this lot was a good buy for me.

The Calcutta cover was not a part of it, but for the other covers as a lot, a dealer bought them from another dealer at Sebring where there was a state meeting, for \$12.00. There was one more copy of the black carrier canceled cover that had a "Post Office-- S. C." oval marking on the back. This I did not get but I got all the rest for \$35.00 from the fellow who bought them for \$12. I was offered \$40 for them in a few minutes later and know I could have sold for \$50 if I had asked it.

As regards the cover with pair 1c with part imprint I could have sold that cover alone for \$20 if I had cared to do so, so you see how these things work around. For the 3c COOPERSTOWN I could get at least \$5 if I cared to sell it.

I am specializing PAID cancels on the 3c 1861. I want to have drawings of all I have of these now almost 50 different. I am buying on or off cover and intend to try to spot the towns where different PAIDS were used. When I am far enough along will write them up and there will be some of these PAIDS that will become five or ten dollar stamps.

I certainly do appreciate your advice on this lot and should have been glad to pay you for your time and trouble, but since you do not ask that I want to suggest that you give me an outline of just what your research and expertising work covers. I will then print a short item in our paper on it and that should recompense you for your trouble at least.

Yes, I was at a stamp show or something in Cincy and we were at your house and in your trap door but I do not have any recollection of the Bourbon. At one time we attended a show or meet at the Athletic Club. At another time or maybe the same time we had a steak dinner and "Pitched Potatoes" at a brewery and had all the beer we could drink. Each fellow there was given a big butchers apron to keep his shirt clean. I have a photo of that party yet.

I guess both of us are getting old. I was 70 last Feb. Feel like I might live to 80 or 90 if no complications arise.

Cordially,

*George W. Linn*

32-9



(32-9)

July 12, 1954.

Mr. George W. Linn,  
HOWEY-IN-THE-HILLS  
Florida

Dear George:

My apologies for this tardy acknowledgement of yours of June 22nd.

I note that you are specializing in PAID cancels on the 3¢ 1861. You should be able to get together quite an interesting collection. I am wondering if you are acquainted with Clare Phillips, Jr. of Winter Haven, Fla.? He goes in for cancels on the 3¢ 1861, shields, etc. Perhaps he can lend you a hand.

Any time you run across a U. S. 19th cover that bothers you a bit and you think I might be able to help a bit don't hesitate to write me.

I suppose you noticed the advertisement I have been running in STAMPS recently. This was a sort of experiment, viz., to let the public know that I do pass on certain class of material and second that I charge a fee. I haven't collected foreign stamps for over 40 years so my knowledge of anything in that line is zero - and this also applies to U. S. 20th. To the above I can add all sides lines such as Revenues, Departments, Envelopes, Locals, Carriers, etc., etc., etc. In case you missed the little write-up that Lindquist gave me in STAMPS I am enclosing a copy herewith.

George, I am also sending you a copy of my "SPECIAL SERVICE." This is issued on the 1st of each month and goes to a selected list of advanced collectors who specialize in early U. S. - With each issue I supply actual photographs. I started this "SERVICE" in 1951, and because of it I have published few articles in recent years.

In this current issue is a write-up on quite a remarkable counterfeit of the 30¢ 1869. Read it over, as it will doubtless be of interest to you. Also please note the stuff devoted to an Eastern dealer I referred to as Mr. X.

I charge \$100.00 per year subscription to my "SERVICE." I have never given it any publicity because when I started it subscription was only by invitation. I didn't want to be bothered with pikers and cheap-skates so I made the fee high enough to eliminate that class.

That Cincinnati party was in November 1917. Charley Severn and Ernie Jacobs came down from Chicago. I remember the dinner we had at the brewery quite well. I didn't realize that I was older than you. I will be 72 in October. Years ago I never realized that someday I would be in the "old-timer" class in philately but I suppose that time has arrived.

A word on collecting cancelations on off cover material. I suppose you are familiar with the stuff turned out by Sperati and the squabble going on in London at the present time. Never has philately had to cope with such extremely clever work. With this in mind one can appreciate how simple it would be for a crook for less clever than Sperati to turn out rare 19th cancels on off cover stamps.

#2. Mr. George W. Linn - July 12, 1954.

I think a person is a sucker to pay \$25.00, \$50.00 or more for a 3¢ '51 with a rare cancel. I suppose the time will come when the market will be flooded with such stuff. Let us hope not.

In my "Expert Service" I refuse to pass on "rare" cancelations on off cover stamps unless I am sure(?) in my own mind that I am right. For example, "used" copies of the 90¢ 1860, or of the 5¢ 1857, Type II Orange Brown, etc., etc.

Later this fall or winter I will have "Linn's" run an ad for me similar to the one I am now using in STAMPS.

In conclusion I might also add that another purpose of this "Expert Service" is to bring material to my desk for study and recording.

The best of luck to you.

Cordially yours,

June 7, 1954.

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

Dear Edgar:

Here are three color slides that I thought you  
might like to have, price \$1.00 each.

Yours etc.,

Enclosed:  
X8 - X16 and X31.

X8 - 2¢ Bank Note Ible print  
X16 - Block 24¢ 1860  
X31 - " 12¢ 51 Jessup

PAID

JUL 14 1954

MARCHANT  
CALCULATORS, INC.

MEMO FROM OFFICE OF GENERAL MANAGER

To Stanley DATE 6/3/54

#  
Lab 88 you engine about  
could be condemned or  
approved - as I see it.

Many cones could -

I feel surer of its genuine  
use as is - than I perhaps  
do of its tie on -

Did you examine it carefully?  
What did you think of it?  
It had a limited but definite  
tie originally I think -

Also its identical to # 89 -  
same use - same set up - etc.

Rec'd 12d back. Glad you liked  
it - quite a piece. Am eager  
to see your prints.

Yrs. Edgar

I'm sorry that wasn't clearer but you mentioned it as "lot 88" so I did.

It was in Gordon's sale of Adm Harris' material -

A 134 H 1 on cover alone.

Well cancelled by regular bars etc but tied only by a touch of color (or more).

You said you had seen it. I could send it to you.

I'm sure it's one but the remark touched it off.

Now that I have identified it you'll probably remember it. You may have a photo.

Don't get it confused with lot 104 - that til was helped by color pencil. I got several of the 134 - as it's the fish chance I never had at them - ~~enough~~

June 11, 1954.

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

Dear Edgar:

Since writing the enclosed, I have yours of the 3rd and the mimos in red. The photos of the Latham letter might contain data that will interest you.

I never heard of a Pony Letter that was Franked Free U.S. postage and Pony but the Latham is practically in that class. I think it was sent from Washington to St. Joe under separate cover and addressed to the Pony Co., at St. Joe.

Re - the Gen'l Denver cover. This is almost a duplicate of the one sold recently in the auction. I doubt if the A.P.S. Show at S.F. is having any influence on demand for Westerns. Dr. Hertz is building a fine collection, he seems to have plenty of money and when he wants an item he simply goes out and gets it. I was told in confidence that he put in a bid of \$2,000 on the Free Pony, and I don't doubt that he did. He and Delores plan to attend the A.P.S. at S.F.

Re - your 4RLL - 14RLL. I have a very excellent photo made at the time it came up in the Brown sale (1939). It is very rare. (no fooling).

Re - Kuhlman Sale. Chicago, June 9th - Lot 77. I sent for this and made a color slide. It is a rank fake and it was in a previous sale. I wrote Henry it was bad. I wonder if he withdrew it? Probably no. There were a whole lot of fake cancels in this Kuhlman sale.

Ed re - your note herewith. I cannot find the letter I wrote you and have forgotten what Lot #88 was. Please send this note of yours back with a memo as to what lots 88 and 89 were.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

June 21, 1954.

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

Dear Edgar:

Re - Lot #88 in the Admiral Harris sale by Harmer Rooker & Co. on April 27th last. I find in my files a memo that the Admiral advised me that he owned this cover some years ago and that we had some correspondence regarding it but I haven't the letter before me, possibly filed away in an old file in the basement.

I enclose photo print (which please return) of a stampless cover that was in the Cahart collection years ago. A 13¢ stamp could now be added to this cover and it would be the same as Lot 88 - You see a stamp would have to be put in the lower left corner as was done on Lot 88. To be quite frank I do not believe that the 13¢ stamp was used originally on Lot 88. Why don't you return it to Gordon and inform him that that is my opinion? You can send a copy of this letter to whoever bought it for you in the sale.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

MARCHANT  
CALCULATORS, INC.

MEMO FROM OFFICE OF GENERAL MANAGER

one of the  
color  
transparencies  
was at  
the 12th  
Block

TO Dear Stanley DATE 7-6-54

Your little note re Ocean Mail  
came in - excited me and then  
your service arrived. You sure  
did a job - fine - how ever had  
we gotten together you could  
have made it a much complete  
story - ie I have every stamps  
as issued - perf & imperf - with  
the mark & the block of four  
buffs on cover - also a single  
which you say you haven't seen.

No story is complete for  
such readers as you have  
without a photo of that Calif.  
Penny Post "from the East". It's  
really my greatest I think -  
and then the 10¢ 55 plus 1¢ '57



MARCHANT  
CALCULATORS, INC.

MEMO FROM OFFICE OF GENERAL MANAGER

To 11

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

Carrier with ocean mail.

Do you recall it?

Then The Reds - I have two

I never heard of the pair  
but my two V's are wonderful.

One from Ezra as a Xmas present.

Don't you think that beautiful  
12957 cover is genuine?

I've tried for years to locate it.

I felt it OK ??

I used the OM postmark of  
"May 21" as it's copied + pasted  
on - I could not read the mark  
on the block & the singles do not  
show full dates.

Your types are interesting and I'm  
going to look them up again tonight

MERCHANT  
CALCULATORS, INC.

MEMO FROM OFFICE OF GENERAL MANAGER

To III

DATE

Did you remember my superb pair of 5<sup>4</sup> 5<sup>7</sup>. Indian Red? That is about the nicest and also a pair of superb bright colored 3<sup>4</sup> Orange Browns of '51 with N.Y. red grid on also. Funny when that mark lands isn't it?

Photo 156 is a perfect gem from photo appearances.

How can Stolon have so many faces & touch his guarantee to the whole world? Even in life.

They do put on a big front -

You are showing up a lot of great people and your fine work will live on - after both of us, and all of us, here now, are gone.

MERCHANT  
CALCULATORS, INC.

MEMO FROM OFFICE OF GENERAL MANAGER

To IV

DATE

Have you decided the Brown  
ship a manufactured job?  
If it is the famous Knapp ship is?  
I've worn my eyes out looking  
for both. The Brown 10<sup>th</sup> surprises me.

I think you knew that entire  
fox sale of singles off cover was  
Dr P's - Ezra wrote me frankly  
the condition was terrible before  
he knew they were Dr P's - of  
course I didn't show the letter.

Fox + Dr P. made a clean-up  
I think regardless of those  
that came back etc. I can  
get the date of the sale if you  
want it identified - Must have  
been in April or early May.

MARCHANT  
CALCULATORS, INC.

MEMO FROM OFFICE OF GENERAL MANAGER

To V

DATE

Do you really think Harris #88 is bad? Its tied nicely in two places & the same writer - in a separate island wrote "PAID" in corner (others dont have it) because he put the stamp on for the entire trip - Notice #89 is not tied and does not have "Paid" Did you mean 89? If you are sure you have #88 in mind I will send it to Foundation and see what they say - Let me know I dont want to keep it if its even suspicious - so lets see what they say & Ill let you know at once - Its nice & the only lone 13<sup>th</sup> cover I have - well any others bad?

MARCHANT  
CALCULATORS, INC.

MEMO FROM OFFICE OF GENERAL MANAGER

To VI

DATE

Little more now. Sorry but my  
Secretary is on vacation.

Hope this is worth reading.  
Nothing else new here. Both the  
Babeas are coming from Indianapolis  
Guess a crowd will be here  
but nothing definite yet.  
It will be pretty well handled  
& feel tho the hotel is quite  
limited. Sir Francis Drake.

Don't Confuse in with the big  
St. Frances on Union Square.

Shall write you again soon.  
Always look for your letters.

I showed our poor photographer  
your enlarged photo of 12.4 O.M.  
He blushed. You surely give that +  
others a great write up which I do  
appreciate as my friends can read it.  
Yours  
Zagor

32-10

July 14, 1954.

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

Dear Edgar:

Under date of May 1st last, I sent you photo copies of the article that appeared in "Manuscripts" on Virginia Read. I requested you to return it or if you cared to keep it to send me \$5.00 for it. I have no record that you returned it or sent me a check. It really is a lot of work to make such a copy.

I have yours of the 6th enclosing check for \$3.00 for the three color slides enclosed in mine of June 7th. Thanks very much.

In your letter you stated that the Ocean Mail story was not complete without a photo of your Calif. Penny Post cover. You forgot that I wrote up this cover in a former Service Issue and furnished a photograph of it. You are quite right - It is a marvelous cover.

Ed, I have no record in my files of your O.M. cover with 10¢ 1855 + 1¢ 1857. I have a record of perhaps half a dozen 10¢ 1857 + 1¢ 1857.

Re - O.M. in red. Carhart had a single and a pair of the 10¢ '57 - Type V in red. You may own his single. I don't know where his pair is today.

Re - the cover 12¢ 1857 - with the O.M. - This was Lot 157A in the Gibson Sale. Why 12¢ from N.Y. to S.F.? There are some questionable points but it may be a 2¢ overpay. I wonder? Souren bought it but I have no idea where it is today.

Your H.P. Indian Red with the O.M. I have a record of it. I should have mentioned it in my notes but I couldn't list everything. You submitted it to me on Jan. 19, 1944 and I have it recorded as a "GORGEOUS COLOR," and marvelous pair. It's date is "MAR 7" and I have - "Why Mar 7" Of course, it couldn't be 1857 - In 1858 Mar. 7 fell on Sunday. In 1859 on Monday - etc. Have you any idea why the use was "Mar 7?" The year 1858 would be correct. A use in March 1859 would be quite late for this color. Will you please send this pair to me as I would like to make a color record. I would also like to see your pair of 3¢ '51 O.B. with the O.M. marking. I would like to record an O.B. with this marking. If O.B., the use would be very late.

This reminds me - Some years ago I sold Tracy Simpson a block of four of the 3¢ 1851 - the rare 1856 O.B. shade. It is rare. (Ex-Richey). Recently I requested a loan of the block so that I could make a record of the color. Would you believe that he turned me down? Stated he was afraid to risk it to the mail? Just imagine!!! His excuse made me wonder. To state the very least, Tracy is sure peculiar, darn so.

Re - Stolow. The people who make the biggest claim to honesty are generally the worst of crooks. I believe that whenever this outfit does an honest turn it is because it is to their benefit to do so.

10¢ 1855 Brown Shift. I am now convinced it is a fake, but an exceedingly clever one. Such things fooled me in 1935. They would not fool me in 1954.

#2. Mr. Edgar B. Jessup - July 14, 1954.

I suppose at that time I believed in Santa Claus. We have to grown up.

Confidential - Please don't ever quote me, because it is something that should be forgotten. You may have guessed right on the Knapp shift.

Re - the Fox Sale of Dr. P's material. Don't go to any trouble but if you run across the date of the sale you can give it to me. Do you think Dr. P. is losing interest in stamps?

Re - Harris Sale - April 27th. I referred to Lot #88, though if 88 is bad the chances are that 89 is also bad. Because a stamp is TIED to cover don't mean a darn thing. I don't like the 13¢ being in the lower left corner. Why would you send it to the P.F.? They wouldn't know what it was all about and the chances are they might submit it to someone who don't know as much as they do. Send it to me first and I will tell you what I think and then you can send it to the P.F. Do you think Gordon will refund the purchase price if you come to the conclusion it is N.G.? Have you any idea who bought Lot 89?

You inquired if any other covers in the sale were bad. Ed, I was awfully busy at the time of the sale and I did not send for any of the covers. Much of the material came from previous sales and I have records from such sales. I had a lot of correspondence with the Admiral and my guess is that anything that was suspicious was not retained in his collection.

I was pleased that you liked my photograph of your 12¢ '51 O.M. large block. Thanks for the print received today of your vertical strip of five of the 12¢ 1851. Here is my criticism. (1) It should have been photographed against a black background. This print does not show the margins? If the strip has fine margins it is most important they be shown. (2) The focus is not sharp - hence a print like this would not be of much value in plating. I use a 10X glass in focusing. I have to have razor-edge sharpness. Impress that upon your photographer. Razor-Edge sharpness. If you will send this strip to me I will make a very fine negative.

Re - my July 1st SERVICE Issue. You made no mention of the dealer I dubbed as Mr. "X." Why? Could anything be worse? Surely you guessed to whom I referred. There is no question but what he is a heartless S.O.B. He should be shown up and expelled from the A.P.S. and the A.S.D.A. I have the goods on him sure this time.

I am listing below the items that I wish you would loan to me.

With best wishes -

Yours etc.,

Please send - suggest sending  
by Express - full valuation.  
I will return the same way.

- 1) H.P. 5¢ 1857 Indian Red with O.M.
- 2) H.P. 3¢ 1851 - O.B. with O.M.
- 3) Hawaii cover - Lot 88 in Admiral Harris sale - Apr. 27, 1954.
- 4) 12¢ 1851 - V.S. of five.

We are in the grip of a terrific heat wave - It reached 103 plus here today and it was sickening but my room did not get over 83.



## Jack E. Molesworth

Philatelic Dealer and Broker

102 Beacon Street

Boston 16, Massachusetts

June 15, 1954

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

Dear Stan,

My thanks for your more recent letter regarding the 5¢ New York and the additional data concerning same. I can understand your position in not wishing to reveal the identity of the dealer who sent it to you. However from conversations with Dan I assume it was Ezra Cole. I gather that Dan is well aware of your opinion on the item and believe he feels honestly that I was also when I purchased it from him though of course I was not. However, he still claims that in his opinion the cancel is genuine so do not be surprised if you see it in one of his future auctions.

I have read Ward's recent comments on the scarcity of the 3¢ pink and also his comment that the so-called "Pigeon Blood" (not Robin) is unknown in unused condition. I am enclosing two extremely nice unused pinks at least one of which I consider myself to be the "Pigeon Blood" and would appreciate your examination and comments on same. Advise your fees connected with same and I shall be glad to remit.

With kind regards,

Jack E. Molesworth

JEM/mm

P. S. Jack Fleckenstein was here over the weekend and picked out the enclosed cover from my stock and suggested that it be sent along to you since neither of us could explain the rate. I shall look forward with interest to your comment on it.



June 17, 1954.

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

Dear Jack:

Herewith the cover to France with the 26¢ rate - a pair of 12¢ 1857 plus a pair of 1¢ 1857, Type IV. Everything seems to be okay with this cover and apparently it was a single rate of 15¢ which was overpaid by 11¢. I suppose the writer didn't know the rate and assumed that if the rate to England was 12¢, probably 2¢ more would carry the letter to Paris. Unfortunately, the French postmark on top of the New York is not legible but the "12" credit indicates this letter was carried by a British Packet - Cunard - from New York. I see no evidence that there was 4¢ more postage on this cover and if it had been under paid, there would have been a French due marking.

This was in the early days of the U. S. - French Treaty and they were not as careful as they were later about placement of markings.

Sincerely yours,

Copy to J.G.Fleckenstein.

June 17, 1954.

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

Dear Jack:

Re - yours of the 15th and the 5¢ New York. You are right - It was Ezra Cole who sent the stamp to me and Ezra agreed with me 100% that the postmark was a fake. I think my tracing of a genuine strike proved it.

I return herewith the two 3¢ 1861 and regret to state that neither one is the rare "Pigeon Blood." When copies like this are laid side-by-side for comparison with a Pigeon the difference is so obvious there is little chance of any disagreement. Ward was right in my opinion.

I have no record of a mint Pigeon and I can hardly believe such a stamp exists. Perry is an excellent judge of the Pigeon. You might write him and inquire if he ever saw or heard of an unused o.g. Pigeon.

Did you attend the Stolow sale of June 2nd, if so, did you examine Lot 271? Do you do business with that firm? Some people believe they are totally unreliable. Could such reports be wrong in your opinion?

No fee Jack, on the enclosed.

Stan Jr.'s ship is patrolling the coast of Korea and he has recently had some unusual experiences.

Regards.

Sincerely yours,

74-6



Mrs Eliza White  
Care of Messrs John Munroe & Co  
No 5. Rue de la Paix  
Paris  
France





Mrs Eliza White  
Care of Messrs John Munroe & Co  
No 5. Rue de la Paix  
Paris  
France





Mrs Eliza White  
Care of Messrs John Munroe & Co  
No 5. Rue de la Paix  
Paris  
France





Ms Eliza White  
Care of Messrs John Munroe & Co  
No 5. Rue de la Paix  
Paris  
France

From brother - Written October 11<sup>th</sup> & Rec<sup>d</sup>  
October 31<sup>st</sup> 1857  
in Florence



on 10/11  
Paris = 36-75<sup>00</sup>  
Paris = 73-95<sup>00</sup>  
110<sup>00</sup>

75<sup>00</sup>

of

74 - 7

From brother - Written October 11<sup>th</sup> & Recd  
October 31<sup>st</sup> 1857  
in Florence

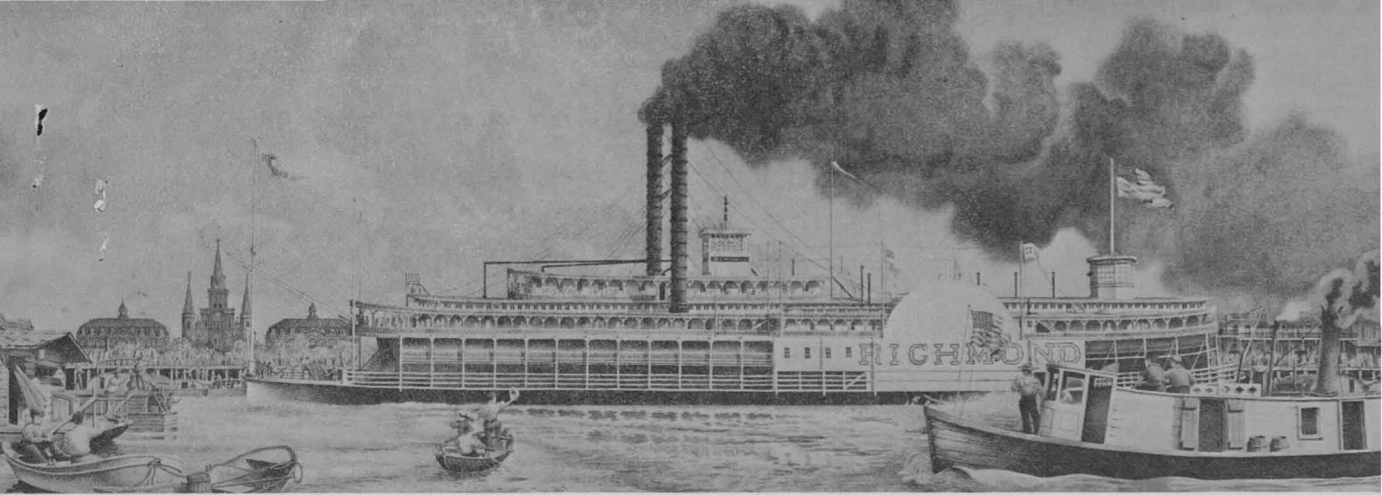


on adv  
Paid = 36-75<sup>00</sup>  
Pay # 73-95<sup>00</sup>  
110<sup>00</sup>

25<sup>00</sup>

CP





Saturday, May 29, 1954

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

Dear Mr Ashbrook:

Last week Dewey Somdal sent me some covers from his fabulous collection which have never been used as illustrations before. I have had them photographed, together with two items that I own and which I think should go into the Confederate Packet article. I have taken the liberty of sending them to you with this letter; also enclosed are the captions I propose to use. Will you please pass on them for correctness? I am not too sure about # 21 - the "Steam 6" on the Pargoud cover dated march 14, 1861 but do not seem to find anything definite about this usage in the writings of Henry Meyer who made the most intensive study of this sort of thing, (that I've seen) and come to you are the final authority on matters of this kind.

I am sending Monday a Document of the Postmaster General, transmitting reports for carrying the mail for the year ending June 30, 1839 and abstract of offers for carrying the mail within the said year. (May 25, 1840) ( 611 pages ) There is a section in it concerning some bids on the Express Mail which I thought might interest you. Please accept it with my compliments.

Am also enclosing a check for \$2.00 for a print of your slave sale

Again thanking you, and with best wishes, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

**LEONARD V. HUBER, 4841 CANAL STREET, NEW ORLEANS 19, LOUISIANA**

June 1, 1954.

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

Dear Mr. Huber:

Under separate cover, I am today forwarding to you your article, "The Confederate Mail Packet" which I enjoyed reading. I do wish that I had some data that I could suggest, but I think your article is exceedingly good as it is. One thought occurred to me. I am wondering if you couldn't in some way improve your illustrations? Half-tone cuts will have to be made of the various subjects and photostats, as you know, do not reproduce to very good advantage. If, however, you cannot obtain fine photo prints do you not think it would be a good idea to retouch some of the markings on the photostats in order to make them more legible? Illustrations add so much to an article but if they are poor, I wonder, if such do not detract, rather than add?

With my kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

June 23, 1954.

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

Dear Mr. Huber:

I trust that you will pardon my negligence in acknowledging receipt of yours of May 29th. I have been engaged in some work on a large collection and I was compelled to lay aside everything else until the work was out of the way.

Thanks so much for sending me the P.M.G. document for the year ending June 30, 1839. I will go over it carefully. I believe all the old Express Mail contracts were due to expire at that time or perhaps a few weeks or months later, I am not sure about every one of the contracts.

I am wondering if I acknowledged receipt of your check and sent you one of the photographs of the Slave auction circulars? If not, please let me know. At the time your letter came I was head over heels in a rush job that demanded all my attention. Re - that circular. I learned recently that there are other copies, that perhaps half a dozen have been sold at auction in the past year. I paid Phil Ward \$20.00 for my copy on the understanding it was an original, and unique. Last week when I learned the truth I demanded a return of my money and obtained it. Of course, someone down Charleston way might have turned up a dozen or so original copies but to have survived since 1833 seems a bit far-fetched. The paper is of a very old quality but that don't mean very much in this day of shrewd faking.

Regarding the photographs you enclosed and which I return herewith. Fig. 17. I note that your caption refers to this as a Confederate Mail Packet. I am wondering if this is correct? A steamboat could be a "Passenger Packet" and still not be a "Mail Packet" unless it or its line had a regular Government mail contract. Any sort of a carrier could carry mail "outside of the mail" and not be a "Mail Carrier." Do you not agree?

Fig. 18. If carried in the manner in which you indicate in your caption, then such carriage was illegal and subject to a Government fine, that is, unless the communication referred strictly to the cargo, as for example, a bill of lading or perhaps company business. Was the "Mary E Keen" a Mail Packet?

Fig. 19. Quite correct in my opinion - Script for the purpose of making change. Incidentally I note this is dated January 4, 1862 and New Orleans, so evidently not a great deal was distributed.

Fig. 20. I do not think the stamp was canceled at New Orleans - thus no postmark. The "Steam" was applied at "Natchez" - to show origin at the Natchez P.O. - It was not customary to postmark incoming mail. Thus no postmark. I do not recall any U. S. "Regulation" which required a postmark on this class of mail.

Fig. 21. U. S. postage rate. Into New Orleans Mar. 14, 1861. Your

#2. Mr. Leonard V. Huber - June 23, 1954.

caption is wrong in my opinion as I know of no law requiring double postage at this period. This letter was a double rate of 2 x 3¢ - Steam denoted origin - Thus into the New Orleans P.O. on Mar. 14, 1861 by a contract "Steam" boat - postage not paid - over 1/2 ounce - 6¢ due. The mail agent did stamp the date of receipt - a postmark on this letter. The same rules were not followed at all river offices.

Fig. 22. Your caption is correct and is in accord with the U. S. Act of Feb. 27, 1861, (in my opinion).

Again my thanks and kindest regards.

Cordially yours,

(32-12)

32-13

JOHN A. FOX

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

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

June 19, 1954

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

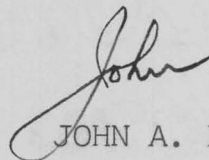
Dear Stan:

Thank you very much for your letter and also thank you for not putting the name of the auction where that pair brought that ridiculous price of \$15.00. I do not feel too bad about missing it for Ernie Jacobs missed it, Neinken missed it and Fortgang missed it. Besides, I never cry over spilled milk.

Enclosed please find check to your order in the sum of \$115. This is \$100 for the service and \$15 for an opinion on the enclosed cover. Please - no arguments. The \$100 credit I have with you is against photographs which I will use up in the future.

Trusting that Mildred and you are doing well. With kind regards to you both from Virginia and me.

Sincerely,



JOHN A. FOX

JAF:ew  
encl.  
registered



Buy at the Sign of the Triangle

June 23, 1954

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

Dear John:

Yours of the 19th received with the 1869 cover from New York to Hong Kong. I have known this thing for many years and I regret to state that it is a fake, inasmuch as these two stamps were not used originally on this cover.

On your recent western trip you probably made Detroit and perhaps met the son of the late Dr. Warren Babcock. If so, and you got this cover from him, he should be ashamed of himself for trying to stick you with a fake cover. I trust my suspicions are incorrect because the fellow is a member of the Detroit Philatelic Society. How he got in, I don't know, because I never fancied the fellow myself. You see, I happen to be a member of that rather tight little philatelic organization, and all 40 members are supposed to be gentlemen:

The cover belonged to Dr. Babcock for many years and he sent it to me in October 1936 for my opinion. I thought I knew a devil of a lot about covers and rates at that time but actually I was only kidding myself. I can't find in my notes where I actually condemned the cover at that time but some years later, after Doc's death, Bob Laurence sold the Babcock collection - the date, Oct. 18, 1943, and this cover was Lot 525 in that sale. It was purchased by my good friend G. V. Luerson along with a 30¢ 1869 cover, both of which he sent me for my examination and opinion. Under date of Oct. 29, 1943 I returned them to him informing him that both were fraudulent and explained why. I requested him to show my letter to Bob Laurence. It may be that Bob returned the cover to the Babcock Estate, but of course it may have changed hands several times since it left Bob's hands.

Dr. Babcock thought his cover was genuine because he reported it in Mekeel's under date of April 27, 1936 as the earliest use known of the 24¢ 1869, namely, Apr 24 1869.

There were a bunch of fakes in the Babcock sale many of which the Doctor purchased abroad when he was in the Medical Corps in World War I. I thought perhaps he bought this over there - maybe he did - tried to sell it and had it turned back to him many years ago because it came up in a sale by J. C. Morgenthau & Co. on Oct. 15 to 21 inc. - 1924. In that sale, it was Lot 936 and was described as follows:

"1869 - 10¢ yellow used on cover to Hong Kong, with 24¢ green and violet, (120) the 10¢ very fine, the 24¢ off at left, the combination a great rarity." (unquote). I don't happen to have the sale price. Regarding the rate. There were three rates to Hong Kong at that time.

#2. Mr. John A. Fox - June 23, 1954.

- 1) Via San Francisco and U. S. Packet to the Far East - 10¢ per 1/2 ounce. This was a slow trip from New York.
- 2) Via England - and British Packet Via Southampton 34¢ per 1/2 ounce.
- 3) Via England and British Packet Via Marseilles - 42¢ per 1/2 oz.

The U. S. share on each of the latter routes was 10¢ per 1/2 ounce. In other words, the U. S. credit on a rate Via Southampton was 24¢. On a rate Via Marseilles, 32¢. You will note this was prepaid to go "Via Marseilles" @ 42¢. It was not unusual for postal clerks to suggest a different routing to obtain better time passage. In my opinion, 1861-1867 stamps were removed and the 10¢ and 24¢ 1869 stamps substituted. The "32" credit shows a 42¢ rate and if the rate had been underpaid, the New York office would have marked the letter as "Insufficiently Paid," and rated it to the British as entirely unpaid. With 34¢ Paid and a credit of 32¢ as shown, our share would only have been 2¢, which on its face is all wrong.

With kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

JOHN A. FOX

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

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

July 6, 1954

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

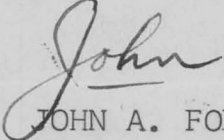
Dear Stan:

Thank you very much for your opinion on the '69 cover. Not knowing rates, I bought it and I am stuck for it. I will not try to return it, but will chalk it up to experience. At least I did not make the mistake of selling it. For your information, I did not buy it from Dr. Babcock's son, but did buy it in the town you mentioned, Detroit.

I also appreciate your letter concerning the gentleman who put out the fake handstamps. I quite agree that the A.P.S. should do something about this situation. Are you sure that the man is Manson. I have not been able to ascertain who he is. Perhaps you have more information on this than I do. The boys who told me about it were very secretive about his name.

Trusting all is well with Mildred and yourself.

Sincerely,

  
JOHN A. FOX

JAF:ew



Buy at the Sign of the Triangle



# MORRISON CAFETERIA COMPANY

INCORPORATED

Birmingham, Alabama.

Wednesday, July 7, 1954,

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

Dear Stan,

I have just received your letters of the 5th. In the first place may I say I am glad you agree with me about the French and English as well. I am growing more and more isolationist every day and it begins to look like that is the only chance we have to exist and keep from being swallowed up by the Commies. They will otherwise thru the above methods bleed us to death.

I cant see why you should not have kept the check I sent you. You went to all that trouble to get me those two lots and now you put me where I might hesitate to ask you to do a like favor. I'll find some way of repaying you yet. I wish I knew what the others brought that we bid on and if you ever find out please let me know. It is no vital thing that I get the invoice back from Janet nor is it at all necessary for you to make a photo of it. I simply keep records of such in case I ever sell again and the tax man pokes his nose into records.

Regarding your letter about the Babcock sale, the cover you got from the P.F. Committee ex-Babcock, a 24¢-10¢ 1869 was no doubt lot 525 in the L.&S. sale and went to Lehman for \$90 and was marked BAD/SBA in my catalog. No doubt it is now Fox property for he bought outright the Howard Lehman collection I understand over Bob Laurence's bid at around \$35,900.00. Further I imagine the cover was given by Fox to the P.F. to establish it before it comes out in the fall. It was this information I was endeavoring to give you in my letter. If you recall I stopped by Cincinnati en route to the Cleveland A.P.S. Convention in 1943 and we sent my bids to Gregory Mozian from there and I got lot 526 for \$200.00 or rather you did for me. Lot 525 was in your notes as:  
(This cover was not reported but it was sent out to S.B.A. later by L. & S. He had seen the same when shown by Dr. Babcock before this and had told him it was a fake.) Am I right in this?

I sent you last night the Kiplinger and prices from a recent sale of Heiman's. I had already thrown away my catalog. You may throw the list away if it is no use to you.

I hope you will be able to give me the answer to Ez's letter about how he handles the bids as you outline. It will sure be enlightening.

Sincerely,

P.S. I forgot to say that my book came today with the Title- "SCHEDULE OF MAILS and POSTAGE in 1849." I have not had a chance to read it.

32 - 13

July 12, 1954.

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

Dear John:

Thanks for yours of the 8th and the case of Mr. X. I have indisputable evidence that this fellow did exactly as I related in my July Service Issue, and I don't think this is anything new as far as he is concerned. So far I have not given his name to anyone except the parties concerned. The question arises in my mind - why should I take it upon myself to prefer charges against him? I believe the man to whom he sold the cleaned 10¢ '47 stamp will get his \$250.00 back the same as the first man did last October. I doubt if the latest fellow will be willing to bring charges. However, we will see and I will keep you advised. I could lay all the facts in the case before the Board of the A. P. S. and before the A. S. D. A. but if I did I would incur the enmity of the cheat and inasmuch as I haven't been damaged, why should I?

Again re - that 24¢ + 10¢ 1869 cover. I now find that some of my data was wrong. My records appeared to indicate that the cover was purchased in the Babcock sale by G.V. Luerson for \$90.00 but it seems that Howard Lehman was the purchaser and that after the sale he tried to sell it to G. V. Luerson, who sent it to me to find out if it was genuine. I informed him it was a fake and I suppose he returned it to Lehman.

Again re - Mr. "X." I wrote to a former member of the Board of the A.P.S. about this matter and sent him a sample copy of my July 1st "Service." I quote from a letter just received from him:

"The kind of conduct that you pointed out in the paragraphs entitled 'Where do elephants go to die?' is just the kind of thing that got this dealer in trouble when I was a member of the Board of Vice Presidents some years ago.

If the last purchaser of the stamp in question is willing to bring charges of misrepresentation and you are willing to testify as to this stamp's previous history, I would be inclined to believe that the present Board of Vice Presidents of the A.P.S. would seriously consider expelling him from the Society. The former case against him should also be cited. This man, if not stopped, will undoubtedly continue to gyp unsuspecting collectors as he seems to be without any scruples whatever in peddling known fakes at high prices.

You might get in touch with the last purchaser of the stamp and see how he feels about it."

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

(32-13)

July 9, 1954.

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

Dear Em:

Herewith a letter from Molesworth. I suppose there is little doubt that Ez and Jack are 200% right. The only way to deal with such an outfit is to examine lots first, and examine them very carefully. If ever you wanted to bid I think you could trust some bids to Jack, or to Mozian. A chap in Cincinnati bids at Stolow sales and gives his bids to Gregory Mozian. I like Gregory and believe he plays the game on the square.

Thanks for the Kiplinger just received. I have a way of agreeing with much of his stuff. As I size up the situation, Churchill is in his dotage and no longer the man he was fifteen years ago. Today Eden is the one who runs things and he evidently has the support of Bevan and his crowd of wreckers. I think Churchill is just a figurehead. It is quite evident that Eden hates the U. S. and is willing to side with Russia against us. The same old game - the damned British have pulled for over a hundred years - balance of power - play one nation against the other. I hope we never again pull any chestnuts out of the fire for her. She would be willing to be wiped off the face of the earth if she could carry us with her to destruction. She was once the greatest power on earth. Now she is just a little island. Jealousy can drive a person insane and also a nation.

Re = prices at Janet sale. I was so sore at the frog because of the unauthorized use of my name in his catalogue that I wouldn't ask for a list of prices. However, I did write Henry Hill yesterday inquiring if he had obtained a list. I don't know whether he got anything in the sale. He seldom gives me such information.

You are right on the 24¢ plus 10¢ Babcock cover. It was Lot 525 in the Laurence sale of Oct. 18, '43. I had no record as to who purchased it. I guess there is no doubt that John Fox obtained it in the Lehman collection.

Confidential - He told me he purchased it in Detroit on a recent trip there. Maybe yes - maybe no. Either way, it is nothing in my life. I have a suspicion that John will return it to Lehman in which event it will again go into circulation. I can well imagine Lehman getting stuck with a fake piece. Just about as reliable as Honest Phil Ward.

Re - your query about the 24¢ plus 10¢. My original notes are a bit vague but I suppose the story goes as follows - Dr. Babcock sent the cover to me in 1936 to record as the earliest known use of the 24¢ 1869. At that time I evidently considered the cover as genuine. However, when it came up in the Laurence sale I was then positive it was bad. I made a fine photo in 1936 and evidently referred to it in the years previous to the Laurence sale.

I will advise you re - Ezra's reply to the letter I wrote him about auction bids. Don't the Bible say something about a man trying to serve two masters? However, that was before we had stock exchanges and stamp auctions.

#2. Mr. Emerson C. Krug - July 9, 1954.

I was glad you sent for a copy of the Blake book.

Regards.

Yours etc.,

P.S.--Em, you are wrong about Lehman buying the 24¢ + 10¢ 1869 in the Lehman sale. At least I assume you are wrong because after the sale G.V.Leurson sent the cover to me for my opinion. I informed him it was bad. I assumed he returned it to Laurence. Now I wonder if Lehman bought the cover and tried to sell it after the sale to Leurson? Perhaps that is the correct solution.

S.

# MORRISON CAFETERIA COMPANY

INCORPORATED

Birmingham, Alabama.

June 30, 1954.

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

Dear Stan,

Maybe I have no business writing this to you but thought it might be helpful. Knowing one's memory is not infallible and that you might not have recorded the following I am telling you this.

I know John Fox sends you lots of items to expertize and also that Howard Lehman is selling his collection to Fox who has announced its sale in the coming fall. I was just today looking thru my bound catalogs and happened on the Laurence & Stryker sale of Dr. Babcock on Oct. 18, 1943. In that sale were several high value 1869 covers of his and here are my notes:

Lot 522- 119 & 117 Cover sold for \$52.00 "BAD/S.B.A."  
" 523- 120 Face Only- Sold to Grace Stamp Co. for \$79.00 "MAYBE O.K./S.B.A."  
" 524- 120-115 Cover- Sold to Grace Stamp Co. for \$125.00 "BAD/S.B.A."  
→ " 525- 120-116 Cover- Sold to Lehman for \$90.00 "BAD/S.B.A."  
" 526- 120-116 Cover- Sold to Gregory Moxian for you and then for me-\$200.00  
" 527- 121 Cover- Sold for \$75.00 to Lehman "BAD/S.B.A."  
" 528- 121 Cover- Sold to Grace for \$190.00 "PROBABLY O.K./S.B.A."  
You also said several of his 15¢ 1869s were BAD.

As you see lots 525 & 527 went to Lehman and may have been bought for him by Ezra since we had Greg buy for us. You had some lots then for both yourself and Sam Richey. I thought you might like to have the above information in case the covers were again submitted to you. You had them sent to you by Bob Laurence at the time my records show.

Of course my notes as to the buyers may be untrue but most likely they are correct. Grace Stamp Co. were the buyers of practically all the Knapp 1869 high value covers that Teddy Baer did not buy back himself at that sale. Maybe you recall that you said then they were all fakes or nearly all of them.

Sincerely,



Fox  
(32-13)

July 5, 1954.

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

Dear Em:

Re - yours of the 30th. Thanks for the data. I remember the Babcock sale quite well and I frequently refer to that catalogue. Bob Laurence loaned me the films from which the illustrations were made and I made several sets of prints. I note I have inserted in the catalogue all my papers and correspondence relating to the sale. I have all the prices but I have none of the names of the buyers.

In my files on 1869 covers I indexed each 1869 cover with my data regarding same. I remember that "Grace" bought a lot of the questionable items. I wonder whatever became of her. I am sure if any of the Babcock covers came up, I would recognize them at once. In fact, one did come up last week - a 24¢ plus 10¢ '69 cover Ex-Babcock sale - was sent to me by the P.F. Committee. You will find the cover in the catalogue.

Thanks just the same.

Regards.



Yours etc.,

Richard J. Borden

BOX 14 LAKE ST. STATION  
MINNEAPOLIS 8, MINN.

Plate Blocks — A Specialty

6-21-54

PLATE BLOCK  
WANT LISTS  
FILLED

IMMEDIATE  
CASH FOR  
PLATE BLOCKS

Dear Mr. Ashbrook;

Noting your recent ad and writeup in "Stamps" magazine, I am enclosing 2 stamps for your opinion.

The 10¢ green mint I believe to be either #13 or #16 i.e. either Type 1 or Type 4.

The 24¢ stamp appears to be a copy of #142 although the grill appears to be too strongly applied plus the fact that the stamp it is undated as unused confuses me.

This is my first venture into having stamps "expertized" and if your rates are reasonable I will certainly be contacting you again.

Best Regards,

R. J. Borden

June 24, 1954.

Mr. Richard J. Borden,  
Box 14 - Lake St. Station,  
Minneapolis 8, Minn.

Dear Mr. Borden:

Herewith the two items as per yours of the 21st.

The 10¢ is a mounted India proof - cut to shape and mounted. Put a good glass on it and it is very easy to see. The grill on the 24¢ is a fake - however, I do not happen to be an authority on grills; so if you have any reason to doubt my opinion I suggest you send it to my good friend Lester G. Brookman in your city, a recognized authority on grills.

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

Sincerely yours,



*Richard J. Borden*

BOX 14 LAKE ST. STATION  
MINNEAPOLIS 8, MINN.

Plate Blocks — A Specialty

6-26-54

PLATE BLOCK  
WANT LISTS  
FILLED

IMMEDIATE  
CASH FOR  
PLATE BLOCKS

Dear Mr. Ashbrook;

Please accept the enclosed with my thanks. I do not feel it is necessary to consult Mr. Brookman as I am confident that your determination that the gull is counterfeit is accurate.

Many thanks,

*R. Borden*

July 2, 1954.

Mr. Richard J. Borden,  
Box 14, Lake Street Station,  
Minneapolis 8, Minn.

Dear Mr. Borden:

Thanks very much for yours of the 26th  
with check.

Whenever I can again be of assistance  
don't hesitate to communicate with me.

Sincerely yours,

(32-14)

MILLARD HENRY MACK

Tuesday

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

I am enclosing two stamps which I believe to be the reprints of the 6¢ and 30¢ 1869 issue.

I would appreciate your checking them for me and, if they are authentic, signing them as such.

Thanks very much for all your help now and in the past.

Please let me know what I owe you and I will remit immediately.

Sincerely yours,

Millard H Mack  
3930 Red Bud Avenue  
Cincinnati 29, Ohio.

P.S. If you have to take any pictures or anything that involves more than the normal expense - go right ahead. Thanks Millard H Mack

June 24, 1954.

Mr. Millard H. Mack,  
3930 Red Bud Ave.,  
Cincinnati 29, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Mack:

Herewith the two stamps as per yours of the 22nd. You are quite correct, the 6¢ is the re-issue of 1875, S.U.S. #126. I examined this very carefully and signed it as such on the back. The perforations, paper and color are all in my opinion of that stamp. I could find no trace of an ironed out grill nor any defect or damage.

Re - the 30¢ stamp. This is also the 1875 re-issue, S.U.S. No. 131, and I have signed it as such on the back. Paper, perforations and colors are all in accord with #131, and there is no trace of an ironed out grill or defect or damage to the copy.

I note that both are used copies and that the 30¢ stamp has a cancelation common to the middle and late 1870's. Unused o.g. copies of this stamp are quoted higher than used copies, yet I suppose that the latter, with cancelations of the period are very much more rare. Personally, I would prefer to own this 30¢ to a used copy because I would be able to show in my collection something that the other fellow would probably be unable to obtain.

My fee for this examination is \$4.00 plus return registration of 33¢.

I am enclosing herewith a color slide that I made of the Stolow 24¢ 1869 invert. I thought you would like to see it. If perchance you would like to retain it the price is \$1.50, otherwise you can return it at your convenience.

Sincerely yours,

4.33  
1.50  

---

5.83

MILLARD HENRY MACK

Friday

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Thanks very much for your letter of June 24, 1954. I am enclosing my check to your order for \$5.83 to cover the examination of #126 and #131 plus return postage of 33¢ plus \$1.50 for the color slide of the Stolow 244 1869 invert.

Did you, perhaps, take pictures of the other two inverts of 1869? If so, and if you have extra copies of them, I would be interested in them.

Again, many thanks for all your help,

Very sincerely yours,

Millard H. Mack

(32-15)

SBA 24<sup>th</sup>

Check as per

June 27, 1954.

Mr. Millard H. Mack,  
3930 Red Bud Ave.,  
Cincinnati, O.

Dear Mr. Mack:

Thanks very much for yours of the 25th,  
with check for \$5.83 as per mine of the 24th.

I did not send for the other two "inverts"  
of 1869 that were in the recent Stolow sale, hence  
did not make any photographs. Sometime you must  
come over and pay me a visit and have a look at some  
of my slides, etc.,

Sincerely yours,

(32-15)

B534

B534

B534

B534

←

6¢



TWO 1875 RE-ISSUE OF  
1869

D 534

64 1869

Journal

32 - 15



223 Dwight Street  
New Haven 11, Conn.  
June 23, 1954

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

By way of introduction, I am a friend of Harry Keffer and an acquaintance of Mr. Neinken. I was introduced to you at the convention of the 3¢ 1851 Unit in Philadelphia. I am a student of the 1851 and 1857 Issues and have some claim to a respectable collection of them, particularly of the 1¢ 1851.

I recently purchased the enclosed strip of the 12¢ 1851 at a counter auction in New York City. Being cut into on 3 sides, it is, of course, not a first class item but the third stamp of the four does have a tremendous double transfer in the letters of "CENTS." Using the Tracy-Ashbrook information, I am sure that the first stamp is 67R1, also a double, making the strip 67-68-69-70R1.

I can find no record of a double on 69R1, although I do have a vague recollection of seeing other D.T. recorded in various publications. In fact, I believe that there are minor traces of DTs on the presumed 68 and 70R1, in which case the four positions would seem to have been erased and re-entered towards the left (on the printed sheets). Since many other DTS in the same four rows show this characteristic, some interesting speculation is possible. Is there a chance that 69R1 is also known without this D.T.?

I hope this DT is new, as I would like to use it in an article for STAMPS Magazine. STAMPS is going to feature the 40th Anniversary of the New Haven Philatelic Society this October with articles by various members.


Please bill me for your examination charges on the strip plus your postage, etc.,

Does your new service include plating 1¢ 1851 Type II? If so, what is the charge?

I need a passable copy of 1¢ 1851 #14L1L to complete my reconstruction of Plate 1L. Could you find me one?

Thanks for anything you may be able to tell me on this strip.

Yours,



Howard B. Young, RA#57

June 26, 1954.

Mr. H. B. Young,  
223 Dwight St.,  
New Haven 11, Conn.

Dear Mr. Young:

Yours of the 23rd received, with the strip of four of the 12¢ 1851, which I am returning herewith. I made a very thorough examination of this strip and your plating is correct - The positions are 67R1 - 68R1 - 69R1 and 70R1. However 69R1 in this strip is not a double transfer, but on the contrary it is a faked variety, a paint job. I really don't know who does this sort of work, but I suspect it is done in Europe. I have a record of two other early U. S. that are quite similar in style and I suspect that this "painting" on the 12¢ might have been done by the same artist. Evidently he does it for pleasure because in cases that have come under my observation, there evidently was no profit motive.

I have a very accurate record of every position on the 12¢ plate, in fact, a very accurate record of the plate, spacing, alignment, guide dots, etc., etc. I spent years on it correcting it from time to time and I have reason to believe it is the most accurate record in existence. However, I no longer do any plating of 12¢ items.

My fee for the above examination is \$3.50 which includes return registration. If you would like to have an enlarged photograph I can furnish you with a print @ \$1.50.

Re - the other three positions in the strip - 67R is quite a nice D.T., but I never classed the other three positions as D.T.'s though each one has "plating marks." While it is true that a position with "plating marks" might possibly have their origin in a D.T. I do not class minor markings as a D.T.

I have large diagrams of 67-68-69-70R1 made back in the middle thirties. If you would like to see them I will be glad to loan them to you.

Re - plating the 1¢ 1851. I do not make a charge per stamp but rather a fee based on time consumed. I avoid the plating of material from Plate One Early because I no longer have my original reconstruction. I have a photographic record of all the positions but I prefer not to plate material from Pl. 1 E that way. I have my original reconstruction of Plate 2. I don't mind plating "B" relief positions in multiples and singles but beg to be excused from plating "A" singles. If I find that the plating of a certain 1¢ '51 or '57 is going to require considerable time, say an hour or more, I refuse to plate the item, because I would have to charge for my time and the information would not be worth the fee.

I am enclosing herewith a copy of 14L1L - priced @ \$8.00.

#2. Mr. H. B. Young - June 26, 1954.

Morris Fortgang and Mort Neinken are both accumulating fine collections of the One Cent and in recent years, the three of us have made remarkable progress in the final reconstruction of Plate 6. Fortgang is an exceptionally keen student - has an eye that was made for plate reconstruction work. When he puts a glass on an item nothing misses his eye. In all my experience with the One Cent I have met few who were his equal.

Give my best wishes to my old and valued friend Harry Keffer. A great chap in every sense of the word.

Sincerely yours,

Why are these things always ascribed to some "European?" I wish I was sure of the answer. I think some of the stamp people in the US are as good or as bad as anyone.

223 Dwight Street  
New Haven 11, Conn.  
July 1, 1954

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Thanks for your letter of June 26th with analysis of the 12¢ strip sent by me.

Once the faked nature of this variety is called to my attention, I can see at least six features of the thing that should have made me suspicious or unbelieving. In fact, the whole thing is just too good to be true. Hind-sight makes us all experts.

I purchased this strip for \$25.00 at a minor N. Y. Auction and I am sure that neither the owner nor vendor were aware of the "variety" let alone knew that it was bad. I take some small credit in recognizing 67R1 and consequently placing the strip.

Do you think I might still use it as the basis for an article or would I be better advised to keep quiet. Can I quote your analysis if I do use it?

I enclose a money order for \$13.00 which will pay for	3.50
the examination fee, the 14L1L which you so kindly sent and	8.00
the enlarged photograph, which I might as well have.	1.50
	<u>13.00</u>

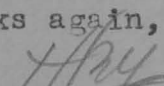
By the Way, do you think I should mark the strip? As having the faked variety, I mean. May save some future owner embarrassment. I do not think it necessary to let me see the diagrams, I am satisfied.

I can imagine the faker doing this just for practice, as a great many 12¢, perf. and imperf., kicking around New York, have added margins, redrawn frame lines, etc., Not many reach the standard of this work but the 12¢ stamp in black is rather easy to monkey with in this manner because of the black color. But even I can see most of these.

Since I have too much money (for me) invested in 1¢ 1851, our friend Harry is negotiating a possible sale for me. Plating the Type IIs will have to wait. Thanks for the information, however.

Would you be interested in seeing a strip of 8-9-10L1E that shows a rudimentary arrow at the top of the center line? The two branching lines are best seen with a glass so I think they are legitimate. They are not visible on late state copies of X 1R1 that I have showing the centerline and dot.

Thanks again,

  
Howard B. Young.

July 9, 1954.

Mr. H. B. Young,  
223 Dwight Street,  
New Haven 11, Conn.

Dear Mr. Young:

I have yours of the 1st. I agree that you deserve credit for identifying the 67RL. I believe that only a small number of collectors take the trouble to really study their stamps with a good glass and few recognize a D. T. variety. The great majority are more interested in knowing what this or that is worth.

I know of no reason why you could not use the strip as a basis for a story and of course you have my permission to use any of the material that I furnished you.

I thank you very kindly for the money order for \$13.00. I will forward you a photo print of the 69RL in the next few days.

I think an item such as this should be marked in indelible ink so that some future collector might not be defrauded. Some fakes become worth more as fakes than the genuine. A collection of faked items makes an interesting exhibit.

Yes, I would like to see the LOLIE strip and to make a photograph of it! I probably have a good photo record of LOLIE but there is always the chance that a new item might turn up with a new feature.

I believe that it is correct to ascribe the best of faked material to Europeans - principally Paris and Rome. I suppose we have some fakers in this country but in Paris it is a business and one in which men and women spend their lives, and are constantly improving their methods. I know of none of note in this country!

Sincerely yours,

223 Dwight Street  
New Haven 11, Conn.  
July 26, 1954

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

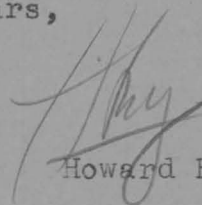
Thanks for your letter of the 9th. I have written up a short article on the strip of the 12¢ stamp. The article covers quite a bit of ground, the collection and study of 1851s, Dr. Chase, Yourself, Double Transfers and a comparison of the two (one good, one bad) on this strip with some of those on the 1¢ and 3¢ 1851. O yes, the 3¢ 1851 Unit and the New Haven Philatelic Society are mentioned.

As advised by you, I have marked the #69R1 with the words "faked variety" on the back, just behind the word CENTS. Small printing with permanent record ink. Any monkey business with the words will, I hope, also react on the lines of the variety.

I enclose the strip of #8-9-10L1E mentioned in my previous letter. Feel that I probably should pay your examination charges on this, let me know how much.

Do you have a 1¢ 23L1L of similar quality and price to the 14L1L sent before? My only copy of #23 has the N.Y. Ocean Mail Pmk. and I want to use this elsewhere.

Yours,



Howard B. Young.

P.S. I have struggled manfully but am unable to resist telling you that the Tracy-Ashbrook brochure on the 12¢-1851 lists 68R1 as a double transfer. Page 11.

HBV.

1 \$10 ab

Aug. 2, 1954.

Mr. H. B. Young,  
223 Dwight Street,  
New Haven 11, Conn.

Dear Mr. Young:

Thanks so much for calling my attention to the listing of 68R1 of the 12¢ '51 in the Tracy-Ashbrook book. I don't suppose I have read that list of "D.T.'s" in 17 or 18 years. I looked up Tracy's original data and found his diagram of 68R1 and listed it as a D.T. His diagram shows just a few marks in the center of the two bottom rosettes. I don't think this position should have been listed as a D.T. A diagram that I made in 1934 does not show the marks that Tracy recorded. I have always tried to be careful in listing D.T.'s because some are so minor they would fail to be identified by a beginner, hence if he had what he thought was a certain position and if it was listed as a D.T. and he couldn't detect any D.T., he would naturally conclude his copy was not that position.

I note you have written a short article about the 12¢ and if you wish, you could mention that 68R1 was listed as a D.T. but that it should not have been for reasons stated above. Will you keep me advised where and when your article will appear?

Herewith I am returning your Plate One Early strip - 8-9-10L, together with a photograph of a similar strip which please accept with my compliments.

I am enclosing a copy of 23111 which I have signed on the back = Price \$10.00.

Sincerely yours,

32-16

223 Dwight Street  
New Haven 11, Conn.  
Aug. 6, 1954

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Thanks for the copy of 23L1L (1¢) and I enclose a money order in payment; \$10.00.

The article on the 12¢ strip depends on several things. First, its suitability. Second, the possibility of the NHPS producing enough articles for a STAMPS issue and third, the willingness of Mr. Lindquist to provide such an issue. Therefore, let us say that my tentative article will include the following:

"#68R1 was listed as a D.T. in the Tracy-Ashbrook work on this 12¢ Stamp. The listing was based on the records of Col. J. K. Tracy. Mr Ashbrook thinks that the markings on #68R1 are not important enough to be called a D.T. and believes the listing should be corrected."

If you feel that there is anything unsatisfactory about this paragraph, please let me know.

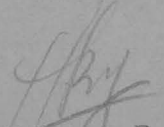
The article itself will be short, giving a brief outline of why the 1851-57 stamps are so wonderful. A few brief sentences on past, present and future work on them. A brief mention of the 3¢ 1851 Unit and the NHPS. Then a switch to the 12¢ strip, contrasting the legitimate #67 variety with the fake #69, etc. A brief runover of your information, duly credited, is followed by a comparison with the DT on 1¢ 72L1L and 3¢ #95R1L with enlarged illustrations. I point out the fact that the faker duplicated the letter outline whereas most DT show the heavier shading of the letter reproduced. I give a short paragraph to pointing out that black stamps are quite easy to re-frame or re-corner and our mysterious friend was quite prepared to do anything of that sort. I conclude by stating that the strip has been indelibly marked, upon your recommendation. O yes, I use an enlargement of my 65R1E to show what certain positions would look like if the siderographer did not erase and burnish, etc.,

Thanks for the photo of the other 8-9-10L1E strip. I thought I recalled an item somewhere in your book that any arrows were unknown. I cannot now find the reference. Of course, this was at best a very rudimentary arrow.

I wonder if you can have forgotten the enlargement of the fakery on #69R1 of the 12¢ strip that you promised to send, I have not received it. I notice you return my strip, etc., in one of our friend, HBK's folders.

Thanks very much for the stamps, help, advice, etc.,

Yours,

  
Howard B. Young



Aug. 12, 1954.

Mr. H. B. Young,  
223 Dwight St.,  
New Haven 11, Conn.

Dear Mr. Young:

Yours of the 8th received.

Thanks very much for your M.O. for \$10.00 as per mine of recent date. I apologize for the oversight in failing to send you a print of the photo that I made of your 12¢ 1851 "D.T." A print is enclosed herewith.

I enclose a diagram of a copy of the one made by Col. Tracy of 68R1. I suppose at the time we published the article, that inasmuch as he had classed this position as a "D.T." it was not up to me to correct him. You can judge for yourself whether this should have been listed. Some of the others that he listed are equally as slight.

I approve of the paragraph you intend to include and you could also add that other positions listed show very faint traces of a D.T.

Re - the "arrows" on 1¢ Plate One. I do not recall that I made any reference to such a feature in any of my writings on the 1¢. I am wondering if it might have been in the Chase 3¢ book?

Sincerely yours,

Charge

H B Young

\$10<sup>00</sup>

for a 1457

See SB

PAID  
AUG 12 1954

32 - p 16

letter of

8/2 - 54

PAID  
AUG 12 1954

121 824 3 25 87

851 N  
SERVICE  
DAYS



FAKE 69RL DT. B511

PHOTOGRAPH No. **158**  
OF  
ASHBROOK SERVICE



B510 12½-F128-K3-25 (B310)

DONALD MILLIGAN  
Route 2  
CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA

JUNE 18, 1954

Dear Sir:

I enclosed two stamps that I would like to have you authenticate. No. 17 is in two layers as if the margin has been added. The other stamp was represented as 8A TYPE IIIA, but is it.

Sincerely  
Donald Milligan

(32-17)

June 21, 1954.

Mr. Donald Milligan,  
Route 2,  
Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Dear Mr. Milligan:

I will give you a report on the 12¢ 1851 for \$1.50. If you would like to have an enlarged photo of the stamp taken by ultra-violet ray, the charge will be \$2.00 extra or \$3.50.

A report on the 3¢ stamp will be \$1.50.

Return registered postage 33¢.

Very truly yours,

DONALD MILLIGAN  
Route 2  
CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA

OK

\$3.33

June 24, 1954

Dear Sir:

I enclosed three dollars and thirty  
three cents for a report on the stamps I  
recently sent you.

Sincerely  
Donald Milligan



June 27, 1954.

Mr. Donald Milligan,  
Route 2,  
Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Dear Mr. Milligan:

This will acknowledge receipt of yours of the 24th with check for \$3.33, for which kindly accept my thanks.

Herewith I am returning the two stamps enclosed in yours of the 18th.

Regarding the 12¢ 1851. This is what we call a "mounting." A faker took a perforated 12¢ stamp, cleaned the cancelation(?) - cut the stamp to the design and then mounted it on another piece of paper, and in various places painted in the design. This is especially noticeable clear across the bottom where the bottom part of the stamp was missing. The stamp itself is from Plate 3, and stamps from this plate were never issued in imperforate condition. Naturally the gum on the back is fraudulent. If I were you I would put some water in a clean vessel on a stove and let it come to a boil and then put the stamp into the boiling water. In a short time the cement will loosen and you will have two pieces of paper - You can then exhibit these showing how crooks make an imperforate stamp with full margins out of a perforated copy. You will note that I put a question mark after the "cleaned cancelation" above. There is a question whether this was a canceled copy cleaned, or a badly damaged unused copy. Inasmuch as it is a faked copy I did not think it important to establish the fact on this minor point.

Regarding the 1¢ stamp. This is a trimmed copy of the catalogue #24 - the Type V. This stamp came from Plate 6 and when the faker trimmed the perforations from this stamp he destroyed a valuable stamp because stamps from Plate 6 happen to be scarce and especially in unused condition. I suppose this copy has never been canceled but I did not make a thorough investigation of this point. However, the gum on the back is not original.

Sincerely yours,

July 2, 1954.

Mr. Donald Milligan,  
Route 2,  
Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Dear Mr. Milligan:

Herewith I am enclosing a photo print of your faked "12¢ 1851," also a drawing of the 12¢ design which you can compare with the stamp. The photograph was made by ultra-violet ray. I do not include a photo print with an opinion @ \$1.50 per stamp but in this case I am making an exception and am sending the enclosed print with my compliments. As previously advised I charge \$2.00 for a photograph.

Would you mind informing me where you obtained the stamp and how it was represented to you. There are so many crooked dealers, it is desirable to list those who deliberately cheat unsuspecting buyers.

Sincerely yours,

DONALD MILLIGAN  
Route 2  
CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA

July 7, 1954

Dear Sir:

I enclosed the reply to the letter I wrote asking about the "12 & 1851 stamp. I obtained the "SA TYPE IIIA" stamp from the same source, but it wasn't paid for. However the "12" stamp was, so I returned them both, asking for my money back. I haven't received a reply to this letter as yet.

Sincerely  
Donald Milligan

32-17

July 10, 1954.

Mr. Donald Milligan,  
Route 2,  
Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Dear Mr. Milligan:

Thanks for a look at the letter from this Storch fellow. He is either a very ignorant person or a crook. I suspect the latter. If he is a "Philatelist" as his letter head indicates, he should know better than to sell such a rank fake as that thing which he assured you was an unused copy of the 12¢ 1851.

I note that he is not a member of either of our national philatelic societies, A.P.S. or the S.P.A. It is true that there are doubtless a lot of crooks in both societies but the chances are there are more out than in.

When a person buys stamps or covers he should be careful and deal only with firms who are reputable and honest. If one lies down in the mud with a hog should he complain if he gets up covered with mud?

Keep me advised whether or not you get a return of your money. Inasmuch as this fellow is not a member of our national organizations, I doubt if I can help you if he refuses but I will do anything I can.

I have a perfect contempt for a person like this.

Very truly yours,

July 20, 1954.

Dear Sir:

In answer to your letter of the 17th, the \$3.33 was for the reports on the stamps, which S. Torch allowed me. The \$25.00 dollars purchase price he said, he will refund or she give me credit. I did ask him when I returned the stamps and he sent the check for \$3.33. I waited for your letter before answering him on the \$25.00. I'm asking for a complete refund today.

Sincerely  
Donald Milligan

DONALD MILLIGAN  
Route 2  
CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA

32-17

JULY 13, 1954

Dear Sir:

I sent the report on the "12 & 1851" and the "8A" along as proof, when I asked for my money back. I enclosed the reply I received.

I was never told that the bottom part of the stamp was missing and painted in. I was told it is #17 with a margin added to give it a better appearance. a check for \$3.33 was enclosed in the letter.

Sincerely  
Donald Milligan

32-17  
July 17, 1954.

Mr. Donald Milligan,  
Route 2,  
Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Dear Mr. Milligan:

I return the letter from Storch. This fellow is either a perfect fool or a crook. I suppose there is little difference, one is as bad as the other. The reason I put a question mark as to whether the copy was a stamp from which the cancelation had been cleaned or a damaged 12¢ 1857 perforated copy was because I did not take the time to put the copy under the ultra-violet lamp to find out. It made no difference - a damaged perferd unused copy has little if any more value than a cleaned perforated copy.

Do I understand by your letter that you paid this fellow \$25.00 for this stamp and he only refunded \$3.33 to you? I will find out if this man is a member of the American Stamp Dealers Association, and if he is I will bring charges against him. It is generally the case that these queer dealers do not belong to any philatelic organization because they are undesirable gyp artists.

Please keep me advised and be sure and demand a return of your money in full. If he refuses I will report him to the U. S. authorities for using the mail to defraud.

I have an excellent photograph of that stamp and can therefore easily prove it is a rank fake.

Sincerely yours,

July 17, 1954.

32-17

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

Dear Ezra:

Do you know anything about a man by the  
name of

Clarence L. Storch

36 Market St.

Tamaqua, Pa.

The louse recently sold a party the worst kind of a  
faked 12¢ 1851.

This town is where one Lambert W. Gerber  
operates from. How do you suppose that bird every  
got elected a member of the A.P.S. I notice there  
is another A.P.S. member there, viz., Robt. F. Miller.  
Do you know anything about him?

Regards.

Yours etc.,



32-17

July 26, 1954.

Mr. Donald Milligan,  
Route 2,  
Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Dear Mr. Milligan:

I requested a friend of mine to furnish me with a confidential report on Tamazua, Pa. I quote as follows from his reply:

"Your letter of the 17th. That is a mess out there in Tamazua, Pa. There may be some collectors out there I don't know, but it is a little bit of a hilly Pennsylvania mining town and I have a sneaking idea that Gerber has other dummy dealers out there, or names he uses as addresses, or something like that. I know there have been a lot of kicks about him to the APS but they continue to take his advertisements. The trouble is that the complaints these people get are sent to the Board of Vice-Presidents of the APS, and a new board takes over and nothing is done. I know that I protested a number of times. I could not claim damages myself so while I got letters back from the Board nothing was ever done." (unquote)

Sincerely yours,

July 28, 1954.

Mr. Donald Milligan,  
Route 2,  
Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Dear Mr. Milligan:

Thanks for a look at the letter from Storch. I believe you are lucky to obtain the refund.

I don't know anything about this man but I do know this - He sold you for \$25.00 an item which is absolutely worthless, a fraudulent and faked stamp. If he didn't know what he was selling he is just as guilty as if he had full knowledge. Ignorance of the law is no excuse when one is brought before a Court of Justice.

I am enclosing a copy of a letter I have today written to Mr. Peter Keller, President of the American Stamp Dealers Association. This organization of reputable dealers makes a real effort to keep the trade clean. Philately is a wonderful avocation and it is ashame it has to be cluttered up with a lot of crooks and thieves.

Sincer ly yours,

July 28, 1954.

Mr. Peter G. Keller,  
65 Nassau St.,  
New York 7, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Keller:

Will you please be so kind as to give me some confidential information regarding the following person -

CLARENCE L. STORCH

36 MARKET PLACE

TAMAQUA, PA.

Can you inform me if the A.S.D.A. has ever had any complaints against Storch? I realize that Tamaqua is the address of an unsavory chap who has quite a questionable reputation. I wonder if this fellow Storch is a stooge of the person I have in mind?

I note that Storch is not a member of the A.P.S. or the S.P.A. and naturally he would hardly be a member of the A.S.D.A.

His letter head states he is a "Philatelist." I wonder if he has any conception of the true meaning of that word.

I will appreciate any information that you can furnish me.

My kindest regards.

Sincerely yours,

DONALD MILLIGAN  
Route 2  
CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA

JULY 26, 1954

Dear Sir:

I received a \$25.00 refund, along with  
the enclosed letter.

Sincerely  
Donald Milligan

Aug.6, 1954.

Mr. Donald Milligan,  
Route 2,  
Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Dear Mr. Milligan:

Thanks very much for sending me this canceled check. I made a photograph of it, front and back.

Lambert W. Gerber has a very bad reputation and while this check does not prove Storch is connected with him, it does show that he has business dealings with him. As far as I am concerned I wouldn't trust that Gerber as far as I could toss a bull by the tail.

I wrote to the President of the American Stamp Dealers Association and inquired if Storch was a member. The reply was "no" and that in their files they had no complaints against him. The fellow may be just a darn fool but I doubt it and have reason to believe he is a "stooge" for Gerber.

I have a very close friend in Dubuque, Mr. Horace S. Poole. Have you ever heard of him? He is not a dealer but a private collector and a gentleman in every sense of that word. He is a leading authority on the postal history of your state. If you need any philatelic advice at any time I can refer you to Mr. Poole. I am sure he will be glad to give you any assistance possible. I have recommended you to him.

Sincerely yours,

**EZRA D. COLE**

*Rare Postage Stamps*

NYACK . NEW YORK

*Commissions . Appraisals*

TELEPHONE NYACK 7-0964

July 20th, 1954

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook,  
P. O. Box 13  
Fort Thomas, Kentucky.

Dear Stan:

The enclosed stamp was sold as 6R1L. It looks to me as if it might be 6R1E. Is it?

A  
Your letter of the 17th. That is a mess out there in Tamaqua, Pa. There may be some collectors out there I don't know, but it is a little bit of a hilly Pennsylvania mining town and I have a sneaking idea that Gerber has other dummy dealers out there, or names he uses as addresses, or something like that. I know there have been a lot of kicks about him to the APS but they continue to take his advertisements. The trouble is that the complaints these people get are sent to the Board of Vice-Presidents of the APS, and a new board takes over and nothing is done. I know that I protested a number of times. I could not claim damages myself so while I got letters back from the Board nothing was ever done.

Two pieces of news. Jarrett is really operating now. He is the guy who let Bob Siegel have that 12¢ thing. He now is trying to sell a counterfeit Millbury.

Also I have just seen for the first time a copy of the Talladega, Alabama postmaster provisional listed on page 107 of the Dietz catalogue. Not listed in Scott. It is supposed to be an envelope but all that I have ever seen or can get any record of are pieces of covers. It is a square blue stamp usually tied to a small piece of yellow envelope with a blue town postmark. I believe there are three copies known now. ALL THREE OF WHICH WERE FOUND IN, DISCOVERED AND CAME FROM ENGLAND. It ought to be deleted from the Dietz catalogue.

Sincerely,

  
Ezra D. Cole

EDC:mkl

# American Stamp Dealers' Association, Inc.

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OFFICE OF THE  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
PETER G. KELLER  
65 NASSAU STREET  
NEW YORK 38, N. Y.  
CORTLANDT 7-6432

GENERAL COUNSEL  
ROBERT L. GRAHAM, JR.

July 31, 1954.

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of July 28th making inquiry in regard to Clarence L. Storch, 36 Market Place, Tamaqua, Pa.

I wish to advise that Mr. Storch is not a member of the A.S.D.A. Have carefully checked our files but do not find that any complaint has been lodged against him. Have also quietly checked other sources of information available to me, but no one appears to have ever heard of this person.

With kindest personal regards, I am,

Sincerely yours,

  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

AMERICAN STAMP DEALERS' ASSOCIATION, INC.

AUG. 4, 1954.

MR. P. G. KILLER,  
65 NASSAU STREET,  
NEW YORK 38, N.Y.

DEAR MR. KELLER:

THANKS VERY MUCH FOR YOUR PROMPT  
AND KIND REPLY TO MINE OF RECENT DATE RELATIVE  
TO CLARENCE L. STORCH OF TAMAQUE, PA. THIS  
CHAP PULLED A VERY QUESTIONABLE STUNT RECENTLY  
AND I INTEND TO MAKE FURTHER INQUIRIES REGARD-  
ING HIM. IF I LEARN ANYTHING I WILL BE PLEASED  
TO ADVISE YOU.

WITH MY KINDEST REGARDS -

CORDIALLY YOURS,



*Postage Stamps for Collectors*

TELEPHONE  
LAKELAND 8-8331

EXPRESS OFFICE  
PEEKSKILL, N.Y.



32-17

Herman Herst, Jr.  
Shrub Oak, N.Y.

I received the photos from Dr. Polland, so if yours are the same there would be no purpose in sending them along. I have them on file.

I can't tell you a thing about Mr. Storch. However, this afternoon John Fox is coming up to see me, and I will find out whether he can contribute anything and if he can, I will either add a postscript or include a note from him. Of course, I know his townsman, but whether there is any connection between the two is something that I don't know. I do know that there are one or two other people though who act as a front for our mutual friend, and it is entirely possible that this may be yet another.

With all best wishes, I am,

*Pat*



A.P.S.

YOU HAVE A FRIEND IN THE BUSINESS

S.P.A.

Cratsenberg

with herewith.

By the way Pat, do you know anything about a chap by the name of Clarence L. Storch, address - 36 Market Place, Tamazua, Pa.? This clown terms himself as a "Philatelist." I suppose he means he is a stamp dealer. He has pulled a funny stunt recently and I am wondering if he is a stooge of Gerber. He is either a lousy crook or a perfect damn fool.

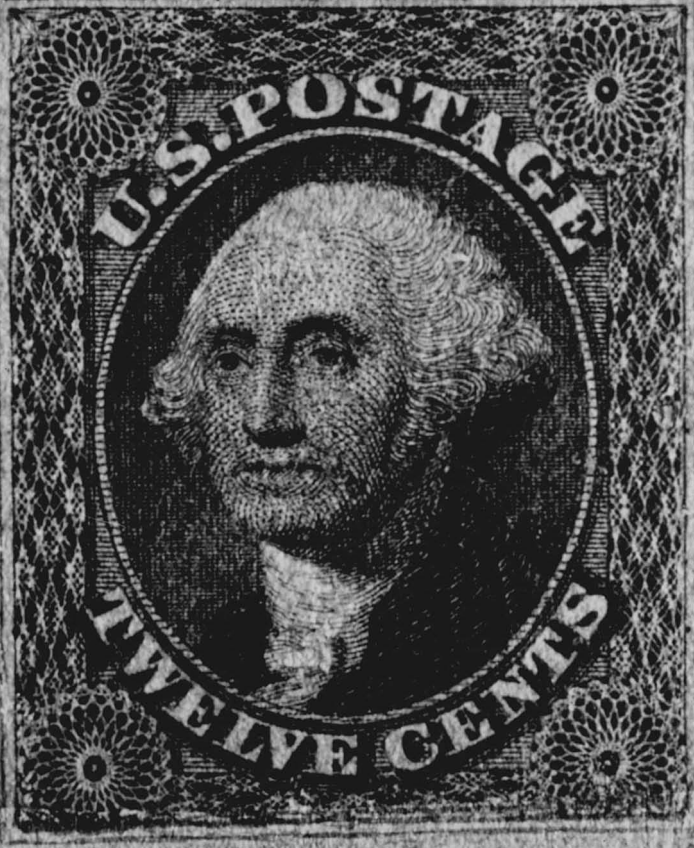
Regards.

Yours etc.,  
*Allen*

Rox could shed no light on above. Apparently you'd asked him too.

U.S. POSTAGE

TWELVE CENTS



B513

U.S. POSTAGE

TWELVE CENTS



B512

# EDGEWOOD STAMP COMPANY

Established 1900

MILFORD, CONNECTICUT

ROBERT C. HOOGHKIRK

June 22, 1954

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook;-

Enclosed is a cover we have had in stock for some little time. Will you please "read" it for us? I bought it for a "2" cancellation but it appears to be "12". Assuming that the numeral has no special reason on this particular cover will you please inform us why Philadelphia should have such a cancelling devise in its postoffice.

Thank you for your reply at your convenience.

Sincerely

*R. C. Hooghkirk.*

G

June 27, 1954.

Mr. R. C. Hooghkirk,  
% Edgewood Stamp Co.,  
Milford, Conn.

Dear Mr. Hooghkirk:

Herewith the 5¢ 1847 cover as per yours of the 22nd. You are quite correct, the blue cancelation on the stamp is an encircled "12." This was a "rate" stamp that was used on stampless mail, for example, incoming "ship letters" addressed to points beyond Philadelphia, and over 300 miles, requiring the "Ship Rate" of 10¢ postage plus 2¢ Ship Fee. In the case of your cover, it was used merely as a cancelation, and had no other significance. Many post offices used their rate stampers as canceling devices and the Philadelphia Office used several or more at times.

Last year a friend of mine sent me a single off cover 5¢ 1847 with this same marking in blue and inquired the meaning and where used. It might be possible that he would be interested in acquiring your cover in case you care to sell it. If you care to price it net to me, return it and I will submit it to him.

My fee for the above is \$1.50 which includes return registered postage.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

PAID  
JUL - 3 1954



July 26, 1954.

32-18

Mr. R. C. Hooghkirk,

Box 510

Milford, Conn.

Dear Mr. Hooghkirk:

I am terribly sorry but my friend returned the 5¢ 1847 cover to me stating that the "condition" was not fine enough for his collection. I am returning the cover herewith together with the others that you submitted.

Cordially yours,

32-18

July 26, 1954.

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

Dear Mr. Guenther:

Thanks for yours of the 20th with the return of the 5¢ 1847 cover. I realize it was not fine condition but I thought it best to let you have a look as you might have desired it regardless. I imagine this rate marking on a stamp on cover is rather scarce.

Thanks very much for referring me to Mr. Colely Wilson. I will write him and if anything develops I will advise you.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

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

June 17<sup>th</sup> 1954.

Dear Sir:

Please forward amount you charge  
to register 2 stamps: 10¢ 1847 unused and  
90¢ 1869 " .

Amount you charge + postage for registered  
return will reach you as soon I hear  
from you. Air postage for reply enclosed.

Cordially yours  
F. W. Bohle



June 21, 1954.

Mr. F. W. Bohle,  
5487 Kales Ave.,  
Oakland 18, Calif.

Dear Mr. Bohle:

Replying to yours of the 17th, I judge you wish to know if your 10¢ 1847 and 90¢ 1869 are actually unused specimens or canceled copies that have been cleaned. If so, I do not submit a mere opinion, as it is generally given after a visual examination by an ultra-violet light but rather an actual enlarged photograph by such a process. I charge \$4.00 per stamp for such an examination including a photo print.

Thanking you for your inquiry, I am

Very truly yours,

F. W. BOHLE  
ENGRAVER AND DIE SINKER  
5487 KALES AVE.  
OAKLAND, CALIF.  
PHONE: PIEDMONT 2145 J

June 24 - 1954.

Mr Stanley B. Ashbrook  
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Enclosed you'll find P. M. Order  
for \$10<sup>00</sup> covering your charges for manipulation of the two  
stamps and returning same again by registered mail.

Your knowledge of stamps and your report will mean  
much to me; have collected for over 50 years, but it seems  
I do not buy wisely! Did you see the wonderful copy  
of the unused 10¢ 1847 - Ex. F. collection - ret. value \$450<sup>00</sup> -  
which sold for 200<sup>00</sup> (Stolow sale April 22<sup>nd</sup> - 54.

Cordially yours F. W. Bohle

Please return for full est. value.  
if short on postage, amount will  
mark you on cover & then from you!

June 27, 1954.

Mr. F. W. Bohle,  
5487 Kales Ave.,  
Oakland 18, Calif.

Dear Mr. Bohle:

Herewith the 10¢ 1847 and the 90¢ 1869 as per yours of the 24th.

First - Regarding the 90¢ 1869. I made a very careful and thorough examination of this stamp and in my opinion it is genuine in every respect. It is an unused o.g. copy of S.U.S. #122. The paper is genuine, the gum is genuine, the grill is genuine and I failed to find any defects. My fee for this examination is \$3.00.

Second - Regarding the 10¢ 1847. This is not an unused o.g. copy but rather a cleaned pencancelled copy - Naturally the gum on the back is fraudulent. In addition this stamp has been very skillfully repaired. For some reason or other the bottom part of the design has been re-drawn; whether this indicates that the sheet margin at the bottom has been added including a part of the stamp I am not quite sure. I did not think it necessary to decide definitely inasmuch as the stamp is not as represented - viz - unused o.g. In addition to the above repair work was done to other parts of the design, as for example, to a spot in the center part of the lower lip and quite a section including the top of the left center foliate ornament. The faker was a bit clumsy in his repair work of the entire bottom of the design. Note the bottom line under "R.W.H. & E." and the poor work of the bottom line under the "W" of the above initials. My fee on this stamp is \$4.00.

Inasmuch as my fees include return postage, I am pleased to hand you my check for \$3.00, as your remittance was \$10.00, for which please accept my thanks.

Sincerely yours,

Mr F. N. Bohle  
5487 Kales Ave  
Oakland (18) Calif

Engraved  
DO NOT MAKE ENVELOPE

Dear Mr Bohle

Here unto the 10¢ 1847  
and the 90¢ 1869 as per yours of  
the 24<sup>th</sup>.

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a very careful <sup>And Thorough</sup> examination of  
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"R. W. H. & E" and the poor  
work of the bottom line under  
the "W" of the above initials.



My fee on this stamp is \$4<sup>00</sup>.

Inasmuch as my fees include return postage I am pleased to hand you my check for \$3<sup>00</sup>., as your remittance was \$10<sup>00</sup> for which please accept my thanks

Sincerely yours

June 27, 1954.

Mr. F. W. Bohle,  
5487 Kales Ave.,  
Oakland 18, Calif.

Dear Mr. Bohle:

This letter is strictly confidential and I request that you treat it as such.

Further regarding the enclosed 10¢ 1847. It is my guess that you obtained the stamp from Philip H. Ward, Jr. of Philadelphia.

I often wonder what becomes of the fraudulent covers and faked and repaired stamps that I advise friends of mine to turn back to dealers. As far as Ward is concerned, I never have to do much guessing because I have an idea Philip puts them right back in circulation.

Last October quite a wealthy collector down East sent me his 10¢ 1847 copies to have them plated. As I recall there were something like 150 to 175 copies and among them were perhaps three or four "unused" copies. I believe all turned out to be cleaned and gummed. However, among the lot was the 10¢ stamp enclosed herewith and which I plated as 14R1. This was last October and at the time I made two photographs, prints of which I enclose in envelope "A" and which you may retain. I labeled the small photo as a cleaned copy so that the print, in the future, would not be mistaken for an unused copy. The large photograph was made by ultra-violet ray and shows the horizontal removed pen lines across the center of the stamp, also the repair at bottom, the repair to the lower lip and the repair to the trifoliate at left center. I furnished a print like this to my friend last October and presumably he showed it to Ward when he returned the stamp and demanded a return of his purchase price. Am I assuming too much and doing Ward an injustice, in accusing him of selling you this stamp as a perfectly sound and genuine unused o.g. copy when he was well aware of its real nature?

In envelope "B" are two small photographs of the 10¢ 1847, position 14R1, also a large photo of the same position. I am sending these to you so that you can compare them with the Ward stamp, and the repair work on the latter across the bottom. Will you please return these.

Sincerely yours,

Mr F. W. Bohle  
5487 Kales Ave  
Oakland (18) Calif

Engraved

DO NOT MAKE ENVELOPE

Dear Mr Bohle

This letter is strictly  
Confidential and I request that  
you treat it as such.

Further regarding the enclosed  
10¢ 1847. It is my guess  
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photograph was made by

Ultru Violet Ray and shows the  
horizontal removed pen lines  
across the center of the  
stamp also the repair at  
bottom, the repair to the  
lower lip and the repair to  
the trifoliate at left  
center. I furnish a print  
~~of~~ like this to ~~the~~ my  
friend last October and  
presumably he showed it  
to Ward when he returned  
the stamp and demanded a  
return of his purchase  
price. Am I assuming too  
much and doing Ward an  
injustice, in accusing him  
of selling you this stamp as  
a perfectly sound and  
genuine unused O.G. Copy  
when he was well

aware of ~~the fa~~ its real  
Nature?

In envelope "B" ~~are~~ <sup>are</sup> Two  
~~the~~ small photographs of the  
~~at~~ 104 1847, position 14 R1,  
also a larger photo of  
the same position. I am  
sending these to you so  
that you can compare  
them with the Grand  
Stamp, and the repair  
word on the latter across  
the bottom. ~~There also~~  
~~sent you my plate~~  
~~sent of it to you my~~  
~~plate.~~ Will you please  
return these.

Sincerely yours

F. W. BOHLE  
ENGRAVER AND DIE SINKER  
5487 KALES AVE.  
OAKLAND, CALIF.  
PHONE: PIEDMONT 2145 J

Oakland, June 30<sup>th</sup> 1954

Mr Stanley B. Ashbrook  
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Mr Ashbrook:

Just received your report  
in the two stamps - giving me a wonderful explanation  
of the 10¢ 1847, for which I paid \$250<sup>00</sup> to Ward Jr.

This hurts me very much - am now past 75 years  
and my income is rather meagre, (Soc. Security pays  
me 47<sup>00</sup> per month only)

But - I am glad I found you showing me "what  
is what!")

You caused your worry and whatever the outcome  
will be I shall now be grateful to you!

Of course I shall treat your information  
strictly confidential!

Always wanted a Mint or unused 10 cent 1847  
and wrote to Ward - result: I squalled him & sinker!

Would you be so kind and set up a letter for  
Ward Jr. You can do it better in your own words  
than I can, besides it may help to get some of  
my money back - (under no circumstances do I care  
to keep the stamp. Please accept the \$3<sup>00</sup> for your  
trouble writing the letter! Sincerely yours

"42 cents you paid returning the stamps  
I herewith return!"

F. W. Bohle

Please return one or two  
photos which I can mail  
ward with your letter in  
next mail!

Thank you!

F. W. Dohle



July 2, 1954.

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

Dear Mr. Ward:

Referring to the 10¢ 1847 which I purchased from you last April. I am returning the stamp herewith together with a letter from Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook, together with a photograph which he made of the stamp. May I respectfully request that you send me your check for \$250.00 and return to me Mr. Ashbrook's letter and photograph.

Very truly yours,

Signed

F.W. Bohle

July 3, 1954.

Mr. F. W. Bohle,  
5489 Kales Ave.,  
Oakland 18, Cal.

Dear Mr. Bohle:

Herewith the 10¢ 1847 which you submitted to me for examination. I beg to report that this is not a mint copy but rather a pencanceled and cleaned copy with fraudulent gum. Further this copy has been repaired in various parts, as for example, the bottom has been added and the bottom part of the design redrawn. This stamp is plate position L4R1 and the bottom of this design is entirely different from a genuine L4R1. I merely mention this to prove the repair work should anyone question my statement.

I enclose herewith a photograph which I made of this stamp by ultra-violet ray which shows very plainly the pencancels and the repair work at bottom, on the lower lip, over the tri-foliate at left as well as other minor parts of the design.

Sincerely yours,

July 3, 1954.

Mr. F. W. Bohle,  
5487 Kales Ave.,  
Oakland 18, Calif.

Dear Mr. Bohle:

Thanks very much for yours of the 30th. I was greatly pleased to see Ward's letter. Herewith I am sending you a letter regarding the 10¢ '47 which you can send to Ward together with my photograph. I enclose a form of letter which I suggest that you write him.

I have reported this matter to my good friend Mr. R., to whom Ward sold this same copy and to whom He evidently made a refund last fall. I have requested him to furnish me with full details. I believe there is a clear enough case here to warrant the American Philatelic Society in expelling Ward. He has been on the verge of expulsion on several occasions in the past. You need have no fear that you will obtain a return of your money. I will most assuredly see to that. As soon as I hear from R. I will advise you.

Please advise me promptly as to Ward's reply.

May I thank you very kindly for the return of my check.

Sincerely yours,

P.S.—The following is just my personal opinion gained thru many years of philatelic experience. You see I am only three years your junior. Here is what I have in mind. One should not collect 19th Century unused, much less mint. It is so easy, so very easy, for the crooks to remove, in so many cases, cancelations, without any trace and macilage is so cheap at any corner drug store.

S.B.A.

F. W. BOHLE  
ENGRAVER AND DIE SINKER  
5487 KALES AVE.  
OAKLAND, CALIF.  
PHONE: PIEDMONT 2145 J

32-19

July 8<sup>th</sup> 1954.

Mr Stanley P. Ashbrook  
Ft. Thomas, Ky.

Dear Mr Ashbrook:

Yours of July 2<sup>nd</sup> was received  
July the 4<sup>th</sup>, some speed & many thanks to you!

Mailed my letter to Ward July 6<sup>th</sup> and am  
anxious to know what he will reply!

Your note was short, but to the point, much to  
my liking!

Do you think you can help me finding  
a 10¢ 1847 in unused, but fine condition?

Stamp must have your full approval and I  
expect to pay the usual commission.

You'll hear from me as soon I hear from Ward!  
Note you paid 26 cents forwarding last letter,  
amount is herewith enclosed.

Sincerely yours  
F. W. Bohle

32 - 19

July 13, 1954.

Mr. F. W. Bohle,  
5487 Kales Avenue,  
Oakland 18, Calif.

Dear Mr. Bohle:

I am in receipt of yours of the 8th. Since my last letter I have been gathering some further evidence in the case against Ward. I have consulted several prominent collectors and dealers, giving them the facts in the case, but no mention of the names of the parties involved. All agree with me that this is a very serious offense and demands some action. I am wondering if you would be willing to prefer charges against Ward with the Board of the American Philatelic Society with a request for his expulsion from membership - Also prefer charges against him with the D.S.A. This is the dealer's association. This isn't the first time that Ward has pulled this sort of thing as he came near being expelled from the A.P.S. on a former occasion. Perhaps an example should be made so that other crooks will hesitate before they pull a stunt like this. Please advise me as soon as you receive a refund of your \$250.00, also please let me see Ward's letter.

I really do not know where I could obtain for you a fine unused copy of the 10¢ 1847. And even if I could locate one and it showed no trace of a cancel removal I would still hesitate to authenticate it as an unused copy. The reason is this - The European criminals who make a business of faking philatelic material have all the scientific gadgets of the present time to aid them in their work. I am told that the most scientific among them can remove cancelations without leaving a trace, because they work under an ultra-violet lamp. It is rather easy for even the ordinary criminal working in this way to remove a cancelation from a stamp printed in black, so it is easy to imagine what the real faker can accomplish. Personally I would not collect unused early U. S., because work turned out by the scientific crook defies detection so far as I am aware.

My kindest regards.

Sincerely yours,

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

July 3, 1954.

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

Dear John:

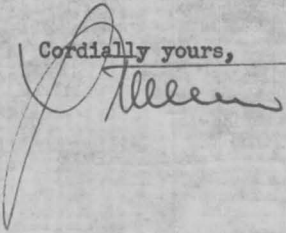
Re - my current Service Issue. Perhaps you haven't had time to read it but please turn to page 307 and read my remarks re - the Eastern dealer "Mr. X" and my account that he knowingly sold a pencanceled cleaned copy, also repaired, fake gum, etc., to a client as a "rare mint copy" of the 10¢ '47. I stated above, "KNOWINGLY" - In other words, "Mr. X" cannot come up with the usual excuse that he didn't know the stamp was not a mint copy.

How about a lousy crook like this? What do you think? Don't you think he should be expelled from the A.S.D.A as well as the A.P.S.?

Will you give me your frank and candid opinion - please. Am I all wrong and should a bird like this be commended and given a medal for his shrewdness? What do you think?

Regards.

Cordially yours,



JOHN A. FOX

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

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

July 8, 1954

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

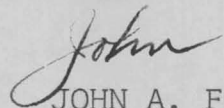
Dear Stan:

Thank you for your letter of July 3rd. I did read your current Service Issue and wondered who the Dealer might be. You say he KNOWINGLY sold a pen cancelled cleaned copy, also repaired, fake gum, etc. If this is true and he is a member of the A.S.D.A. the thing to do would be to have a complaint filed with Peter G. Keller at 65 Nassau Street. We, of course, cannot act without a formal complaint being lodged against the man and I need not tell you how I feel about practices of this sort. As you very well know, I spend a great deal of time trying to sell material that I will have to eat later on, even though I would not do it knowingly. Therefore, of course, we cannot condone any action where a man would knowingly sell a fake. I think we both agree that if fake material is allowed to be disposed of, without any action being taken against the culprit, the stamp business will soon be in a sorry way and our fine items, for which we pay top prices, may very well go begging!

I, again, want to thank you for letting me have your opinion on the 1869 cover. Some time I will give you the details on where I acquired it. In the meantime, I want to do a little bit of detective work myself. However, I am out \$135 I paid for this cover.

Trusting that all is well with Mildred and yourself. With kind personal regards from Virginia and me.

Sincerely,



JOHN A. FOX

JAF:ew

P.S. Let me know more details on the above, and send me a carbon copy if the complaint is lodged with Keller.



Buy at the Sign of the Triangle

July 2, 1954.

Mr. Philip G. Rust,  
R. R. 1,  
Wilmington, Delaware.

Dear Mr. Rust:

When I deposited your recent check of \$65.00 today my bank called attention to the fact that you had made out the check for "\$65.00" but had written it out as "Six hundred and fifty dollars." I authorized the teller to make the change to "Sixty-five 00/100 dollars." I mention this just so you will know what happened.

Re -- my July 1st Service Issue. Did you notice my reference to the cleaned 10¢ 1847 - position 14RL. Can you give me the details regarding your return of this copy to Ward. Did you inform him that it was a cleaned copy. I would greatly appreciate a look at his letter in which he made the refund to you. All the details you can give me will be very welcome.

With regards -

Cordially yours,



Mr. L. G. BROOKMAN  
121 LOEB ARCADE  
MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

POST CARD

JUL -1 1954

Dear Les

In my July 1<sup>st</sup> Service  
Issue I referred to Mr X  
and pay cleaned 10¢,  
1847. I am wondering if  
you guessed the identity  
of Mr X. I am  
wondering what you  
thought of my reference to  
the 10¢ 1855 Brown S.T.?

Paul's far yours  
with check far the slide  
yours etc

Lot 270 - 30¢ 1869 Invert .....	\$4250.00
" 285 - 30¢ 1869 used block of six .....	\$ 87.50
" 286 - 30¢ 1869 cover - a fake - see Photo 161 in this Service Issue .....	\$ 230.00
" 292 - 90¢ 1869 Block of 4 - unused .....	\$1600.00

(END OF ISSUE NO. 40)

July 1, 1954

FOURTH SERIES 1954-1955

A SPECIALIZED COLLECTION OF THE  
NEW YORK OCEAN MAIL MARKING.

Mr. Edgar B. Jessup of Oakland, Calif. has gathered together what is undoubtedly the most comprehensive and nearly complete specialized collection of this interesting postal marking in existence. It includes specimens of most all the values current during its period of use, imperforate and perforate, many different types of the 1¢, 3¢, 5¢ and 10¢ 1851-1855-1857-1860, and stamped envelopes, etc., etc. Also a wide variety of covers showing a great many very unusual uses. Incidentally only one stamp of the 1861 issue is known with the "Ocean Mail" and this happens to be a block of four of the 5¢ Buff of 1861. Imagine a used block of four of this semi-scarce stamp and to have it canceled with the Ocean Mail!! I never even heard of a single. \* This is one of the gems of the Jessup Specialized Collection.

THE OCEAN MAIL MARKING - SOME UP TO DATE DATA

The earliest use I have recorded is a cover with a single 3¢ 1851 used to Philadelphia on Feb. 25, 1854. I have a record of another 3¢ 1851 cover used to Washington on the same date, also another 3¢ 1851 cover used to New Haven on the same date, also a 3¢ 1851 cover to Boston on same date, all five covers used on Feb. 25, 1854, and not a single record of an earlier use. Incidentally Feb. 25th fell on a Saturday in 1854. The earliest known use of the marking on a cover via the Ocean Mail to California is March 6, 1854 and is a cover in the Jessup Collection by two strikes of the marking and dated "Mar 6" (1854). It is addressed to "Sacramento City, Cal."

SAILINGS/TWICE A MONTH  
ON THE 5TH-ON THE 20TH

In 1854, the mail steamships departed from New York, for Chagres, Panama, on the 5th and 20th of each month, provided those dates did not fall on Sunday. When this happened the sailing was delayed a day, or to the 6th or 21st. In 1854, March 5th fell on a Sunday, hence the departure date of "Mar 6." This is quite an interesting point because where a cover from New York to California shows no evidence of year use, the year can be identified if the "Ocean Mail" postmark has a day date of the 6th or 21st.

June 27, 1954.

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

Dear Ezra:

I note that you left for Vermont last Thursday and will be away until after the Fourth.

Clarence returned the fake 30¢ 1869 and if I still have it after you return I will send it down to you. Clarence agreed with me that the blue design is genuine. At first I was a bit doubtful. So we are in agreement. The removed pen marks also indicate that this was a pencanceled copy from which some "artist" removed the red design and printed in his fake die. I don't understand how one of the fakers could do such a thing but they must be expert chemists and know how. I do know that they can remove a cancellation from a 5¢ buff (1861) and apparently never leave a trace, so I suppose they have a way of removing the red design from a 30¢ 1869. Brazer suggested that we keep our eyes open for a fake 30¢ 1869 invert, however, I'll bet the faker didn't use this experimental die if he made one (or more). He would make an exact imitation in my opinion. It is strange that he put this thing in circulation but it is well that he did as he has at least put us on our guard.

The following is strictly confidential. Last fall, my friend Rust, sent me some 10¢ 1847 to plate, and in the lot were some "unused o.g. copies" which he had purchased from Phil Ward. I photographed them by ultra-violet and pencancels came out plain on each one. I sent Rust prints and advised him to make Ward refund the purchase prices. This he did. I could tell you what a louse he thinks Ward is, but I will leave that to your imagination.

This past week, a friend who collects only unused 19th Century, sent me an unused o.g. 10¢ 1847 for me to authenticate. It was one of the Ward copies. Ward knew darn well the copy was a pencanceled and repaired and with fake gum, yet he sold it to my friend as a superb unused o.g. 10¢ 1847. Of course, this sort of stuff on the part of Phil will be no surprise to you. What a damn unscrupulous louse he is.

I note your remarks on the Sperati publication and wish you luck.

An ordinary business man with not a great amount of intelligence would not think of buying a piece of real estate without having the title examined, but very shrewd business men will pay big prices for stamps and covers and refuse to pay fees to have them authenticated by competent authorities. They think they are smart enough to detect the good from the bad. This is the reason we have fellows like Ward, who has made a fortune, and many, many others - as well as the Sperati's and the Zareski's. Some people complain that I howl too much about the faking and the crooks in philately and it will hurt and scare collectors away thru sheer disgust. Well, if philately is to be badly damaged it is better that I do it rather than a Zareski or a Sperati.

I hope you had a nice little vacation. Where does David intend to spend

#2. Mr. Ezra D. Cole - June 27, 1954.

the summer? Did he go up to Vermont with you? A very fine chap in every way.

Best regards.

Cordially yours,

July 12<sup>th</sup> 1954.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Enclosed note from  
Ward's Secretary was received today -

What to do now is the question!

Guess I'll have to wait thirty  
days before I can write again!

Please advise!

F. W. P.

32-19

July 18, 1954.

32-19

Mr. F. W. Bohle,  
5487 Kales Avenue,  
Oakland 18, Calif.

Dear Mr. Bohle:

I understand that Ward has really been ill but has recovered and is now back at his office. I feel sure that you will have a prompt reply from him and I feel sure that he will refund the purchase price to you. He better, or there will be some real trouble.

Sincerely yours,

32-19

Mr Stanley B. Ashbrooke  
Fort Thomas, Ky.

July 22<sup>nd</sup> 1954

Dear Mr. Ashbrooke:

Thank you very much  
for your kind letter of July 13<sup>th</sup> re. Ward Jr.  
I fully agree with all contents in  
your letter, however I'll have to wait  
until I hear from Ward Jr.

Noticed he has an ad in last issue  
of Stamps, evidently he is back in his  
office!

Will advise you as soon  
I hear from him!

Cordially yours  
F. W. Dohle

Last issue of Stamps  
July 17<sup>th</sup> 1954.



F. W. BOHLE

5487 KALES AVENUE

OAKLAND 18, CALIF.

POST CARD

POST CARD

32-19

Dear Mr Bohle  
yours of the 22<sup>nd</sup>  
received. Thanks for  
keeping me advised. I  
am sure you will  
hear from John in the  
next few days. He could  
not afford to make  
refund. Sincerely yours

32-19

Aug. 8<sup>th</sup> 1954

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Enclosed letter from Jr. came yesterday. Seems enough I'll have no more dealings with him! He did not return the photograph & letter as requested!

If you can furnish me another photo. same as I sent Ward, please do so, P. M. Order will reach you by return mail.

Again my many thanks for your help in the matter.  
Sincerely yours F. W. Drake

Aug. 10, 1954.

Mr. F. W. Bohle,  
5487 Kales Avenue,  
Oakland 18, Calif.

Dear Mr. Bohle:

I was just about to write to you and inquire if you had heard from Ward when yours of the 8th arrived. I am returning his letter herewith and my advice to you is to write him at once and demand that he return the photograph and letter. Herewith I am sending you another print and of course there is no charge.

His letter is very amusing. The photograph don't lie, it shows pen marks, not a crease or "something else." His letter reminds me of a thief who was caught red-handed with his hand in a victim's pocket. He had to give some excuse so he swore he thought he had his hand in his own pocket. Ward is no dumb cluck, he knows full well that the photograph tells the whole truth. He also knows full well that quill pens were less apt to leave a scratch than a steel pen.

Please keep me advised whether he returns the letter and photograph, and please bear in mind that you don't owe me a cent.

My kindest regards.

Cordially yours,

Aug. 17<sup>th</sup> 1954.

Mr Stanley R. Ashbrook  
P. O. Box 31  
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Mr Ashbrook:

Many thanks for  
your fine letter and photograph.

Please accept enclosed for your trouble  
in making another print!

Will let you know if I hear from W.  
Copy of letter I sent W. enclosed.  
Just destroy!

Sincerely yours  
F. W. Pohlman

Copy  
Ward Jr.  
Philada. Pa.

Aug. 16<sup>th</sup> 54.

Your letter of Aug. 3<sup>rd</sup> 54,  
inclosing check for \$250<sup>00</sup> was  
duely received, however you failed  
to return Mr Ashbrooks' letter and  
the photograph as requested in  
my letter of July 2<sup>nd</sup> 1954.

Postage for the return of both  
items I herewith enclose.

Yours very truly

Air-mail.



**BOARD OF VICE-PRESIDENTS**

COL. GUY W. ADE, RECORDER

2324 - 23RD ST. A

MOLINE - ILLINOIS

32-19



**AMERICAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY**  
INCORPORATED

BOARD OF VICE-PRESIDENTS

REFER TO FILE \_\_\_\_\_

CHAS. C. CRATSENBERG, CHAIRMAN  
2322 - 7TH ST., MOLINE, ILL.

COL. GUY W. ADE, RECORDER  
2324 - 23RD ST. A, MOLINE, ILL.

ALLEN SEIFFERT  
2802 MIDDLE ROAD, DAVENPORT, IOWA

Moline, Ill.  
August 14, 1954

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Your letter of August 8th addressed to Mr. C. C. Cratsenberg was read at our last meeting also your article on "Where Do Elephants Go to Die."

If you can furnish enough conclusive evidence of actions unbecoming a member of the A.P.S. the Board is ready and willing to take the necessary action against this member in question. Names and facts are all that will be required and then the Board takes over from there.

Hoping to receive an early reply, I am,

Sincerely,

Board of Vice-Presidents,

*Guy W. Ade*  
Guy W. Ade,  
Recorder

GWA:sa



Aug. 20, 1954.

Col. Guy W. Ade,  
2324 - 23rd St. A,  
Moline, Ill.

Dear Colonel Ade:

Thanks very much for your kind  
letter of the 14th.

If the collector who purchased  
the repaired 10¢ 1847 from Mr. X will  
consent for me to present all the facts to  
the A.P.S. Board I will be very happy to  
do so and will advise you accordingly.

Sincerely yours,

32-19

Aug. 21, 1954.

Mr. F. W. Bohle,  
5487 Kales Ave.,  
Oakland 18, Calif.

Dear Mr. Bohle:

Thanks very much for yours of the 17th with enclosure. I will be anxious to learn if Ward returns the photo print to you. If you do not hear from him in a reasonable time, then write him again and politely inform him that the photo print is yours and that if he does not return it to you, you will be compelled to report same to the Board of the American Philatelic Society. He will not return it if he can avoid doing so.

Will you be willing to lay this whole transaction before the Board? I think he should be expelled from the Society.

My kindest regards.

Sincerely yours,

Aug. 28 - 1954

My dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Excuse pencil, am  
in a rush to get contracts to you:

Read all and destroy:

Note from W. is very short - but more  
than satisfactory to me!

I have destroyed all correspondence  
which I received from W. while dealing  
with him, and wish to forget his name!

You are right when you state  
he should be expelled from the Society -  
but what would I gain, only more  
trouble to lay this whole transaction  
before the Board.

With kindest regards

Sincerely yours,

F. W. Doole

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK

A. P. S. 2497

33 N. FT. THOMAS AVE.

FT. THOMAS, KY.

July 3, 1954.

Mr. F. W. Bohle,  
5487 Kales Ave.,  
Oakland 18, Cal.

Dear Mr. Bohle:

Herewith the 10¢ 1847 which you submitted to me for examination. I beg to report that this is not a mint copy but rather a pencanceled and cleaned copy with fraudulent gum. Further this copy has been repaired in various parts, as for example, the bottom has been added and the bottom part of the design redrawn. This stamp is plate position 14R1 and the bottom of this design is entirely different from a genuine 14R1. I merely mention this to prove the repair work should anyone question my statement.

I enclose herewith a photograph which I made of this stamp by ultra-violet ray which shows very plainly the pencancels and the repair work at bottom, on the lower lip, over the tri-foliolate at left as well as other minor parts of the design.

Sincerely yours,

*Allen Ashbrook*

*Please destroy!  
all contents noted!  
F. W. Bohle*

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

August 20, 1954

Mr. F. W. Bohle  
5487 Kales Avenue  
Oakland 18, California

Dear Mr. Bohle:

I regret exceedingly-  
ly that I overlooked returning the  
Ashbrook photograph and letter, which  
you will find herewith.

Sincerely yours,

*Philip H. Ward, Jr.*  
PHILIP H. WARD, JR.

enc.

*Please destroy!*

3

32-19

Sept. 2, 1954.

Mr. F. W. Bohle,  
5487 Kales Ave.,  
Oakland 18, Calif.

Dear Mr. Bohle:

Just a line to acknowledge yours of the 28th.

I agree that it would only be a source of trouble to have the man expelled from the A.P.S. A lot of bother, etc., etc. And I doubt if it would accomplish any worth while results. He would still be just as dishonest in his dealings.

If I can ever be of any assistance don't hesitate to write.

My kindest regards.

Cordially yours,

Dec. 28, 1954.

Mr. F. W. Bohle,  
5487 Kales Ave.,  
Oakland 18, Calif.

Dear Mr. Bohle:

Yours of the 22nd with the 90¢ 1869 arrived yesterday. This is certainly the same item that you sent me last summer as I made a photograph of it at that time. It sure does appear that my opinion was in error, however, more on this later as I want to send the item to a friend down East. The only excuse that I can offer is that perhaps I was not careful enough in my examination.

I am indeed sorry about your experience with the Stolow firm, but I suppose there is nothing much that you can do about it. Had your material been submitted to a firm of high repute such as H. R. Harmer or Harmer Rooke & Co. or Dan'l Kelleher and you had had much the same experience then it would have been my guess that perhaps the condition of your items did not warrant higher sales prices. In the case of Stolow, I wonder?

I am returning the Stolow memo herewith and later I will return the 90¢ 1869.

Wishing you a VERY HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR

Cordially yours,

*See.  
Slide  
A1-12*

Dec. 22<sup>th</sup> 1954.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Just a few lines to thank you for your welcome letter of Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> 54. Have not been up to 100%, otherwise would have written sooner.

At last I received a check from Stolow amounting to 401.60; sale took place November 4<sup>th</sup> 54 - in my opinion very slow pay!

Like yourself I know little of Foreign stamps, U. S. always was my field; however I took an interest in the old triangular stamps of Cape of Good Hope and the early "Free Cities" of Hamburg, Bremen, Lubeck and Rugedorf!

Now I buy whatever I take a fancy to it; yet I believe I shall never find an unused 10¢ 1847 - Not a "dread copy" "a la Ward Jr.!"

Also received a letter from Philatelic Foundation advising me they



#2

wish to hold over balance of stamps  
"for further study" at the next meeting  
Jan. 3<sup>rd</sup> 1955.

Consider action slow as I sent my  
stamps Oct. 6<sup>th</sup> 1954. -

They returned the enclosed  
90¢ stamp - stating it is a fine "faki"  
"fraudulent gum, grill" and a ~~fine~~ proof.

This is the stamp which you examined  
last June 27<sup>th</sup> 54. and you wrote as follows:

"I have made a very careful and thorough  
examination of the stamp and in my  
opinion it is genuine in every respect.

The paper, gum & grill is genuine  
and I failed to find any defects!"

We all can make mistakes -  
guess we have to give Stolow and the  
Foundation credit on their findings!

I for one can take it with a smile  
costing me \$150.00 several years ago.

If you care to keep the stamp  
for further reference do so; I have  
no use for it and do not want to see it  
anymore!

3  
Please return enclosed statement  
from Nov. 4<sup>th</sup> sale.

Again my thanks for last letter!  
Hoping you are well, I wish you  
and your family a merry Xmas  
and a prosperous New Year!

Sincerely yours  
F. W. Bohler

P. S.

Very cold up here -  
but we now see snow!

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

April 14, 1954

Mr. F. W. Bohle  
5487 Kales Avenue  
Oakland 18, California

Dear Mr. Bohle:

It is indeed a pleasure to hear from you again for it has been many months since you last wrote.

Mint copies of the 10¢ 1847 are very scarce and I am fortunate in being able to send you two copies herewith. As you are possibly aware, two or three years back when the Scott Company priced gummed copies of these early stamps in their Specialized edition, the 10¢ was listed at \$500. These stamps generally come without gum, which means that they were possibly used but not cancelled, hence were soaked off the envelope. Copies with original gum are really rare.

I enclose herewith two very fine copies available at \$250 each; total enclosure \$500. I sincerely trust one of these may please you. I may have in stock a further copy with the frame line touched on one side or without gum that could be sold at much less but I know you want fine specimens, hence am submitting the two best available. Awaiting your valued reply,

Sincerely yours,



PHILIP H. WARD, JR.

July 2, 1954.

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

Dear Mr. Ward:

Referring to the 10¢ 1847 which I purchased from you last April, I am returning the stamp herewith together with a letter from Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook, together with a photograph which he made of the stamp. May I respectfully request that you send me your check for \$250.00 and return to me Mr. Ashbrook's letter and photograph.

Very truly yours,

74-17

Film  
# 74- 17  
20'8 - 4/30

July 2, 1954.

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

Dear Mr. Ward:

Referring to the 10¢ 1847 which I purchased from you last April. I am returning the stamp herewith together with a letter from Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook, together with a photograph which he made of the stamp. May I respectfully request that you send me your check for \$250.00 and return to me Mr. Ashbrook's letter and photograph.

Very truly yours,

RECORDED  
INDEXED  
CORRESPONDENCE  
DIVISION

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK

A. P. S. 2497

33 N. FT. THOMAS AVE.

FT. THOMAS, KY.

July 3, 1954.

Mr. F. W. Bohle,  
5487 Kales Ave.,  
Oakland 18, Calif.

Dear Mr. Bohle:

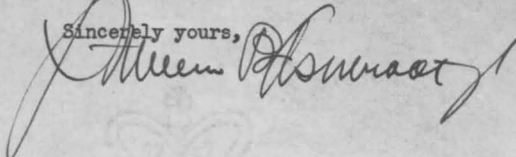
Thanks very much for yours of the 30th. I was greatly pleased to see Ward's letter. Herewith I am sending you a letter regarding the 10¢ '47 which you can send to Ward together with my photograph. I enclose a form of letter which I suggest that you write him.

I have reported this matter to my good friend Mr. R., to whom Ward sold this same copy and to whom He evidently made a refund last fall. I have requested him to furnish me with full details. I believe there is a clear enough case here to warrant the American Philatelic Society in expelling Ward. He has been on the verge of expulsion on several occasions in the past. You need have no fear that you will obtain a return of your money. I will most assuredly see to that. As soon as I hear from R. I will advise you.

Please advise me promptly as to Ward's reply.

May I thank you very kindly for the return of my check.

Sincerely yours,



P.S.—The following is just my personal opinion gained thru many years of philatelic experience. You see I am only three years your junior. Here is what I have in mind. One should not collect 19th Century unused, much less mint. It is so easy, so very easy, for the crooks to remove, in so many cases, cancelations, without any trace and mucilage is so cheap at any corner drug store.

S.B.A.

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK

A. P. S. 2497  
33 N. FT. THOMAS AVE.  
FT. THOMAS, KY.

July 3, 1954.

Mr. F. W. Bohle,  
5487 Kales Ave.,  
Oakland 18, Calif.

Dear Mr. Bohle:

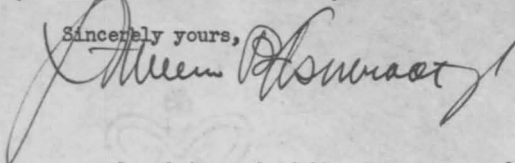
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S.B.A.



STANLEY B. ASHBROOK

A. P. S. 2497

33 N. FT. THOMAS AVE.

FT. THOMAS, KY.

July 3, 1954.

Mr. F. W. Bohle,  
5487 Kales Ave.,  
Oakland 18, Calif.

Dear Mr. Bohle:

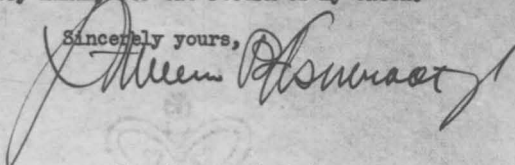
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Please advise me promptly as to Ward's reply.

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Sincerely yours,



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S.B.A.

91-116#

#74 - 15

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK

A. P. S. 2497

33 N. FT. THOMAS AVE.

FT. THOMAS, KY.

July 3, 1954.

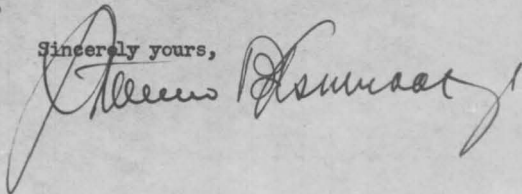
Mr. F. W. Bohle,  
5487 Kales Ave.,  
Oakland 18, Cal.

Dear Mr. Bohle:

Herewith the 10¢ 1847 which you submitted to me for examination. I beg to report that this is not a mint copy but rather a pencanceled and cleaned copy with fraudulent gum. Further this copy has been repaired in various parts, as for example, the bottom has been added and the bottom part of the design redrawn. This stamp is plate position 14RL and the bottom of this design is entirely different from a genuine 14RL. I merely mention this to prove the repair work should anyone question my statement.

I enclose herewith a photograph which I made of this stamp by ultra-violet ray which shows very plainly the pencancels and the repair work at bottom, on the lower lip, over the tri-foliolate at left as well as other minor parts of the design.

Sincerely yours,



STANLEY B. ASHBROOK

A. P. S. 2497

33 N. FT. THOMAS AVE.

FT. THOMAS, KY.

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Mr. F. W. Bohle,  
5487 Kales Ave.,  
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Sincerely yours,

*Stanley B. Ashbrook*

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

April 14, 1954

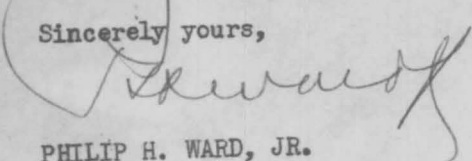
Dear Mr. \_\_\_\_\_

It is indeed a pleasure to hear from you again for it has been many months since you last wrote.

Mint copies of the 10¢ 1847 are very scarce and I am fortunate in being able to send you two copies herewith. As you are possibly aware, two or three years back when the Scott Company priced gummed copies of these early stamps in their Specialized edition, the 10¢ was listed at \$500. These stamps generally come without gum, which means that they were possibly used but not cancelled, hence were soaked off the envelope. Copies with original gum are really rare.

I enclose herewith two very fine copies available at \$250 each; total enclosure \$500. I sincerely trust one of these may please you. I may have in stock a further copy with the frame line touched on one side or without gum that could be sold at much less but I know you want fine specimens, hence am submitting the two best available. Awaiting your valued reply,

Sincerely yours,

  
PHILIP H. WARD, JR.

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

April 14, 1954

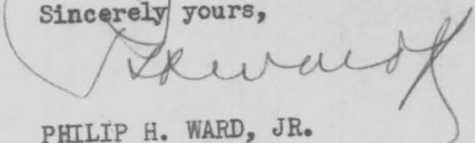
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Mint copies of the 10¢ 1847 are very scarce and I am fortunate in being able to send you two copies herewith. As you are possibly aware, two or three years back when the Scott Company priced gummed copies of these early stamps in their Specialized edition, the 10¢ was listed at \$500. These stamps generally come without gum, which means that they were possibly used but not cancelled, hence were soaked off the envelope. Copies with original gum are really rare.

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Sincerely yours,

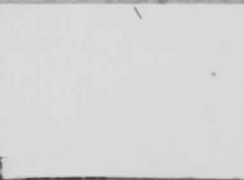
  
PHILIP H. WARD, JR.

# 74

14

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

April 14, 1954

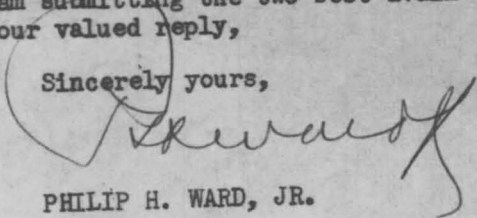
Dear Mr. 

It is indeed a pleasure to hear from you again for it has been many months since you last wrote.

Mint copies of the 10¢ 1847 are very scarce and I am fortunate in being able to send you two copies herewith. As you are possibly aware, two or three years back when the Scott Company priced gummed copies of these early stamps in their Specialized edition, the 10¢ was listed at \$500. These stamps generally come without gum, which means that they were possibly used but not cancelled, hence were soaked off the envelope. Copies with original gum are really rare.

I enclose herewith two very fine copies available at \$250 each; total enclosure \$500. I sincerely trust one of these may please you. I may have in stock a further copy with the frame line touched on one side or without gum that could be sold at much less but I know you want fine specimens, hence am submitting the two best available. Awaiting your valued reply,

Sincerely yours,

  
PHILIP H. WARD, JR.

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

April 14, 1954

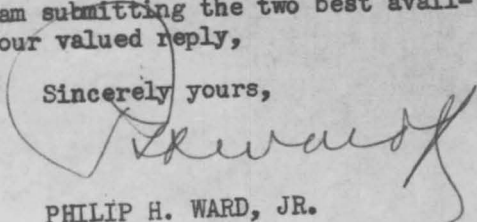
Dear Mr. \_\_\_\_\_

It is indeed a pleasure to hear from you again for it has been many months since you last wrote.

Mint copies of the 10¢ 1847 are very scarce and I am fortunate in being able to send you two copies herewith. As you are possibly aware, two or three years back when the Scott Company priced gummed copies of these early stamps in their Specialized edition, the 10¢ was listed at \$500. These stamps generally come without gum, which means that they were possibly used but not cancelled, hence were soaked off the envelope. Copies with original gum are really rare.

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PHILIP H. WARD, JR.



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

April 14, 1954

Mr. F. W. Bohle  
5487 Kales Avenue  
Oakland 18, California

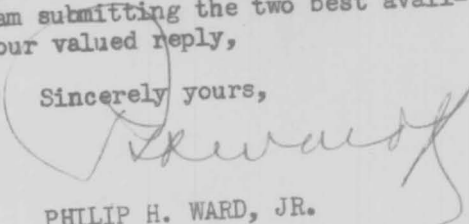
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PHILIP H. WARD, JR.

# 74  
13

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

April 14, 1954

Mr. F. W. Bohle  
5487 Kales Avenue  
Oakland 18, California

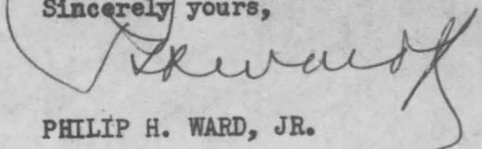
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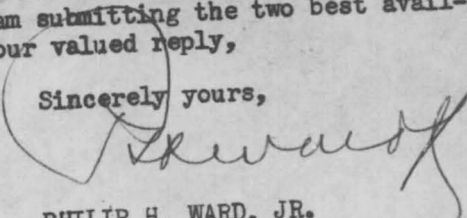
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Sincerely yours,



PHILIP H. WARD, JR.

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

July 3, 1954.

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

Dear John:

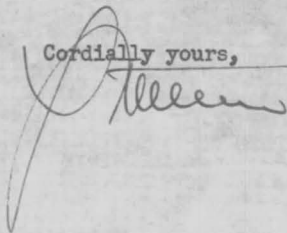
Re - my current Service Issue. Perhaps you haven't had time to read it but please turn to page 307 and read my remarks re - the Eastern dealer "Mr. X" and my account that he knowingly sold a pencanceled cleaned copy, also repaired, fake gum, etc., to a client as a "rare mint copy" of the 10¢ '47. I stated above, "KNOWINGLY" - In other words, "Mr. X" cannot come up with the usual excuse that he didn't know the stamp was not a mint copy.

How about a lousy crook like this? What do you think? Don't you think he should be expelled from the A.S.D.A as well as the A.P.S.?

Will you give me your frank and candid opinion - please. Am I all wrong and should a bird like this be commended and given a medal for his shrewdness? What do you think?

Regards.

Cordially yours,



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**This Photograph  
Was Made By  
ULTRA - VIOLET  
RAY**

**By Stanley B. Ashbrook**





# C. D. L. STAMPS

3937 WATSON AVENUE  
TOLEDO 12, OHIO

June 14th, 1954.

Mr. ASHBROOK:

I noticed in Stamps Magazine that you will expertize stamps and covers for a nominal fee.

The covers I have in mind are #1 is the 6¢ carmine & blue which various dealers might be the carmine & ultramarine. This cover they have offered to buy at a nominal price of course and generously would take the chance that it might be the ~~right~~meright one.

The other cover has a 3¢ green & a 6¢ pink Lincoln cut imperforate and mailed to France.

The comment on this is that it is a pair of proofs. It also is the special printing. Some can't even figure why the nine cents postage Etc.

This cover was mailed from New Orleans July 20th, 1875 tied with bulls eye cancel and New York Paid.

If the fee is not too much would like to get an experts opinion of them.

Sincerely,

*Charles D. Lurgio*

P.S.

ALSO SELLING PRICE.

June 16, 1954.

Mr. Chas. D. Lurgio,  
3937 Watson Ave.,  
Toledo 12, Ohio.

Dear Sir:

I am in receipt of yours of the 14th and suggest that you submit the two covers to me and I will attempt to give you the facts. My fee, if any, will be very fair and if perchance you disagree, you will be under no obligation to pay same.

I suggest that you include registration postage.

Sincerely yours,



TOPICALS

# C. D. L. STAMPS

3937 WATSON AVENUE  
TOLEDO 12, OHIO

June 24th, 1954

Mr. ASHBROOK:

I'm enclosing the covers for your opinion on them.

- #1 The airmail which many claim is the ultramarine and carmine.
- #2 U.S. cover. Opinion on this so far is that it is the special printing or they are proofs.
- #3 The provisional cover and on this all I would like to have is a fair retail price.

If any of the above two covers are genuine will you please send me a certificate for them.

Also would like to have a selling price for them.

Enclosed is one dollar for registration.

Thanks.

Have other material that I will send later.

Charles D. Lurgio



TOPICALS

# C. D. L. STAMPS

3937 WATSON AVENUE  
TOLEDO 12, OHIO

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ORDER. IF THERE IS ANYTHING YOU NEED  
IN STAMPS OR POSTAL STATIONERY OF THE WORLD, PLEASE WRITE.

YOURS TRULY,

*C. D. Lurgio*

C. D. LURGIO

June 27, 1954.

Mr. Charles D. Lurgio,  
3937 Watson Ave.,  
Toledo 12, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Lurgio:

I am in receipt of yours of the 24th enclosing the three items which I am returning herewith.

I should have mentioned that I do not pass on any foreign stamps or covers or any U. S. 20th Century stamps. My field is early U.S. - 19th Century - straight postage - no Departments, Revenues, and side issues.

Regarding the cover, New Orleans to France in July 1875. There is nothing unusual about the stamps except that they are the ordinary "Bank Notes" of the period from which the perforations were trimmed. By 1875 there were quite a lot of stamp collectors, many of whom had a desire to make "varieties."

Regarding the rate. This 9¢ is correct. We signed a new postal treaty with France in 1874, establishing a 9¢ rate. It went into effect on August 1, 1874, and was in effect until January 1, 1876. France did not join the U.P.U. until that date.

There is no fee on the above other than the dollar bill which you enclosed and for which please accept my thanks.

Sincerely yours,

# H·R AND ASSOCIATES

22 west monroe street · chicago 3 illinois · telephone central 6-5556

June 23, 1954

Dear Stan,

Stan, I feel like a heel for not having written sooner, but I have had one hectic time after another. On top of it all, we are going to move our business to new quarters. Just imagine, after being in one place for 18 years the amount of stuff you accumulate.

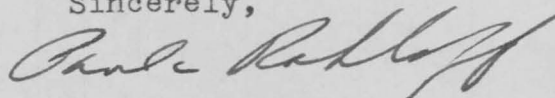
Stan, I am enclosing a check in the amount of \$100 for your service and believe me I am looking forward to getting them.

Also enclosed, is a couple of interesting items:

- 1 - Registered marking
- 2 - The 5 & 10 and an old friend of yours, I believe
- 3 - The Steamer Demoine - never been in the hands of a dealer
- 4 - 1 & 3 cent 1850 mail route cancellation prepaid way from Savannah, Georgia I believe
- 5 - Ocean mail cancellation
- 6 - Two combination 179 one piece
- 7 - Nice pair 51 Chicago cancellation
- 8 - Also have strip from Winona M.T. 1851 (1 cent) if you are interested, will send it

Millie and I send our best regards to Millie and your son.

Sincerely,



June 28, 1954.

Mr. Paul C. Rohloff,  
Room 1603 - 22 West Monroe St.,  
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Paul:

It sure was nice to hear from you after such a long silence. Mildred and I were talking about Millie and you last week, and wondering how you all were getting along, the enjoyable week we had together in New York and how nice it would be if we could entice you to bring Millie and drive down and spend a few days with us before the summer is over. Perhaps our talk might have hit a wave length that reached Chicago - a sort of mental telepathy. Why don't you drive down sometime and we will drive down into Central Kentucky and visit some beautiful spots?

Thanks very much for your check for \$100. Receipt for same is enclosed herewith. Also thanks for a look at the various items which I am returning herewith. Here are some comments regarding them -

No. 1 - Registered cover to Canada. There was another 3¢ '67 on the back as the rate in 1869 was 6¢ postage - 5¢ registered to Canada. Domestic registration was 15¢. It was cheaper to register a letter to Canada - The Registration Fee had to be paid by postage stamps. Why not stick a 3¢ '61 on the back - not to deceive but to show the full rate.

No. 2 - 5¢ 1857 O.B. Type II - Earliest use known of this stamp. Yes, I sold this to Mr. Newbury and he was so pleased to get it he sent me an extra amount. Someone told Mike it was a fake and I suppose that is the reason he sold it. He took their word against mine. Mike is a very smart boy.

No. 3 - Steamer Demoine. In my opinion, this cover is good, in spite of the fact the oval looks too good. I think it is a very very rare cover. I made a color photo of it.

No. 4 - Mail Route. Nice. I had a piece of cover very similar to this and at first I thought this was my old piece but a photo in my files shows that mine was a bit different. I have a record of about half a dozen of this on 3¢ plus 1¢ (Later) The one I owned, I bought in the Brown Sale in 1939.

No. 5 - Ocean Mail on the 12¢ 1851. Extremely nice. I am using this in my July Service so be sure to look for it. I would have sworn this use was 1854 but it was 1857.

No. 6 - Two pieces with 5¢ Taylor. Yes Paul, these are nice - too bad the whole covers were not kept intact.

No. 8 - One 1851 - Type IV - Chicago - Very, very nice.

I haven't looked thru my One Cent book, Vol. 2 for years but it seems to

June 28, 1954.

Mr. Horace St. Poole,  
1475 Montrose Terrace,  
Dubuque, Iowa.

Dear Horace:

I have before me a cover loaned by a friend which I have just photographed. It looks a bit too good to be true. It is a stampless folded letter and is addressed as follows:

Mr. B. Conway  
Secretary I.T.  
Davenport, I.T.

In upper right is a large "X" and at top center is a bright red oval reading,

Steamer  
\*  
De Moine

at end is a notation "M. S. Davis Aug 21 - 39."

Inside the letter is headed -

"On Board Demoine S.B.  
~~Burlington~~ August 21st - 1839"

All of the above looks O.K. What do you think? A 10¢ rate at that time was "over 30 miles, not over 80." The crossed out "Burlington" might indicate the writer was from that place.

One more thing, I find I have two old "U. S. Official Registers," one of 1839 - the other of 1841. Both have lists of Iowa Ty. post offices, also names of the postmasters. Did you see these when you were here? I'll make copies of the P.O.'s if you wish.

With regards -

Cordially yours,



**MEMO FROM**

THE PHILATELIC FOUNDATION

22 East 35th St. New York 16, N. Y.

Reference no. 5041

Dear Mr. Ashbrook,  
Would you please be kind enough to examine  
the enclosed "patient" and if possible let  
us have it back by July 5th or 6th.  
Many thanks.

Sincerely yours,

Ethel Harper  
Ass't to the Chairman

Please write clearly in pencil, and sign your opinion.  
(Do not use pen and ink.)

Re 5041 - Fraudulent 30¢ 1869  
Cover - Ex Stowel Sale - June  
2-1954 - Lot 286 - Sale Price  
\$230<sup>00</sup>.

This 30¢ 1869 Was Not Used  
Originally On This Cover.  
Inasmuch As The Use Was Actually  
June 19 1869 From New York (My  
Records Show This Sailing By  
Am. Pkt. ), I Assume A 15¢ 1869  
Was Removed, (By Zareski. ?)

And This 30¢ Stamp Substituted.  
The Combination French Receiving  
Postmark And The New York Prove  
That The Letter Was Not Over  $\frac{1}{4}$   
oz, Hence A Single Rate Requiring  
Only 15¢. It Is Quite Obvious That  
The "Tie" of The New Orleans Postmark  
Is A "Point Job" Also That of The  
Red New York

*Stanley B. Ashbrook*

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK  
P. O. Box 31  
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.,  
FORT THOMAS, KY.

June 30-1954  
(32-

74-9

Re 5041 - Fraudulent 30¢ 1869  
Cover - Ex Stowel Sale - June  
2-1954 - Lot 286 - Sale Price  
\$230.00 -

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Originally On This Cover.  
Inasmuch As The Use Was Actually  
June 19 1869 From New York (My  
Records Show This Sailing By  
Am. Pkt. ), I Assume A 15¢ 1869  
Was Removed, (By Zoreski. ?)  
And This 30¢ Stamp Substituted.

The Combination French Receiving  
Postmark And The New York Prove  
That The Letter Was Not Over 1/4  
oz, Hence A Single Rate Requiring  
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The "Tie" of The New Orleans Postmark  
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Red New York

*Stanley B. Ashbrook*

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK  
P. O. Box 31  
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.,  
FORT THOMAS, KY.

June 30-1954  
(32-

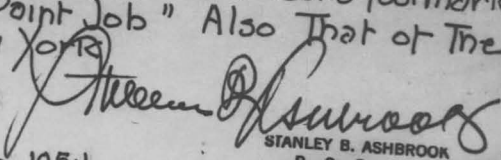


Please write clearly in pencil, and sign your opinion.  
(Do not use pen and ink.)

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Red New York

June 30-1954  
(32-

  
STANLEY B. ASHBROOK  
P. O. Box 31  
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.,  
FORT THOMAS, KY.

Re 5041 - Fraudulent 304 1869  
Cover - Ex Stowel Sale - June  
2-1954 - Lot 286 - Sale Price  
\$230<sup>00</sup>.

This 304 1869 Was Not Used  
Originally On This Cover.  
Inasmuch As The Use Was Actually  
June 19 1869 From New York (My  
Records Show This Sailing By  
Am. Pkt. ), I Assume A 15¢ 1869  
Was Removed, (By Zareski. ?)  
And This 304 Stamp Substituted.

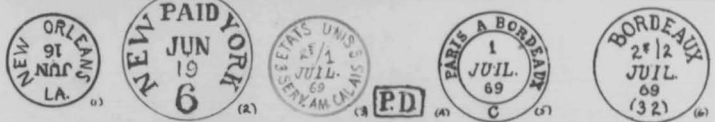
The Combination French Receiving  
Postmark And The New York Prove  
That The Letter Was Not Over  $\frac{1}{4}$   
oz, Hence A Single Rate Requiring  
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The "Tie" of The New Orleans Postmark  
Is A "Point Job" Also That of The  
Red New York

*Stanley B. Ashbrook*

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK  
P. O. Box 31  
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.,  
FORT THOMAS, KY.

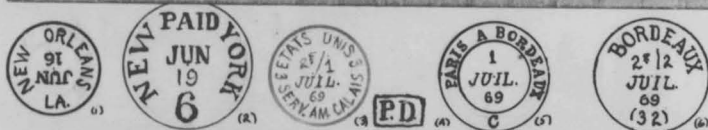
June 30-1954  
(32-





Back stamps

Mailed at New Orleans<sup>(1)</sup> then to New York & thence by American Packet  
 as proven by rate G in (2) Received at Calais<sup>(3)</sup> & marked paid<sup>(4)</sup> thence to  
 Paris & Bordeaux<sup>(5)&(6)</sup>



Back stamps

Mailed at New Orleans<sup>(1)</sup> then to New York & thence by American Packet  
 as proven by rate G in (2) Received at Galais<sup>(3)</sup> & marked paid<sup>(4)</sup> thence to  
 Paris & Bordeaux<sup>(5) & (6)</sup>

The Expert Committee of  
THE PHILATELIC FOUNDATION

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

No. **5041** Meeting of **July 1954**

Dear.....:

Herewith is an item described by the applicant as follows:

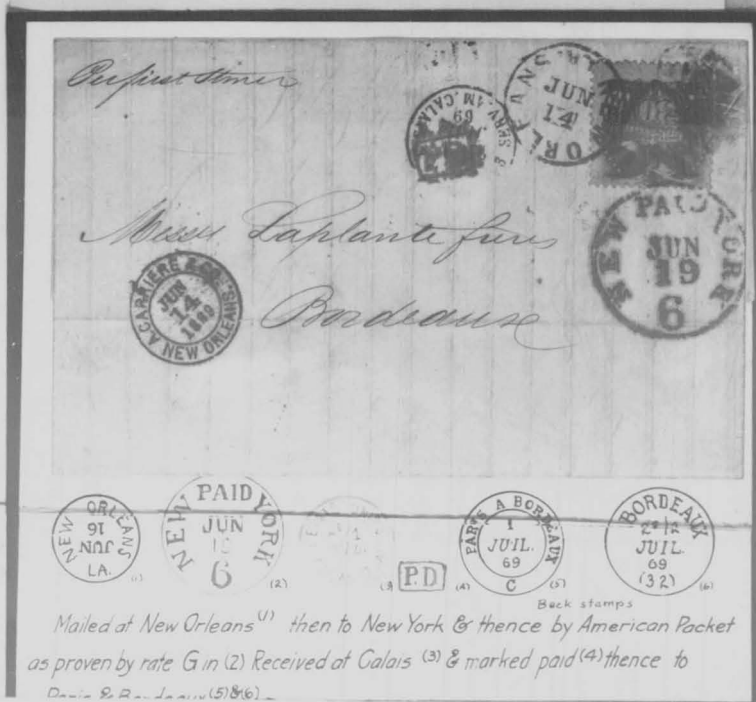
Country **U.S.A.** Issue **1869** Denomination **30 c.**

Color **Red and Blue** Cat. No. **121**

Brief Description

**30c. on cover from New Orleans  
to Bordeaux, France**

**Opinion required as to authenticity**



Mailed at New Orleans<sup>(1)</sup> then to New York & thence by American Packet  
as proven by rate G in (2) Received at Calais<sup>(3)</sup> & marked paid<sup>(4)</sup> thence to  
Paris & Bordeaux<sup>(5) & (6)</sup>



*The Expert Committee of*  
**THE PHILATELIC FOUNDATION**  
 22 EAST 35TH STREET  
 NEW YORK 16, N. Y.

No 5041-----

Meeting of July 1954-----

Dear-----:

Herewith is an item described by the applicant as follows:

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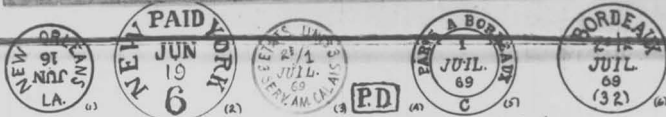
Color Red and Blue----- Cat. No. 121-----

Brief Description

**30c. on cover from New Orleans  
 to Bordeaux, France**

Opinion required as to authenticity

74-9  
 6-71



Mailed at New Orleans <sup>(1)</sup> then to New York & thence by American Packet  
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NEW YORK 16, N. Y.

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NEW YORK 16, N. Y.

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Meeting of July 1954 -----

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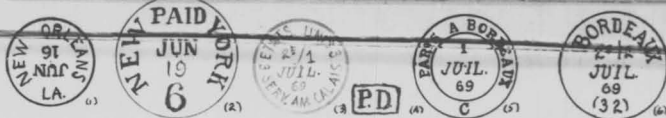
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Color Red and Blue ----- Cat. No. 121 -----

Brief Description

30c. on cover from New Orleans  
to Bordeaux, France

Opinion required as to authenticity



Back stamps

Mailed at New Orleans<sup>(1)</sup> then to New York & thence by American Packet  
as proven by rate G in (2) Received at Calais<sup>(3)</sup> & marked paid<sup>(4)</sup> thence to  
Paris & Bordeaux<sup>(5)&(6)</sup>.

# Recently Discovered Adhesives on Covers From Limestone Springs, South Carolina, Appear to be New Confederate Postmaster's Provisionals

By A. EARL WEATHERLY

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Stanley B. Ashbrook has written that he has examined the covers discussed in this article very carefully, and is convinced that there is no "funny business" about them. Like Mr. Weatherly, he is convinced that the colored adhesives were placed on the letters at the time they were mailed at Limestone Springs. Whether they are actually Confederate Postmasters' Provisionals, he does not know, and expresses the opinion that this will probably remain a mystery until or unless some possible proof, one way or the other, might show up. "The covers bearing the adhesives are not postmarked nor does a 'Paid' appear on any as is the case in the usual P.M.P. to show that the letter was prepaid," Mr. Ashbrook comments, adding, "However, there is no denying the possibility that the Postmaster at Limestone Springs, S. C., might have had these stickers prepared and sold over the counter at their face value with the assurance that anyone placing them on his mail could rest assured that such mail would be forwarded as paid. The question could be raised that how would the receiving postmaster at destination know the letter was prepaid, and the answer might be—civilian mail in the Confederacy had to be prepaid—only mail of the armed forces could be sent unpaid. And further, no doubt a way bill accompanied such mail which showed so many 'Paid' letters. Thus there are features that make this find quite interesting. At least, I found the subject of much interest and I am sure other students will also.")

A RECENT original find of approximately 200 letters of the South Carolina Dean family disclosed three 5c adhesive stamps of a unique and unknown design, each on cover. They were found in a package with several Confederate covers, most of which were addressed to Corporal Edward Dean at Tudor Hall, Va. None of the covers in the package contained its original enclosures, and those bearing the three 5c adhesives were not postmarked nor were they cancelled. A thorough search of the many related letters and covers, found with the package, disclosed several that gave applicable

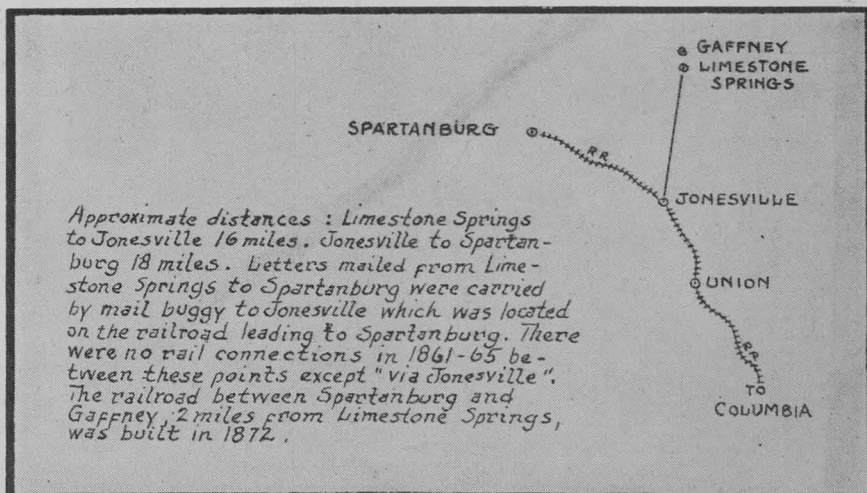
information, and made identification of the three covers possible. The story follows:

The Dean family lived in Spartanburg, S. C., during the period of the Civil War, and the member of that family who provided a great contribution to Confederate Philately was Corporal Edward J. Dean. His address in the early stages of the war was *Spartan Rifles, 5th Palmetto Reg., So. Car. Volunteers, Col. M. Jenkins, Commander, Tudor Hall, P. O. near Manassas Junction, Va., Care Capt. Walker*. Confederate collectors are greatly indebted to Corporal Dean for preserving the covers and letters he received from his home folk. His life in the Confederate Army was one of hardship, but the splendid condition of his covers discovered in this little package is evidence of the care he gave them. Most likely he carried his letters back to his home in Spartanburg upon the occasion of his furloughs, or sent them by an obliging friend. His mother, Mrs. Mary O. Dean, took tender care of them from there on.

In the present "find" four very im-

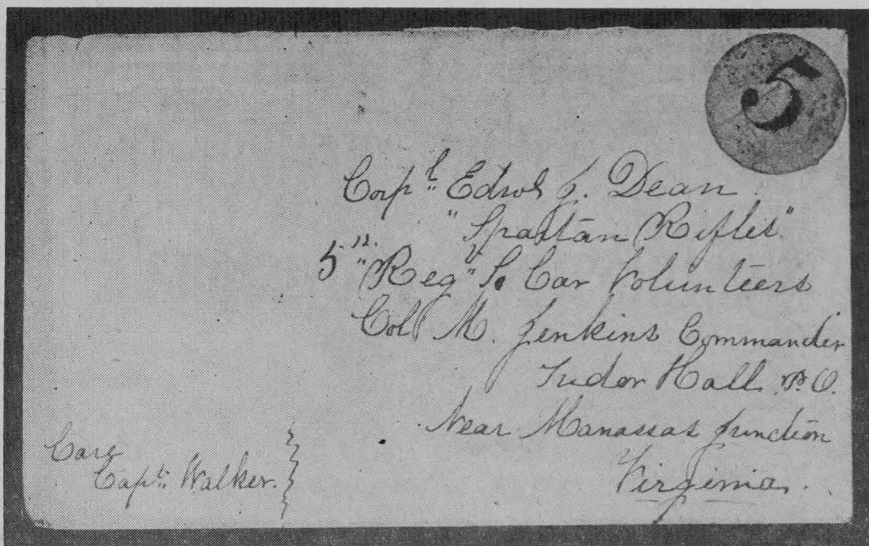
portant facts were established concerning the three covers which bear the hitherto unknown 5c adhesives referred to above. (1) There was a letter that proved that one of Corporal Dean's sisters, Miss Lizzie E. M. Dean, was attending a school at Limestone Springs, S. C., when Corporal Dean's address was Tudor Hall, Va. (2) Two of the covers were addressed in her handwriting. (3) The "5" handstamper used in the post office at Limestone Springs during the pre-war period was doubtless the one used in stamping the "5" on the three adhesives. (4) One cover addressed in the handwriting of Miss Lizzie E. M. Dean to her brother, Master Hosea J. Dean, Spartanburg, S. C., was routed "Via Jonesville," sixteen miles distant from Limestone Springs and located on the Spartanburg and Union railroad. The letter was undoubtedly carried via mail buggy from Limestone Springs to Jonesville, thence via rail to Spartanburg. (See Map, Figure No. A.)

It would seem impossible for the three covers under discussion to have originated at any point other than



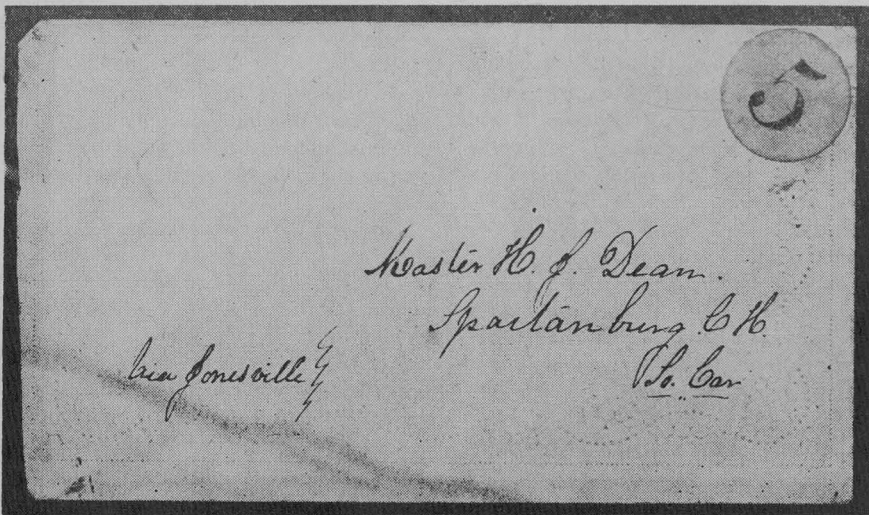
(Photo by Stanley B. Ashbrook)

Figure A—Map showing location of Limestone Springs, S. C., in relation to Spartanburg and Jonesville, S. C.



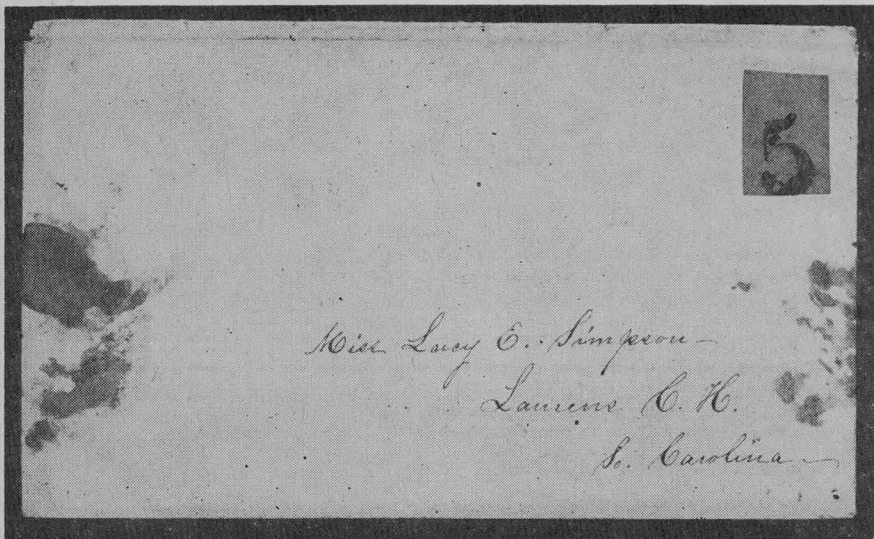
(Photo by Stanley B. Ashbrook)

Figure 1—Black "5" on green paper, Type I, Circular Die Cut. Letter from Miss Lizzie Dean, at Limestone Springs, S. C., to her brother, Corporal E. J. Dean.



(Photo by Stanley B. Ashbrook)

Figure 2—Black "5" on green paper, Type I, Circular Die Cut. From Miss Lizzie Dean at Limestone Springs, S. C., to a younger brother at the family home of the Dean family in Spartanburg, S. C. A "Ladies Envelope."



(Photo by Stanley B. Ashbrook)

Figure 3—Black "5" on blue paper, believed to be the Limestone Springs, S. C., "5", and mailed from that office.

Limestone Springs, but the lack of postmarks necessitates as much proof as possible, which will be presented as we proceed with pictures of the covers, descriptions, and historical background. Let us now study the covers themselves.

Figure 1: 5c Adhesive, Black "5" on Green Paper—Type 1—Circular die cut. Addressed in the handwriting of Miss Lizzie E. M. Dean, a student at Limestone Springs High School, early in 1861, to her brother, Corporal Edward J. Dean, "Spartan Rifles, 5th Reg., So. Car. Volunteers, Col. M. Jenkins, Commander, Tudor Hall, P. O. near Manassas Junction, Va., care Capt. Walker."

Figure 2: 5c Adhesive, Black "5" on Green Paper—Type 1—Circular die cut. Addressed in the handwriting of Miss Lizzie E. M. Dean at Limestone Springs, S. C., to a younger brother, Master Hosea J. Dean, Spartanburg, S. C., the family home of the Deans. Endorsed "Via Jonesville," sixteen miles distant from Limestone Springs, and located on the Spartanburg and Union railroad, this being the rail route to Spartanburg.

Figure 3: 5c Adhesive, Black "5" on Blue Paper—Type 2—Cut rectangular. The "5" is similar to Type 1, but is more blurred in character. Addressed to Miss Lucy E. Simpson, Laurens, C. H., S. C. Some variations are noted in the handwriting on this cover compared with that of Miss Lizzie E. M. Dean, and it is possible that some other student at Limestone Springs High School addressed this cover. Lucy E. Simpson was a member of the family of the Honorable William Simpson of Laurens C. H., S. C., who was a member of the Confederate Congress and later became Governor of South Carolina. Some of the Dean and Simpson children later intermarried, and many Simpson letters were found with the Dean letters in this correspondence.

Figure 4: Folded letter addressed to Miss Lizzie E. M. Dean, High School, Limestone Springs, S. C., by her mother, Mrs. Mary O. Dean, of Spartanburg, S. C. Dated August 3, 1861. It verifies the fact that Lizzie E. M. Dean was in school at the time when cover shown in Figure 1, addressed in her handwriting, was sent to her brother, Capt. Edward J. Dean. The contents of this letter also refer to her brothers, Edward and Master H. J. Dean (Hosea J. Dean), to whom the cover in Figure 2 is addressed.

Figure 5: Limestone Springs, S. C., pre-war cover showing the identical "5" handstamper, which later was used in preparing the 5c Adhesive, except that this was struck in pre-war red. The measurements of the two "5's" are the same.

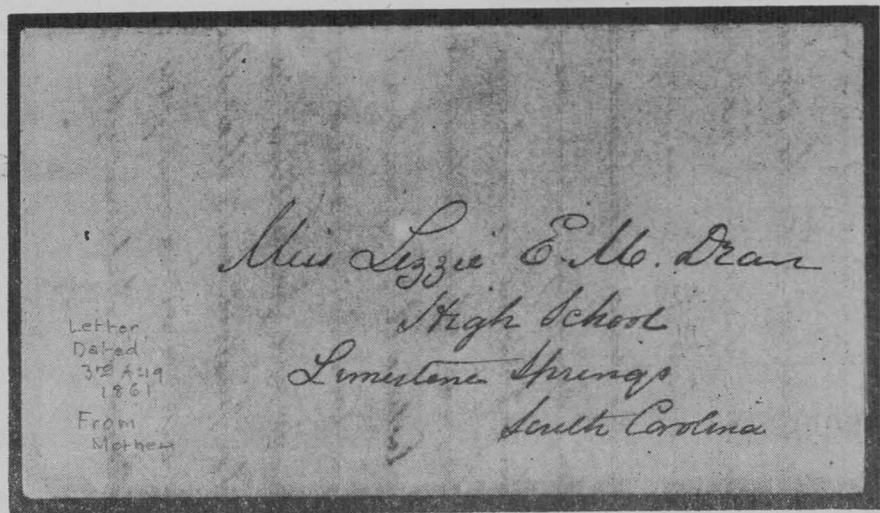
Figure 6: Cover showing the handwriting of Miss Lizzie E. M. Dean to her husband, Dr. C. E. Fleming, a surgeon in the Confederate Army, to whom she was married in December, 1861, after leaving Limestone Springs High School, when the institution closed as a result of the war. This handwriting matches that shown on the Limestone Springs

covers shown in Figures 1 and 2, which bear the 5c adhesives. This cover is accompanied by a letter from her mother, Mrs. Mary O. Dean, in which she refers to her daughter's marriage in December, 1861.

Figure 7: 5c Spartanburg, S. C. Postmaster's Provisional Adhesive Stamp, used on a cover to Corporal Edward J. Dean, postmarked July 11, 1861. (Ex Emerson and Brooks Collections. Now in the Weatherly Collection.) This was one of several similar covers found several years ago, and it is shown to further confirm the fact that the type of stamps or handstamps used on his mail to Tudor Hall were either provisional or provisional in character (Illust. on Page 18)

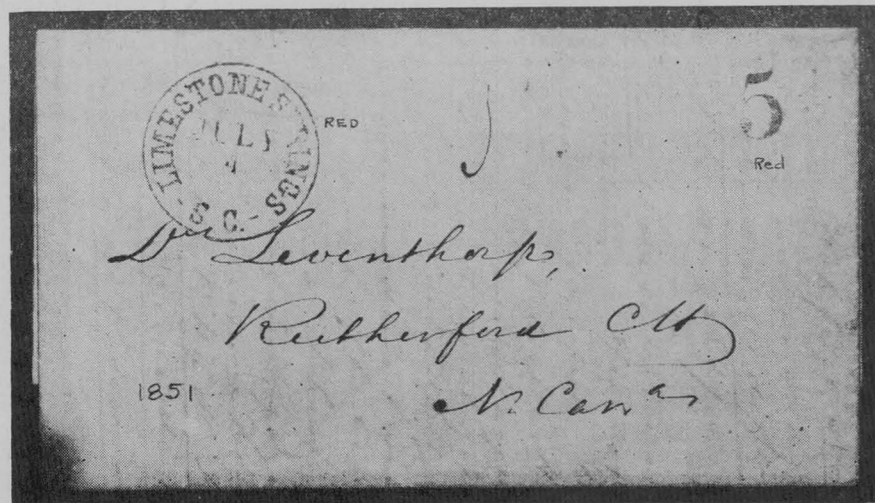
The round 5c Limestone Springs adhesives show signs of care and premeditation in their preparation. The use of a die was employed in their cutting and the "5" was clearly impressed on each adhesive. The aged gum on the back of one of the loosely attached adhesives has left a circle of gum stain on the cover. The adhesives were placed on the covers in the proper position for a postage stamp, and all three covers have the "look" and "feel" of unmistakable genuineness. It is interesting to note that Limestone Springs' neighboring Postmasters at Spartanburg (twenty-eight miles via Jonesville) and at Union (twenty-five miles away) issued Provisional stamps during the same period and employed the use of office handstamps in their preparation, as in the case of the adhesives on the Limestone Springs covers. The haste, excitement, and confusion of the period probably accounts for the lack of postal markings on the covers. The popularity of Edward J. Dean, plus the patriotic fervor existing at this time in South Carolina, probably would not have allowed his mail to have been stopped because of a cancellation omission.

Limestone Springs High School was founded in 1846 by the Rev. Thomas Curtis, D. D., and his son, Rev. William Curtis, D. D., and became one of the most popular schools in the South. The number of pupils amounted sometimes to 300, and the roll showed them representing almost every state in the South. That there was a regularly established post office, is proven by the official U. S. Registers of 1859 and 1863, in which Limestone Springs, S. C., appears, with C. L. Clarke as Postmaster. The evidence is strong that Postmaster Clarke intended these adhesives to serve as stamps, but the final proof awaits the discovery of cancellations and postmarks on similar covers. The aid of all collectors



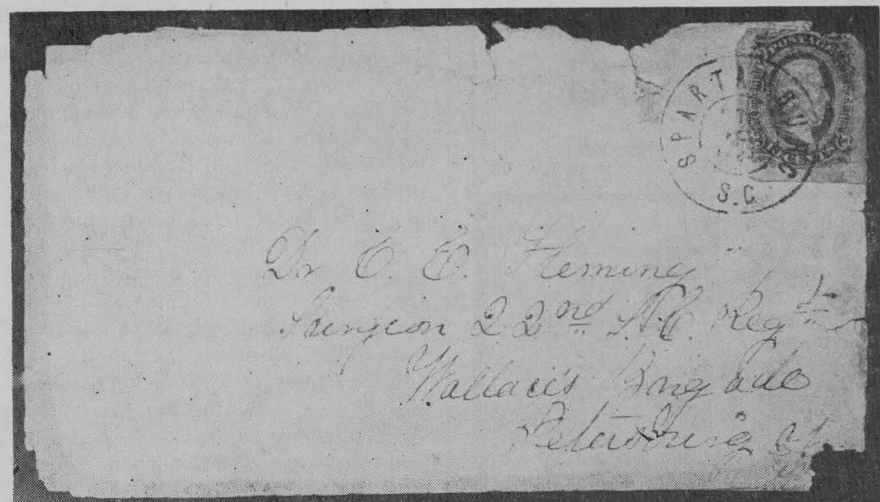
(Photo by Stanley B. Ashbrook)

Figure 4—Folded letter from Mrs. Mary O. Dean of Spartanburg, S. C., mother of Miss Lizzie Dean, dated August 3, 1861.



(Photo by Stanley B. Ashbrook)

Figure 5—Pre-war folded letter postmarked "Limestone Springs, S. C., July 4" (1861), showing the "5" rate marking that was used a decade later on the colored adhesives mailed from that office.



(Photo by Stanley B. Ashbrook)

Figure 6—A letter from the former Miss Lizzie Dean to her husband, Dr. C. E. Fleming, dated December 1863, from Spartanburg, S. C.



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(Photo by Stanley B. Ashbrook)

Figure 7—Confederate Postmaster Provisional of Spartanburg, S. C., postmarked July 11, 1861. Addressed to Edward J. Dean. (Ex-Emerson and Brooks collections, now in the Weatherly collection).

to that end will be appreciated, and anyone finding covers postmarked Limestone Springs, S. C., during the Confederate period, with or without these or other adhesive stamps, will please communicate with the writer at once in care *A-3 Irving Park Manor, Greensboro, N. C.*

In view of the fact that Edward J. Dean's name appears on many covers now in Confederate Collections, the following biographical sketch of his life should be particularly interesting to the owners of such covers.

### *Captain Edward Jefferson Dean*

Second son of Major H. J. Dean was born in Spartanburg, South Carolina, January, 1842. Was attending St. James College, Maryland, when a call was made by the Governor of South Carolina for volunteers. He returned home at once, and joined one of the first Companies raised, Company K, "Spartan Rifles," Fifth Regiment, South Carolina Volunteers, which left for Charleston April 13, 1861, and after the fall of Fort Sumter went to Virginia. He was for one and a half years a Corporal in Company K, when he obtained a transfer to the 22nd Regiment, which occupied the trenches at Petersburg at the time of fearful mine explosion, July 30, 1864. Colonel David Fleming at the 22nd was in command of the line that morning, and he, with his adjutant and orderly, was buried under the mountain of earth. To this day they have never been found. Company C was dug out one by one by the enemy and made prisoners. Captain Dean, with other officers, was imprisoned at Fort Delaware on the mouth of the Delaware River. Here for eleven months he was confined in miserable open quarters, ex-

posed to the blazing sun of summer and to the bitter cold of winter, and limited in the supply of water, food and fuel. When released after the surrender of General Lee, Captain Dean's health was a wreck. He settled on a plantation in Calhoun County, Ala., hoping to regain his health and strength but after several years of suffering, he laid down a life of sacrifice for his country. He died in 1883, and is buried at Talladega, Alabama, in the churchyard of the Baptist Church, of which he was a deacon. He was a gentleman of fine appearance, measuring six feet and five inches, erect and dignified. Was of genial and prosperous temperament, attracting to himself strong friends wherever he lived.

(Grateful thanks for aid in the preparation of this article are extended to General Van Dyk Mac Bride, General Stanley B. Ashbrook, and the University of South Carolina Extension Service.)

## U. S. Postal Slogan Cancels Catalog Prices Increased

**A** NOTICE from Moe Luff, publisher of the *Catalog of U. S. Postal Slogan Cancels*, advises that effective June 1, 1954, all prices listed in the catalog issued in 1953 were increased 100 per cent.

The catalog lists alphabetically all known U. S., Philippine (U. S.), and Canal Zone slogan cancels up to and including February, 1953. It has about 700 illustrations, date used, where used, and type of cancel. Also an identification chart, describing the various cancelling machine impressions and detailed information on how and what to collect.

The catalog is \$1.50, and is available at your favorite dealer's, or direct from *Moe Luff, 240 W. 56 St., New York 19, N. Y.*

SPARTANBURG  
PAID  
Edw. J. Dean Esq.  
"Spartan Rifles"  
5<sup>th</sup> Palmetto Reg<sup>t</sup> So. Car. Volunteers  
Col: M. Jenkins Commander  
Tudor Hall P.O.  
near Manassas Junction  
Virginia

Leave  
Capt. Walker  
"Spartan Rifles"

↑ THE BROOKS COVER

5

Limestone Kings  
1851

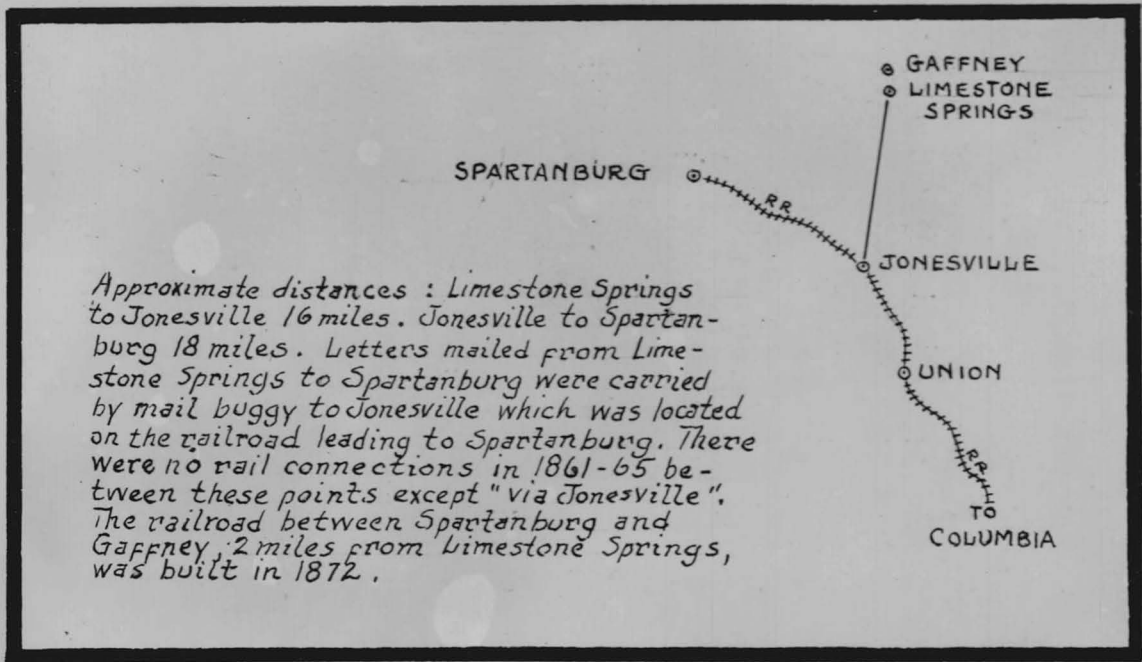
Leventhrops,  
Richford Ct  
N. Car.

5

Miss Lucy C. Simpson  
Laurens S. C.  
S. Carolina

3 COVERS BY E. R. WEATHERLY





5

Master H. G. Dean.  
Spartanburg, S.C.  
S.C. Car

via Jonesville

5

Capt. E. Dean  
"Pratt's Rifles"  
5<sup>th</sup> Reg. S.C. Car Volunteers  
Colt M. Jenkins's Commander  
Tudor Hall, W.C.  
Near Manassas Junction  
Virginia.

Capt. Walker





1864  
Dr C. O. Fleming  
Surgeon 2<sup>d</sup> nd A.C. Reg<sup>ts</sup>  
Wallace's Brigade  
Peterburg Va

BLUE



Miss Lizzie E. M. Dean  
High School  
Limestone Springs  
South Carolina

Letter  
Dated  
3rd Aug  
1861  
From  
Mother

↑ WEATHERLY  
SEE 31 23

Home Saturday 3<sup>o</sup> August 1861.

Alone with the three little ones. Mills, St. Lawrence & Horne, I ask myself, Are you thinking of your widowed Mother, to day my Darling, and the night of sorrow of which this is the sad anniversary? I feel sure you are, tho' six years have passed, and you <sup>have</sup> but a child of Eileen, the memory of such a Father can never fade from a daughter's heart, or the day ever pass unheeded upon which his pure spirit took its heaven-ward flight. Let each return of this day, as long as you live be devoted to the memory of that broad and honored Father. It will ever be a source of pleasure to dwell upon his life, and character. Happy daughters! what proud privilege it is, to know no word, or act of her Father's life, but such as makes his name honored, and his example a blessing to succeeding generations. Whether you think of him, in public, or private life. In the Church, the Legislative Halls, or at his own fire side, he was ever the consistent Christian, the uncompromising Southern Statesman, the tender Father, and devoted husband. What a treasure is ours my daughter, one of which we can never be deprived, his record is finished - is known and read of all men, who can lay his finger upon one spot to mar its beauty, not one. Whom do we envy? would we exchange the wealth of untaught gold, for the proud inheritance of his virtue? Nay, verily. I know my chosen too well to believe it: "Your boast is not that you derive your birth from loins enthroned, or rulers of the earth. But higher far, your proud pretensions rise.

The child of a Father passed into the skies"

Let us this day renew our vows, (God giving us grace) that we will one day be united to him in that land where parting is unknown.

This is the saddest anniversary we have yet known - the absence of your dear Brother Edward in the Army, his actual participation in the awful tho' glorious battle of the 31<sup>st</sup> July at Manassas, and the possibility that even at this moment, he may be engaged in deadly conflict with a relentless foe, bringing back the agonizing scene of August 3<sup>rd</sup> 1855. With redoubled power, and bids our shuddering woman's hearts prepare for the worst, while we hope for the best. Let us daily, and heartily commit our beloved, into the hands of his Father God, beseeching him to spare us this, the only earthly staff upon which we can lean, and to prepare him, and us, both, for a perfect submission to his Holy will.

Let the salvation of this precious son, and brother be with us too, a subject of daily and earnest prayer, and let it be the great object of our lives to prove ourselves worthy of the name we bear, by making the world the better, and the happier that we have lived in it. God! ever guide and bless my Fatherless children in the prayers of their Mother

Miss Lizzie E. M. Bran  
High School  
Limestone Springs  
South Carolina

June 24, 1954.

Mr. Burleigh E. Jacobs,  
2236 Menomonee River Parkway,  
Wauwatosa 13, Wis.

Dear Mr. Jacobs:

I am reliably informed that a member of the A.P.S. was recently caught red-handed faking a lot of Western Express covers. He had had some 22 or more imitation rubber stamps made of express markings and had applied them to various western franks and had offered and sold them to various collectors and dealers.

I have been informed that this crook was expelled from the S.P.A. for crooked dealings some time ago and that similar charges were brought against him in the A.P.S. but no action was taken.

Further, I am informed that his name is R. E. MANSON and listed as A.P.S. Member #19459, address - 6315 McKenzie Hy., Springfield, Oregon. I also understand that he uses the following address: 105 Thomason St., Eugene Oregon.

May I respectfully inquire if the A.P.S. Board has received any complaint against the above member?

I was further informed that the crook confessed his guilt and turned over to a Committee all of his fraudulent stampers.

If all the above is true would it not be possible for our National Society to prosecute this fellow to the fullest extent of the law? This is a damnable crime and the penalty should be so severe in such cases that a person would hesitate a long time before taking such a chance. From the fraudulent material that passes across my desk every week of the year, I do think that some steps should be taken to put a stop to the faking if possible in any way. In time, collectors may become so thoroughly disgusted with all the crooked stuff that they will abandon this fascinating avocation.

I will appreciate a prompt reply.

My kindest regards.

Sincerely yours,

Mr Burleigh E. Jacobs

2236 Menomonee River  
Parkway

WAUWATOSA (13)

Wis

Dear Mr Jacobs

I am reliably informed  
that a member of the A.P.S.  
was recently caught red handed  
taking a lot of Nesler  
Express covers. He had  
had some 22 or more  
imitation rubber stamps  
made of express markings  
and had applied them  
to various western fronts  
and had appeared and  
sold them to various



Collectors and dealers.

I have been ~~told~~  
informed that this  
crack was expelled from  
the S. P. A. for cracked  
dealings some time ago  
and that similar charges  
were brought against him  
in the A. P. S. but no  
action was taken.

Further I am informed  
that his name is

R. E. Manson

and listed as ~~an~~ A. P. S.  
Member #19459, address  
6315 McKenzie Hwy.,  
Springfield Oregon.

I also understand that he  
uses the following address  
105 Thomason St  
Eugene Oregon.

May I respectfully inquire  
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to put a stop to <sup>The Faking</sup> ~~it~~ if  
possible in any way.

In time, collectors may  
become so thoughtless  
disgusted ~~that they~~ will  
~~hesitate~~ with all the  
crooked stuff that they  
will abandon this  
fascinating avocation

I will appreciate a  
prompt reply

My kindest regards  
Sincerely yours

June 24, 1954.

Mr. Herman Herst, Jr.,  
Shrub Oak, N.Y.

Pat -

Thanks for yours of recent date. I was delighted to obtain the enclosure. I enclose copy of a letter I have written Burleigh Jacobs. I am also sending a copy to John Fox.

I don't suppose I am betraying any secret if I tell you that John had a lot of correspondence with Ed Payne re - the faked covers and John loaned me several letters he had received from Payne. I merely read them and returned them. I believe John sent me one cover that Payne had sent him. I never heard that John had bought any. And further, I never mentioned to John or anyone else that I had had any correspondence with you. I did intend to write Payne for details but never got around to it. I do not recall any correspondence with Jessup on the subject. The chances are that Tracy Simpson knows the details as well as Doc Hertz and A.M.Clifford, though I have had no correspondence with them on the subject. I will not write Payne until after I hear from Burleigh Jacobs.

I will keep you advised of any new development.

Sincerely yours,

# American Philatelic Society, Inc.

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

June 29, 1954.

Col. Guy W. Ade,  
Recorder, Board of Vice Presidents,  
2324 - 23rd St. A.,  
Moline, Illinois.

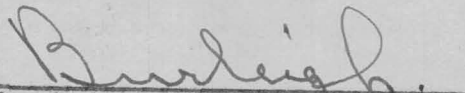
Dear Guy:

I am enclosing a copy of a letter that I have recently received from Stanley B. Ashbrook, wherein he files a complaint against Mr. R. E. Manson who is a member of our society.

In his letter, he states that sometime ago similar charges were brought against him in the A. P. S. but no action was taken." Can you tell me if any complaints have previously been received in regard to this man and if not, do you consider that from this letter of Mr. Ashbrook, we should file charges against him. If so, I wish you would get directly in touch with Stanley Ashbrook and have him file a formal complaint. Then you can consider this matter of expelling this member who evidently has been guilty of fraudulent cancellations of Express markings.

Kindly let me hear from you in regard to this,

Very truly yours,

  
Burleigh E. Jacobs, Pres.

BEJ:HO  
1 Enc.

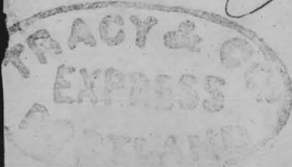
B483

BY JOHN FOX

PAID  
Wells, Fargo & Co.  
OVER OUR CALIFORNIA AND COAST ROUTES



William F. Wiley  
25<sup>00</sup>  
Portland  
Oregon



B483





Dear John:

I am swamped with things todo, but I will try to dash you off a reply to yours of the 15th.

I assumed you are concerned, believing more of this stuff will come on the market. I know the long story of this material, having seen it in Mr. "X's" collection about 13 years ago. He later sold it, as is, to a unknowing hermit collector in Portland; who in his childish ignorance, would not believe Bill Parker (Oroville, Cal.) and myself who told him much of the stuff he got from Mr. X was fake. For various reasons I have not time to go into, there was one cover, a 1¢ blue 1860 envelope, with Tracy frank and handstamp, which had me fooled, mainly because I had never examined it closely or in comparison; because it was difficult to see the owner and the material. The owner did not offer it for sale; but sold on Manson's offer. This is a much longer story than I can take time here to relate. I have a good 1¢ Tracy cover, but it is damaged, so when Manson had to unloan for money reasons I bot it, <sup>his 1¢ fakes</sup> and went to work on it, and finally agreed with Pat Herst that it was a faked handstamp and faked imprint frank, but very cleverly done and black light don't show much. And as there are more than one Tracy printed frank "cut" it had ~~me~~ fooled. Manson will make it right with me -- we will both take <sup>our</sup> loss; however I have not been convinced yet that all our study and loss of time and money, should be given to others for free, who will benefit thereby. However as a member of the WCS I feel that this material and findings be worked over further this September in San Francisco, and possibly a write-up be made.

W. R. (Bill) Parker has the attitude this stuff should be immediately destroyed. However, I feel that it should be kept safe and marked like forged stamps for reference purposes.

Please advise me if you will be in San Francisco for the APS show, as I intend to show the three different Portland oval handstamps of Tracy, and the two oval handstamps of Tracy at Roseburg. Those who do not know of these, of course assume any but the common ones are fakes as they are different. Fakes are not made "different" but alike <sup>ORIGINALES</sup> If you will be in S. F. We can have a session, and I will bring all this material and data. I am not sending this material as Jack Schwartz of Portland, and Manson and Howard Mader and myself are having another session now that I have a black-light to help us.

In this connection, what do you know of the "second" type handstamp of Beekmans Express shown on page 15 of March Covers magazine? It don't look good to me from the picture.

I do not think you need to be alarmed about further fakes being put on the market by Mr. X., altho I have reason to believe he has some devise for imitating the Tracy oval handstamp, but he is too old to be active as a menace.

Mr. Mader has sent to Dr. Hertz one of my <sup>good</sup> covers, with some of his, for his opinion on this matter. A further assumption is that Tracy covers from the "Marks" find are "good" as I know the history of this find and how they were handled. This is an all night's story in itself.

P.S. (over)

Sincerely,

E R Payne

10



RETURN IN FIVE DAYS TO  
**BURLEIGH JACOBS**

PRESIDENT

2236 MENOMONEE RIVER PKWY.  
WAUWATOSA 13, WIS.



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



CALIFORNIA COLLECTORS CLUB  
A·P·S CONVENTION 1954  
SAN FRANCISCO

1954 JANUARY 1954							1954 FEBRUARY 1954							1954 MARCH 1954						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
							1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	6		
					1	2	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	28							28	29	30	31			
24 31	25	26	27	28	29	30														

**FEBRUARY 3 WEDNESDAY**

8:00  
 8:30 Dear Stan  
 9:00  
 9:30 Will you kindly expedite  
 10:00  
 10:30 this cover for me and  
 11:00  
 11:30 send me the bill for your  
 12:00 services.  
 1:00  
 1:30  
 2:00 Royce.  
 2:30  
 3:00  
 3:30  
 4:00  
 4:30  
 5:00

AFTER 5 DAYS RETURN TO  
**THE COLLECTOR'S SHOP**  
17 BROADWAY  
NEW HAVEN 11, CONNECTICUT

**REGISTERED**

3617



*Registered Mail*



*Stanley Asbrooke, Esq.  
P. O. Box  
Ft. Thomas, Ky.*



July 3, 1954.

Mr. Harry B. Keffer, .  
17 Broadway,  
New Haven 11, Conn.

Dear Harry:

Herewith the cover as per yours of the 29th. I think one of the nice features about this cover is the very late use. The New York was not recognizing the use of the old stamps on domestic mail this late but permitted these to go thru. I have never seen - as near as I can recall - such a late use of the old stamps at the N.Y. P.O.

My kindest regards.

Cordially yours,



July 3, 1954.

To  
HARRY B. KEFFER

For opinion on cover -  
24¢ 1860 plus 1¢ 1857 -  
Carrier 24¢ plus 1¢ -  
from New York Sept. 21 ? 1861  
to Barnstaple, England = Patriotic .....\$3.00

Forwarded Insured  
July 3, 1954.

PAID  
JUL 12 1954

New York  
Exchange  
140 N. 5th St  
Philadelphia  
Oct 21

Red  
Grave



Mr. Trist  
No 7 New Buildings  
Barnstaple  
Devonshire  
England  
Paid 24c

By Henry Wetmore  
see 32 - p. 25

Film 74

Nº 19

1458 - tiles 13 m

F8 - Yel - 1/20



Mr. Trist  
No 7 New Buildings  
Barnstaple  
Devonshire  
England  
Paid 24<sup>c</sup>



Mr. Frost  
No. 7 New Buildings  
Barnstaple  
Devonshire  
England  
Paid 24<sup>c</sup>



Mr. Trist  
No 7 New Buildings  
Barnstaple  
Devonshire  
England  
Paid 24<sup>c</sup>



In My Opinion This Cover is Genuine In Every  
Respect. It Shows A Very Late Use of Old Stamps  
From New York - The Use Probably Sept 21 - 1861 -  
Via "Amer Pkt" To Southampton - The Rate - The  
1¢ Carrier Fee To The New York P.O. 24d To  
England - 24d + 1d - This Combination is Scarce

*Allen Ashurst*

Back of Letter Cover See 32 - p25



In My Opinion This Cover is Genuine In Every  
Respect. It Shows A Very Late Use of Old Stamps  
From New York - The Use Probably Sept 21 - 1861 -  
Via "Amer Pkt" To Southampton - The Rate - The  
1¢ Barrier Fee To The New York P.O. 24d To  
England - 24d + 1d - This Combination is Scarce

Allen S. Woodward

Back of Ketter Cover See 32 - p25



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

July 3, 1954.

To  
HARRY B. KEFFER

For opinion on cover -  
24¢ 1860 plus 1¢ 1857 =  
Carrier 24¢ plus 1¢ -  
from New York Sept. 21 ? 1861  
to Barnstaple, England = Patriotic .....\$3.00

Forwarded Insured  
July 3, 1954.

*Dear Stan -*  
*Many thanks -*  
*Bill*

PAID

HOWARD P. HELMER

Herkimer, N. Y.

Member: *Ilion Philatelic Society*

*Montgomery Stamp Club*

*Rock City Stamp Club*

*NPS No. 5235*

CG of NY 4107

UNITED STATES  
STAMPS as a HOBBY  
Personalized Service

June 25 1954

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook  
P.O. Box 31  
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook;

Noticed your ad in "Stamps". However, I have been familiar with your workings.

I have been a collector for 40 years in the U.S. field, but do not know too much about certain foreign. Therefore, I hate to pass my personal opinion on the two different items enclosed.

As for the two foreign what are they and any value? I am curious as I asked Allen Thatcher at Harner, Rooke, in New York and he wasn't positive.

As for the 3¢ Columbian- what's happened? My check for any fee you may charge will reach you as soon as you write me.

Registration fee and postage for their return is enclosed.

Sincerely yours,

*Howard P. Helmer*  
Howard P. Helmer

enc:

Credit reference, any of the following: Harner, Rooke, Lee Gilbert, Michael Karen, all of New York. Earl Appelbaum, Philadelphia, Stamp Auction Service Chicago.

July 3, 1954.

Mr. Howard P. Helmer,  
Herkimer, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Helmer:

Replying to yours of the 25th, I am herewith returning the three items and regret to state that I have practically no knowledge of foreign stamps. I believe I have confined myself to 19th U. S. for something like fifty years (perhaps more). I believe my advertisement reads, "U. S. Stamps and Covers of the 19th Century."

Re - the 3¢ Columbian, this is a chemical changing of color from green to blue. I believe there are people who "monkey" with stamps and are able to change colors to most any other color they desire. I never took much interest in such "monkey business" so my knowledge of same is very meager. However, I can assure you that your 3¢ Columbian is no "error."

There is no fee for the above.

I am returning these items by regular mail, insured, rather than registered, as our Post Office closes at noon on Saturdays.

Very truly yours,

GRIFFIN G. FRAZIER, D.D.S.  
815-18TH STREET, N. W.  
WASHINGTON 6, D. C.



28 June, 1954.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:-

I received the copy  
of your "Notes on the Postal Legislation of  
the C. S. A.".... Many thanks.

In re-mounting my col-  
lection, I noticed the date on enclosed  
frame-line cover as "Apr. 2, 1863(?)".  
The year date is quite smeared, but  
the last digit does look like a 3.  
Could this be an "earliest known use"?

You have my permission  
to photograph any covers I may send  
you.

Sincerely  
G. G. Frazier  
GSA 411.

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook  
Fort Thomas, Ky.

July 5, 1954.

Dr. Griffin G. Frazier,  
815-18th Street, N.W.,  
Washington 6, D.C.

Dear Doctor:

Herewith your frame line cover as contained in yours of the 28th. I am quite sure the date of use was "Apr. 21, 1863" as I have photographs of two other frame line covers used on that date and the markings are identical.

Our earliest date of use is now Apr. 19, 1863 for the frame line stamp.

My thanks for calling your cover to my attention.

With kindest regards -

Sincerely yours,

32-27

GRIFFIN B. FRAZIER, D.D.S.  
815-18TH STREET, N. W.  
WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

13 JULY, 1954

DEAR MR. ASHBROOK:

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR THE OPINION ON THE  
FRAME LINE COVER.

IF THE TWO INCLOSED COVERS ARE FRANKED WITH KEATINGE &  
BALL PRINTINGS, I THINK WE REALLY HAVE SOMETHING.

THE SINGLE, TYPE I, I BOUGHT ONCE HERE IN WASHINGTON. IT  
IS DATED MAY 20, 186?, FROM CHARLESTON.

THE TWO SINGLES ARE FROM A FOX AUCTION AND ARE CHESTER C.H.,  
S.C., NOV. 20. THEY WERE SOLD AS K. & B.'S. IT IS DATED ON  
BACK IN INK MS.

WHAT SAY YOU?

ANY TIME I AM INDEBTED TO YOU, PLEASE LET ME KNOW, AND I  
WILL REMIT PROMPTLY.

GRATEFULLY,

C.S.A. 411.

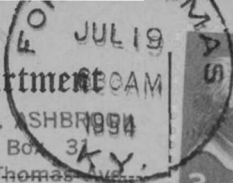
*Griffin B. Frazier*

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

2 INCLS.

Post Office Department

Received from: STANLEY B. ASHBROOK  
P. O. Box 31  
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.  
FORT THOMAS, KY.



One piece of ordinary mail addressed

to Dr Griffin G Frazier  
Washington (6)  
815-18th St N.W. D.C.

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

July 18, 1954.

32-27

Dr. Griffin G. Frazier,  
815-18th Street, N.W.,  
Washington 6, D.C.

Dear Doctor:

I return the two covers that you enclosed in yours of the 13th. In my opinion neither one are K & B stamps. The two singles is a use probably in November 1864 but in my opinion the stamps are A & D late prints. The single on cover shows "May." Of course this is not 1865 - it would be silly to assume that it was and May 1864 would be much too early for a K & B.

Herewith I am enclosing three typical "K & B" covers, the Mobile perhaps is the most typical. You can return these at your convenience. If you wish to send it to John Fox to demonstrate a genuine K & B you have my permission to do so.

There is no fee.

With kindest regards -

Sincerely yours,



# MORRISON CAFETERIA COMPANY

INCORPORATED

Birmingham, Alabama.

July 5, 1954. Monday A.M.

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

Dear Stan,

I rushed back to you the day I received the catalogs, the one of Stolow's thinking someone lese might want it. Herewith I return the Daniel's one. I appreciate the loan of both of them very much.

In the case of the Stolow sale I note you gave some prices of it in your Srevice bulletin, one of which was lot 38 @ \$50.00. I wish I knew who bought that one for I can sell him some nice copies at much less a pprice. (Of course I am joking as I am not a dealer.) But I had that copy here to examine along with many other lots. I got NOTHING from the sale. But that 90¢ 1860 was thinned badly, creased badly, repaired a great deal and the part of a black grid was very sneaky looking and like no other grid I had ever seen. It was not even a space filler. What a lemon he got! Some body paid \$130.00 for lot 249 which was a washed out looking stamp. I bid \$75 and wouldn't give \$80 for it on a bet.

About the Daniels sale, did you see lot 367? It says there is a photo of it, but such is not the case. However it is a large cover and I did not send for nor bid on it. Wonder if it was good.


You doubtless have a catalog of a sale of H.R. Harmer on Monday, July 19th. Lot 229 is illustrated. I'd like to have it altho have not time to send for it nor do I think they would or should send it out. What do you think it is worth?

I had already sent for the Blake article from Mekeel's before you advised me. I saw the ad in Mekeel's.

Am much relieved to learn that the trouble is not recurrence of your gall bladder trouble. Surely am. I agree October is better as it is too hot even in Cincinnati to be driving around unless one has to.

My, what a wonderful block of 12¢ 1851s that one is of Wdgar's as shown in the new Service. Where in the world does he get such items? I suppose he is contacted by the owner or agents thereof when any such thing as that is available, knowing he has more or less unlimited finances. Dont you? A block that size is more or less priceless, much like a block of inverted airmails, what one can get at auction.

Sincerely,



July 8, 1954.

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

Dear Em:

My H. R. Harmer catalogue arrived Wednesday afternoon and I note Lot 229 is a pane of the 3¢ Black Jack. To answer your query, I suggest that you refer to the Green sale by Barr Oct. 15-18, 1945, Lot 19. This apparently is the same pane. I will make a prediction - I predict that Lot 229 will not sell as high as the Green price, viz., \$825.00. I guess there is little doubt this is the Green sheet. Years ago I knew Dr. Coleman quite well and corresponded with him. Along about 1935, I remember he came to Cincinnati to see me and brought part of his B.J. collection with him. I don't know when he died.

If you have a catalogue of the Worthington sale of Aug. 21-23, 1917, you will find what I think is the same sheet. It was Lot 363 and sold @ \$175.00.

In Ward's column in Mekeel's of Aug. 30, 1948, the following appeared, quote:

"Pane of Black Jacks

Mr. Amon Carter, Jr. has located a most unusual item, namely a complete pane of 100 of the 1867 2c Jackson grilled 9x13mm. This is the left pane from plate 30 and shows the complete imprint, beneath the middle four stamps, at the bottom. A good portion of the sheet is nicely centered, which is unusual in the Black Jack stamp. It is seldom that panes of our early issues come to hand and Mr. Carter is unusually fortunate in locating this beautiful item, which he has added to his own collection." (unquote)

Thus there must be two panes from Plate 30 in existence.

I will write to Atherton and inquire if he knows of any others.

Regards.

Yours etc.,

July 8, 1954.

Mr. H. P. Atherton,  
#5 Yale St.,  
Holyoke, Mass.

Dear Erby:

In a sale by H. R. Harmer, Inc. for next July 19th, I note Lot #229 is a pane of the 2¢ 1867 - #93. I suppose this is the same sheet that came from the Green collection - Sale by Barr - Oct. 15-18, 1945, Lot 19; also probably the same sheet that was in the Worthington sale in August 1917 Lot 363 - all left pane No. 30. In 1948, Ward in his column in Mekeel's, reported that a person by the name of Amon Carter, Jr. had turned up a pane of 9 x 13 - left pane of Pl. 30. I wonder if Ward had the right dope. Do you know if there are two of these panes? Do you know of any other full sheets of the B.J. - grilled or without grill? I merely want the information for my files.

I trust you are well and that all is okay with you.

Best wishes -

Cordially yours,

# MORRISON CAFETERIA COMPANY

INCORPORATED

Birmingham, 5, Alabama.

July 9, 1954.

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

Dear Stan,

I have yours of the 8th in regards to the sheet of 2¢ black jacks in the coming sale of H.R. Harmer's. You are incorrect about it being the same sheet as lot 19 in the Green Barr sale of Oct. 15, 1945. I have the two photographs before me and they are definitely different sheets. The perfs show that clearly altho both are left panes. Seems as tho the four possible sheets are all left panes:

#1-The lot 363- Worthington sale left pane. No. 30

#2-The Green Barr 1945 sheet- left pane No. 30

#3-The Amos Carter sheet- left pane No 30 according to Ward article.

#4-The H.R. Harmer-Dr. Coleman sheet to be sold 7/19/54- Left pane No. 30.

There may be only two sheets as you say but definitely #2 and #4 are not the same. Colson was the buyer of sheet #1 for \$175 and #2 for \$825. He likely sold Dr. Coleman sheet no. 1 long ago and later in 1946 sold Carter #2. But again there may be 3 or even four sheets in existence.

H. R. Harmer in a letter to me places a bid value of \$1000-\$1250 on the sheet and they are usually very close to right. I do not intend to pay such a price.

Sincerely,



32 - 28

July 12, 1954.

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

Dear Em:

Thanks for the data on the sheets of the 2¢ 1867 Black Jack.  
I see that I assumed too much. I will incorporate your data into my records.

Thanks for the return of the color slides.

The 5¢ O.B. cover is now in the Rohloff collection (Ex-Newbury)  
The Hawaii cover was sent to me by the P.F. Expert Committee for my opinion  
and analysis. Quite a nice and unusual rate.

If you will send me your 5¢ + 10¢ '47 cover and also your Bermuda  
I will make color slides. My original '47 slide was not very good and I  
have no duplicate.

I had a long letter from Ezra today re - Auction bids. I will  
send you a copy later.

Regards.

Yours etc.,

P.S.--Re - your 90¢ 1879 block. Name me your net price as I have a party  
who might be interested.

S.

\$ 500<sup>00</sup>

June 29, 1954.

Mr. Philip G. Rust,  
R. R. #1,  
Wilmington, Delaware.

Dear Mr. Rust:

As per mine of the 24th, I am now enclosing the rare 24¢.1869 cover from Havana, Cuba, Via New York to Lima, Peru, in the first quarter of 1870.

You will note that this has the authentication of the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Foundation of New York as well as my guarantee that it is genuine in every respect. I am now able to offer this to you @ \$500.00 net.

With kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

R.R.1, Wilmington,

PHILIP G. RUST  
\*GRANOVILLE, DELAWARE

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Enclosed is the beautiful cover with the 24¢ and 10¢ 1869 to Lima, Peru. I had no idea this stamp was so rare on cover. I almost wish you had told me the price before you sent it. Then I wouldn't have felt so badly about not feeling able to afford it! Thanks, anyhow; it's a beautiful piece, isn't it?

The July number of your service was likewise read several times over. What a lot of fakery\* has taken place on the 1869 issue!

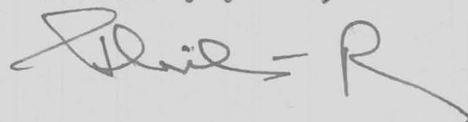
Say, no fair! You asked me what I thought that phony 30¢ 1869 proof was, with only a picture to go by. How could anyone look at colors, etc., with only a picture to go by! It was a perfect item for the Service, and I'm sure everyone enjoyed the description and analysis.

What kind of prices can be expected in auction on the 24¢ and 30¢ 1869 on cover? You didn't mention this when you submitted the above cover. All my sale catalogs are in Tvl. #

After July 6th I shall be at the Waumbek, Jefferson, New Hampshire. No facilities for stamps there, so I'll have to wait till later to look anything over.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,



(32 - 29)

24¢ 1869

July 8, 1954.

Mr. Philip G. Rust,  
% The Waumbek,  
Jefferson, New Hampshire.

Dear Mr. Rust:

I don't want to bother you when you are away on vacation but rather to write you while the subject is fresh in my mind.

Yours of the 6th came today with the return of the 24¢ 1869 cover. I note you either thought the price high or else you didn't realize the true value of a 24¢ 1869 cover. I believe that I wrote you some time ago that catalogue values of a 24¢ cover didn't mean a thing because such a quotation included what few are in existence plus all the clever fakes.

I am enclosing a photo of a cover to Spain in August 1870. This cover came up in the sale of the Seybold sale in March 1910. Incidentally it is good as gold in every way. It passed into the Richey collection in the early twenties. When I broke up the Richey collection in 1943 this cover passed to Mr. E. C. Krug of Birmingham. In 1949 when I sold the Krug collection, Mr. Krug had this cover priced at \$1,000. It was purchased by Mr. A. C. Hutchinson of Detroit for that sum. The photograph does not do it justice as all of the markings and cancels are in a bright red. It really is very beautiful. Today it is still in Mr. Hutchinson's collection. I consider it a much more beautiful cover than the one I sent you, but comparing the two, one can judge for himself - take his choice, one is either too high or the other is too low.

The above are not opinions but facts and they can be easily verified. Should anybody wish to do same they can communicate with Mr. Krug or Mr. Hutchinson. Their addresses will be found in the membership list of the A.P.S.

Here is another case. Consider the 90¢ 1860, S.U.S. 39, which is quoted as follows:

Unused .....	\$ 85.00
Used .....	135.00
On cover .....	2500.00

The first and last are probably approximately correct but \$135.00 for a "used" copy off cover is absurd, because this includes all the faked copies. For example, when a used copy sells at auction at \$50.00 or \$100.00 or \$150.00, the buyer should realize that he is buying a fake because it is silly to suppose that the sharp-shooters who attend New York auctions would permit a genuinely canceled copy of the 90¢ 1860 to sell at any such figures. Krug owned the West copy, a 90¢ off cover with a genuine Philadelphia postmark. I have a faint recollection that the Weills of New Orleans paid him \$500.00 for it but it was signed on the back by me. Incidentally, I haven't signed many copies in the past twenty-five years, perhaps three all told. I would say



#2. Mr. Philip E. Rust - July 8, 1954.

that a genuinely used copy of the 90¢ 1860 is worth between \$750.00 and \$1,000.00. So if you will place any confidence in this particular opinion of mine, you will appreciate how ridiculous is the catalogue quotation of \$135.00.

Mr. Krug sold his 24¢ '69 cover in 1949, thinking he might be able to replace it in the future. To my knowledge he has not been able to do so. If you especially wanted a 24¢ '69 on cover I believe you would find it very hard to locate one.

I apologize for the length of this letter but lay it aside and read it when you return South - Also keep it for future reference and perhaps time will tell how right or how wrong I was.

Regarding the 30¢ 1869 fake described in my July 1st Service. When I first wrote you about it I didn't mean to put you on record but perhaps to give you a brief memo of quite an interesting item.

You inquire what prices should be expected at auction on 24¢ and 30¢ 1869 covers. I wouldn't bother about the 24¢ because genuine covers don't come up at auction. When one does, then write me, and I will give an opinion what it should bring. As for a fine 30¢ anywhere from \$450.00 up. When you see one sell at \$200 - \$250 - etc., you can rest assured I would pay \$50.00 for it.

With regards,

Cordially yours,

**EZRA D. COLE**

*Rare Postage Stamps*

NYACK • NEW YORK

*Commissions • Appraisals*

TELEPHONE NYACK 7-0964

7/6/54

P.S. Enclosed 3 Confidential - 2 I  
think N.Y. - one may be out.  
I also think Molevent will  
these to a good friend of  
yours & mine - If there is  
any fee advise -  
E.D.C.

July 9, 1954.

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

Dear Ezra:

I was just about to write Jack Molesworth about that 90¢ 1861 cover when a check for \$162.50 came in for it today. I would endorse it over to you but thought perhaps you would not want him to know where it came from. I am, therefore, sending you my check for \$162.50 and you can send me whatever you think I am entitled to.

Re - yours of the 6th. I return the notice sent out by Jamet. I did examine about 25 covers in the sale for Jamet and when the catalogue came out and I noted that he stated I had examined all the covers, I demanded he correct his statement. He did this thru his representative in this country but the notice did not go out until after the sale so you see he got away with it. Jamet is a friend of Henry Hill's and Henry thinks he is okay. I have my doubts.

Re - the Ward incident. If I reported this to the A. P. S. Board don't you think it would justify his expulsion? Should I bother to do so?

I have little doubt that you are 100% right on the Stolow outfit. It now appears that they were back of the Life publicity.

Re - Sperati. As I get the dope, there is a big row going on in London over the B. P. A. acquiring his material. As I get the story, one side wants full publicity given to the Sperati episode, whereas the other side is violently opposed to any publicity. Do you hear that Robson Lowe is for full publicity and has laid himself open to censure from the Royal crowd?

We were pleased to hear about David; give him our regards. A fine young man.

We had a letter this A.M. from Stan Jr. written from Manila last Monday, the 5th. He is having a wonderful experience.

I had to return the fake 30¢ '69 to its owner. Sorry I couldn't hold it and send it to you. I had an out of town visitor yesterday who has a very keen eye. I showed him photographs of the fake and he was of the opinion that the blue design is also a fake. I can't agree to that at present. Of course, the red shield and eagle was printed in from a counterfeit die, but the blue glags are genuine in my opinion. I understand that d'Apéry bought the thing some years ago from either Eddie Stern or Eugene Klein, but not as a genuine stamp.

Re - the three Confeds. You are absolutely right about the two 2¢. There is no question but what they are bad. I would never pass the 20¢ as genuine. In the first place, there is not enough of the postmark to justify an opinion. Second - this pale black ink don't look like the black ink used at Richmond. Third - this black ink looks very much like that on the 2¢ 1863. I don't like any part of this 20¢ as a used copy. Where a stamp is common unused and scarce or rare used, one should try to acquire an authenticated cover, rather than a single off cover or

#2. Mr. Ezra D. Cole - July 9, 1954.

a single on a piece.

Mildred says hello to Jean and you, and our best wishes to you both.

Yours etc.,



# Jack E. Molesworth

Philatelic Dealer and Broker

102 Beacon Street

Boston 16, Massachusetts

July 21, 1954

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

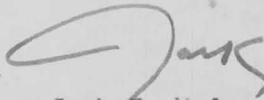
Dear Stan,

My thanks for your letter of the 18th received today. I can of course well understand your position regarding Karen, etc. *Could Mack of Cincinnati be the collector? Just sold him a #122.*

I found your story about "Mr. X" in the last Service quite interesting. I guessed that the collector who originally bought the stamp was Rust and that the dealer was Ward. Am I close?

Bruce Daniels called today to ask if I had ever had any dealings with Milton Moses of Lynchburg, Virginia and indicated that same individual had claimed nonreceipt on an auction lot sent him by regular mail. He also mentioned that Siegal and others had had a similar experience and was quite interested when I told him that several years ago Mr. Moses claimed nonreceipt of a Confederate 20¢ horizontal bisect cover which I sent him priced around \$100. Since it was the only such item I had lost in the mails for several years I doubted it but of course could do nothing when he signed the "Proof of loss" form swearing to its nonreceipt. However in view of the other incidents which have just been called to my attention I am sure it must be something more than coincidence. Bruce Daniels mentioned that you were friendly with and had a high opinion of Mr. Moses so I thought you might be interested in this additional bit of information.

With best wishes,

  
Jack E. Molesworth

P. S. A client of mine just returned a Confederate #3 with Richmond "Feb. 4, 1863" postmark with the comment that Ezra Cole had doubted it and had sent along to you who confirmed his opinion that it was bad. I do not question same but would appreciate a copy of your letter or comments concerning this stamp for my own edification.

July 26, 1954.

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

Dear Jack:

Re - yours of the 21st. No, I did not refer to Millard Mack of Cincinnati, but rather to my good friend Kiefaber of Dayton, Ohio. He had Karen buy that fake 30¢ 1869 for him. I don't care to offer him advice with whom to deal. He is over 60 and should know.

Re - young Millard Mack. He is quite a nice chap and is a grandson of an old business acquaintance of mine in Cincinnati. Please be very careful what you offer to him and please as a favor to me treat him especially nice. I will return the favor.

Re - your guess on Mr. X. Your guess was 100% correct. Rust was the original purchaser.

I was amazed at the information on M. Moses. I always had the highest regard for him. He must be "nuts" to pull such stuff or perhaps he is a klepto. I never met him personally but years ago had a lot of correspondence with him on Confederates.

Re - the Confederate 2¢ Green with the Richmond postmark of Feb. 4 1863. There is not much to be said other than the fact that the postmark is fraudulent - Richmond never used a stamper like this. I don't know that I can add much more.

Re - Stan Jr. His ship is with the two carriers - planes from which shot down two Red planes this A.M.

Regards,

Yours etc.,

July 6, 1954



Stan;

Many thanks for the photo of the 4c cover of April 1863 from Holyoke to Boston. I am glad to record any such covers that are out of the common run. I suppose the 1c stamp could have prepaid a WAY fee but if there is any data on WAY covers with 1861 stamps someone else has it.

Altho there was carrier service ~~is~~ some cities much earlier than I knew about until recent years, and some surprisingly small places did have service as early as 1863, I agree with you that it was most unlikely in Holyoke. Factory town - paper mills.

Going north or coming back we often went thru Westfield and Northampton via the "College Highway" from New Haven, and less frequently thru Holyoke which is on the Connecticut River line from New Haven, Hartford and Springfield to Greenfield, Brattleboro and the north. The old Central Vermont line thru Amherst is only fifteen miles to the east of Holyoke. Westfield is about ten miles southwest and there is a railroad line between there and Holyoke. I don't know when it was built.

I doubt if there were more than three or four post offices in Hampshire County that would have mail service by stage to Holyoke. Granby, about half way between Holyoke and Ware looks like the best bet. I have never been to Amherst, or Granby, or vicinity, so don't know that part of Hampshire County at all.

In my opinion the letter was probably mailed in Holyoke by some one who knew there was carrier delivery in Boston and attempted to prepay carrier delivery to the addressee by affixing the One Cent stamp. Maybe someone from Boston went there and took some envelopes with him, already stamped as he used them in Boston. That may not be the correct answer, but could be.

As ever,

32 - 31

July 10, 1954.

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

Elliott:

I was rather surprised at your letter of the 6th.

If there was no Way fee up until July 1863 when was it abolished. The Way fee was certainly in effect in 1859 as per the P.L. & R. of 1859 - I know of no legislation between that date and the Act of March 3, 1863 that did away with the Way fee of 1¢.

Sec. 23 of the Act of March 3, 1863 abolished the 1¢ Way fee.

If the photograph of the cover that I sent you was a prepaid Way fee into Holyoke, then I assume someone within the lawful distance gave it to a Mail Route Carrier to carry to the Holyoke Post Office and placed in the mail. The law gave him the right to collect 1¢ for the service. What could be unusual about this?

Yours etc.,



July 12, 1954



Stan;

Yours of the 10th. We are working on U.S. Carriers, Independent Mail Routes, Local Posts and several foreign countries, all at the same time, and mostly specialized and difficult. I do not attempt to carry all the details about WAY service in my head. If occasion arises I consult whatever data I may have.

Sec. 219 of the 1859 PL&R concerns WAY letters and the last sentence reads,

"The postmaster will rate them with postage, writing against the rate the word 'way.'"

Whether this continued in effect until 1863 I do not know, but if it did, and the Holyoke letter was a way letter, it should have been marked WAY.

It seems to me that Sec. 219 is quite independent of Sec. 222 whereby the postmaster was instructed to pay the mail carrier one cent if demanded for each way letter, and therefore the letter should have been marked WAY whether or not the fee was demanded.

Obviously, there could be no WAY fee unless there was WAY service into Holyoke at that date. I don't think the letter proves that WAY service was in operation. I think WAY service into Holyoke was possible rather than probable and should be demonstrated to be a fact before a letter is assumed to have received such service.

Several of the few possible post offices in Hampshire County are so small that I cannot find them on the map. The best bet seems to be Granby and mail service from there may have gone east to Ware or northwest to Northampton, instead of to Holyoke.

WAY service had been in operation a long time - perhaps 70 years - and in general there was nothing unusual about it. But to apply it to a case where one strike was against it, and possibly two, and only an assumption in its favor, does seem unusual.

Even if someone takes the trouble to dig into the mail contracts and finds WAY service into Holyoke, that will show only that the letter could have received WAY ~~not~~ service - not that it actually did.

I am experiencing this sort of difficulty with the possible use of One Cent postage stamps to prepay carrier fees. The facts are capable of several interpretations and in several cities at different periods. I am not willing to assume that a stamp did prepay a carrier fee for no better reason than that it may have done so. That is one reason why the Carrier Book has taken so much time and correspondence and the preparatory work has cost so much.

As ever

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Elliot Perry".

32-31

July 16, 1954.

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

Elliott:

Regarding yours of the 12th and "WAY" mail. I have made quite a study of this class of mail, recorded many, many covers, photographed them, etc. I am convinced that the following are facts:

First. From the beginning of our postal system down thru the years before stamps, the word WAY on a letter came to be regarded as a due marking. In other words, WAY 1 was taken for granted to be due 1 with the word way denoting why 1¢ was due. I am very familiar with the various bits of postal legislation pertaining to WAY letters and the Regulations pertaining to same. I have complete files of P.M.G. Reports and P.L. & R. Editions. The section you quoted referred to unpaid Way mail, not to prepaid Way mail. The reason that prepaid Way mail was not marked Way was because there was no "WAY" fee due from the addressee. Inasmuch as the "WAY" fee had been prepaid on the Holyoke letter, there was no reason why the P.M. at Holyoke should mark the letter as "WAY," as no fee was due from the addressee. When that letter was deposited at the Holyoke office the P.M. paid the Mail Agent 1¢ and charged it on his quarterly report as money paid out. Washington had received 1¢ for the 1¢ 1861 stamp - a credit. When Holyoke charged Washington with the 1¢ paid the Carrier, a debit offset a credit. Accounts were even.

In the case of unpaid Way letters, a receiving P.O. paid the Carrier 1¢ and charged Washington. The addressee paid the delivery P.O. 1¢ and that office credited Washington 1¢, thus a credit offset the debit and accounts were square. Way letters were at the expense of the public in cases I have cited. I can assure you that the Way fee was in effect until July 1, 1863. You stated that the Holyoke letter should have been marked WAY. You are wrong - There was no occasion to mark it Way. Had the way fee been unpaid, then it should have been marked Way according to the Law and Regulation which referred to unpaid WAY FEES.

Way Service into any P.O. in the country was possible. It was not confined to any certain offices. The law is very plain on this point. The subject of "WAY" mail at New Orleans is very interesting and a special ruling by the P.M.G. was made doing away with the fee there in 1852. I can show you numerous examples of Prepaid Way letters.

Yours etc.,

July 28, 1954.

Mr. E. Perry,  
Box 333,  
Westfield, N.J.

Elliott:

I have yours of the 19th regarding prepaid WAY fees. Of course there are always exceptions to the general rule, that is, it was not the custom to mark a prepaid WAY letter with the word "WAY," because, as I stated in my last letter, "Way" had come to be regarded as a postage due letter. Montgomery, Ala. was one of the exceptions, because at times, that office did handstamp a prepaid Way letter with "WAY." I enclose a photo print of such a cover and I have a record of other similar examples from this office.

I do not think that "WAY" letters whether unpaid or prepaid were confined to any special group of offices, a "Way" letter could be brought into any P.O. in the U.S. and it was a custom that did not originate in this country but "Way" letters date back for years in the British postal system.

I have two examples of prepaid WAY letters into Cleveland, O., both with 3¢ + 1¢ 1861 stamps. None of the Cleveland collectors that I contacted had ever seen or heard of such uses.

I also have a 3¢ + 1¢ prepaid "WAY" into Des Moines, Iowa, and a few prepaid WAY covers with 3¢ \* 1¢ '51 and 3¢ + 1¢ '57.

Yours etc.,

B476 BY GORE  
APRIL 5 1954

*John - W. W.*



VERY  
RICH  
DARK  
BLUE



Mary S. P. Holway -  
Rear of 43 Charter St.  
Boston -  
Mass

3¢ plus 1¢ Carrier Delivery At BOSTON, or PREPAID  
"WAY" into HOLYOKE Mass. APRIL 25 1863.  
HOLYOKE IS A Small Town In Western Massachusetts,  
on The Connecticut River, And Did Not Have  
Any Letter Carrier Service In 1863.

Easthampton Mass. Hampshire

Northampton Mass " "

(C.H.)

H. FINDLAY FRENCH  
3902 CANTERBURY ROAD  
BALTIMORE 18, MARYLAND

July 6, 1954

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Thank you for your very pleasant letter of July 3<sup>rd</sup>.

I would be very glad if you would test the 3¢ '51 by removal from its cover - even tho' the chances seem very slim that it is on "India". In the over 20 years I have had this cover which came, with about 100 others, from the Clark family, it has become much more oxidized - although the companion cover you have from the same post office is, as you will note, quite different in appearance, despite the closeness of the respective dates. Both have been mounted in the same album and have never, in my possession, been ~~exposed~~ exposed to light. If the paper is not different, I assume the inks were. The 2<sup>nd</sup> one does not appear to be an O.B., and if it were not cut into, would be one of the clearest copies I have ever seen.

I indeed apologize to you for  
talking up with you such extremely minor  
matters from your standpoint - and equally  
minor to me from the standpoint of  
value, except that these questions have  
intrigued me for many years - quite irrespectively  
of their lack of importance.

I am not like the lady who  
phoned me a few weeks ago after  
first having read in a Sunday paper  
an article about my collection of Maryland  
stampless, and then seen the "Life" color  
picture of the red eagle Annapolis Provisional  
(at an alleged \$10,000). She said she had  
a somewhat similar cover and wanted  
to know what it was worth. I said "Does  
it have the red eagle - or at least the  
blue eagle?" She said no, and as a matter  
of fact it was not a cover from Annapolis  
but from Indianapolis but she shouldn't  
suppose there would be much difference!

Looking forward to hearing from you  
at your convenience and with cordial regards,  
yours sincerely,  
H. S. Allen, French

July 3, 1954.

Mr. H. Findley French,  
3902 Canterbury Road,  
Baltimore 18, Md.

Dear Mr. French:

It was nice to hear from you after so many years.  
I trust you are in the best of health.

Regarding the 3¢ '51 cover. Is it the India paper?  
My guess is that it is not, but I suppose the best way to be sure  
is to carefully remove it from the cover. This could be done by  
wetting the cover from the inside and being careful to keep any  
water from the surface of the cover or stamp. I don't think the  
paper looks like an "India" - seems much too thick and also does  
not have the silky appearance. Further, I never heard of any of the  
India paper copies that were used at the Easthampton, Mass. office.  
Incidentally, the other cover is from the Northampton, Mass. office.

If you think it advisable for me to remove the 3¢ from the  
July 11th cover I will be pleased to do so. I will hold the three  
pending reply. Personally I doubt if there is much money value in  
the trio, so I could not charge you anything but a very modest fee.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,



H. FINDLAY FRENCH  
3902 CANTERBURY ROAD  
BALTIMORE 18, MARYLAND

June 23/54

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

I enclose two very minor covers from my collection (plus another for comparison) which I would like you to diagnose as follows.

1. Is the July 11, 51 an "india" paper item as described in Chase? The "extra", July 24/51, from the same P.O. is only submitted from the possible standpoint of ready comparison.

2. What do <sup>you</sup> call the defects on George's check in the 1857 cover? While I have the original Chase, and someone once told me it was mentioned therein, but my eyes are not now good enough for me to try to find it.

If you would care to do so, you might indicate the probable value (if any) of the two items - as someday this might help my widow to decide whether she could afford to order one or two highballs!

As a matter of fact these covers, in view of my lack of knowledge on them, have always irritated me when I happen to look at my stamp cover albums, which is seldom as I now practically confine myself to stampers covers.

You may recall that a few years ago I sold you, for the benefit of a friend, a couple of "Nicanaga ahead of the Mail" covers - and I have bought some of the Express covers that Perry Fuller has disposed of - some to you, I believe.

When you return covers just enclose your statement. With kind regards.

Enc.  
3 covers.

Yrs sincerely,  
H. S. Willey & Co

Ref.

Bath or National Bk  
etc.

250

32-32

July 10, 1954.

Mr. H. Findlay French,  
3902 Cantebury Road,  
Baltimore 18, Md.

Dear Mr. French:

As per yours of the 6th, I removed the 3¢ stamp from the cover of July 11th ('51) and found it to be an Orange Brown on the regular stamp paper. I am returning the stamp herewith and also the three covers. I am including a copy of the "India Paper" from my reference collection which you can return. Also if you wish, return the July 11th cover and stamp, and I will put it back on the cover.

Please note that the July 24th cover is not from the same post office, the former is - EAST HAMPTON, MASS. - the latter (in red) is - NORTHAMPTON MASSS, both being in Hampshire County. The official list of the time gives the first as two words but for the second one word. Incidentally, Northampton was the county seat.

The shades of the two stamps are of course a bit different and I suppose they came from different plates and from different batches of ink. The Northampton is more like the shade I call "Copper" while the East Hampton is the typical Orange Brown.

Regarding the 3¢ '57. I note that I overlooked mention of this in my note of July 3rd. This is a consistent plate variety and one of a number that are illustrated and described in the Chase book on the 3¢ 1851-57. In the original edition, Chase called this the "Cheek Flaw" as per Fig. 49 on page 62. He stated the stamp came from the body of an unidentified plate. In the second edition of his book, he failed to give the plate or position so I judge that he still had not been able to identify the plate position. I will write him and inquire if it is still unknown to him. Incidentally I made all the illustrations of these "Plate Flaws" for the Chase book as well as the photographs, etc., etc. I suppose you have a copy.

Yours of the 6th was read with much interest. I have had some similar experiences with people who have called by phone about some "rare" stamp that they have. I have also chased many a rainbow but never found a pot of gold at the end, much less an old trunk up in an attic full of rare covers.



I am charging you a fee of \$2.50. Is that fair?

My kindest regards. Cordially yours,

\$250

PAID

32-32

JUL 17 1954

H. FINDLAY FRENCH  
3902 CANTERBURY ROAD  
BALTIMORE 18, MARYLAND

Dear Mr. Ashbrook: July 15, 1954  
The heat wave has interfered with making a prompt reply to your welcome letter.

I return the "india" paper sample so kindly sent, with my "non india" to be reattached.

I shall be interested in learning, in due course, whether Mr. Chase has ever identified the distinctive plate flaw on the 3¢ 1857. I suppose, on cover, this is perhaps a "5" stem.

As to your charge, I shall have to call it, in philatelic language "superb" or a "gem" of reasonableness. I enclose a few stamps that at least cover your postage and insurance.

When you return my cover, would you let me know (provided you do this type of service) the approximate charge for making, say, 200 photographic prints of Maryland stampless postmarks. I am toying with the possibility of producing a brochure on the subject, as I have by far the largest collection.

With many thanks & best regards  
yrs sincerely, H. Findlay French.

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK  
P. O. Box 31  
FORT THOMAS, KY.

COPY

July 10, 1954.

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

Dear Doc:

Re - your original 3¢ '51-'57 book, page 62, Figure 49, the "Cheek Flaw," a friend recently sent me a cover with a very good single and I made an enlarged photograph. Have you ever been able to identify the plate position? Would you like to have a print? The cover postmarked "Baltimore Apr. 7," (blue), but no evidence of year use. I also made a photograph in color.

With regards -

Yours etc.,

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK

32-32 ✓

July 12, 1954.

Mr. Tracy W. Simpson,  
66 Alvarado Road,  
Berkeley 5, Calif.

Dear Tracy:

My apologies for this tardy acknowledgement of yours of the 25th.

I also sent a print of the 3¢ cover down to Chase but the marking was new to him. The cover belongs to my good friend M. H. Judd of Dalton, Ga. Thanks for your advice that the stamp is from Plate 1<sup>L</sup>, and the probable use in 1852 or 1853.

I enclose herewith a copy of a letter I have today written to Doc. I am wondering if this particular flaw isn't scarce? Have you ever seen one? Would you like a photo print?

Thanks very much for a look at the photographs that you sent.

Re - the cover to Concord, N.H. with the pencil "Due 2." I believe that Blake is correct. However, I would like very much to see this cover. It seems like this is a very heavy strike of the Boston Paid in grid.

I am returning the prints herewith.

Do you believe Perry will ever get his book in print, I sincerely hope so.

My kindest regards.

Cordially yours,

32 - 32

GEORGE W. LINN  
PRES. & TREAS.  
CARL P. RUETH  
VICE PRES.

32-9  
GEORGE W.

**LINN**  
INCORPORATED

COMPANY

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SECRETARY  
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ADVERTISING

PUBLISHERS OF  
**LINN'S WEEKLY STAMP NEWS**



PRODUCERS OF  
**LINN PHILATELIC PRODUCTS**

OFFICE OF  
GEORGE W. LINN  
EDITOR

119-121 EAST COURT STREET  
Sidney, Ohio, U.S.A.

PLEASE ADDRESS REPLY:

HOWEY-IN-THE-HILLS  
FLORIDA

August 7, 1954

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

Dear Stanley:-

We left here July 7 and got home again August 1st. That is reason for delay in reply to your kind letter of July 12.

I already have about an even fifty different types of PAID cancels on the 3c 1861. Some of them are quite common. The common Boston PAID comes in two types, very much alike, yet easily told apart. This I have not seen used from any other office. Then there is a common ROMAN letter PAID, about a 24 point type which is plentiful and has been used in many different towns. A few others show up frequently, but of some I have seen as few as one or two copies so that breaking this stuff down, there are some rare types in the series. I have paid up to \$10 each for some of these on cover. It is clearly evident that the 15c price for these off cover by Scott is ridiculous even in the common Boston as choice copies of this are certainly worth 50c to \$1.00 each. Mediocre copies at as little as 25c is about the right figure while certain of the scarce ones are worth in the dollars.

When I get these written up and shown as I want to do there will be a new appreciation of them.

I know Clare Phillips and have had some nice material from him. He is a splendid sort of a fellow.

I am taking you at your word about U. S. 19th covers. Enclosed are two 1c 1851 imperf. I do not think much of either account margins. The 1c perf is nice yet a common one I believe. The 3c 1861 I just wanted you to see at is such a nice looking item.

These with some later covers are from an old gentleman in L. A. Calif. He has arrived at the age where he feels like liquidating his holdings and has apparently taken a fancy to me. I have already bought three or four lots of covers from him. He sends them on and tell me to make the prices. Says he has been very much pleased with what I have offered for what he has already sent me. These three however I want to be fair on as I can not judge their value well enough. One I believe is catalogued at \$12.00. This party contacted me due to some remarks in my Editorial column. He tells me in a recent letter that he has from 200 to 300 Patriotics which I hope he will send me. Also that he has several 5c and 10c 1847 covers, also a strip of five N. Y. Postmaster. I am hoping to get all his material sent to me. I have been disposing of all my cheaper stamps and intend to sell my sheets of the more modern material and get my holdings broken down into old U. S. Covers etc. Thus I have a little cash I can spare for such items.

I noted the writeup that Lindquist gave you and intend to do as much for you myself. You will not need take an advertisement unless you wish to do so later.

I have ready your Special Service bulletin with interest. It is mostly a bit above my class but I can handle the modest priced material and get as much pleasure from it. I have noted the 30c 1869 item also the one in reference to Mr. X. There is just as much or more going on in the

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO THE CORPORATION AND NOT TO INDIVIDUALS

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Sidney, Ohio, U.S.A.

HOWEY-IN-THE-HILLS  
FLORIDA

PLEASE ADDRESS REPLY:

field of cheap foreign stamps which are sold to amateurs and kids. This matter could be cleaned up and should be cleaned up but the ones who could do it will not act. The ASDA should come out flat and expose all this material and ask publishers to refuse to print offers of it. In fact they should go so far as to state that any ASDA member who offers this stuff without distinctly stating that it is merely a pictorial label and not a postage stamp will be thrown out of the ASDA. If we as a publisher had that sort of backing we could clean it out, but if we attack it ourselves without the backing of ASDA then we would lose a lot of advertising and STAMPS and other papers would benefit by the act.

I have little faith in fancy cancels off cover. I do not think I need worry about such. Do you remember Greasy Thomas of Chicago who a few years ago was making them plentifully.

In getting this material that I hope to get from the party in California, if you think seeing it would be helpful in your studies I would be glad to send you each lot as I get it and let you see what you can find of interest.

I would like rather prompt returns however as I will have to make an offer for it in a reasonable time and get it or return it. Thus far everyting has been satisfactory between us. I want to make a fair offer, yet I want to get it as cheap as I can. The way I look at it is if the party would sell at auction it would cost him perhaps 25% and thus if I can offer \$3.00 for a cover that might sell at \$4.00 he gets as much and I get a bargain.

I do appreciate your offer to look at material for me and I can at least pay the postage on such material that I send you so I will enclose a dollar bill with each lot to cover return postage etc.

Watch my editorials for a reference to your service.

Cordially,

*Geoff Linn*



Aug. 12, 1954.

Mr. George W. Linn,  
Howey-In-The-Hills,  
Florida.

Dear George:

Herewith the various covers as per yours of the 7th. There wasn't much in this lot to get excited about. I typed the 1¢ covers, marking the type in pencil on each one which you can erase if you wish. I suppose the best item in the list is the 3¢ 1861 "Steamboat." This was a "Way" cover brought into Baltimore by water with a "Way fee" of 1¢ Due. This circular marking is rather unusual used in conjunction with a 3¢ '61 at Baltimore. I doubt if anything special can be stated about any of the other covers.

I have carefully noted your remarks re - "PAID" cancels on the 3¢ 1861. I am sure that you will derive a lot of pleasure in forming a specialized collection and I quite agree that B.U.S. quotes on some of the 3¢ '61 cancelations are out of line with the present supply and demand. Many covers which were plentiful and common thirty years ago have since become scarce, but in many cases catalogue values have changed very little. Even the greatly reduced value of the dollar has not been taken into consideration.

I was pleased to learn that you are acquainted with Claire Phillips.

George, I will be glad to look over any of the items from your friend in California and hope he can supply you with some nice material. A strip of the 5¢ New York would be quite nice. I doubt if there is any safer investment than fine old 19th U. S. on cover in fine condition. On any items that you send me for a look I will try to return them the same day by air mail.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

BY FINDLEY FRENCH  
SEE S.B. 32 P 32  
SEE B 515

B514

JULY 10 1954



PLATE POSITION 5

FIG  
BLDE BAL. P.M - CHEEK FLASE - SEE CHASE A9  
AT 12 1/2 - F64-C5 BLIJE - 180 SEC (3 MIN)

6/1

U.S. POSTAGE



THREE CENTS



# JERE. HESS BARR

11 HOWARD STREET

WEST LAWN, PENNSYLVANIA, U. S. A.

June 1, 1954.

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

Dear Stan :

I have your letter of the 28th this morning and it's nice that you thought of me about the block of 25 90¢ 1879. I do not have a collection of stamps off-cover; I only collect them on original cover, and I would not therefore be interested in this lot. It's undoubtedly a very nice item.

I wrote John D. Pope III, who has taken Lt. Col. DeVoss' place as editor of our 20th Congress Book, that you might have something to contribute this year. You have been very kind in writing for us and your articles are always worth preserving.

I have finished my article on the 24¢ Continental Bank Note Stamp, but am still hunting for some information. I would have liked to know what kind of a perforating machine Continental used. Nobody seems to know. It must have been of the rotary type similar to the Bamrose machine, as an article in a N. Y. newspaper of 1873 says a girl received the sheets "as they came thru". This would seem to rule out a guillotine or line perforator. They had five machines in use which they say they developed themselves. Whether the machines were like the Bamrose rotary perforator or not I do not know; I wrote to the Smithsonian Institution to see if they might have a machine and asked what kind it was but have not had a reply.

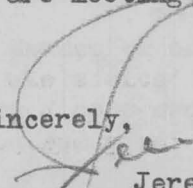
Boggs who is writing in the Collectors Club Philatelist does not seem to know. Incidentally most of the material Boggs used was printed by Dr. Carroll Chase in his book on the 3¢ 1851-57 stamps. I wonder whether Boggs knew this and I wondered why he did not give Dr. Chase some credit for digging it up. Maybe he did not know about the previous publication.

I have been trying to get Robert Ridgway's book on the Nomenclature of Colors which he published in Baltimore; I found out from the publishers A. Hoen & Co. that most of these, about 50%, went to Japan. The second edition was published about 1912 and I have seen the earlier edition of 1886 but it is not nearly as complete. I think they sold for \$25 and I believe 1,000 were printed for use in bird study and flowers, not for stamps. I wrote to Japan to see if a copy might be secured there.

I think my nose-bleeding is much better, and that the warmer weather will help; haven't had any now for about ten days but it starts when I get excited. Blood count is down to normal which is something to be thankful for. My white cells were up to 35,000 whereas 8,700 is normal. Otherwise I feel fine. I hope you too are enjoying good health. Phil Ward is taking over our advertising again this year. He has done a good job for us. As you know we are meeting in St. Louis; maybe you can be there in October.

Best regards.

Sincerely,

  
Jere. Hess Barr. (over)

P.S. As you know, in Europe I think they used the line, comb and harrow machines; some of my Lombardy-Venetia are perforated on a comb machine and some on a line machine. Those perforated on a line machine are scarce, and come in many combinations from 14 to 17 per cm. I have one with three guages on one stamp.

I wrote to Rossbach and another mfr. making perforating machines thinking they might have some historical information, but drew a blank. The Reading Eagle had an old machine in use for fifty years, a line perforator, which they discarded several years ago. I have found several National stamps with the holes (perforations) slightly larger than the Continentals, but not all are like that. I have had photos enlarged showing the difference in size of two small circular pieces taken from a National and a Continental. But, since five machines were in use I can't prove anything by it. It would need the study of thousands of stamps which could be dated or told by the secret marks to prove anything. But I have at least mentioned that this offers a chance for further investigation.

newspaper

I will have two pages reproducing an/article in Sept 1873 about the Continentals; it gives many facts not heretofore known.

# H. L. LINDQUIST

## PUBLICATIONS

153 WAVERLY PLACE, NEW YORK 14, N. Y.

April 7, 1954

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

Dear Stan:

I have just returned from the A.S.D.A. Show in Chicago and the Garfield-Perry in Cleveland, where we had quite a wonderful time. I'm sorry you couldn't make either of them for they were rather outstanding, and quite encouraging for anyone interested in the progress of philately.

Upon my return I have just noted the correspondence between you and Bridgman and the Eastman Kodak Co. Originally I understand that they had received instructions from the Treasury Department to process no stamps of any kind that were shown in color, but later this ruling was apparently modified and as a consequence many color slides were coming through on foreign stamps in particular.

The law of course specifically says that no reproductions can be made of any stamps, or "similitude of stamps unless they are in black and white." This even prevents us sometimes from reproducing stamps in the blue ink of our cover. We even had to reprint some covers some years ago because an advertisement showed some stamps in blue ink on the white paper.

This law has never been changed, although interpretations by the new administration have greatly liberalized them. It was largely started when the book on the King's collection came over, and the English government through its Ambassador in Washington asked to have it passed. So as a consequence a ruling was made that stamps which were demonetized and no longer good for postage could come through, although who should pass on these of course is a question.

This has been accepted by many people as entirely opening up the gates for all types of colored illustrations, and as far as I can ascertain the government is willing that these go through, although they do not definitely sanction it. Everybody is on the spot, however, for they are still illegal, regardless of any permissions that



unauthorized government officers have given.

So the whole thing is a precarious situation, and I have always feared that to make a frontal attack on Washington might result in the withdrawal of even the permissions we have now, which are subject to just that by the head of the Treasury Department, without notice.

I feel sure that no one will be seriously prosecuted for violating these restrictions if they can show they had no wrong intent. However, if some smart guy served an injunction on a person, or put you under an indictment, it would cause quite an expensive piece of litigation, stretching over a long period of time.

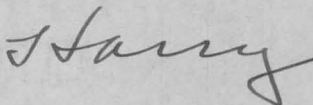
You of course remember that Hugh Clark and Hatfield were under such an indictment for nearly six years until the law permitting the illustration of stamps was liberalized. During that period they were not legally permitted to leave the jurisdiction of the court without the permission of the judge. It cost them, I believe, nearly \$30,000 before they were entirely out of it.

So it is one of those questions in which we must tread lightly, foolish as the law seems to most of us.

I will be interested in knowing if Eastman can make any other interpretations, although I am sure they won't do anything unless they get specific authority from the Treasury Department.

With best personal wishes,

Sincerely,



HLL/G

April 14, 1954.

Mr. Harry L. Lindquist,  
153 Waverly Place,  
New York, N.Y.

Dear Harry:

I found yours of the 7th most interesting, and I agree that some Smart-Aleck two-by-four could cause trouble on color illustrations if he saw fit to do so. Up until early March I got slides back from Rochester in less than a week's time, then all of a sudden, none came back. I sent a wire after wire but received no satisfaction whatsoever. I had about given up hope of getting any of the slides back, concluding they had gone astray in the mail. With each small roll that I sent I enclosed 50¢ in coin for air special delivery return and I was suspicious that someone was stealing the coin and destroying the films.

However, all the slides came back and the only explanation was to the effect that there were certain restrictions on color photographs of stamps and was I aware of the fact. I wonder if Eastman sent some of my work to Washington and requested a ruling? I haven't sent any more but I have a roll that is about ready and it will be interesting to see if it comes back in a few days time. They even held up a batch of slides that I made of stampless covers. Perhaps they wondered what sort of work I was doing. No doubt by this time they are well posted as to who I am and what I am doing so I do not anticipate any further trouble.

You will, of course, recall that in the old days Moran refused to give an inch and insisted on a strict observance of the law on stamp illustrations. I believe they are taking a more liberal view and let us hope that they will continue to do so. I believe this is much better than any revision of the law, because they can always crack down on those who over-step and abuse the liberal attitude they have adopted.

In a former letter you inquired if I wanted any publicity on the work that I am doing. I believe that this would be unwise.

I recently photographed in color the finest items in four different collections and I made duplicates of the outstanding items for my own reference collection. I am wondering if you haven't a few very outstanding items that you would like for me to photograph. Either a single stamp, pair or strip or cover. If so, send them down and let me make a few slides so that you can see how close I can arrive at the color duplication.

Bill Homan is quite a photographer, but do you know if he has ever done any philatelic color work? I suppose Harry Weiss has. Do you know? From all reports the Chicago show was an outstanding success. I suppose I should have attended but such affairs - late hours - etc - etc - wear me out and I realize I can't take it any more. At least like I would like to.

Ernie was supposed to be in New York this week. No doubt you have seen him.

I have had some very interesting correspondence with Mr. Bridgman of the

#2. Mr. Harry L. Lindquist - April 14, 1954.

Eastman Company. Again many thanks for putting me in touch with him.

Has Marion fully recovered? Mildred joins me in the best of wishes to you both.

As ever yours,

# H. L. LINDQUIST PUBLICATIONS

153 WAVERLY PLACE, NEW YORK 14, N. Y.

April 16, 1954

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

Dear Stan:

I would not be at all surprised <sup>your idea that</sup> if your pictures were sent to Washington for a ruling before they were returned to you would be the correct one. That, of course, would account for the delay and the very fact that they returned them all to you would apparently indicate that while they advised Eastman not to process the films, they did not definitely ~~confiscate~~ <sup>seize</sup> them.

The attitude in Washington has been to take a very liberal view of this whole situation and I believe that when this issue of Life comes out with all the stamps in full colors, including many United States rarities, that the government will either have to take action against them, or entirely retreat from their stand.

It is fortunate that a firm as large as this is willing to make a test case of it, for even though it does cost them a lot of money, the publicity that they will get will be really worth it. I just assume that you know what I am talking about for Life is going to bring out ~~this~~ wonderful issue with colored illustrations of stamps in open defiance of the present laws.

This could be a bad thing as well as a good thing, for as you probably know, the present law gives the Secretary of the Treasurer (and their officials) the privilege of cancelling our present law anytime that he feels that it is detrimental to his work.

Moran, as you say, always did lean backwards in enforcing the law, although he was a pretty good fellow at that. However, when I had a problem to take up with him directly he always gave me good advice but he never would commit himself in writing, which I can well understand.

# H. L. LINDQUIST PUBLICATIONS

153 WAVERLY PLACE, NEW YORK 14, N. Y.

- 2 -

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook

His successor Wilson was even more cooperative, but he told me an old saying that I'll always remember that he for no one else in the government can authorize anyone to disobey the law, and if he gave me any encouragement he might lead me astray, for if I was later indicted for violating the law and mentioned the fact that he had given me permission, it wouldn't protect me a bit.

Under the circumstances, I think it probably is just as well to give no publicity to the work that you are doing, and if this Life case would clarify the situation, it would make a very interesting story.

I appreciate your offer to make some slides of my own material, and if I think of anything that will justify the effort, I'll take advantage of it. Offhand now, there are very few of my things that depend much on the shade, <sup>and</sup> when <sup>no</sup> one should do a job of this kind unless it was really something worth while.

Bill Homan, as far as I know, has never gone in for color work in philately. Most of his philatelic work is in portraiture and things of that kind although he does have a lot of philatelic equipment and, in fact, is one of the best informed men on its use that I know of. I have never seen any color work from Harry Weiss either, for all of his lectures that I have seen were in black and white.

Ernie was up in Boston to attend the Kelleher and Paige sales and then went to see Doc Chase before coming to New York. We had several days together and he returned to Chicago yesterday and is soon to go up to his summer place for about four months.

I'm glad to say that Marion has fully recovered from her knee injury, and fortunately if left with no after effects. Several doctors have told me that she was indeed fortunate for it usually stiffens up and leaves an effect.

I'm glad to hear that you are carrying on some interesting correspondence with Mr. Bridgman, for he has very good angles I think on scientific photography and is just the right man for you to know.

Dr. Sneller has been in New York also, coming up from Washington after a medical convention in Norfolk. He's just a knowledgeable fellow also, and he is going to publish a double page spread of

*H. L. LINDQUIST*  
**PUBLICATIONS**

153 WAVERLY PLACE, NEW YORK 14, N. Y.

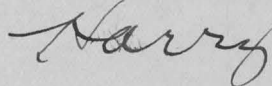
- 3 -

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook

his Philatelic Personalities.

With best wishes to you and Mildred, I am,

Sincerely,



H. L. Lindquist

HLL/mk

*H. L. LINDQUIST*  
**PUBLICATIONS**

153 WAVERLY PLACE, NEW YORK 14, N. Y.

May 27, 1954

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

Dear Stan:

I think it is about time that you got wise and began charging for all your expertizing work. It certainly has a value, and aside from assuring the owner that the cover or stamp is genuine, it gives background material that makes the stamp or cover itself much more valuable as a result of the information that you can supply.

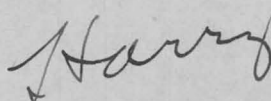
I'm sure there are many collectors who would be glad to take advantage of such a service and would feel more inclined to do so if they know they can pay you an adequate fee. Of course there are always a lot of chiselers who like to get something for nothing, but the great majority I am also sure would rather pay for what they get and would feel more like asking for your advice when they knew it was on a commercial basis.

I'll naturally be very glad to run an item along this line, but in order to keep it alive, not only an advertisement might do this, but also any time that you sent an item or article, be sure and include some sort of a comment in a footnote that you do this expertizing work. Something a little inconspicuous that could be changed with every issue, so it wouldn't look just like stock advertisement, would be the best idea, and merely pointing out, for instance, if you were writing up some Confederate cover, that you are the outstanding authority on this subject and that most of the covers and collections have been recorded and expertized by you.

That's a neat little folder you have gotten up. If you want to write a little review of your new book, we will also be glad to print it and it might help stimulate some additional sales. This would also give another opportunity to stress the fact that you do expertizing for a fee.

I hope everything is progressing nicely with you, and with best personal wishes,  
I am

Sincerely,



HLL/G

June 1, 1954.

Mr. H. L. Lindquist,  
153 Waverly Place,  
New York 14, N.Y.

Dear Harry:

Thanks for yours of the 27th.

I am enclosing copy for an advertisement which please run in "STAMPS" for me. Try it for four insertions but if you think more would be necessary for a try-out, use your own judgement. I suppose a space about twice the size of Ezra Cole's on the cover page would be okay but if you think more would be advisable, okay.

I have been thinking about this for some time and I agree with you that more collectors as well as dealers would avail themselves of my services if they knew they were not imposing on me and could pay a fee for same.

Harry I have not written any new book and you can bet that if I did there would only be one person to whom I would go. You know this as well as I do. If you referred to the booklet on the back of my little folder you overlooked that this is the reprint of my Confederate article that appeared in the Emerald Book of the "Stamp Specialist." I haven't written anything for publication for months and months, because my monthly Service takes up all my spare time. I no more get thru with one issue than I have to start with the next. I have started several times on those articles for "STAMPS" and had to lay the work aside. However, I have the work in a special folder and I will get to it someday. Please send me a bill after each appearance of the enclosed ad as I don't like to have bills accumulate.

Stan Jr.'s ship is now in China waters but on the way out he was at San Diego for a week. While there he attended some sort of an affair with some of his fellow officers and ran into Bob Newbury - Mike's son. Quite a coincidence. I am glad Stan is seeing sea service and the world rather than being tied down at some base month in and month out.

Mildred joins me in best of wishes to Marion and you.

As ever yours,



MEMO from

H. L. LINDQUIST

PUBLICATIONS

153 Waverly Place New York 14, N. Y.

June 18, 1954.

Dear Stan:

Just arrived in St. Thomas  
from St. Croix and San Juan  
where we spent a few days which  
you will soon see reflected in  
STAMPS.

Read the little write-up  
produced the first order but I  
hope it will really bring out  
something worth while in credits  
for your service.

Sorry to hear about the  
run-in with Dave Lidman. I  
see him very seldom and then  
only at philatelic gatherings but  
I think he is well established  
on the AP job, and it would  
be difficult to dig up anyone  
willing to do all the work and  
at the same time stand for all  
the criticism. He may have to  
give it up himself for I understand  
he had an attack from overwork.  
Best to you and Mildred.  
Harry Morrison

# H. L. LINDQUIST

## PUBLICATIONS

153 WAVERLY PLACE, NEW YORK 14, N. Y.

June 4, 1954

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

Dear Stan:

The ad which you have composed seems to fill the bill, and I believe this can be well displayed in a two-inch double column, which is double the size of the Cole ad, as you suggest.

We'll run this for four weeks just as a trial, and then see if the response justifies continuing it longer. We'll hold the cost in abeyance until we have made this tryout, which I hope will produce some business.

I feel there are many people, and especially friends of yours, who hesitate to impose upon you as they have been doing in years past, but who would be glad to avail themselves of your services if they knew that they could get them on a commercial basis.

I wrote an item such as I suggested in my last letter, and hope that this also will produce some results.

I realized that the reprint you are offering was from the "Emerald Book" of THE STAMP SPECIALIST, but even so, we will be glad to feature it in STAMPS as there are many people who never got the original article, and no more are available.

So don't hesitate to have us push anything of this kind that you bring out, and to help make it as successful as possible.

It is interesting that Stan Jr's ship is now on its way to San Diego. I was especially glad to note that he had run into Bob Newbury on the trip. I can imagine no nicer contact for him.

Marion and I are leaving on Saturday, June 12 for a trip to the Virgin Islands. We'll stop for four days in Puerto Rico on the way, and then a brief stay at St. Croix before winding up in St. Thomas, where we will spend most of our time. Naturally I'll get in touch with all the collectors down there, so you will be reading about our adventures in STAMPS.

I'm also planning to go down to Brazil the latter part of October, so as to be on the job for their show which is scheduled for November 6 to the 15th. I'm taking down a few exhibits, but most of them I am having sent by express or mail so that they will be there when I arrive. Will make some stops before reaching there, and will also continue afterwards, so I don't want to have all this valuable property in my actual possession for it would greatly handicap my style.

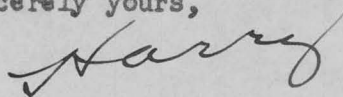
I'm counting on Mike Newbury's Brazil Bull's Eyes which he promised me, and possibly some other things, especially the Colombian Republic. If he ever intends to sell them, this would be a splendid place to show them and get some nice publicity.

Dr. Hennan has already sent me his reservation for thirty-five frames covering his various collections of South and Central America.

I've also accepted the commissionership for the Oslo Exhibition, to be held June 4 to the 12th next year; followed by the Swedish Exposition from July 1 to the 10th. So we've got a pretty busy schedule lined up for the next two years, and it is all virgin territory to us so I am sure we are going to enjoy it. Of course Marion will attend all of the affairs with me.

With best personal wishes to you and Mildred, I am

Sincerely yours,



HLL/G

*H. L. LINDQUIST*  
**PUBLICATIONS**

153 WAVERLY PLACE, NEW YORK 14, N. Y.

July 8, 1954

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

Dear Stan:

Marion and I just returned from a trip to the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico, about which you will be reading in STAMPS if you have the time to look it over.

You will notice that those advertisements that we scheduled have now been completed, and I am wondering if any results have developed from them.

Let me know if they panned out, if at all, and whether we should make any arrangement to continue them.

With best personal wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

*Harry*

HLL/G

32 - 34

July 12, 1954.

Mr. H. L. Lindquist,  
153 Waverly Place,  
New York 14, N.Y.

Dear Harry:

Yours of the 8th received, also your card from Charlotte Amalie, V.I. and I have read with interest the story of your trip in STAMPS. I was especially interested in your account of your visit to the home of Harvey S. Bissell with whom I had some correspondence some years ago when he lived out west. I have not heard from him in many years and was surprised to learn he had moved to the Virgin Isles. What a chap he is!!! He presented me with a copy of his book, "Cruising with the Wonderlusters" which I read with a lot of interest. It was published in 1931. As I recall, he did a lot of business with Ezra Cole. His wife must be as great a fellow as he is. This is shown by his book. Have you known him for many years? I will drop him a line and tell him how much I enjoyed reading STAMPS of July 10th.

Marion and you must have had a wonderful trip. How did she stand it and did her knee give her any trouble?

Regarding the ads I have been running in STAMPS. I can say that they produced very little result, but Harry I did not expect any immediate reaction but rather to announce to the public that I did pass on 19th U. S. and charged a fee for same, and further, that I hoped the ad would bring material to me for examination that I would be pleased to see - to study - photograph and incorporate in my records. No doubt this is a poor time of the year to run such an ad, so I suggest that we hold off until fall and then I will revise the wording and run it for a period of three or four months or more. Have a bill sent to me and I will remit promptly.

I believe the ad did put me in touch with a man out on the Coast who sent me a "mint 10¢ 1847" which he had purchased from an Eastern dealer last April. Herewith I am enclosing a marked copy of my July 1st "SERVICE ISSUE" in which I give an account of this episode. Please read carefully my remarks on page 307. Also I suggest you read about my discovery(?) of a counterfeit 30¢ 1869. I don't know how a faker could remove the red design of this stamp without harming the blue design but he seems to have succeeded in this case. If you would like to see photographs I will be pleased to submit them. Also color slides of the 30¢ fake.

I carefully noted yours of June 4th in which you mentioned your plans for a trip to Brazil in October. I wonder if Mike will come thru and let you have his Bull's Eyes? He is such a big-shot now that he can't be bothered accommodating those whom his Uncle would have been pleased to favor.

I also note Dr. Hennan promised some material. I hope this means that Doc's health is improved. I also note you will be journeying abroad next summer.

#2. Mr. Harry L. Lindquist - July 12, 1954.

Mildred joins me in best wishes to Marion and you.

As ever yours,

July 5, 1954.

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

Dear Ezra:

Please give me a little information on how you handle auction bids in case a thing like the following would occur. Three clients send you bids on the same lot -

"A"	gives	you	a	bid	of	\$250.00
"B"	"	"	"	"	"	280.00
"C"	"	"	"	"	"	295.00

The lot is knocked down to you @ \$225.00, whereupon you request the auctioneer to make the price \$281.00. Is this correct? Is this the general practice among agents who handle bids at New York auction sales? The idea occurred to me that when you received "C's" bid of \$295.00 you should notify "A" and "B" that you have a higher bid than those they sent you, thereby giving them the opportunity to increase their bids, but I can see where this would prove to be an endless proposition because if "B" raised his bid to \$300.00 you would then have to notify "C" that you had a higher bid than his, etc., etc., etc.

With regards -

Yours etc.,

# MORRISON CAFETERIA COMPANY

INCORPORATED

Birmingham, Alabama.

Tuesday, July 13, 1954.

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

Dear Stan,

I have just received today your two letters, both mailed yesterday but one dated July 9th., the other being the 12th. I hasten to answer them.

I noted the remarks of Jack Molesworth about the Stolow sale. I think a lot of the misleading descriptions are due to ignorance for everybody I ever saw up at their place seemed to be foreigners and possibly not up on U.S. I have never met nor seen Mr. Kenny. I am sending back his letter herewith.

Also I have read with great interest the excerpt of Cole's letter about bidding, etc. I really must agree with him that there is no better way, nothing practical, than as he handles it. I doubt if he has any bidder that he thinks more of than myself. And yet, even at his home, he has never divulged in the slightest any bid or lots that any other client has sent him. For example, I was at his home Easter just before the Hawaii Harris sale and wanted very much to get a line on that cover with the 13¢ surcharged "5" on it. But I must admit I got absolutely no lead whatever, not even who might be bidding. I asked if Caspary, Jessup or who was interested. I still don't have the slightest idea if any of them even sent in a bid. I seriously doubt if he would tell any of them about my bids. I, however, agree with you about the honesty of Gregory Mozian. I shall use him in Stolow sales sometime. I am of the opinion that Stolow will be a continuing factor in the auction field and is more liable to be larger as time goes by. They got BIG publicity out of that Sat-Eve Post article. I should say Life instead of the Post.

I fear if I said all I think about the English and French I would be hauled up before McCarthy or somebody. But someday we are going to get a belly-full of that gang. Wait and see!

Regarding Lehmann and the Babcock cover again: Also your P.S. that I may be wrong, let me say this. Back when that sale occurred I did not know who Lehmann was and don't know Leurson even now, not having ever heard such a name. My not in the Babcock catalog is in script and not very plain. When you write the name of a bidder you don't even know you never write plainly and my script looks like "Leeman" and it could be Leurman or as you say I could have not heard Walter plainly and it could be he said Leurson. So I may be wrong.

I will get together the covers for slides tomorrow and send them up to you.

I'd like that block of 90¢ 1879s to net me \$300 if possible. It was out of the Emerson collection you know and illustrated on page 187, photo 91 of your "special Service." Really remarkably centered.

I am enclosing a list of Fritz Billig's. I'd like it back after you have looked it over. Maybe you already have it. But keep it until you are thru with same.

Sincerely,





32 - 35

July 12, 1954.

Mr. Sol Kaplan,  
% Cincinnati Stamp & Coin Co.,  
413 Race St.,  
Cincinnati, O.

Dear Sol:

Here is an extract from a letter from  
Ezra Cole re - auction bidding. I believe you  
will agree that his method is not only ethical but  
the best that could be used, month in and month  
out.

Yours etc.,

32-35

**EZRA D. COLE**

*Rare Postage Stamps*

NYACK . NEW YORK

*Commissions . Appraisals*

TELEPHONE NYACK 7-0964

July 7th, 1954

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

Dear Stan:

Yours of July 5th about auction bidding. If you will refer to a copy of your letter just to get the figures right when you read this it may make it a little clearer to you.

If three bidders send me the three bids which you note in your letter and I buy the lot for \$225.00 I would then say to the auctioneer make the price \$282.50. Usually the auctioneer would not take \$281.00 as a bid and sometimes some auctioneers would force me to bid even \$285.00 but this is relatively unimportant.

Your idea of notifying under bidders that their bids were no good would not only result in an injustice but would be an endless proposition for I would have to keep notifying the underbidders right up to and including the actual sale time. It could not be done.

A Further than this I keep all bids confidential and everybody bids as far as I know, with this information. I not only do not tell "A" whether "B" and "C" are bidding at all and I certainly do not tell them how much.

Before the sales when I am asked I do give bidders all the information I have, - not only what I possess myself but what information I can obtain from the auctioneer or gossip, and in some cases the auctioneer's estimate of value as well. From that point on it is up to the bidder himself to make up his mind, and they quite often disregard my figures and estimates both ways. The only bit of information I have ever given out is when some people have told me they wanted to limit their expenditures I have advised them that in my opinion they would or would not get as much as they expected.

Jack Molesworth up in Boston had an idea of cancelling off the low bids and not using them competitively. This is unethical in the first place and in the second place I think is actually illegal, for after all the owner and the auctioneer are entitled to get what the stamps are worth by honest competitive bidding. Besides this it is my idea that this system would result in a very great injustice and bad feeling.

As far as I know there is only one way to do this and that is by honest competition. If people do not trust me I do not want their

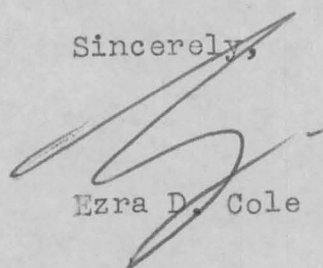
business and the highest bidder gets the lot. I do not tell any one who is bidding or how much even after the sale has taken place.

\* Did you see "The Philatelist" for June about the Sperati exhibition? On Page 231 there is a letter by Ian T. Hamilton, the second paragraph from the end about the Expert Committee business is very interesting.

The paragraph beginning "Finally, if we want to be told by an Expert Committee etc etc" This is well worth studying for it is an interesting commentary on collecting these days. An old dealer here in New York once said: "I never saw a stamp with a certificate that did not need it." This is not quite true now for some people are getting certificates with everything, but if people would only buy stamps that were not doubtful everyone would be a whole lot better off.

Have you been getting many covers to expertize? If I were you I would continue to sign them on the back and not issue certificates. If you do this in pencil it can be erased if necessary and of course you can keep all the photographs and records you want and give some to the owner, but I think this is better than certificates. After all one of these days some people will have to have an album for their certificates.

Sincerely,



Ezra D. Cole

EDC:mkl

Yours of July 5th about auction bidding. If you will refer to a copy of your letter just to get the figures right when you read this it may make it a little clearer to you.

If three bidders sent me the three bids which you note in your letter and I buy the lot for \$225.00 I would then say to the auctioneer make the price \$282.50. Usually the auctioneer would not take \$281.00 as a bid and sometimes some auctioneers would force me to bid even \$285.00 but this is relatively unimportant.

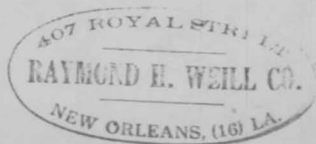
Your idea of notifying under bidders that their bids were no good would not only result in an injustice but would be an endless proposition for I would have to keep notifying the underbidders right up to and including the actual sale time. It could not be done.

Further than this I keep all bids confidential and everybody bids as far as I know, with this information. I not only do not tell "A" whether "B" and "C" are bidding at all and I certainly do not tell them how much.

Before the sales when I am asked I do give bidders all the information I have, - not only what I possess myself but what information I can obtain from the auctioneer or gossip, and in some cases the auctioneer's estimate of value as well. From that point on it is up to the bidder himself to make up his mind, and they quite often disregard my figures and estimates both ways. The only bit of information I have ever given out is when some people have told me they wanted to limit their expenditures I have advised them that in my opinion they would or would not get as much as they expected.

Jack Molesworth up in Boston had an idea of cancelling off the low bids and not using them competitively. This is unethical in the first place and in the second place I think is actually illegal, for after all the owner and the auctioneer are entitled to get what the stamps are worth by honest competitive bidding. Besides this it is my idea that this system would result in a very great injustice and bad feeling.

As far as I know there is only one way to do this and that is by honest competition. If people do not trust me I do not want their business and the highest bidder gets the lot. I do not tell anyone who is bidding or how much even after the sale has taken place.



**WESCO No. 1301**

Ston. What the hell is this?  
If their card party it's a nice job. Rose

July 9, 1954.

Mr. Roger G. Weill,  
407 Royal Street,  
New Orleans 16, La.

Dear Roger:

Yours with the 30¢ 1869 received.

I don't suppose you are in any great hurry for its return. Before answering your question - What is this? I want to give it a careful examination. This is not one of those things that one can take a glance at, and render an on-the-spot opinion. At least I can't.

Regards.

Cordially yours,

# Post Office Department

Received from: STANLEY B. ASHBROOK  
P. O. Box 31  
-----  
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.,  
-----  
FORT THOMAS, KY.



One piece of ordinary mail addressed  
to Raymond H. Weill Co  
407 Royal St  
New Orleans (16)

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

POSTMASTER.



32-36

July 15, 1954.

Mr. Roger G. Weill,  
407 Royal St.,  
New Orleans 16, La.


Dear Mr. Roger:

Herewith the "30¢ 1869." Sorry to have been so tardy in returning this. Whoever fixed this up did quite a clever job. Wonder why he did not gum it? Or did he? Paper is wrong - grill is wrong - perfs are wrong - so I suppose this is some sort of a doctored proof - I really don't know if it is a split card or a mounted India. If it belonged to me I would put it into boiling water to see what would happen. The chances are that Clarence Brazer would know what was done to it. At any rate, the chances are that he would be glad to see it and if you would care to have me send it to him I'll be glad to do so.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

(32-36)



Raymond H. Weill Co.  
Roger G. Weill-Raymond H. Weill  
407 Royal St.  
New Orleans 16, La.



Photo Made  
STANLEY B. ASHAROOK

P.O. Box 3,

~~307 7th Ring~~

~~92~~ FORT THOMAS, KENTUCKY

F8 - 1/15

Try ~~F8 - 1/10~~ Also

Mr Clarence W. Brown  
Box 70

Flushing N.Y.

DO NOT MAKE ENVELOPE  
DO NOT MAKE ENVELOPE

Dear Clarence

There is a "30¢ 1869"  
that I thought you would  
like to see. ~~As~~ For the  
issued stamp, the paper  
is wrong, the perfs are  
wrong and the gull is  
wrong, hence this must  
be some sort of a  
doctored proof but  
what kind of a proof  
I do not know. Can  
you help me out?

This originally had

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK

A. P. S. 2497

33 N. FT. THOMAS AVE.

FT. THOMAS, KY.

JULY 1, 1954

MR. BERNARD HARMER,  
% H. R. HARMER, INC.,  
32 EAST 57TH ST.,  
NEW YORK 22, N.Y.

DEAR BERNARD: .. , ? ,

ATON'S  
BERKSHIRE  
LINEN  
U.S.A.

"Full sum" but this was  
marked off. My sincere regards  
to all

32-36

July 20, 1954.

Mr. Clarence W. Brazier,  
Box 70,  
Flushing, N.Y.

Dear Clarence:

Here is a "30¢ 1869" that I thought you would like to see. For the issued stamp, the paper is wrong, the perfs are wrong and the grill is wrong, hence this must be some sort of a doctored proof but what kind of a proof I do not know. Can you help me out?

RETURNED BY  
JUL 26 1954

This originally had "full gum" but this was soaked off.

My kindest regards.

Cordially yours,

RETURNED BY

RETURNED BY  
JUL 26 1954

RETURNED BY  
JUL 26 1954

July 26, 1954.

32-36

Mr. Clarence W. Brazier,

P.O. Box 70,

Flushing, N.Y.

Dear Clarence:

Thanks very much for yours of the 21st.

I will make a further examination of the 30¢ 1869 and  
if I develop anything new I will advise you. Herewith  
I am returning the proof that you enclosed.

With kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

32-36

July 26, 1954.

Mr. Roger G. Weill,

407 Royal St.,

New Orleans 16, La.

Dear Roger:

I am enclosing herewith the letter from Brazer regarding your "30e 1869." Please return at your convenience. I am holding the item a few days as I wish to make a further examination.

My kindest regards.

Cordially yours,

(32-36)

32-36

July 21, 1954.

Dear Stanley:

I return herewith the 1869 30¢ perf. and agree with you that the grill is faked and perforation holes not opposite.

The paper is now not so white as India paper proofs and the red ink is also not as bright as on proofs that match the ultramarine ink, but this may be due to imersion that removed the gum that may have settled somewhat on the paper. However the paper does not penetrate moisture quickly as does India paper, either applied face or back. There are some perforation nibs that seem to indicate two thicknesses of paper so it should be more carefully examined under a microscope and violet ray lamp for paper reaction. I enclose a proof with almost identical registration for comparison. I do not have a microscope or violet ray lamp as I have little need to use them with proofs, and I have no stamps for comparison. Consequently my observations are limited to comparison with proofs under magnification up to 10X. with use of fine mm scale.

When wet on face it curls back and when wet on back it curls to face which may indicate double paper that remains dry on one side. I have read that colodion used as adhesive does not dissolve with water. Possibly alcohol or carbona might dissolve it to separate papers but I do not know effect on inks.

Faithfully yours,

(signed) Clarence



July 21, 1954.

Dear Stanley:

I return herewith the 1869 30¢ perf. and agree with you that the grill is faked and perforation holes not opposite.

The paper is now not so white as India paper proofs and the red ink is also not as bright as on proofs that match the ultramarine ink, but this may be due to imersion that removed the gum that may have settled somewhat on the paper. However the paper does not penetrate moisture quickly as does India paper, either applied face or back. There are some perforation nibs that seem to indicate two thicknesses of paper so it should be more carefully examined under a microscope and violet ray lamp for paper reaction. I enclose a proof with almost identical registration for comparison. I do not have a microscope or violet ray lamp as I have little need to use them with proofs, and I have no stamps for comparison. Consequently my observations are limited to comparison with proofs under magnification up to 10X. with use of fine mm scale.

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Faithfully yours,

(signed) Clarence

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

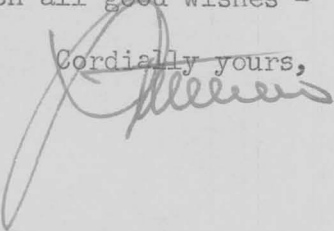
July 24, 1954.

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

Dear Les:

Here is a 30¢ 1869. I thought you would like to see this and if you were asked the question - what is this - what would you say?

With all good wishes -

Cordially yours,  


0-24

Dear Stev:.. Scrambling this in great  
haste -- flying to Portland, Ore.  
in 30 minutes.

My opinion that this is a  
proof -- for a while.

In great haste.

Les

1006

Aug. 2, 1954.

Mr. Roger G. Weill,  
407 Royal Street,  
New Orleans 16, La.

Dear Roger:

Herewith I am returning to you the faked 30¢  
1869 proof. Further study of it has added nothing to  
my former opinion. I feel sure(?) this is a mounting  
rather than a thinned card. If I owned it, I would  
put it into boiling water for five or ten minutes to  
see what would happen.

Please don't let this fall into the hands of  
Mr. X, as he wouldn't be long in putting it into some  
collection as a mint copy.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

32-36

TELEPHONE  
RAYMOND 0022

RAYMOND H. WEILL Co.  
ROGER G. WEILL - RAYMOND H. WEILL

*Philatelic Dealers*

MEMBERS  
AMERICAN STAMP DEALERS ASS'N  
AMERICAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY  
SOCIETY PHILATELIC AMERICANS  
COLLECTORS CLUB, NEW YORK  
BRITISH PHILATELIC ASS'N, LTD.

407 ROYAL STREET  
NEW ORLEANS 16, LA.

August 6, 1954

Stanley B. Ashbrook  
Ft. Thomas, Ky.

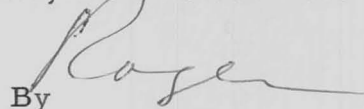
Dear Stan:

Thank you for your letter of August 2. We are presenting you with the 30¢ 1869 to put into your "witch's brew." Don't bother to return it, even if the stamp remains intact.

We can be sure now it won't fall into the hands of Mr. X. We were very interested to read about him again in the Ashbrook Special Bulletin just received. Would it be possible for you to furnish us with the initials of this party so that we, ourselves, might avoid any dealings with him? Of course, any information you give us will be kept entirely confidential.

Yours sincerely,

Raymond H. Weill Co.

By 

rgw:lc  
enc.

P. S. Thank you for the Brazer letter which is returned herewith.

32-36

Clarence W. Brazer  
Philatelist  
U. S. Essays & Proofs  
EXCLUSIVELY

MEMBER

Collectors Club—Past Governor  
American Philatelic Society  
Society of Philatelic Americans  
Essay Proof Society—Founder

Tel. Flushing 9-2526

Box 70, Flushing, N. Y.

July 21, 1954

Dear Stanley,

I return herewith the 1869 30¢ perf. and agree with you that the grill is faked and perforation holes not opposite.

The paper is now not so white as India paper proofs and the red ink is also not as bright as on proofs that match the ultramarine ink. But this may be due to immersion that removed the gum that may have settled somewhat on the paper. However the paper does not penetrate moisture quickly as does India paper, either applied face or back. There are some perforation ribs that seem to indicate two thicknesses of paper so it should be more carefully examined under a microscope and violet ray lamp for paper reaction.

I enclose a proof with almost identical registration for comparison.

I do not have a microscope or violet ray lamp as I have little need to use them with proofs, and I have no stamps for comparison.

Consequently my observations are limited to comparison with proofs under magnification up to 10x. with use of fine mm scale.

When wet on face it curls back and when wet on ~~face~~ back it curls to face which may indicate double paper that remains dry on one side. I have read that colodion used as adhesive does not dissolve with water. Possibly alcohol or carbona might dissolve it to separate papers but I do not know effect on inks.

Faithfully yours, Clarence

Aug. 12, 1954.

Mr. Roger C. Weill,  
407 Royal Street,  
New Orleans 16, La.

Dear Roger:

Thanks very much for yours of the 6th and the 30¢ 1869 proof. I suppose the answer to this copy is that it is possibly some proof that was printed on a paper of which I have no knowledge. I am not certain whether it is a "die" or "plate proof" and wonder if it could be the former. After all, proofs are a bit out of my field. I would have thought that Brazer could have given me the answer.

I put it into boiling water - a pure variety (not river), expecting a mounting to separate but though I let it boil for five minutes, nothing happened. I intend to investigate this further and will keep you advised.

I don't want any trouble with "Mr. X" as he is a bad actor so I request that you treat his name as confidential. He sold three cleaned copies to my friend Philip Rust last year as mint copies for approximately \$1,000.00. This copy was one of them, and I photographed it by ultra-violet last October. Rust returned all three and got his money returned. Victim No. 2 sent me the copy and on the back was my pencil "14R," naturally I recognized it and got out the photograph I had previously made, print of which I included in my August Service. A refund has just been made to victim No. 2 but Mr. X stated that he did not believe the photograph proved a thing, that the marks were probably paper creases or "something." It was like catching a thief with his hand in your pocket and his explanation that he thought the pocket was his own. Who else could pull such a stunt than Philip Jr. of Philadelphia? I am sure that you guessed.

With regards -

Cordially yours,





30¢ 1869

32 - 36

Aug. 13, 1954.

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

Elliott:

Here is a 30¢ 1869 which belongs to me and on which I want your opinion and for same I will pay you your regular fee. For your information, I am of the opinion this is a proof - the grill is a fake - the perforations are fraudulent. I thought at first it was a "mounting" but I put it in boiling water for five minutes and nothing happened. It does not seem to be a splittcard. My knowledge of proofs is very limited, so I haven't any idea what this is or whether a 30¢ 1869 was ever issued as a proof on paper such as this. If you can give me the answer, do so, and charge me a regular fee for your time, etc.

Yours etc.,

P.S.--Incidentally Brazer has seen this copy.

32-36

August 16, 1954



Stan;

Three notes from you in one letter today. One to you was ready and sealed Saturday but not in time to make the registered mail so goes today.

A In my opinion your 30c 1869 started life as a plate proof, and has been manipulated to appear to be a grilled stamp. Such curios are usually made by putting enough backing on an india proof to imitate the paper of genuine stamps, and if the backing is cemented with albumen, or other stickum which is not soluble in water, they will stand boiling more or less indefinitely. The longer albumen is boiled the harder it becomes. The slickest slickers use an adhesive which is not readily soluble in water, alcohol, ether, carbontet\*\*\*, or any of the common solvents, so you might have quite a hunt to find a solvent which would work.

Unless an unusual amount of time is required my examination fee is 3% to 5% of the market value of the stamp or cover. As the curio has very little value, if any, I see no reason to charge a fee. However, if you insist on paying, you may send me a check for a small amount and I will spend it on the Carrier Book.

You have been cooperating to help make the Carrier Book more complete and more reliable and I am pleased to reciprocate.

Your suggestion that WAY fees were prepaid by stamp to prevent mail carriers from collecting in cash from the sender and again from the post office makes good sense to me.

It is obvious that the law did not - and could not - specify that certain offices should have WAY service and others not. The separation resulted from the application of the "more than one mile" requirement, and/or other conditions which happened to exist. Owing to a change in the contract routes there could have been WAY service at an office at certain periods and not at others. Or changing the location of a post office could affect the conditions. Before the Spring Garden Post Office in Philadelphia was discontinued it was moved several times and as much as about a mile and a half.

The Jersey Central Railroad line originally went nearer the business part of Scotch Plains, and the old right of way is now a highway. The "Fanwood cut" through which the tracks now run enabled the line to be shortened, and Scotch Plains uses the Fanwood station. The movement was not great enough to have made a difference in WAY service; had the tracks been moved more than a mile instead of less than a mile WAY service would have been affected. I have no doubt that did happen in other places.

30c 1869 enclosed. Have to get busy with other mail now.

As ever,

Elliott Perry

Aug. 20, 1954.

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

Elliott:

Yours of the 16th received with return of the 30¢ 1869 doctored proof. Thanks very much. I am enclosing \$3.00 herewith in currency in appreciation.

I have carefully noted your further remarks in this letter regarding "Way" mail.

I also acknowledge receipt of yours of the 13th returning the five covers I submitted on the 8th.

Here is a photograph of another Cleveland 3¢ + 1¢, a cover that was loaned to me by Tudor Gross some years ago. Perhaps this is the second one that you had of record. Please return this print at your convenience as it is from my files.

Yours etc.,

Aug. 20, 1954.

Mr. Roger C. Weill,  
407 Royal Street,  
New Orleans 16, La.

Dear Roger:

Inasmuch as E. Perry, Esq. is supposed to know all the answers, I sent the 30¢ 1869 doctored proof down to him, paid him a fee, and I believe he came up with something worth while and perhaps explains why my boiling bath had no effect. Because such an item will undoubtedly come up again in the future, perhaps Perry's remarks will be of interest to you. I therefore quote as follows from his letter dated Aug. 16th:

"In my opinion your 30c 1869 started life as a plate proof, and has been manipulated to appear to be a brilled stamp. Such curios are usually made by putting enough backing on an india proof to imitate the paper of genuine stamps, and if the backing is cemented with albumen, or other stickum which is not soluble in water, they will stand boiling more or less indefinitely. The longer albumen is boiled the harder it becomes. The slickest slickers use an adhesive which is not readily soluble in water, alcohol, ether, carbontet<sup>\*\*\*</sup>, or any of the common solvents, so you might have quite a hunt to find a solvent which would work.

Unless an unusual amount of time is required my examination fee is 3% to 5% of the market value of the stamp or cover. As the curio has very little value, if any, I see no reason to charge a fee. However, if you insist on paying, you may send me a check for a small amount and I will spend it on the Carrier Book."

(unquote)

With regards -

Cordially yours,

# MORRISON CAFETERIA COMPANY

INCORPORATED

Birmingham, 5, Alabama.

Wednesday, July 14, 1954.

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

Dear Stan,

I may have, in fact sincerely hope, something of interest to you enclosed. These four covers just came from a sale of Bob Laurence's this past Monday. My purpose in sending them is the lot 555, pair of 2¢ 1869, 12¢ 1869 and 15¢ Lincoln dated April 1, 1869. I think if you accept that date which is shown on the back as 1869 and April 1 on the face that I have dug up a cover with an earlier date on the 12¢ 1869 than known hereto-for. Your records as per the Special Service is April 5th on the 12¢. If this is correct will you write on the back to that effect. And also if the pencil notation is correct as to the 2¢, will you also so indicate. Of course this will be paid for if this is alright as above. Please erase the note then on the face. I dislike any notes on the face of a cover.

While they are not worth expertizing I am enclosing with the cover the other three I got out of the same sale. Here is what they cost me:

Lot 447- Pair of 1¢ 1851- #7 and 3¢ 1851 single to France	\$18.00
" 478- Single 10¢ 1855 Type I Boston to San Francisco, Cal.	\$33.00
" 555- 12¢ 1869- 2¢ 1869- 15¢ 1867 to Palermo, Italy	\$40.00
" 559- 15¢ 1869 to Paris	\$22.00

Just thought you would be interested in the market, although this was a late sale and Ez said only four persons were in attendance. I'll bet he picked up some bargains for his own stock, dont you.

Your letter just came with the information about Henry Hill and Jamet. Very interesting to say the least. Thank you for it. I guess Hill must think me a terrible piker with a bid of \$300 on that lot 866. But I have no regrets that someone else has it at \$940.

Sincerely,



P.S. Register these back to me at \$25 or 55¢

I have surcharge policy, in other words just surcharge then for value of \$120.00 for which now there is NO additional charge. I will refund same when paying for expertizing.

July 16, 1954.

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

Dear Em:

Herewith the four covers as per yours of the 14th.

Regarding the cover with 31¢ to Palermo, Sicily, on April 1st, 1869. I have given this quite a bit of study and regret that I cannot convince myself that this is a genuine cover. There was no rate that I know of of 31¢, or any multiple of that rate. Whether some stamps were added to this cover, or that some stamps are missing I have not been able to determine. I guess there is little doubt this letter was actually mailed from New York on April 1, 1869. There was a sailing of the mail on that date by a German mail ship, but I do not have any record of the name of the ship.

This letter is routed "Per Union," and this ship was of the North German Lloyd Line. It also was designated, "Closed Mail Via England." The rate by this route was 19¢ per half ounce. I can't figure out what relation there was between 19¢ and 31¢. I judge that this letter was mailed on April 1, 1869, because there was a sailing of the German Line on that date but whether these stamps were used originally on the cover is a question. There is no actual proof and because there is no explanation of the 31¢ rate, the cover is certainly questionable.

The earliest known use of the 12¢ '69 is a cover that I turned up years ago in the Knapp collection. I am enclosing a poor photo herewith. The New York date was most indistinct but it appeared to be Apr 5 or 7. I now believe it was the 3rd as there was no sailing of a mail ship to England on the 5th or 7th. You will note that the two 12¢ stamps on the Knapp cover are canceled the same as the stamps on your cover. Knapp cover was Lot 1747 in the Knapp sale of Nov. 5th, 1941. A memo on the end of the Knapp cover has "April 5th, 1869." The fact that the 12¢ stamp on your cover is upside down is a suspicious feature(?). It is possible I suppose that your cover could be genuine, but as outlined above, I am sure that you can appreciate why I could not authenticate it as such.

Mail by this route was sent in sealed bags and thrown off at Southampton then sent across France, (still sealed), and I suppose, opened at Milan. You can return the photo print to me. The cancels look a bit different but I suppose they are the same.

10¢ '55, Type I cover. The cover don't add much. I am wondering if the stamp wouldn't be worth more off than on?

15¢ '69 cover. Undoubtedly okay and cheap.

5¢ to France in June - July 1856. From Charleston, S.C. 26 decimes due. (about 50¢ U.S.) - a pretty cover.

Imagine only four persons attending an auction sale!!

#2. Mr. Emmerson C. Krug - July 16, 1954.

Please don't get the idea that I gave Henry Hill any information about your bids. It was Jamet who informed Hill you had bid \$300 on his Lot 866. They pay higher prices in Paris for 19th U. S. than in New York, so it is rather foolish to think one could get a bargain over there.

No fee on the 3¢ to Italy cover.

Regards.

Yours etc.,

(32-37)

# MORRISON CAFETERIA COMPANY

INCORPORATED

Birmingham, 5, Alabama.  
Sunday, July 18, 1954.

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

Dear Stan,

Your registered letter with the four covers came yesterday P.M. Also I have the postal card about the Hioga cover. That sold to "V.M.", which I suppose was Gregory, for \$30.00. Seems like that was very very low since the description stated what it was. a rare cover and with a pair of 10¢ 69s. Why I have seen the off cover ones bring near that amount. Maybe my cover is not so rare after all.

It will be most interesting to watch and see what happens about the Lehman, Fox 1869 covers when the sale comes next fall. Howard does have some covers that I would like to own, PROVIDED, that the sale is not another Moody one. Must I explain that in detail or do you know what I mean. He got nice lots in my presence at the Karl Bouroughs, Nevin, Brigham and Emerson sales of Kelleher's in Boston, lots I'd like to buy if reasonable.

Thank you for the comments on the covers. I agree the 10¢ 1855 type I would be better off, but that can always be done later. I thought you would like that 5¢ to France tied by red grids with the 1¢ and 3¢ 1851s.

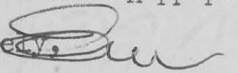
Now, may I be so bold as to not accept without a little more struggle your analysis of the 12¢-2¢-15¢ 1869- April 1, cover? I think you know me well enough by this time that I never try to be a smart aleck. But I would like to discuss further this cover. You do not contend that anything seems wrong about the cover save the amount of postage. Certainly the cancellation is almost identical to this photo of the Knapp one. The cancel on all four stamps, struck once on each is the same. It never occurred to me for an instant when I sent it to you that the cover could be faked since none of the stamps are rare on cover. My only questionable feature was whether or not the date of Apr. 1, 1869 was readable enough to stand up to your standards. I felt then that I had an earlier cover of the 12¢ than any discovered here-to-fore.

Now, there have been a number of cases where I have had covers approved with "an over-payment of 1¢" or 2¢ as the case may be. Here is a case in point where perhaps the sender had no 1¢ stamps, a thing which occurs to me most every few days. (If I were to send this letter to you today, Sunday, I would be forced to overpay it 1¢ because, if by air-special-namely 26¢, I would have to use the only available stamps in my box, 3¢, making 9 X 3¢ or 27¢). Cant you imagine that this accounts for the 15¢-12¢-2¢-2¢ or 31¢ use?

Certainly there are many cases of the 15¢ or double that 30¢ rate to Palermo, Rome, Naples in the sales of Gibson, Knapp and Harris. L703 & 1693 Knapp were 15¢ rates, and I have two cases before me to Palermo in my own collection, ex Harris, one a pair of 6¢ 1869 and a single 3¢ 1869 or 15¢ and the other a pair of 15¢ 1869s to Palermo, both from Adm. Harris collection. Ezra & I attended this sale in person of the Admirals and he remarked how many rates there were to Italy and too many to attempt to check. I bought one with 27¢ rate. I have another cover in my collection with 3 X 21¢ or 63¢ rate.

Now, Stan, wont you concede to me that this cover may be a 2 X 15¢ rate with an overpay of 1¢?

I am not returning the cover until you say for me to do so and then I want it signed and photoed if it is good. I return the Knapp photo and the postage.

Sincerely,  




July 20, 1954.

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

Dear Em:

Re - the 31¢ rate cover. After a careful consideration I decided this cover went by the route that required the 19¢ rate, not the 15¢ rate, but I will be only too glad to again check the cover and if necessary make some photos by ultra-violet to see if any monkey-business could be brought out. So I suggest that you send the cover back and I will give it a most thorough going over. I try to be so very careful in recording early dates of use because I dread authenticating any of Zareski's work though I dare say I have done so on more than one occasion.

Yes, there are plenty of covers of record with 15¢ rates to Palermo and I took this into consideration, also that originally this cover had only the 15¢ Lincoln and the 1869 stamps were added to give greater value. However, send it back and I'll be only too glad to re-examine it.

Regards.

Yours etc.,

July 26, 1954.

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

Dear Em:

Herewith the covers as per yours of the 21st.

Em, I again made a careful study of your 31¢ cover and much as I would like to sign this for you, I cannot do so, because there is actually no evidence that these stamps originated on this cover. The best that I can do is to record this use in my files as a "possible use on April 1, 1869" of these 1869 stamps. If I signed this cover on the back as a genuine use of 1869 stamps on April 1st, 1869, I would be a very careless recorder and would surely be derelict in my duty to record only such items as I believed to be okay in all respects. I am sure that you understand. I made color slides of those you requested.

Re @ 90¢ '60 with 3¢ '57 on piece. Do you want me to send you a photo print?

The cover to Manila is nice. This is the only record I have of a cover to the Philippines with 1861-1867 stamps. I had a record of this cover in my files. It was Lot 110A in a Kelleher Sale of May 17, 1926, and sold at \$5.75. Just imagine!!!

I note your remarks about the B.J. sheet. I would bet 10 to 1 that Rust was not the buyer.

Regards.

Yours etc.,

P.S.--Re - the news this A.M. about planes from our carriers shooting down two Red planes. Stan's ship is with the Carrier Squadron in the midst of the trouble. We had a letter from him this A.M. from the Philippines.

S.B.A.

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK  
P. O. Box 31  
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.  
FORT THOMAS, KY.

Aug. 9, 1954.

Mr. M. C. Blake,  
11 Mason St.,  
Brookline 46, Mass.

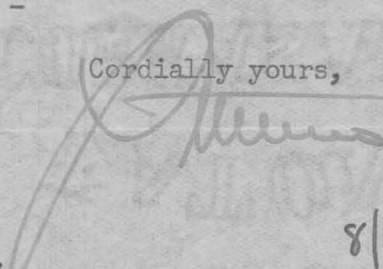
Dear Maurice:

Here is a color slide of a piece of a F.L. that was submitted to me as showing the "earliest dates known" of the 2¢ and 12¢ 1869 - supposedly April 1, 1869. The cover is addressed to Palermo, Sicily. Hold this slide to a strong light and view it with a good glass. It shows better this way than a black and white print. The  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. rate by this route was 15¢. This is supposed to be a double with a 1¢ over-pay.

I refused to list this as an early date because there is no actual evidence that these stamps actually originated on this cover, or rather a piece of a cover. The owner was rather miffed at my decision. I will value your opinion.

With regards -

Cordially yours,



8/14/54

S.B.A.

I am not familiar with this cancel, but from the transparency I could not offer any positive opinion that the stamps were originally used on this piece, nor that they were not. As it might have been a "made" item, it would seem questionable to accept it as evidence of April 1, 1869 use of the 12¢ and 2¢ 1869 stamps.

M.C.B.

April 5<sup>th</sup> 1869



Mrs W. C. Young  
Church Crookham  
Farnham  
England. Surrey

EAR



San Antonio

Close Mail



ARLIESTUSE? 185221 BY KRUG  
GREEN F128-12 SEC



"Per Union."

Closed Mail via England



*London*



Palermo

Sicily  
20.00

APRIL 1, 1859  
EARLIEST KNOWN DATE  
ON 104. 2ND EARLIEST ON 24

B521 SEE B522



10

B523

B253



42¢ RATE

BACK OF KRUG COVER TO MANILA  
F128 GREEN 9 SEC - WHITE ENVELOPE

4561 93 X-1117

B523

32 - 37

32 - 38

July 12, 1954.

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

Dear Ezra:

Thanks very much for yours of the 7th re - the way you handle bids at New York auctions. I am quite sure that your method is perfectly fair and perfectly ethical in every way. The reason that this came up is because I was asked about it and gave an explanation in accord with your method and my explanation was questioned. I might add, not by a person whom you know. I am wondering if you would have any objection if I explain the method in my next Service, I will not mention any names. I will start it off this way - John Jones, a western collector was in New York recently and attended a stamp auction sale. There was quite a bit of competition for a certain lot which was knocked down to a dealer for \$225.00. The buyer requested the auctioneer to make the price \$282.50. John Jones was a bit puzzled, etc., etc. I think it will make a good story. If you have any other feature I could add let me know.

Yes Ezra, I have the British "Philatelist" and have just read the Robson Lowe account of the "Sperati" Exhibition and the squabble going on over there. I am firm in my conviction that the full light of publicity should be thrown on crooked stuff in philately, and especially "counterfeits" and "faked covers" - and let the chips fall where they may. To cover up such stuff is absolutely wrong. The more publicity the better. Complaints have been made to me that I might hurt philately by constantly calling attention to fake covers. Anyone who don't like my stuff along such lines don't have to read it and the chances are that if they give up collecting they will not be missed.

I may be wrong but I think the biggest sucker game in philately is the "off cover cancel" racket. Consider a chap like Sperati - an expert chemist - how easy it would be for him to make an exact imitation of any rare 19th U. S. cancel. For example, put a fake town postmark such as New York, Boston or Philadelphia on a 90¢ 1860. Is there a living person who could tell the bad from the good? I do not think there is. No more for me - I have given up authenticating off cover stamps.

Re - my ad in STAMPS. Yes, I have received some material as a result. However I am running the ad for the following reasons: (1) to let the public and dealers know that I pass on certain classes of material. In the past I suppose a lot of people hesitated to impose upon my time. (2) To let all and sundry know that I charge a fee - no more free service. (3) To bring material to me that I am darn glad to see and study - to photograph and to record in my files. This last is a most important reason. I do sign covers on the back and I do not issue any certificates. I generally explain in a letter the various points, good or bad, about a cover.

I have yours of the 8th, re - Mr. "X" - I don't know much about Karen except that on general principles I wouldn't trust him out of sight. I don't think Molesworth is as bad as Karen much less Ward, but I wouldn't put it past him to resell an item that he had been stuck with.

#2. Mr. Ezra D. Cole - July 12, 1954.

I hope I am wrong.

Regards.

Yours etc.,

(32-38)

July 8, 1954.

Dr. O. Bacher,

Westminster Stamp Co. Ltd.,

London, W.1, England.

Dear Dr. Bacher:

I haven't heard from you for some time and I am wondering if there was any reason.

A counterfeit of the 30¢ 1869 turned up in a New York auction last month. Quite an odd thing. I am wondering if you have noted any such copies? If interested I will be pleased to send you some details.

I understand there is quite a fuss going on in London over the Sperati counterfeits. I have no details. Can you enlighten me?

Sincerely yours,



Postage  
\$1.50

July 18, 1954.

32 - 38

Dr. O. Bacher,  
Westminster Stamp Co. Ltd.,  
London, W.1, England.

Dear Dr. Bacher:

Yours of the 12th received and I thank you for your remarks re - the Sperati controversy. I believe that I would as soon take Sperati's word as I would that of the Reds in Moscow. I sometimes wonder how some politicians can be so credulous as to believe for an instant that the Reds would live up to any agreement they would make. The British Bevan seems as bad to me as any red in Moscow.

If Sperati swore that he would never make any more of his counterfeits I wouldn't believe him any more than I would any thief, or any type of crook.

Herewith I am sending you a copy of my July 1st Special Service, also a photo of the 30¢ 1869 fake taken alongside a plate proof. Of course, Sperati would never make anything so poor as the counterfeit shield and eagle. If you have any comment on my analysis of this thing, I will most heartily welcome same. If you think N.W. might like to see this Service Issue, I have no objection if you show it to him. May I also call your attention to my story about "Mr. X" and his cleaned 10¢ 1847. He is one of our most prominent of Eastern dealers, (not of the New York area). If our philatelic organizations had any guts a louse like this one would be run out and given wide publicity. They pull this sort of stuff because they know darn well that nothing will be done.

I believe there are two sides to this Sperati squabble in London. I can well see where there is much to be said in favor of dragging everything out into the open and badding nothing. Wash all the dirty linen in the full glare of publicity. On the other hand, I recognize the fact that harm can result. From a neutral corner, and far removed, I view the incident as most exceptional, because Sperati is not an ordinary counterfeiter but the most gifted who has ever attempted such work. Taking this into consideration is it best to try to hush up all publicity concerning his products, or is it best to put wealthy collectors on their guard? I really cannot agree that Robson Lowe deserves censure for his course. If he has done world philately a favor by putting it on guard, then he should reap the reward that the publicity may give him.

I give quite a bit of publicity to fake covers in my Service Issues and I understand I have been criticised in some quarters for doing so. I feel that I am 100% right and take the stand that if anyone don't care to read my stuff they don't have to. I am positive I have made it very clear to my small little circle to be darn careful what they buy.

Again referring to my analysis of the fake U.S. 30¢ 1869. Of course, this

#2. Dr. O. Bacher - July 18, 1954.

was not made in this country. Have you any guess where it might have been made? I don't know how a faker could remove the red ink from a 30¢ stamp without injuring the blue design but I feel sure that it was done in this case. Perhaps Sperati could tell me.

Again thanks for your letter.

Sincerely yours,



Now I have given you the "low-down" on the London Sperati story. Kind regards cordially yours.



# THE WESTMINSTER STAMP CO., LTD.

MANAGING DIRECTOR: O. BACHER, D. PHIL.

MEMBER BRITISH PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION, PHILATELIC CONGRESS OF GREAT BRITAIN, PHILATELIC TRADERS' SOCIETY, LONDON, AMERICAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY, COLLECTORS CLUB, NEW YORK.

BANKERS:  
BARCLAYS,  
PICCADILLY CIRCUS,  
LONDON, W.1.  
TELEPHONE:  
GERRARD  
4900

### THE SPECIALISTS IN U.S.A. POSTAGE STAMPS.

REGENCY HOUSE, 1-4, WARWICK STREET, PICCADILLY CIRCUS,  
LONDON, W.1.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

July 12, 1954.

Telepathy or coincidence? Since I do not believe in the former, it must be the latter. But quite an odd one, because I wrote you on July 8 (by sur-face mail) and you me on - July 8!

Please send me details of the forged 30¢ 1869.

Sperati is not known to have made that stamp.

In England camps are divided as to the wisdom of giving so much publicity to Sperati's work as has been done by Robson Lowe via our BPA. Lowe is reported to have bought S.'s whole outfit for £ 4000 (fancy paying such an amount for such stuff!) and intends to reimburse himself via the book publication of S.'s creations by the BPA, the forgeries being spread over the 1000 vols. to appear and all copies being marked on the back in such a way that -so they say - nothing can happen. I wonder, of course.

I am in the camp of those who don't like the scheme. But it was sanctioned by the Council of the BPA (majority decision) and when I attended our recent general meeting they obtained an overwhelming majority in favour of their policy in the matter, including the Exhibition that had taken place a few months back.

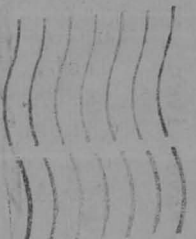
For my own business I am hardly affected, for there are only a few USA Speratis and they are not too good. As a matter of general policy I deplore the whole affair, because you put off the small buyer who cannot be bothered with Expert Committees and is inclined to suspect anything when he hears too much about forged stamps; and also the big buyer whose natural reaction is to submit almost any better stamp to an Expert Committee from fear to be caught. As a result, as expected by me and the minority (to which belong all our leading philatelists - a small number of people), both our Expert Committees are inundated with requests for expertising, chiefly consisting of silly cases where no advanced philatelist ever would have had any doubt, had it been not for the Sperati scare! Moreover, some cheap daily papers with a big circulation brought sensational reports, hitting the headlines on the front pages, that philately was finished because of the "works of art" of a Frenchman which had consistently "fooled the experts" (the old story, taken up by you years back). So the BPA succeeded in putting Sperati in the lime light at last, the one thing they did not want to do, but had to expect in view of the steps taken. Some resignations from the BPA occurred, among them Gibbons and Harmer, Rookes. Otherwise the noise seems to have abated. The effects of the ill-conceived scheme can be judged only in the long run. The short-time scare is, however, with us, as, for instance, shown by the rush on the Expert Committees.

As to the chief instigator, Robbie Lowe: being a very good friend of mine, I believe I can guess his motives. They were just more publicity for him-self. He is a great publicity man and expected to see himself hailed by a public wider than before as the great dragon killer, thus with a greatly enhanced reputa-tion and, in the last analysis, a larger business for his firm. I was unable to con-vince him that he was making a big mistake and the affair might turn out to be a boomerang. I feel that after the event he realised how right I was, but he did not admit it. There is no fool like an old fool.....

THE WESTMINSTER STAMP CO., LTD.

REGENCY HOUSE, 1-4, WARWICK STREET, PICCADILLY CIRCUS, LONDON, W.1

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



Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook

33 North Fort Thomas Avenue

Fort Thomas

Ky.

USA

← Second fold here →

← First fold here →

Sender's name and address :-

**THE WESTMINSTER STAMP CO., LTD.,**  
**REGENCY HOUSE, 1-4, WARWICK ST.,**  
**PICCADILLY CIRCUS, LONDON, W.1, G.B.**

THE 'APSLEY' AIR LETTER



Form approved by Postmaster General No.—71995/1K

To open cut here

To open cut here

COPY

32-39

Van Dyke MacBride  
744 Broad Street  
Newark 2, N. J.

July 9th, 1954.

General T. W. Crigler, Jr.,  
Macon,  
Mississippi.

Dear Tom:

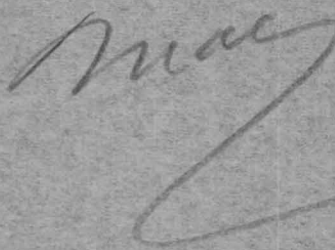
First, thanks a lot for the fine print of the photograph of the Bureau officials with the new 8¢ stamp.

Have just read through your July Newsletter, and confess my great surprise at seeing our mutual friend J. H. Scruggs, Jr. listed as an applicant for membership. I know you will recall the very thorough study we gave his case several years ago, which I think resulted in advising him not to formally enter his application.

We all agreed that his misdeeds were probably youthful indiscretions, and that his later record was entirely clear. Nevertheless he had previously suffered expulsion from the APS, and several of our members and officers stated that they would strongly oppose his admission to the CSA. Therefore to save him embarrassment, he was permitted to withdraw his application before it was acted on, and in my correspondence with him at that time he said he realized that under the circumstances it was better that way.

I am therefore greatly surprised to see his name listed now as an applicant and proposed by Colonel Hubbell. If something new on this case has turned up I haven't heard of it, and I am therefore unable to express an opinion one way or the other. I hope you, and the others to whom I am sending copies of this letter, will let us have their views on this matter promptly.

As Ever,



MacB/HK

c.c.: Raynor Hubbell  
S.B. Ashbrook

32-39

July 13, 1954.

Mr. T. W. Crigler, Jr.,  
Macon, Miss.

Dear Mr. Crigler:

I am in receipt of a copy of the letter that Mr. MacBride addressed to you under date of July 9th regarding the application for membership in the C.S.A. of J.H.Scruggs, Jr.

I have carefully considered this matter and as far as I am concerned I would not oppose this man's election to membership at this time. I was the one who originally brought charges against Scruggs and succeeded in having him expelled from the A.P.S. This must have been some ten or twelve years ago. I believe that he has since grown up to be a responsible business man and has long since thoroughly regretted his action in faking Confederates. I see no reason why his mis-step should be held over him forever.

Scruggs has developed into a worth while collector and student and has made some substantial contributions to philatelic research work. As stated, as far as I am concerned, I am in favor of admitting him to membership.

Sincerely yours,

Copy to  
Van Dyk MacBride  
Raynor Hubbell  
L.L.Shenfield

OFFICE  
OF THE  
PRESIDENT



# Society of Philatelic Americans

THE NATIONAL STAMP SOCIETY FOR THE AVERAGE COLLECTOR  
BEN REEVES

4429 No. Keystone Ave.  
CHICAGO 30, ILLINOIS

July 23, 1954.

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

Dear Stan:

Received your letter of July 16th and want to thank you for your support and also for your interest in the S.P.A.

With reference to your remarks about one of the candidates, I am glad that you feel that a person by his actions and deeds can overcome a previous mistake and that such should not be held against him forever.

I have quite an extensive file of back issues of various philatelic publications, going back for many years, and it is interesting to note that many collectors of that period were on the so-called "black list" in philatelic circles, but are now held in the highest repute, many having subsequently held offices in philatelic organizations and received various awards of honor.

I feel sure that the person you mentioned has more than redeemed himself and that he has shown by his activities on behalf of the S.P.A. and philately in general to be worthy of an office in the Society.

With reference to the proposed amendments to the bylaws of the S.P.A. that appear on the ballot, I would appreciate your voting for the first five propositions and against the last one, No.6.

With kindest personal regards, and hoping to see you at our Convention next month in Chicago, I am

Most cordially yours,

32-39

July 16, 1954.

Mr. Ben Reeves,  
4429 N. Keystone Ave.,  
Chicago 30, Ill.

Dear Ben:

I note that you are again a candidate for President of the S.P.A. It certainly will be a pleasure for me to cast my vote for you.

I note that one J. Hubert Scruggs is a candidate for a Director-At-Large. I am wondering if you were aware that this man was expelled from membership in the A. P. S. some ten or twelve years ago. I was the one who brought the charges produced indisputable evidence to the Board and he was expelled. I believe that such action automatically bars him from future membership.

Since that time he has grown up and has developed into a responsible business man and quite an enthusiastic collector and student of Alabama postal history. While I do not think his misdeeds of a decade ago should now bar him from membership in philatelic organizations, I do think it is inadvisable that he should seek office.

I was more than pleased to note that a fellow whom I heartily detest is not a candidate for office this year in the S. P. A. I am sure you know that I refer to none other than your friend Steve Rich. After all, I feel sure that Scruggs is not near as bad as Rich.

I note there are six propositions members are requested to vote upon. Your advice in this matter will be appreciated.

My kindest regards.

Sincerely yours,

COPY

32-39

July 15th, 1954.

Colonel Raynor Hubbell,  
Box 573  
Griffin, Georgia.

Dear Colonel Hubbell:

This is in reply to your letter of July 12th re the matter of the Scruggs application for membership in the C.S.A.

I have certainly no desire to punish or persecute Mr. Scruggs in any way, for my few personal contacts with him have always been most pleasant and satisfactory. However, those of us who are officers and trustees of the Alliance, have a duty to the other members which we must recognize. As Mr. Scruggs had previously filled out an application for membership, which after investigation was withdrawn because of his previous record, I felt that action on this new application should receive special consideration. It was for that reason that I wrote Secretary Crigler and sent copies of my letter to you and Stanley Ashbrook.

What still disturbs me a little is your statement that you did not know that Mr. Scruggs was expelled from the A.P.S. at one time. Surely he should have told you of that, and also of what happened to his application for C.S.A. membership in 1952, when he asked you to sponsor his present application. It probably would have been best if Secretary Crigler, who knows all about the 1952 matter, had called your attention to the facts before posting Mr. Scruggs' name as a present applicant. Incidentally, and for your information, I am sending you herewith my complete file on the 1952 matter, - which please read through carefully and then return to me.

However, now that Mr. Scruggs' application has been posted, let us see what if anything develops. As you will see from the enclosed file it was General Brannon's opinion that several Alabama members would oppose his election to membership. They now have that opportunity, and if we do not hear from them, or from anyone else objecting to Mr. Scruggs, I believe it would be only fair and right to elect him to membership. I do think however, that the matter of his election should be held over for say one more month beyond the usual time, so as to give plenty of opportunity for any objections to be received and thus make the record of his election a clear one.

I have just received a copy of Stanley Ashbrook's letter to Secretary Crigler on this matter, and note that he also sent one to you. I am glad to note therefrom his generous attitude in the matter, and I trust there will be no further adverse developments in this case.

Cordially yours,

MacE/HK

c.c.: T.W. Crigler, Jr.  
S.B. Ashbrook  
L.L. Shenfield  
Peter Brannon

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

# Confederate Stamp Alliance

ANNUAL CONVENTION AND SHOW,

OCTOBER 8th, 9th, 10th, 1954.

JOHN MARSHALL HOTEL. RICHMOND, VIRGINIA





32-39

PRESIDENT  
RAYNOR HUBBELL  
BOX 573  
GRIFFIN, GEORGIA

GENERAL VICE-PRESIDENT  
VAN DYK MACBRIDE  
744 BROAD STREET  
NEWARK 2, NEW JERSEY

SOUTHERN VICE-PRESIDENT  
GEORGE N. MALPASS  
5401 — 9TH STREET NORTH  
ST. PETERSBURG, FLA.



TRANS-MISS. VICE-PRESIDENT  
HARRIE S. MUELLER  
1505 PARK PLACE  
WICHITA 4, KANSAS

NORTHERN VICE-PRESIDENT  
STANLEY ASHBROOK  
33 NORTH FORT THOMAS AVE.  
FORT THOMAS, KENTUCKY

HONORARY LIFE PRESIDENT  
AUGUST DIETZ, SR.  
109 EAST CARY STREET  
RICHMOND 19, VIRGINIA

SECRETARY-TREASURER  
T. W. CRIGLER, JR.  
MACON, MISSISSIPPI

MACON, Mississippi, July 15th, 1954.

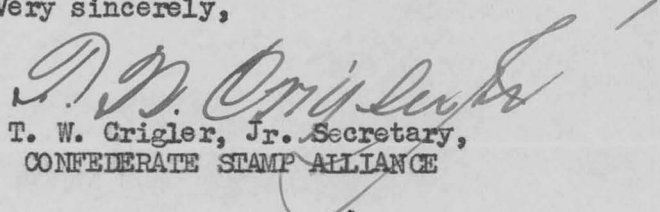
Mr. Stanley Ashbrook,  
Box 31,  
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

I thank you for your letter of the 12th received yesterday regarding the admission of Mr. Scruggs in the Confederate Stamp Alliance.

I know Mr. Scruggs personally, and he has, as you say, made a substantial contribution to philately, and has an outstanding collection. He is a prominent business man of Birmingham, and I am sure has long ago repented of his past sins, and will pursue the paths of rectitude in the future. I am sure he will make us a good member, and I appreciate the tone of your letter and am heartily in favor of admitting him.

Very sincerely,

  
T. W. Crigler, Jr. Secretary,  
CONFEDERATE STAMP ALLIANCE

POST CARD

JUL 26 1954  
POST CARD

Mr Peter A Brannon  
%

32-39

STATE OF ALABAMA  
DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES AND HISTORY  
MONTGOMERY 5, ALABAMA

Dear Mr Brannon  
Just a line to  
thank you for the  
copy of your letter to  
~~Mr~~ Mae Brude. Let us  
no hope that we have  
no regrets but if we  
do I am sure we  
can take care of it  
My regards  
Sincerely

19 July 1954

32-39

My dear General MacBride:

I have the carbon of your letter of 15 July, which you have also sent to Crigler, Ashbrook and Shenfield. I note in the last paragraph it is indicated that Ashbrook has agreed to have a generous attitude in the matter and I will go along with him, though I cannot say that it will be exactly agreeable for me to do so. Like you, I feel that Colonel Hubbell should not persist in seeking membership for Scruggs in the C.S.A.

I thought that it was generally known that he was expelled from the A.P;S. and two years ago when he was proposed at the Richmond Convention, all the Birmingham crowd, as well as us here in Montgomery, objected to his admission. Acting for them, I asked Crigler to hold it up.

When I received the NEWSLETTER ten days ago I resolved that I would not make any reply and let Colonel Hubbell have his way about it, though I was hoping that somebody else would express his opinion.

Sincerely,



Peter A. Brannon

cc to Gen. T. W. Crigler  
Col. S. B. Ashbrook

Gen. Van Dyk MacBride  
744 Broad Street  
Newark 2, N. J.

B:P

32-40

July 15, 1954.

Mr. Burleigh E. Jacobs,  
2236 Menomonee River Parkway,  
Wauwatosa, Wis.

Dear Mr. Jacobs:

I am enclosing herewith a copy of my July "Special Service." This goes each month to a small circle of friends who are interested in the fine things in 19th Century U. S.

I am sending this to you to call your special attention to my remarks on page 307. The facts regarding "Mr. X" are absolutely true and the evidence shows that he knew he was attempting to defraud a victim. I understand that similar charges were filed against this man with a former A.P.S. Board. I have advised the victim in the present case to file charges with the present Board.

If the evidence that could be presented would prove conclusively that the account herein related is true, would it be your personal opinion that the guilty party should be expelled from membership in the A.P.S.?

Sincerely yours,

32 - 40

July 15, 1954.

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

Dear Doctor:

I made a protest to the A. P. S. Board regarding that fellow Manson, who faked the Tracy covers, but all I had was hearsay evidence, nothing actual. Herman Herst, Jr. also filed charges as well as several others. I feel sure the Board will expell Manson, but to help the case along, if you have direct evidence would you mind filing charges with Jacobs, President of the A.P.S.?

Doubtless you read my story about "Mr. X" in my July 1st SERVICE Issue, the cheat who knowingly sold a cleaned and repaired 10¢ '47 to a collector as a genuine mint copy. What is your opinion? Do you think I should file charges with the A.P.S. Board and demand that he be expelled?

I don't hear from you very often these days. I am wondering if your philatelic interest is cooling?

Sincerely yours,

7-10-54

32-411

Dear Stan;

The 10c 5I collection as well as the Iowa covers arrived safely, and many thanks.

I had written Jamet for prices realized but have not received them.

This I can tell you from his last letter.

Lot	88I	about	136.00	
	867		49.00	The only thing I got.
	875		115.00	Jamet had a lower bid 105.00
	866		940.00	Krugs bid 300.00
				Hills bid 788.50
				another bid higher than mine of 870.00

If I receive the prices I will send them at once. Albert Robertson, P.M. Gen. and I went to dancing school together many years ago. I have written him to get a license to print in colors at least a quarter of our 5c 1856. If I do not get it I shall try to get my Congressmen to introduce a bill allowing me to do so.

Will keep you advised.

7-10-54

Stanley B. Ashbrook  
Ft. Thomas, Ky

Dear Stan;

A copy of a letter from my old school friend Albert Robertson, Asst Postmaster General is enclosed and very interesting <sup>it</sup> is indeed.

It gives some encouragement to my plan of furnishing various colors in my book on the 5c I856-57.

I am certain he will give me all the support I need from his office for color on stamps which have been demonetized. Where do we go from here. I had lunch with Les this noon and when my data is completed for publishing I propose to get hold of our Senator Humphrey, show him my data, color of the various shades, after getting the support of the various stamp societies, then have him propose a bill in Congress to permit color to be admitted in any publication up to I86I.

What do you think of my chances and have you any suggestions besides these to add. I might say that the children of the Senator are collectors too and that should help. At anyway wish me good luck in my modest attempt to do it.

*Henry*

The Assistant Postmaster General

Bureau of Finance

Washington

July 9, 1954

Dear Henry:

Your letter of July 5th has been received and I was glad to hear from you. I am afraid, however, that I cannot be of much help in getting permission to print even portions of United States postage stamps in color. We tried to get similar permission last winter in connection with the articles recently appearing in Life Magazine and the National Geographic but the attorneys at the Treasury Department and our own Solicitor were firm in their opinion that this was prohibited by law and could not be done unless the law is changed.

We think that the law could be modified without great danger and possibly some time this may be done.

In the meantime could you show the stamp in black and white alongside a plain patch of the appropriate color?

Yours cordially,

Alber G. Robertson



July 15, 1954.

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

Dear Henry:

Re - a bill thru Congress to amend the illustration law. Years ago the opposition to any change in the law came from Moran, the Chief of the Secret Service. All thru the nineteen twenties he turned thumbs down on every effort that was made. It wasn't until F.D.R. became president that we were able to get Moran to relax and give his consent to the modification which is the present law. I don't think you could accomplish a thing until you could persuade the present head of the Secret Service - Treasury Department - to give his consent and okay. I believe the present officials take a more liberal attitude. Moran's unalterable opposition was based on the difficulty his Bureau had in obtaining convictions of criminals violating the counterfeiting laws. He claimed it was hard enough under the old law and any loosening up in the provisions would make it just that much harder. I don't think the present P.M.G. or any of his assistants could get any place with legislation in congress unless a bill had the okay by the Chief of the Secret Service.

Back in 1920 I persuaded Carroll Chase to run for President of the A.P.S. Friends of mine as well as myself had several objects in mind, viz: (1) to have an editor of the A.P. who would give members a worth while monthly magazine. (2) to wage a real campaign for a modification of the Illustration Law. There were some other objectives that I do not recall. Of course, Chase was elected President and he appointed a Cincinnati man, Adolph Fennel as Editor of the A.P. and he appointed me as Chairman of the "Lookout Committee," which was the name of the Committee charged with the work of obtaining a law that permitted the illustration of U. S. postage stamps in catalogues, magazines, etc., etc. I appointed as members of my Committee, Senator E. R. Ackerman of New Jersey, who was a Congressman from that state, Judge Robt. S. Emerson of Providence and Henry C. Needham of New York. The former was a prominent lawyer and the latter a corporation lawyer with an office in the Wall Street district of New York. Emerson and Needham were to write the bill and Ackerman was to pilot it thru Congress. All this was in 1921. Emerson made repeated trips to Washington to consult with Moran, but we never got anywhere. It was always the same story - nothing doing - Every time Ackerman introduced a bill - it was forthwith referred to the Treasury Department and there was Moran more stubborn than a mule.

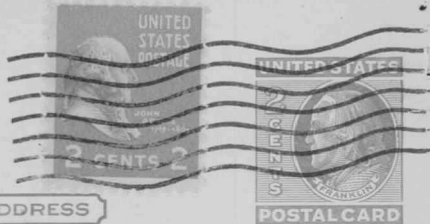
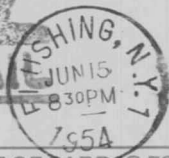
In the early years I dropped out of the picture and I don't exactly recall who it was that carried on the fight and eventually got the President's backing. When the present law was passed, along about 1935 or 1936, I think Moran was still head of the Secret Service.

I hope the above may be of some help. Of course, we wanted permission to illustrate U. S. stamps, and not a law that would permit the illustration of the demonetized stamps issued prior to August 1861. I think the present law forbids the illustration of any postage stamps in color. I think a ruling was given out by the Treasury Department several years ago that this included all U. S. stamps as well as foreign even including the stamps of the Confederacy.

#2. Mr. Henry W. Hill - July 15, 1954.

With best wishes and here is wishing you success. Keep me advised.

Cordially yours,



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK  
P. O. Box 31  
FORT THOMAS, KY.

Lot 271 is illustrated in Sale Cat.  
Possibly it was faked from an essay.

Dear Stanley

6/15/54 BOX 70, FLUSHING, N. Y.

While I was not able to see it, I believe

the 1869 30c in Stolow Sale 6/2/54 Lot 271 is a cft. or faked essay.

The main variation seems to be the narrow 3 which does not touch 0 as in genuine and shield behind the 3 appears darker. It was sold to Mr.

Karen for \$27.- Catalog also says United States letters are smaller. Some unfinished die essays, <sup>on India paper</sup> lack some shading on the 30. Would like to compare your photo with essays.  
Belarune

W. H. Kiefaber  
634 Woods Road  
Dayton 9, Ohio

June 10, 1954

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Thank you for yours of the 7th. Before deciding about keeping the slides sent, I would like to know more about them and I can put to use. On each slide you have a number with an X. Just what does this mean or is there any significance to this number. You have several in color which I thought we were not permitted to reproduce. Some of these are only of general interest to me at this time. The one of 1869 24¢ does interest me as I am at present working on this issue. Does this in any way tie in with your monthly reports?

Although I haven't been able to fully classify my slides of my trip those I have worked on are very good and show less than 5% failure. I have over 600 slides so you see it is quite a task to get them cataloged. I had a wonderful chance to get some very interesting shots. I hope sometime to be able to show them to you. I am very well pleased with the Exakta, and the work it does.

I am enclosing a 30 cent 1869 which I wish you would look over. Please note that the "30" is different than any I have or have seen. Also the "United States" is smaller. There are some other differences as you will see. I don't particularly refer to the shifting of the plates. I think this stamp has been regummed. It may be an essay but I can find no record of it. I thought it might be a counterfeit but I can find no record of this stamp being so treated. Do you think the grille is genuine?

With kindest regards, I am,

Sincerely,

*W. H. Kiefaber*

June 13, 1954.

Mr. W. H. Kiefaber,  
634 Woods Road,  
Dayton 9, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Kiefaber:

I was pleased to see that "30¢ 1869" and I must admit it has me a bit puzzled, though I have only made a superficial examination of it. Of course, it is some kind of a fake and not a genuine stamp but what has me puzzled is that the blue portion seems to be genuine whereas the red part, the eagle and shield with "30" is definitely counterfeit. Do you recall where you obtained this copy? I assume you picked it up somewhere on one of your trips abroad. How could the blue be genuine and the red be bad? The only answer to that query seems to be that possibly the red of a genuine stamp was bleached out, (but how) with the intention of making an invert by printing in - upside down - a red shield with 30 and the eagle.

I have never heard of a counterfeit 30¢ 1869, so I intend to make a very careful examination of this copy and will hold it for a time for that purpose. The red 30, shield, lettering and eagle is not a very good imitation of the genuine, so I doubt if this is any of Sperati's work though I suppose it could be. In some respects the red part looks a bit like a "painting." I believe that this stamp would completely fool most anyone who is not thoroughly familiar with the design of the 30¢ stamp.

Regarding the slides that I sent you. It is my understanding that a color slide of a 19th U. S. stamp is not considered as a violation of the law but to have a color print made from a slide might be so construed. I have never had any such prints made and have advised against doing so. I believe that the present administration takes a more liberal view of stamp illustrations and where such are made by a philatelic student for purely philatelic research work, I believe that no action would be taken. I have an idea that they have enough to do with counterfeiters without bothering those with no criminal intent. However, there is no denying that the law forbids the illustration of U. S. stamps in color and for this reason I doubt if actual permission could be had from any Washington official to make color prints of stamps but I believe it possible to obtain permission to make color slides.

My experiments have been largely along the line of recording on slides the various rare shades of our early stamps, hence I consider my work as scientific. For example, I intend to make color slides of your 30¢ stamp because it is most important to record the blue and the carmine colors.

Re - the "X" number. This is merely to identify the roll of film. I keep a complete record of every slide that I make - thus "X" roll with 36 exposures is X1 to X36 inclusive. I might make half a dozen shots of a certain stamp at different exposures and thus have a record of which was the best. The Weston meter is quite accurate on some colors and not so good on others. The X24 slide that I sent

#2. Mr. W. H. Kiefaber - June 13, 1954.

you, a 24¢ 1869 invert was in a recent New York auction. A client wanted to bid on it and requested me to examine it for him. I sent for it and made half a dozen slides of it. Thus I have a record for my files and so has my client.

The little lot that I sent you were to show you what accurate recordings I have been able to make thru my experiments. This was the purpose rather than to sell any.

Recently - I photographed two whole collections - one included off cover material and covers.

Re - your query if the slides tie in in any way with my monthly Service Issues. The answer is that this color work enables me to make a much more accurate record of fraudulent covers, because now, I photograph such things both in black and white and in color.

Yes, I can appreciate what a job it is to index and classify a large number of slides.

My son is an Ensign in the Navy and at present is with his ship on a world cruise. He has a Leica and also a Bell Howell movie so he keeps his mother and me up to date on the points of interest visited.

We trust that Mrs. K. is showing constant improvement.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

June 15, 1954.

Mr. W. H. Kiefaber,  
634 Woods Road,  
Dayton 9, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Kiefaber:

Herewith some photo prints of your 30¢ 1869. At first I thought that perhaps the blue design was genuine but after comparing prints with a die proof I am not so sure. I am taking the liberty of sending the stamp to my friend Les Brookman as I am sure he will welcome the opportunity to examine it.

You will note that the faker spelled "UNITED" as "UNITED." Surely made abroad.

I will welcome your comment after examining the photo prints.

With kindest regards -

Cordially yours,



W. H. KIEFABER  
634 Woods Road  
DAYTON 9, OHIO

June 15, 1954

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Have yours of the 13th. and hasten to reply regarding the 30¢ 1869. I bought this at recent auction of J. & H. Stolow in New York on an is basis.

Here was their description:

Item 271 (121) 30¢ red and blue, design varying in detail from final printing, "3" of "30" narrower, "United States" smaller, no curved shading lines below "30", etc. faint penmark, a rare perf proof (?) with grill very fine

1869 issues have always been a favorite with me, and as matter of fact have been remounted my 1869 collection during recent months. I thought it might be an assay but after receiving I was doubtful as there is no record of any others like it.

What I think has happened someone put the stamp in a bleach that affected the red but didn't touch the blue. It has me stumped .

By the way this was the sale of a collector of Philadelphia and some mighty fine 1869 material. The inverts were used. The prices realized were high. I did get a few items. I bought the 30¢ with my eyes open but didn't set me back very much.

At this point I am a little discouraged with Mrs. Kiefaber's progress which is mighty slow . Still hoping and praying she will come out of it.

Sincerely,

Warner H. Kiefaber

June 17, 1954.

Mr. W. H. Kiefaber,  
634 Woods Road,  
Dayton 9, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Kiefaber:

Yours of the 5th received and Mrs. Ashbrook and I were sorry to learn that Mrs. Kiefaber's recovery has not been as rapid as it might have. Let us hope that there will be a change for the better very shortly and that she will have a rapid and complete recovery. I am wondering if you attribute the attack in any way to the European trip?

Thanks for the information re - the 30¢ stamp. I must confess that I overlooked it completely in the Stolow catalogue. I sent for some of the items before the sale among which, as you probably recognized, was the large block of the 24¢ 1860.

Re - the 1869 Issue. I am wondering if you have a copy of my booklet on the 1861 and 1869 Issues? If not, I will be pleased to forward a copy. Also, I am wondering if you own a cover with the 24¢ stamp? Covers with this stamp that are genuine are very rare and few collections can show examples. Because such covers are really very rare, they have been faked and the figure listed in the S.U.S. probably refers to all the 24¢ 1869 covers rather than just those that are good. I have a very fine cover - absolutely genuine - in case you might be interested in acquiring one.

With kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

W. H. KIEFABER  
634 Woods Road  
DAYTON 9, OHIO

June 17, 1954

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Thanks for yours of the 15th. These are mighty fine photos.

Now I am more stumped. I cannot imagine any Engraver in this U. S. spelling United incorrectly. It is therefore probably not an essay. It could be as stranger things than that have happened but it doesn't <sup>seem</sup> likely. I will be glad to know what Brookman thinks of it.

Did you know Dr. d'Afery of Phildelphia now deceased? ( I hope I spelled his name correctly) This came out of his collection I presume unless Stolow stuck it in the sale as is sometimes done by these dealers. He had one of the finest 1869 collection in this country at one time. I am under the impression that many of the choicest items particularly blocks must have been sold before the sale. There were some pretty good blocks but nothing like he was supposed to have had.

Sincerely,

Warner H. Kiefaber

W. H. Kiefaber  
634 Woods Road  
Dayton 9, Ohio

June 21, 1954

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook  
Ft. Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

I am returning the slides sent me for examination. They are very fine. I have been trying to determine just how I would make use of them. I have a thought that possibly at some time I would like you to make slides of some of my better items.

I have your booklet on 1869 which I have found very helpful.

Regarding the 24¢ cover I do not have one. They are many I have looked over but they were either out of my reach in price or poor. I will be pleased to look at the one you have. I saw several in Europe but I was not impressed with them. They appeared questionable.

I doubt if there is a 90¢ 1869 on cover. Ackerman was supposed to have one. Why some of these fakers haven't come up with one is something hard to figure.

The Doctor feels that the Cruise was not responsible for the illness of Mrs. Kiefaber. It did trouble me. Actually she was more relaxed on this trip than I have seen her for sometime. She spent most of the time out on the deck in the shade, and without a worry in this world. When ashore we were taken every where in private auto, and she did very little walking compared with myself. Many times would sit resting in the auto reading while I would scurry here and there. The Doctor kind of feels it may have come sooner at home as she has led a very active life. Thank you for your kind words of sympathy.

Sincerely,

Warner H. Kiefaber

July 8, 1954.

Mr. W. H. Kiefaber,  
634 Woods Road,  
Dayton 9, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Kiefaber:

Herewith at long last I am returning the "queer" 30¢ 1869. I suppose you noticed my write-up in my July Special Service. Might add that Clarence Brazer and I are in perfect agreement on it, the outline of which I gave in my remarks. I don't think Brookman has come to a definite decision because he cannot quite figure out how anyone could completely fade out the red design of a genuine stamp and fail to harm the blue. One thing is sure, the red shield and eagle on your stamp was printed from a counterfeit die and the blue flags are surely genuine. Brookman agreed that paper, grill and perforations are all genuine.

Re -- your letter of the 28th and mention of Stern and Klein. Both are dead -- Eddie Stern died of cancer within the past year. He was head of the Economist Stamp Company of New York for over fifty years. I always liked Eddie and believed he played the game on the square. Eugene Klein of Philadelphia has been dead for a decade or more. He was president of the A. P. S. along about 1936 or 1937.

Herewith I am returning Mr. Kenny's letter. Some say this outfit is okay -- others are of the opposite opinion. In commenting to Kenny on some lots in the sale I did state that the 30¢ '69 was quite interesting but I expressed no opinion regarding it. If that fellow Karen had any idea it was worth more than he let you have it for, you would have never laid hands on it. This is just my opinion and of course I may be wrong. There are darn few down in New York whom I would trust.

Yours of the 26th arrived okay with the return of the 24¢ 1869 cover. Thanks very much.

No doubt you are in Canada at present. I hope you have a very enjoyable trip and that upon your return you will find much improvement in Mrs. Kiefaber's health.

We must watch every 30¢ 1869 that comes up. Surely the faker made more than one. Incidentally I made some color slides of the stamp and I will submit them to you if you would care to see them. I suppose you have an India plate proof of the 30¢ 1869.

I believe you like the 2¢ Black Jac. I note a full pane of the 1867 is coming up in the H. R. Harmer sale of Dr. Coleman's collection on July 19th. This must be the Colonel Green pane, Ex-Worthington (sale 1917). I believe there are

#2. Mr. W. H. Kiefaber - July 8, 1954.

two panes in existence - both from the Left pane of Plate #30.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

W. H. KIEFABER  
GESIGONG LODGE  
WHITEFISH FALLS  
ONTARIO, CANADA

July 17, 1954

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Thank you for your kind letter of the 8th. which was forwarded to me here. I can't read your July Special Service until I get home. Off hand I would say I half way agree with Brookman. How in the deuce could anyone fade out the red design without also fading out the blue. Bleaches are something I know little about and it may be possible.

I note your remarks about Stolow. Personally I have found them okay but I am like you I am very wary of most of these New York brokerage houses particularly their descriptions. If it is a rare item I want to see it before bidding.

If I were home I may have put in a bid on the full pane of 2¢ Black Jacks in H. R. Harmer Sale. It will run high no doubt. Unless you have someone on the spot to bid for you it is almost impossible to expect to get. Max Ohlman has done some bidding for me but at times I am doubtful of his sincerity. He once belonged to the same gang. You just do not know who to trust. Clarence Brazer is the only New Yorker I know that I feel is on the square but he doesn't care to bid on items other than essays or proofs.

I am getting good reports from Dayton on Mrs. Kiefaber's condition. Lets hope and trust that it continues. Thank you for your good wishes.

Can't tell just how long I can stay here. As long as things are going along smoothly I will stay probably until middle of August. It is very delightful here and I sure hate to have to leave.

My best of everything that is good.

Sincerely,

*Warner H. Kiefaber*

P. S. Please pardon this typing as this is an ancient model typewriter. After using an electric I am lost.

June 13, 1954.

Mr. Clarence W. Brazer,  
Box 70,  
Flushing, N.Y.

Dear Clarence:

Have you ever seen or heard of a counterfeit  
30¢ 1869? I have a very clever one before me, which  
I doubt was done by Sperati. At least, it is ab-  
solutely new to me and later I will send you an en-  
larged photo if you would care to have it.

I enclose card for brief reply.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,



June 17, 1954.

Mr. Clarence W. Brazer,  
Box 70,  
Flushing, N.Y.

Dear Clarence:

Thanks very much for your card of the 15th.

The friend of mine who sent me the 30¢ 1869 fake had recently returned from a three months trip to Europe and I assumed he had purchased the stamp over there. He did not mention where he had purchased the stamp and I never noticed such an item in the Stolow sale. In the same mail with your card came a note from him stating he had purchased it in the Stolow sale. I never dreamed that he had any dealings with that firm.

I made various photographs of the stamp thru different filters and am enclosing some prints herewith. Do not return but accept same with my compliments. If perchance you would like to see the stamp itself it might be possible that I could obtain permission to send it to you.

The red design is a very poor imitation of the genuine and was probably made by some foreigner who does not understand English. He spelled "UNITED" as "UNTTED." The blue design appears to be much better. The paper seemed okay and not proof paper and the red design appears to be printed rather than pen-drawn or painted.

I haven't had time to study the photo prints carefully, that is, the blue flags, etc., line for line with the genuine. If the latter design is counterfeit then from a superficial examination it seems to me that the faker did a very clever job.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

Clarence W. Brazer  
Philatelist  
U. S. Essays & Proofs  
EXCLUSIVELY

MEMBER

Collectors Club—Past Governor  
American Philatelic Society  
Society of Philatelic Americans  
Essay Proof Society—Founder

Tel. FLushing 9-2526

Box 70, Flushing, N. Y.

June 19, 1954

Dear Stanley.

Many thanks for the four most excellent photos of the 1864 30¢  
cft. from the d'Operey collection. They provide an excellent opportunity  
to compare line for line on both the red and blue. The wash etching  
on the small tops of the flags next the shield appear too dark and  
some of the small blue stars and leaves are not accurately drawn.

But it is an excellent hand engraved copy, not photographic  
as they tell us were the d'Operey's. I wonder why he did not print  
an invert? Possibly he did and it has not been discovered.  
Do you find the paper and perforations match the original? And  
how about the red and blue inks by violet light? compared with  
a genuine stamp? and the paper on back so compared? And  
how about the gruff?

I think the misspelling UNTTED is probably a slip  
of the graver. These small letters are so difficult especially all S's.

I thought it belonged down to Durk meant Karen not, Kisej's ber.  
Please accept my hearty congratulations on this great  
discovery! Kenmy of Stolovo called it to my attention and asked me  
to look at it but I did not get time. I was too occupied with all the proofs  
I had sold d'Operey but could get none of the 1869 gold embossed. Lillian.

June 23, 1954.

Mr. Clarence W. Brazer,  
P. O. Box 70,  
Flushing, N.Y.

Dear Clarence:

I have yours of the 20th and inasmuch as the  
30¢ fake has several queer angles I thought you would  
like to see it so here it is.

I will reply to your letter later.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

Clarence W. Brazer  
Philatelist  
U. S. Essays & Proofs  
EXCLUSIVELY

MEMBER  
Collectors Club—Past Governor  
American Philatelic Society  
Society of Philatelic Americans  
Essay Proof Society—Founder

Tel. FLushing 9-2526

Box 70, Flushing, N. Y.

June 24, 1954.

Dear Stanley.

Many thanks for letting me see the 1869 30¢ cft. which I have been now able to compare with a proof of same size. I find I will need to withdraw the opinion of the blue portion as given in my previous letter based on comparing a proof with your greatly enlarged photos. I find the blue is genuine.

I now believe the cft. is a stamp from which the original red ink was removed and a counterfeit engraving of the red design printed over the blue of the original stamp. Probably an experiment by the counterfeiter in preparation to do likewise on another stamp and then print the red inverted. The red engraving is poor. I enclose a plate proof on India paper from which it is apparent some red lines (as not <sup>constant hence a plate variety.</sup> ~~those vertical at right side in perforations, etc.~~) were omitted on the counterfeit. Photos of the proof at same size as those you took of the counterfeit should be helpful for comparison. Now a search should begin, to find counterfeit inverts easily identified by the poor red engraving. Faithfully yours. Clarence

June 27, 1954.

Mr. Clarence W. Brazer,  
Box 70,  
Flushing, N.Y.

Dear Clarence:

Yours of the 24th received with return of the fake 30¢ 1869 and the India plate proof. I would like to acquire the letter as a mate to the fake so if you will advise the price I will remit by return mail. I am trying to induce the owner of the fake to let me have the thing for my reference collection.

I agree with you 100% on the analysis. I am convinced the blue design is genuine, hence it follows that the paper, perfs and grill are all a genuine stamp. The removed pencancels confirm this but how in the devil did the faker remove the red ink of the shield and eagle design. This was surely done if the above solution is correct. I don't believe that Sperati would turn out such a poor job as the shield, still he would be the person I would pick to remove the original red design. Of course, Zareski is not capable of doing such work.

I made some color photographs - transparencies - and I will send you an example later.

If anything further develops I will advise you.

With my kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

Clarence W. Brazer  
Philatelist  
U. S. Essays & Proofs  
EXCLUSIVELY

32-43

MEMBER  
Collectors Club—Past Governor  
American Philatelic Society  
Society of Philatelic Americans  
Essay Proof Society—Founder

Tel. FLushing 9-2526

Box 70, Flushing, N. Y.

July 7, 1954.

Dear Stanley.

It is my pleasure to give you the 1869 30¢ plate proof on India paper in partial return for your many kindnesses in sending me photos from time to time.

While in the method used by Sperati the counterfeit red engraving on the faked stamp is so poor, especially the eagle's wings and shield, that I would not attribute it to him. I would expect the faking to have been done before Sperati began using the camera.

Somewhere I have read that some stamp red inks may be dissolved in rubbing alcohol. But whether the agent is pure alcohol, or the chemical used to denature it, was not stated.

I have accepted a request to write a paper for the Philatelic Congress Book on the New York Postmaster's prints from the plate of mine. If you kept my letter <sup>of last Summer</sup> on this subject I will greatly appreciate an opportunity to reread it. I kept no copy, and I recall recording in that letter several thoughts about these so called "reprints" and want to be sure I put them all into this paper now in preparation.

Faithfully yours. Clarence

June 13, 1954.

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

Elliott:

Have you ever heard of or have seen a counterfeit 30¢ 1869? I have one before me that may be a Sperati but I doubt it. It is rather clever and would fool a person who was not familiar with the design. Evidently made for the purpose of making inverts.

I enclose card for brief reply.

Yours etc.,

June 16, 1954



Stan;

I told John of your inquiry about cft 30c 1869 and he told me a curious story which I knew about long ago. We first met in school in Philadelphia in 1897 and graduated together in 1900 .

A friend of his family heard about a small collection which he wanted to buy for John but when John saw it he found it to be mostly cfts, even with the inexpert knowledge John then had, so the collection was not purchased. It contained a 30c 1869 which John and his father assumed to be cft - and it may have been - probably because so many of the stamps were not genuine.

John began collecting in 1894, just after the Columbian issue appeared, and the above incident occurred soon afterward and before 1897, as later but before 1897, did buy another collection for him.

John's father

Such as it is, this is the only evidence I have that there ever was a 30c 1869 cft.

As ever,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Airt Curry".



June 18, 1954.

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

Elliott:

When I wrote you about a counterfeit 30¢ '69 I assumed a good friend of mine had purchased it on a recent trip to Europe from which he returned late in May. He sent it to me last week-end to obtain my opinion. Today he advised me in response to my query that he had purchased it in the Stolow sale of June 2nd. I sent for some covers in that sale before the sale but I never noticed Lot #271. Perhaps you have a catalogue. I enclose two photo prints with my compliments for your files, one taken thru a red screen and one thru a blue.

The red design is a poor piece of work and evidently by some crook who don't understand English. Note the spelling of "UNTTED." Ultra-violet photo shows pencancels removed. Rather a queer piece of work.

Yours etc.,



June 30, 1934

Stan;

Check \$50 for the corner copies of 10c 1847 from Dr. Chase collection received with thanks. I am sorry to hear that your friend had bad luck with one of them.\*

The 30c 1869 enlargements are very interesting and I thank you for them. I have no recollection of having seen any such imitation or "private production."

As ever,

\* The money will be put into the Carrier Book so philately may obtain some good from the accident.



VIA AIR MAIL



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS



STANLEY B. ASHBROOK  
P. O. Box 31  
FORT THOMAS, KY.

June 15, 1954

No 30c such as you ask about is known to me.

I have seen a 90c of that series which was not engraved. May have been litho or typo. Too long ago for more definite recollection.

*Ernest Perry*



June 13, 1954.

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

Dear Ez:

Have you ever seen a counterfeit of the 30¢  
1869? I have one that is not very clever but one  
that might fool one who was not thoroughly familiar  
with the stamp. From your stock please pick out  
and send me an unused or a very lightly canceled  
copy - one that I can use to photograph alongside  
this copy that I have.

Regards.

Yours etc.,

June 15, 1954.

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

Dear Ezra:

Re - the 30¢ 1869 counterfeit - here are two photo prints. The word "UNITED" is spelled "UNITED," so surely made by some crook who had no knowledge of English.

I judge all the red design is bad but I am not so sure about the blue. If so, how come? Paper, perf's and grill seem okay. Would this mean a 3¢ was bleached out and both blue and red bad?

Awfully busy. Will answer your recent letters later.

Regards.

Yours etc.,

**EZRA D. COLE**

*Rare Postage Stamps*

NYACK . NEW YORK

*Commissions . Appraisals*

TELEPHONE NYACK 7-0964

June 15th, 1954

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

Dear Stan:

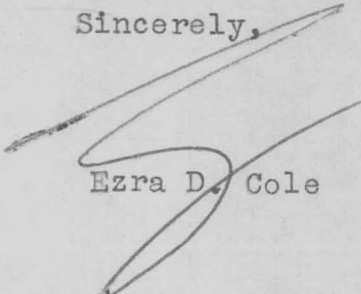
Yours of the 13th.

I do not know that I have ever seen a counterfeit of the 30¢ 1869, except a crude one which I believe was made in Germany a long time ago.

Relying on memory only I think I saw the 24¢, 30¢ and 90¢. They may have been made about the time that the counterfeit newspapers and high value State Departments were made and by the same person.

I do not have any unused 30¢ stamps. I am enclosing nine (9) used copies and a proof. I think the proof may be of more help to you than the stamps.

Sincerely,

  
Ezra D. Cole

EDC:mk1

**EZRA D. COLE**

*Rare Postage Stamps*

NYACK . NEW YORK

*Commissions . Appraisals*

TELEPHONE NYACK 7-0964

June 17th, 1954

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

Dear Stan:

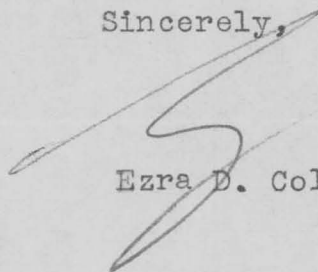
Thanks for the photographs.

Do you, by any possible chance, suppose that this is one of Sperati's early jobs or that some one is trying to imitate him? Do you suppose some one is trying to make an Invert and these are early experiments or something? While the photographs are good I suggest you compare the actual specimen with some of those I sent you to see if you think the blue is bad. The red certainly looks so. How about the "thirty cents" and how about the "y" in "thirty"?

Em wrote me he had not heard from you in quite a while and hoped you were not feeling ill. I told him that I thought you were all right but busy as you wrote me.

I hope you and your family are all well.

Sincerely,



Ezra D. Cole

EDC:mkl

Do you WANT PHOTOS  
BACK EZ



June 17, 1954.

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

Dear Ezra:

Herewith the copies of the 30¢ 1869. I used the proof and made several photos of it. Thanks.

When I wrote you, I thought my friend had purchased the fake in Europe as he returned recently after being over there for three months but only this morning did he advise me that he purchased the darn thing in the recent Stolow sale of June 2nd, same being Lot 271. It seems he bought it thru Karen @ \$27.50. Just imagine!! He is a very fine gentleman and wealthy. Imagine dealing thru that pair.

I haven't had time to examine the fake carefully, that is, the blue design. Of course, the red design - shield and eagle is a rank fake and a very poor one at that. The word United is spelled with two "T's" - thus; "UNITED?" so evidently some crook who does not understand English made the fake - What a combination - paper and perfs apparently okay - grill faint - pencancels removed. If the blue design is genuine (which I doubt) then how do you figure what happened. I am reserving an opinion pending further examination.

Regards.

Yours etc.,

June 21, 1954.

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

Dear Ezra:

Re - yours 17th, and the fake 30¢ 1869. Of course, the red shield and Eagle is a lousy fake and in my opinion, was printed, but from a casual examination I now believe the blue design is probably genuine. The removed pen marks would indicate such to be a fact. I believe the solution to be that some fakeer was aiming to make an invert (inverts). He made a fake die of the shield and eagle, bleached out the red design and pen marks and printed his red fake die, but in this case he made an "unused - o.g. copy." Why? - The latter would be easier to sell. See if you don't agree. No, don't return the photo prints but keep them for future reference and be sure to watch all 30¢ 1869 copies.

Regards -

Yours etc.,

June 24, 1954.

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

Dear Ezra:

Yours of the 22nd.

Brookman wrote me that Stolow showed that 30¢ '69 to him when he was in New York in April and Les tried to buy it and offered them \$50.00 for it because he considered it so queer. They refused the offer. In the sale, it cost my friend \$27.00. He bought it thru Karen. Whyehe deals thru that bird I don't know and it is not up to me to advise him. He is a big business man and quite wealthy. Strange how men of that class deal with people like Colson, a lousy pervert of some sort and other philatelic crooks. I wouldn't trust that Karen out of sight.

I had a letter from Neinken regarding the Stolow firm and he is of the opinion they are okay. Stated that all the dealings he had had with them were perfectly satisfactory in every way. They claim they will refund the purchase price without time limit on any item they sell that is not as represented. This is more than Gordon will do. If the Stolow firm lives up to that rule, how can a person get stung unless of course they trust to their own judgement as to whether an item is good or bad.

Further re - the fake 30¢ '69. I sent it to Brookman and now it is in Brazer's hands. If you wish you can phone him and ask him to send it to you and you will return it to me. I have requested my friend to let me have it for my reference collection but I doubt if he will part with it as he specializes in the 1869 Issue.

Perhaps you can persuade David to change his mind about the Air Force. We got a letter from Stan Jr. yesterday that he mailed last Saturday at Kobe, Japan. He was to have a two days leave there and expected to take a lot of color pictures with his new Leica.

Regards.

Yours etc.,

**EZRA D. COLE**

*Rare Postage Stamps*

NYACK • NEW YORK

*Commissions • Appraisals*

TELEPHONE NYACK 7-0964

June 23rd, 1954

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

Dear Stan:

Your note of the 21st. I think I wrote you that I am leaving tomorrow morning to take my youngsters up to Camp in Vermont and will not be back until the 4th or 5th of July.

Re the 30¢ 1969. I think your solution of the problem is in line with what I would believe. Someone was either experimenting or trying to make an Invert which probably did not work out and they just made a fake stamp. I expect we will have to check all Inverts now.

The Confederate booklet arrived and thanks a lot. Have not been able to add much to my library lately but I finally completed my set of "Bat Paragraphs".

Had a long talk yesterday about the Sperati business. I am trying to get some of those books. No prospects yet but I think something will develop. There is of course a big row about it over in England. The basis of the argument is they are in favor of or against Robson Lowe, but I do understand that at least one prominent philatelist had a nice collection of stamps, won several gold medals and Lord knows how many Speratis he had in his collection, but quite a lot.

Thanks for the photographs which I will keep.

Sincerely,

Ezra D. Cole.

EDC:mkl

LATER: I just had a note from a friend of mine up in Canada and he writes me that the book deal looks very much more encouraging, and he now expects to get me some, so I may be able to get you one.



HIRE THE HANDICAPPED  
IT'S GOOD BUSINESS



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK  
P. O. Box 31  
FORT THOMAS, KY.

Dear Stan:

6/15/54

I once saw a crude pen and ink forgery of a 30¢ '69 and I recently saw a most interesting item at Stolow's in N.Y. that at a first glance appeared to be a forgery but which I finally decided was an engraver's or artist's item in that part of the design was engraved and the balance was a pen and ink job. A most interesting item and I tried to buy it at a good price but could not do so. I wonder if by the most remote chance this is what you have at hand. If so, examine it most carefully. Mildred's offer of biscuits has me wavering! I've been so busy that I hardly know which way to turn--much too much for one man to do. Will have to try to find some way to come down before too long--I'll really try.

Sincere regards,

Les

June 13, 1954.

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

Dear Les:

Please let me know by return mail if you  
have ever heard of or seen a counterfeit 30¢ 1869.  
I have one before me which is rather clever but  
I doubt if it was made by Sperati.

Regards.

Yours etc.,

June 17, 1954.

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

Dear Les:

Your card of the 15th received re - the 30¢ 1869. Thanks. I am enclosing the copy herewith. While it may be the copy you saw at Stolow's I doubt if it is the same. It belongs to a collector who lives in Dayton and who only recently returned from a European trip. Was away since early in February. I imagine he bought the stamp over there. It was surely made by some "furminer" who apparently don't understand English, because you will note he spells "United" as "UNITED."

Of course, the gum is not genuine but the paper and perfs appear to be okay - the red design is a botch of a job but the blue design is not bad and at first I wondered if the blue was genuine and if some crook bleached out the red and had made a fake engraving to print in upside down, this thing being one of his experimental copies. You will note what appears to be cancels removed and this makes me wonder if both the blue and red designs are both counterfeit and did the faker bleach out a 3¢ in order to get paper, perfs, and grill. I don't know anything about the grill, but it seems very faint. Is it the right size?

I am hoping I can persuade my friend to sell the darn thing to me for my reference collection. At any rate I will make color slides of it and if Henry and you want duplicates let me know.

This thing has my goat. I feel sure the red design is not a pen drawing or a paint job but printed. But from what? Lithograph or copper? Do you think the Blue flags, etc., are genuine? I don't.

Would you like for me to send you an enlarged photograph? I put this darn thing under my binocular mike and was rather disgusted with the meager result I got.

Mildred says that biscuit ~~off~~ ~~er~~ ~~issure~~ open and she will make some really good ones and all you can eat. Served very hot - lots of butter and cherry preserves or honey. Nothing better.

Our regards.

Cordially,

P.S.--Bring Henry with you by all means.



**Brookman Stamp Company***Stamps and Philatelic Supplies*

MEMBER OF:

C. C. N. Y.

T. M. P. S.

T. C. P. S.

S. P. A.

A. P. S.

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

June 18, 1954

Stanley B. Ashbrook,  
Ft. Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan:

The 30¢ '69 you have just sent me for study is the identical copy that I saw at Stolow's. I have no doubt it came to them in some European lot and I can find out what they know about the source. If my memory serves me correctly I offered them \$50 for it on an "as is" basis but was turned down. Check with your friend and find out where he obtained it--he may have bought it in their sale, where I believe they made reference to the variation from normal, or he may have bought it from someone who bought it at the sale.

The grill looks O.K. to me although because the regumming has filled up the grill it is easiest to study the grill by looking thru the stamp into a strong light.

In my mind there is no doubt but that the blue color is genuine and I still believe the red to have been done by pen. This offers a real mystery unless my idea is correct that this portion may be an artist's or engraver's trial design. This idea seems far fetched in view of the fact that since the 10¢ apparently was produced before the 30¢ it would have been easy to cut out the eagle and shield from a 10¢ and paste it on the blue design to see the effect.

I hope that the next time I fly down to N.Y. to come by the way of Ft. Thomas--at least we could have a day together. I would like to have Helen come down to N.Y. with me the next time I go down and then I want to come back thru Toronto.

Have a miserable headache so I think I'd better knock off for this time.

Sincere regards,

Lee

P.S. Would like a slide  
and an enlargement.  
Harry is out of town.

(over)

Monday 6/2/54

Dear Stan I held this up over the week-end  
in hopes I could find something out about  
it. I still say the blue is genuine -  
the red is ~~is~~ a pen or point job. I understand  
that the blue only exists on die proofs and  
Buller thinks also on stamp paper. I am  
convinced that it was not made as  
a counterfeit to deceive. No sense  
to the pen marks if a counterfeit.  
Impossible in my opinion for anyone  
to remove only red without disturbing  
blue - senseless anyway unless  
fakes wanted to make what and he  
would have tried it rather than trying  
to make a normal copy. It would  
be fun to boil this one. - - would like  
to see for sure that it is on stamp  
paper - looks like it but difficult to be  
sure because of requiring.

AS

June 24, 1954.

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

Dear Les:

Re - the fake 30¢ 1869. When it was sent to me I was not informed as to where my friend obtained it. I never noticed in the Stolow catalogue though I sent for several lots before the sale. Later the owner informed me he had given a bid on it to Karen and had obtained it for \$27.00. Now my friend is quite a wealthy business man and semi-retired. He returned the middle of May from a European trip on which he and his wife had been since early in February. I mention this because I can't understand why a substantial business man would have any dealings with Karen. Now I don't know anything about that chap except that he looks like a typical Nassau Street stamp gyp, of the class who would steal anything that was not nailed and screwed down. My friend sent the stamp to me with the query - "Don't this look queer - is it some sort of an Essay or what?"

After you sent it back I sent it down to Brazer and in the meantime I am begging the owner to let me have it for my reference collection. I made a couple of duplicate slides of it and I will send one to you and one to Henry. I intend to raise the price on my slides to \$1.50 as I find the work is too darn hard to make them up @ \$1.00 or ~~99¢~~ in any quantity. If my friend lets me have the stamp I intend to soak off the gum so as to better show up the grill and paper. If and when, I will send it back to you for a second look.

I am now inclined to agree that the blue design is genuine but I feel rather sure that the red shield was printed, not hand drawn or painted.

I will keep your comment strictly confidential as it is a bad practice to state that Mr. X said this or that about a controversial copy. I asked permission of the owner to send it to you and in his last letter he inquired what you thought of it. I wrote him that your letter was in a way confidential and I could not quote you without your permission.

Color of the blue, paper, grill(?) and perfs all looked like a genuine stamp to me. Red a definite fake and in my opinion, printed from an engraved die. In addition, we have removed pen marks - now what does all this add up to?

I will probably use it in my July Service Issue. I might mention that I thought I noticed some differences in the line design of the blue, the stars and flags, but perhaps I was wrong. I will state this - if the blue design is a fake it is a marvelous imitation.

Fine and dangyoon that prospective visit to Fort Thomas and we both hope that you can bring Helen with you. We were darn sorry Les, to learn you are still troubled with those severe headaches. Mildred has one occasionally and they almost drive her nuts.

Our best to you and yours.

Cordially yours,

June 18, 1954.

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

Dear Em:

Please note this letter from Stolow and return to me. Did you note Lot 271 in that sale? Was that a honey!! Here is the dope as I figure it so far after my examination of the copy, (all subject to change).

Paper - perfs - grill - all apparently genuine.

Red design - a counterfeit.

Blue design - may be genuine - if not a very clever line for line imitation.

Lamp shows cancel removed!!! Fake gum on back but a darn good imitation.

Regards.

Yours etc.,

**MORRISON CAFETERIA COMPANY**  
INCORPORATED

Birmingham, Alabama.  
Tuesday A.M. 6/22, 1954.

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

Dear Stan,

I left here Sunday night and have just returned from a trip to Jacksonville, Fla. and now find your letter here of last Friday.

Thanks for the price list of the Fox sale but Ez had already sent me one. So I return yours. Also enclosing the new Kiplinger.

I note the note from Rust. What lot do you mean when you say lot 271? Your notes confuse me for lot 271 is a used 30¢ 1869 with a pen-mark? You must mean another lot.

I had told you that you would not get a price list from Stolow. They gave me the same reason a couple of years ago. But what a reason!

Seems strange to me that Jamet has not given you any word, now three weeks ago, from his June 1st sale. Dont you think so?

Sincerely,

*E. W. Morrison*

*Noted your nice ad in stamps*

June 24, 1954.

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

Dear Em:

Yours of Tuesday came this A.M. Thanks for the Kiplinger. I thought his last one was very good. He seems to be of the opinion that we are bound to become involved in Indo-China. I can't see any other solution. The Red Chinese are cocky as can be and thoroughly believe they can do as they please. It is bad business to try and bluff a cocky fellow who hasn't a doubt he can lick you. Stan writes they have received orders to stay in Korea waters until September 1st.

Re - Stolow Sale. Yes, I did mean Lot #291 - a 30¢ 1869 but though not described as unused, it was supposed to be a mint copy - full o.g. For some reason the removed pen marks showed up in the Stolow illustration better than on the stamp itself. I am enclosing three photographs of the stamp and one of the plate proof. The entire red design is a fake.

No further word from Stolow and no word from Jamet. I doubt if I do hear from him as I was very sore at the stuff he put in his catalogue. I understand his representative over here sent a notice correcting the error to all in this country to whom catalogues were sent. I guess the best thing to do is to have no dealings with the lousy frags.

Glad you noted my ad in "STAMPS." I thought it was buried in the back as I went thru the issue and overlooked it completely.

Please return the enclosed prints.

Regards -

Yours etc.,

P.S.--I sent for a priced catalogue of the Bruce Daniels sale of June 4-5, last. If you would like to see it I will loan it to you.

S.

STAN:  
MY ADDRESS IS  
66 EAST 79<sup>TH</sup> ST.  
NEW YORK 21, N.Y.

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

June 13, 1954.

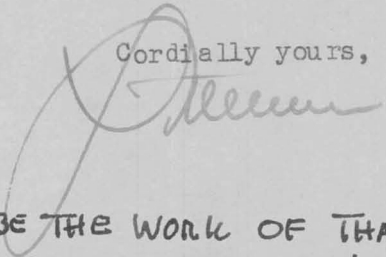
Mr. R.J. Mechin,  
20 East 84th St.,  
New York 28, N.Y.

Dear R.J.:

Did you ever hear of a counterfeit of the  
30¢ 1869? I have such a thing before me at present  
and it is a piece of work that, in my opinion, would  
fool most anyone who is not thoroughly familiar  
with the design. I have only made a superficial ex-  
amination so far.

Regards.

Cordially yours,



→ No!

COULD IT BE THE WORK OF THAT SPERATI (THIS  
SPELLING PROBABLY ALL WRONG BUT I MEAN THAT FRENCH-  
MAN WHOSE "WORKS", ETC. HAVE RECENTLY BEEN PURCHAS-  
ED BY THE BRITISH PHILATELIC ASS. I BELIEVE).



June 13, 1954.

Mr. R.J. Mechin,  
20 East 84th St.,  
New York 28, N.Y.

Dear R.J.:

Did you ever hear of a counterfeit of the 30¢ 1869? I have such a thing before me at present and it is a piece of work that, in my opinion, would fool most anyone who is not thoroughly familiar with the design. I have only made a superficial examination so far.

Regards.

Cordially yours,



June 18, 1954.

Mr. R. J. Mechin,  
66 East 79th St.,  
New York 21, N.Y.

Dear R.J.:

It seems I got hold of your old address. I have discarded it and made a correction.

No, I do not think the counterfeit 30¢ 1869 is the work of Sperati, the Paris counterfeiter. His work is far more clever.

I have been terribly busy and have had little time to devote to this 30¢ fake but here is what is apparently true about the thing as far as I have gone.

Paper - apparently genuine  
Perfs - " "  
Grill - " "  
Gum - fake  
Red Design - counterfeit  
Blue Design - counterfeit?  
Photo by ultra-violet, showed removal of two large pen marks.

If the above is correct, what was the big idea? You will note I put a question mark after the "Blue design" - i.e., the flags. I am inclined to believe this part is genuine - but if not, the imitation is a much more clever piece of work than the red design - shield, etc. If the blue is genuine why would anyone take a pencanceled 30¢ stamp - bleach out the red and print in a fake shield, etc., after removing the pencil? Was he experimenting? Did he intend to make a 30¢ invert?

Kindly return the enclosed four prints but in case you wish to retain them it will be okay.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

R. J. MECHIN  
66 EAST 79TH STREET  
NEW YORK 21, N. Y.

June 21, '54

Dear Stan:

I was very much interested in the photos with your letter of the 18<sup>th</sup>.


I think you hit on the answer; I would guess that "he" was experimenting with the idea of making an in-vert! Hagar's recently read that the Phil. Foundation found a 24¢ in-vert? Your reasoning I am sure is correct; Now the thing to do is "keep an eye out" for a bad in-vert! And I'd guess it would be used - to carry up the somewhat sloppy "red" design.

I was quite interested in Miss Thekmeister going to Golden this fall - we've had a few co-eds who graduated in the regular 4 year course. Why, I never could figure out as Mining definitely does NOT offer much of a career for women! - at least she'll have lots of beaux!

Nothing new in stamps but I have hopes that something in one of my lines will turn up; either in my "I Like It",

Waterbury's on 34<sup>2</sup> '65 or Costa Rica!  
Any time you aren't too damned  
busy drop me a line.

As ever,

A stylized, cursive handwritten signature, possibly reading "R.J.", written in dark ink.

June 18, 1954.

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

Dear Mr. Rust:

There were some queer things in that Stolow sale of June 2nd, especially Lot #271. This was no proof but rather, my examination showed, a counterfeit in some respects. How would you account for the following:

Paper - apparently genuine

Perfs - " "

Grill - " "

Gum - fake

Red Design - counterfeit

Blue Design - counterfeit?

Photo by ultra-violet, showed removal of two large pen marks.

With kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

PHILIP G. RUST  
WINNSTEAD PLANTATION  
THOMASVILLE, GEORGIA

June 21st. 1954

After 6/24 I shall  
be at R.R. 1  
Wilmington,  
Del.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

I'm in somewhat of a rush, trying to get off to Delaware and points north, for the Summer. My family left last week.

In regard to the 2 10¢ '47's enclosed in your letter of the 15th. I shall keep them, and enclose check (\$65.) for same. I was taking the Peelable? hinge off the 100R copy (with the wide margins) and tore it half in two--to my horror and surprise! The paper was half rotten, and I should have been more careful.

If I am in no way subjecting myself to a law\* suit, (by Stolow!) you may use the 30¢ 1869 cover for a write-up in your service. I bought it with an extension at the sale, so the owner merely failed to make a sale to me. I didn't pay out anything but the examination fee. It has been returned.

Do you have a photo of the 24¢ 1869 cover; and what is the price?

Referring to your query of the 18th; we can all guess! I believe it must be an unknown essay (perf.) used by some smarty for postage. Later it was removed from cover and pen cancellations removed. What does Brazer say? In whose possession is it?

Generally, I stay out of stamps for the Summer. You are an exception! Just as long as lengthy letters are not required! Hope you have a great Summer.

Sincerely,  
Philip G. Rust

June 24, 1954.

Mr. Philip G. Rust,  
R.R. #1,  
Wilmington, Delaware.

Dear Mr. Rust:

Yours of the 21st received, with check for \$65.00. Thanks very much. Receipt is enclosed herewith. I was sorry to learn of the mishap to the 10¢ 100R.

Thanks for permission to use the 30¢ 1869 cover. The chances are many to one that the Stolow firm will ever be aware that I gave any publicity to the cover.

The fake 30¢ 1869 off cover copy that I mentioned in my letter was Lot 271 in the Stolow Sale of June 2nd. Perhaps you do not have a catalogue with you. I did not notice it in the catalogue before the sale as I seldom read an auction catalogue lot by lot and in addition, do not pay very much attention to single copies. One of my close friends bought the stamp and sent it to me for my opinion. I have Brookman's opinion of it, after I had sent it to him for a look. Yesterday I sent it to Brazer. For the present it would hardly be fair to quote either one of them, but I have an idea that Brazer's analysis will coincide to a great extent with mine. I may use it in my July Service Issue. The collection that Stolow sold was reputed to be that of the late Dr. Tello J. d'Apery of Philadelphia.

Re - the 24¢ 1869 cover that I mentioned in my recent letter. If I can offer it to you firm, I will advise you later.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

July 2, 1954.

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

Dear Doc:

I haven't heard from you for some time.  
How are you and how is Jean, Mildred joins me in  
the very best to you both.

Here is a photo print of a cover loaned  
to me by my good friend M. H. Juff. It is a buff  
envelope - nothing on back - no enclosure - It appeared  
to be perfectly good.

I am also enclosing a print of a counter-  
feit 30¢ 1869, at least the eagle and shield are bad,  
flags and stars genuine.

Darn hot here but I suppose it is nice and  
cool up your way.

As ever yours,

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

July 6 '54

Dear Stan :-

Thanks for the  
nice photos. You can see white  
paint on the 30 + TAG E on the  
30 c. '69 fake!

I don't know what to make of the  
3° one, I never saw anything  
like it. Perhaps it's a steamboat  
marking of the "United States".

I guess we are lucky. We could  
had just the really hot day so  
far - in fact many days have been  
too cool to get outside!

Stan Jones see in  
But I for both

C.C.



EZRA D. COLE

*Rare Postage Stamps*

NYACK . NEW YORK

*Commissions . Appraisals*

TELEPHONE NYACK 7-0964

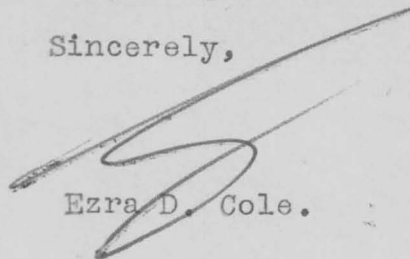
July 13th, 1954

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

Dear Stan:

Here is a 10¢ stamp a friend of mine sent me. Look at the upper right "X". This does not look like a kiss or a smear. Notice the little vertical lines. Have you any idea what this is? Is it a plate variety or anything worth while?

Sincerely,



Ezra D. Cole.

EDC:mkl

32-51

July 18, 1954.

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

Dear Ezra:

Herewith the 10¢ 1855 as per yours of the 13th. This is a Type II and all Type II positions on the plate have been plated. I feel sure this is not a consistent plate variety but rather some sort of an "ink variety" - as the green ink does appear to be the same as that of the stamp. I will admit it is queer looking and it is too bad that some of the black cancel got messed up with it. Sometimes a small thred of a wiping cloth, soaked with ink, got between the plate and paper and caused what I call an "INK VARIETY." I made an enlarged photograph and perhaps it may divulge something.

Regards.

Yours etc.,

(32-51)

**EZRA D. COLE**

*Rare Postage Stamps*

NYACK . NEW YORK

*Commissions . Appraisals*

TELEPHONE NYACK 7-0964

July 13th, 1954

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

Dear Stan:

First I am enclosing an interesting stampless cover out of San Francisco to France which I thought you might like to see.

Another cover which I am enclosing with the 10¢ 1861 on it is rather odd. Of course it is marked for "Pony Express". I also note a small tiny blue "Paid" I wonder what that means and where it was applied. It is not a New York City marking. I wonder how it got to New York. Possibly brought in by ship.

Sincerely,

EDC:mkl

  
Ezra D. Cole

32-52

July 18, 1954.

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

Dear Ezra:

Re - the two covers contained in yours of the 13th. Here are some remarks -

10¢ 1861 - New York "12 Feb" 1862, to San Francisco. Manuscript "Per Pony Express" in upper left also a small handstamped "blue PAID." Letter inside dated - "GLASGOW - 20th Dec. 1861." Memo inside - "Rec'd March 18-62." One wonders why this took from Dec. 20, 1861 to Mar 18, '62 to make the trip? My guess is that it was sent under separate cover to a New York correspondent who probably held it up and did not mail it until "12 Feb." The sender marked it "per Pony Express" and intended it to go that way but the New York firm sent it by regular mail. The only odd thing about this cover is the length of time from origin to destination, but this can be accounted for that the New York firm held it up for some time before mailing it. It could have been sent from Glasgow to New York by a very slow ship, "outside the mail." New York to S.F. in 34 days might indicate it was sent "overland" rather than Via Panama - and in winter I suppose 34 days might be okay.

2) San Francisco to France in June - July 1873. Stampless. Folded letter dated inside S.F. 24 Juin 1873 - postmarked S.F. "Jun 25" - postmarked New York "JUL 3" - "4" - "Br. Transit." French Due of "12" decimes. This was merely a double rate letter sent unpaid. The "4" is our debit to Britain of 2 x 2¢. The rate to Britain in 1873 was 6¢ per 1/2 oz - 2¢ U.S. - 2¢ Sea - 2¢ G.B. - this was by "Br. Pkt" hence G.B.'s share 2 x 4, the U.S. 2 x 2. France collected from the addressee and paid G.B. and the letter paid the U.S. (I am making all these notes for my record).

The "G.B." marking is merely a control mark to show the rate per bulk mail that G.B. charged France. No relation to U.S. - no relation to this one particular letter.

Regards.

Yours etc.,

Philatelic Foundation

Certificate No. 5035 - July 1954

U.S. 1860 - 90¢ - Blue S.U.S. #39

Description

Red Diamond Grid - Cancel -  
Affixed On Piece (By Hinge)  
Which Also Bears A 3¢ Red  
(1857) Type II

Is THE cancellation Genuine

Note By S.B.A. The "Piece" is A  
Piece of A LINEN Envelope  
- Space Under 90¢ CLEAN  
Which Might Indicate That  
This 90¢ Stamp Did Originate  
On This Piece

31-53

P. F. Certificate #5035

90¢ 1860 on piece with 3¢ 1857 Type II

There is insufficient evidence to give a definite opinion on the genuineness of these cancelations. Large grid and diamond dots, but the red ink does look like it might be genuine. Also the piece is evidently a piece of a linen envelope. About the most that I can state is that in my opinion these cancels might be genuine.

---

Stanley B. Ashbrook

July 19, 1954.

July 18, 1954.

32-53

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

Dear Em:

The P.F. sent me a 90¢ 1860 on a piece with a 3¢ 1857 Type II. Both tied to a piece of a linen envelope (?) by two red cancelations, one a large grid (ringless), the other a bunch of diamond dots. Here is a copy of the opinion I gave.

This item might come up at auction. I made several photographs for my records. I will send you a print if you want one.

What about the baby that was expected this month?

Regards.

Yours etc.,

32-53

TELEPHONE  
PLAZA 3-6481

H·R·HARMER, INC.  
INTERNATIONAL STAMP AUCTIONEERS

CABLES  
HARMERSALE, NEW YORK

APPRAISALS FOR SALE,  
PROBATE & INSURANCE

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

LEADING AUCTIONEERS OF  
RARE POSTAGE STAMPS

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

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

AUCTIONEERS OF THE  
"PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT" COLLECTION

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

11th  
August  
1954

Dear Stan:

I am taking the liberty of bothering you once again, this time with an 1860 90c on piece with a 3c red.

This comes from our London office on behalf of a client and we sent it in the first place to the Foundation as that was London's request. The Foundation has "respectfully declined to give an opinion". May we have your observations?

I have learned that you have been billed for lists of prices realized for the coming Season and that you have already sent payment for these. I am enclosing our check in the amount of \$5.00 and would ask you to accept the price lists with our compliments as some slight reciprocation for your many kindnesses.

Sincerely yours,

H. R. HARMER, INC.

*Bernard.*  
Director

BDH:E  
Enclosures



Aug. 13, 1954.

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

Dear Bernard:

Herewith the 90¢ 1860 with the 3¢ 1857. In my opinion, the P.F. Committee did the right thing in declining to give an opinion on this item. I believe it is much better to decline an opinion, if one is not reasonably sure, than it is to do a bit of guessing, simply because one feels he is expected to supply a positive opinion. I don't regard it as a reflection on one's ability to state - "I don't know."

I don't suppose it is any secret to inform you that the Committee sent this item to me last month. I made a very thorough examination of it including two enlarged photographs, one by ultra-violet lamp. I found myself unable to express an opinion one way or the other. I believe that the nearest I came was to state that I thought it possible that the item might be good, however, that don't mean a thing. When we consider the clever work of Sperati we can imagine how simple it would be for a Sperati to make a thing like this.

For many years I have made a study of "used copies" of the 90¢ stamp, in fact, searched for copies and put them to all sorts of tests. By the middle thirties I was confident I knew more about the stamp than any other student and I thought I could easily detect the genuinely used from the faked items. However, I don't have such confidence any more and I will not express an opinion on a used 90¢ unless it comes in a category that I am very familiar with.

As you are aware, the stamp was only in use about a year and as far as I know it's use was confined to the large cities. In this respect I do not recall that a diamond dot cancel was used in any of our large cities in that year's period, of 1860-1861. This stamp on the original cover is a real rarity, and copies off cover that I wouldn't hesitate to vouch for as genuine can be numbered on the fingers of one's hands.

That's the story and I believe you will agree that our friends at the P.F. were wise in not risking what could have been a wrong opinion.

It was very kind of you to remit the charge for your auction prices and I want you to know that I sincerely appreciate your kindness.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

TELEPHONE  
PLAZA 3-6481

APPRAISALS FOR SALE,  
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RARE POSTAGE STAMPS

AUCTIONEERS OF THE  
"PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT" COLLECTION

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

17th  
August  
1954

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Very many thanks for your letter of August 13th addressed to my co-director, Bernard Harmer who is away from the office on a short vacation.

I am sure that he will fully appreciate your opinion on the item submitted and it will be returned to our London office, together with extracts of your letter covering your opinion.

Undoubtedly the 1860 90c used is one of the most difficult stamps on which to express an opinion. This fact I have known personally for many years and after reading your letter I appreciate much more than ever what a tough proposition this stamp really must be to expertize and how few really authentic copies are probably around.

With all best wishes.

Sincerely yours,

H. R. HARMER, INC.

*Fred T Buck*

Director

FTB:E

QUARTZ



BS19

BY P.F. JULY 19-54  
SEE BS20

BS19

RED CANCELS  
AT 14E F64-15 MIN

SEE B 519 FOR QUARTZ  
BY P.F. SEE SB 32 JULY 19 54



RED CANCELS

AT 17½ - FG4 - C5 BLUE 120 SEC

B 520

B 520

B 520

TELEPHONE  
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RARE POSTAGE STAMPS

AUCTIONEERS OF THE  
"PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT" COLLECTION

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

15th  
July  
1954

Dear Stan:

Our London office has sent over photographs of the fronts of two covers and the back of the first, being 1869's used on April 1st and April 2nd, which I understand is some couple of weeks earlier than any recorded date.

Despite the vast accumulation of postmarks, somehow they both look phoney to me and I would appreciate your comments as to whether you can decide from the photographs as to their genuineness.

I would be obliged if you would return the photographs when replying, but possibly later I will be able to get them to you for reference.

With thanks in advance.

Sincerely yours,

H. R. HARMER, INC.

*Bernard.*

Director

BDH:E  
Enclosure - Photographs

July 20, 1954.

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

Dear En:

Bernard Harner sent me three photographs of covers that had been sent to him by his London office to show to me. I enclose copy of letter that I wrote him. Rather a coincidence that three "Earlies" would show up at the same time.

Yours etc.,

July 19, 1954.

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

Dear Bernard:

I was pleased to have a look at the photo prints enclosed in yours of the 15th. I am returning them herewith.

It is rather strange how several earlier dates of use of 1869 stamps have shown up lately. Last week I examined for a friend, a cover that he had bought in the Laurence sale of July 12th last. It was Lot 555 and was addressed to Palermo, Sicily. It showed a 31¢ rate composed of a 12¢ 1869, a pair of 2¢ 1869 and a 15¢ Lincoln. There was no such a thing as a 31¢ rate. However, plenty of covers are known with the 15¢ per 1/2 ounce rate. Therefore, was this originally a cover with the 15¢ Lincoln, a single rate, and did someone add the 1869 stamps to give added value to the cover? The New York postmark was "Apr 1" (1869). Laurence described it as the "earliest known date on the 2¢ and next earliest on 12¢." Therefore, yours with earliest dates of the same period was quite a surprise.

My earliest recorded use of the 10¢ is April 7, 1869. Your cover shows "Apr 1" 1869. My earliest record of the 15¢ Type I is "Apr 3" 1869. Your cover is "Apr 2" (1869).

It is hardly fair to try and judge a cover by a photograph, especially in this day and age of the Sperati's, Zareski's and other very shrewd artists, however, here are a few observations -

10¢ 1869 cover to Spain, from New Orleans April 1, 1869. New York April 6. London April 17. All these postal markings appear genuine. New Orleans did use this type of postmark in April 1869. I can't tell much about the "tie" on the 10¢ stamp, and if it is questionable then the cover is probably genuine but a 10¢ '69 may have been substituted for a 10¢ '61 or 10¢ '67.

The rate to Spain by "open mail" via England was 10¢ at this period. I have a photograph of a cover that Sir N. Waterhouse sent me several years ago. It was from this same correspondence and very similar to your cover, and used in May 1869. I find that I had no occasion to question the Waterhouse cover, though all I had was the photo print.

Regarding the New York sailing date of Apr 6. I find that a ship of the Hamburg Line sailed on Apr 6 ('69) with mail for Europe "Via Southampton and Hamburg." "Paid - only to England" meant a 10¢ rate. You will note "AM. PKT" in the New York postmark. This meant "at the expense of the

#2. Mr. Bernard Harmer - July 19, 1954.

U. S. P.O.D." rather than by a ship of U. S. Registry. The reason the rate was 10¢, was, 2¢ U. S. domestic and 8¢ sea to England (to the British Frontier).

I see no reason to question this cover from the photo. Whether or not this 10¢ stamp was the one used on this cover could only be determined by a careful examination of the cover itself.

Regarding the 15¢ '69 cover. I would like to see the back of this cover. Note the New York date of Apr 7, with the "6" (credit). Also in the French postmark note the "Serv. Am. Packet." This combination of "6" and "Am Pkt" meant that this letter was sent from New York by "Am Pkt" on "Apr 7" 1869. Not actually by a ship of U. S. Registry but at the expense of the U. S. P.O.D. to England.

I note there was a sailing of a British Cunard mail ship from New York on April 7, 1869 but no sailing of an "Amer. Pkt." This makes me wonder if the year dates have been changed to "'69" from "'68" or "'67?" The French artists make these changes very cleverly, and it is a favorite trick to remove a 15¢ Lincoln and substitute a 15¢ 1869. Quite a profitable substitution. I recall such a cover that I examined within the past few weeks. I might add that the rate on your cover was actually 15¢ but I would have to examine the cover itself to determine whether this stamp, in my opinion, was actually used on the cover. I doubt very much if the actual use was "Apr 7 1869." It could not have been 1870 or later, but it could have been(?) 1868. I regret that my records do not include a list of the sailings from New York for the month of April 1868.

Again thanks for a look at these photographs. I apologize for such a lengthy letter, but I not only desired to give you some data, but to record for my own benefit, what I thought of these two covers.

Herewith I am enclosing a copy of my July 1st "SERVICE ISSUE." I thought perhaps you would be interested in my remarks regarding the fake 30¢ 1869 and also my story about "Mr. X." Maybe you heard the first part of this story from a mutual friend of ours.

With kindest regards -

Cordially yours,



STANLEY B. ASHBROOK  
P. O. Box 31  
FORT THOMAS, KY.

COPY

July 19, 1954.

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% H. R. Harmer, Inc.,  
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With kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK

A. P. S. 2497

33 N. FT. THOMAS AVE.

FT. THOMAS, KY.

JULY 1, 1954.

MR. BERNARD HARMER,  
% H. R. HARMER, INC.,  
32 EAST 57TH ST.,  
NEW YORK 22, N. Y.

DEAR BERNARD,

I WAS PLEASED TO HAVE A LOOK AT THE PHOTO PRINTS ENCLOSED IN YOURS OF THE 15TH, AND WHICH I RETURN HEREWITH.

RATHER STRANGE HOW SEVERAL EARLIER DATES OF USE OF 1869 STAMPS HAVE SHOWN UP LATELY. LAST WEEK I EXAMINED FOR A FRIEND A COVER THAT HE HAD BOUGHT IN THE LAURENCE SALE OF JULY 12TH LAST. IT WAS LOT 555 AND WAS ADDRESSED TO PALERMO, SICILY. IT SHOWED A 31¢ RATE COMPOSED OF A 15¢ 1866 LINCOLN, A 2¢ 1869. I KNOW OF NO 31¢ RATE TO ITALY BY ANY ROUTE. THE NEW YORK POSTMARK WAS APRIL 1 (1869). LAURENCE MENTIONED "EARLIEST KNOWN DATE ON 2¢ AND NEXT EARLIEST ON 12¢." NOW YOU SHOW ME PHOTOS OF TWO COVERS, ONE OF APRIL 1ST, 1869 OF THE 10¢, AND APRIL 2ND, 1869 OF THE 15¢. MY EARLIEST OF RECORD OF THE 10¢ IS APRIL 7, 1869, AND THE 15¢, TYPE I - APR. 3, 1869.

IT IS HARDLY FAIR TO TRY AND JUDGE A COVER BY A PHOTOGRAPH, ESPECIALLY IN THIS DAY AND AGE OF THE SPERATI'S, ZARESKI'S AND OTHER VERY SHREWD ARTISTS, HOWEVER, HERE ARE A FEW OBSERVATIONS -

10¢ 1869 COVER. TO SPAIN. NEW ORLEANS APRIL 1, 1869. NEW YORK APRIL 6. LONDON APRIL 17. ALL THESE POSTAL MARKINGS APPEAR GENUINE. NEW ORLEANS DID USE THIS TYPE IN APRIL 1869. I CAN'T TELL MUCH ABOUT THE "TIE" ON THE STAMP, AND IF IT IS QUESTIONABLE THEN THE COVER IS PROBABLY GENUINE BUT A 10¢ '69 SUBSTITUTED FOR A 10¢ '61 OR 10¢ '67.

THE RATE TO SPAIN BY "OPEN MAIL" VIA ENGLAND WAS 10¢ AT THIS PERIOD. I HAVE A PHOTOGRAPH OF A COVER THAT SIR N. WATERHOUSE SENT ME SEVERAL YEARS AGO. IT WAS FROM THIS SAME CORRESPONDENCE VERY SIMILAR TO THIS AND USED IN MAY 1869. I FIND THAT I HAD NO OCCASION TO QUESTION IT THOUGH ALL I HAD WAS THE PHOTO PRINT.

REGARDING THE NEW YORK SAILING DATE OF APR. 6. I FIND THAT A SHIP OF THE HAMBURG LINE SAILED ON APR. 6 (69) WITH MAIL FOR EUROPE "VIA SOUTHAMPTON AND HAMBURG." "PAID - ONLY TO ENGLAND" MEANT A 10¢ RATE. YOU WILL NOTE "2M. PKT" IN THE NEW YORK POSTMARK. THIS MEANT "AT THE EXPENSE OF THE U. S. P.O.D." RATHER THAN BY A SHIP OF U. S. REGISTRY. THE REASON THE RATE WAS 10¢ WAS 2¢ U. S. DOMESTIC AND 8¢ SEA TO ENGLAND. (TO THE BRITISH FRONTIER). I SEE NO REASON TO DOUBT THIS COVER FROM THE PHOTO. WHETHER OR NOT THIS 10¢ STAMP WAS THE ONE USED ON THIS COVER COULD ONLY BE DETERMINED BY A CAREFUL EXAMINATION OF THE COVER ITSELF.

REGARDING THE 15¢ '69 COVER. I WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE BACK OF THIS COVER. NOTE THE NEW YORK DATE OF APR. 7, WITH THE "6" - ALSO IN THE

JULY 1, 1954.

MR. BERNARD HARMER,  
% H. R. HARMER, INC.,  
32 EAST 57TH ST.,  
NEW YORK 22, N. Y.

DEAR BERNARD,

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RATHER STRANGE HOW SEVERAL EARLIER DATES OF USE OF 1869 STAMPS HAVE SHOWN UP LATELY. LAST WEEK I EXAMINED FOR A FRIEND A COVER THAT HE HAD BOUGHT IN THE LAURENCE SALE OF JULY 12TH LAST. IT WAS LOT 555 AND WAS ADDRESSED TO PALERMO, SICILY. IT SHOWED A 31¢ RATE COMPOSED OF A 15¢ 1866 LINCOLN, A 2¢ 1869. I KNOW OF NO 31¢ RATE TO ITALY BY ANY ROUTE. THE NEW YORK POSTMARK WAS APRIL 1 (1869). LAURENCE MENTIONED "EARLIEST KNOWN DATE ON 2¢ AND NEXT EARLIEST ON 12¢." NOW YOU SHOW ME PHOTOS OF TWO COVERS, ONE OF APRIL 1ST, 1869 OF THE 10¢, AND APRIL 2ND, 1869 OF THE 15¢. MY EARLIEST OF RECORD OF THE 10¢ IS APRIL 7, 1869, AND THE 15¢, TYPE I - APR. 3, 1869.

IT IS HARDLY FAIR TO TRY AND JUDGE A COVER BY A PHOTOGRAPH, ESPECIALLY IN THIS DAY AND AGE OF THE SPERATI'S, ZARESKI'S AND OTHER VERY SHREWD ARTISTS, HOWEVER, HERE ARE A FEW OBSERVATIONS -

10¢ 1869 COVER. TO SPAIN. NEW ORLEANS APRIL 1, 1869. NEW YORK APRIL 6. LONDON APRIL 17. ALL THESE POSTAL MARKINGS APPEAR GENUINE. NEW ORLEANS DID USE THIS TYPE IN APRIL 1869. I CAN'T TELL MUCH ABOUT THE "TIE" ON THE STAMP, AND IF IT IS QUESTIONABLE THEN THE COVER IS PROBABLY GENUINE BUT A 10¢ '69 SUBSTITUTED FOR A 10¢ '61 OR 10¢ '67.

THE RATE TO SPAIN BY "OPEN MAIL" VIA ENGLAND WAS 10¢ AT THIS PERIOD. I HAVE A PHOTOGRAPH OF A COVER THAT SIR N. WATERHOUSE SENT ME SEVERAL YEARS AGO. IT WAS FROM THIS SAME CORRESPONDENCE VERY SIMILAR TO THIS AND USED IN MAY 1869. I FIND THAT I HAD NO OCCASION TO QUESTION IT THOUGH ALL I HAD WAS THE PHOTO PRINT.

REGARDING THE NEW YORK SAILING DATE OF APR. 6. I FIND THAT A SHIP OF THE HAMBURG LINE SAILED ON APR. 6 (69) WITH MAIL FOR EUROPE "VIA SOUTHAMPTON AND HAMBURG." "PAID - ONLY TO ENGLAND" MEANT A 10¢ RATE. YOU WILL NOTE "AM. PKT" IN THE NEW YORK POSTMARK. THIS MEANT "AT THE EXPENSE OF THE U. S. P.O.D." RATHER THAN BY A SHIP OF U. S. REGISTRY. THE REASON THE RATE WAS 10¢ WAS 2¢ U. S. DOMESTIC AND 8¢ SEA TO ENGLAND. (TO THE BRITISH FRONTIER). I SEE NO REASON TO DOUBT THIS COVER FROM THE PHOTO. WHETHER OR NOT THIS 10¢ STAMP WAS THE ONE USED ON THIS COVER COULD ONLY BE DETERMINED BY A CAREFUL EXAMINATION OF THE COVER ITSELF.

REGARDING THE 15¢ '69 COVER. I WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE BACK OF THIS COVER. NOTE THE NEW YORK DATE OF APR. 7, WITH THE "6" - ALSO IN THE

TELEPHONE  
PLAZA 3-6481

APPRAISALS FOR SALE,  
PROBATE & INSURANCE

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

H · R · HARMER, Inc.  
INTERNATIONAL STAMP AUCTIONEERS

32 EAST 57TH STREET  
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CABLES  
HARMERSALE, NEW YORK

LEADING AUCTIONEERS OF  
RARE POSTAGE STAMPS

AUCTIONEERS OF THE  
"PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT" COLLECTION

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

26th  
July  
1954

Dear Stan:

This acknowledges with very sincere thanks your letter of July 19th.

I think undoubtedly the best thing to do is to send your letter and the photographs back to London where they can duly digest it and then ship back to me the necessary additional photographs or preferably the actual covers.

There will therefore probably be a delay of a few weeks before anything further happens, when I will be bothering you once again.

Thanks also for the sample copy of issue #40 of the Ashbrook Special Service". This certainly makes most interesting reading. I would love to be present when Mr. X, who I understand is on vacation, gets back and sees a copy. The sight should be worth \$1,000.

Sincerely yours,

H. R. HARMER, INC.

*Bernard*

Director

BDH:E  
CC: London office

50 PLATE

BS161 BACK OF A 504

BACK OF A 504

BACK OF 107 69 COVER SEE SB32



"50" PLATE - 208 - PHOTO - BY BERNARD HARMER

F128-TSEC

No 1



7095

4-20

4



91

*Swift Steam*

*Spain*

PAID-ONLY  
TO ENGLAND



*Des* *Catamen y Ca*  
**4.R.<sup>s</sup>** *Guatemala*  
*(Catamen)*



6/

91

*per first steamer*

*Spain*

PAID-ONLY  
TO ENGLAND



*Don* *Catamen y Co*  
**4R.** *Guadalca*  
*(Catalina)*



11

SERV. AM.

S. ET. UNIS  
SERV. AM. GALAIS  
14/18  
APRIL  
69

NEW ORLEANS  
LA. S.M.  
APR  
21



Mr. John Plawicki

Bismarck

France

5



NEW ORLEANS  
LA. 5  
APR 21

ST. ONIS & STAIN  
SERV. AM. CALAIS  
18 APRIL 69

Mr. John Plawicki  
Bordaux  
France

II

POSTAGE GUARANTEED

K CATALOGUE

BOOK COMPANY

, UNION CENTRAL BLDG

CINCINNATI 2, OHIO



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

# ROBERT A. SIEGEL

# POSTAGE STAMPS

AUCTIONS

APPRAISALS

WANT LISTS

TELEPHONES  
MURRAY HILL 2-4309  
WHITE PLAINS 9-5837

505 FIFTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK CITY

July 16, 1954.

Mr. Stanley Ashbrook  
33 No. Ft. Thomas Ave.  
Ft. Thomas, Ky.

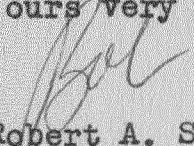
Dear Stan:

I am enclosing a Pony cover on which I would like your opinion. Kindly let me have your bill when you return the item.

Fred Allen turned over the colored slides that he had gotten from you. If you have a few of these on early 19th let me know as I think they are very interesting.

With kindest personal regards, I remain,

Yours very truly,

  
Robert A. Siegel

RAS/sm  
ENC.



July 20, 1954.

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

Dear Doctor:

Here is a "Pony Express cover." Now my knowledge of Western Franks is zero minus, so any opinion by me on this cover would be worthless. So I am appealing to you. By any chance could this be good? That blue "W.F. & Co." stamper just looks too darn good to be true and could it be possible for this 3¢ envelope to be used with this W.F. stamp? I wouldn't know a genuine W.F. stamp from a reprint but some way or other this stamp don't seem like the real McCoy to me. I am sure you can help me out and explain why this thing is all wrong - or is it? Could this be one of Manson's merchandise?

My kindest regards.

Cordially yours,

P.S.--The stamps on the return envelope are for Mrs. Ashbrook's collection. I didn't want you to get the impression I collected 20th.

S.B.A.

32-55

July 26, 1954.

Mr. Robt. A. Siegel,  
505 Fifth Ave.,  
New York, N.Y.

Dear Bob:

Herewith I am returning the Pony Express cover. I have great respect for the opinion of my friend to whom I sent the cover but I am a bit dubious about his opinion. Of course, my suspicion may be totally unfounded, as I am no student of Western Franks.

Here is a copy of the letter that I received from him, quote: "In my opinion this Virginia Pony is perfectly O.K. although used on a demonetized envelope, and very late; probably 1864. There is no reason why Wells Fargo would not fulfill its obligation to the purchaser or owner of the envelope. The U. S. Government received its money from W.F. & Co. and W.F. & Co. carried it outside the mail, and although in technical violation of the law, Wells Fargo & Co. would certainly carry it - they were used to violating the law or setting up their own rules, etc. I can find nothing wrong with the handstamp or ink. Although too pretty to believe genuine, I can find no fault with it. Of course the Gold Hill W.F. & Co. office did not have this envelope on hand at the time of its use; this envelope was brought to their office by someone who had purchased it prior to 1861.

There is only one faker that could have made a cover like this and that was Parker Lyon, who had a lot of the original W.F. & Co. handstamps - 81 I believe. I don't know if he had the Gold Hill N.T. handstamp. However, the ink on this cover looks O.K. to me and I don't think I have ever seen a perfect imitation of this ink.

At any rate I would be willing to purchase this cover. By any chance is it for sale?

Kindest regards, and thanks for letting me see this pretty and unusual item."

(unquote)

I note that my friend refers to "Parker Lyon," - Of course you will recall that this fellow Lyon put out the cleverest lot of fakes of Western Franks that have come on the market. I believe that W.R. Parker of Oroville, Calif. is the best authority we have on the Parker Lyon stuff. I suggest you send the cover to him but if you are not acquainted with him you can return the cover to me and I will be glad to send it to him for his examination. Some way or other it just looks too darn good, and besides I can't quite figure such a late use for this envelope. Herewith a color slide of the cover in case you would like to have it. Glad to do this little favor for you Bob and of course there is no fee.

With my kindest regards --

Cordially yours,

Enclosed - one color slide \$1.50

32-55

July 26, 1954.

Mr. W. R. Parker,  
1460 Montgomery St.,  
Oroville, Calif.

Dear Mr. Parker:

I am enclosing herewith a photograph which kindly accept with my compliments. This cover was sent to me by Bob Siegel of New York. I advised him that my knowledge of Western Franks was zero minus, and for the best opinion available, to submit the cover to you. I couldn't reconcile the late use of this envelope and further, the thing looked just too good to be true. For my own information could this be a Parker Lyon item? Or do you see no reason to question it?

I trust that you are in the best of health and that all goes well with you.

Sincerely yours,

VIA AIR MAIL



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR

Stanley B. Ashbrook



Box 31

Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Mrs. Arbuckle  
Yours with photo  
received. Glad to  
hear from you and  
thank you also for the  
photo. Siegel has sent  
the cover. Will make  
a report after I return  
next week. Off hand  
would say it looks  
more like a H.C.N.  
than Parker Lyon.  
To your knowledge was it  
seen in Ackerman or  
Lichtenstein collection?  
Hope to see you in S.F.  
in Sept. Kind regards  
W.R.P.

Aug. 8, 1954.

Mr. W. R. Parker,  
1460 Montgomery St.,  
Oroville, Calif.

Dear Mr. Parker:

Thanks for your card. I haven't the slightest idea where Siegel obtained the cover but I will endeavor to find out. Of course, I am aware that H.C.N. had covers repaired and he had stamps added, switched around, etc., but I never heard that he actually resorted to having faked stampers made such as done by Parker Lyon, the San Francisco Levey or that latest clown Manson. It is indeed strange that such people think they can get away with such stuff but it seems that if they don't, about all they get is a slap on the wrist and a warning to be a good boy.

My kindest regards.

Cordially yours,

Aug. 8, 1954.

Mr. Robt. A. Siegel,  
505 Fifth Ave.,  
New York, N.Y.

Dear Bob:

Evidently Parker is of the opinion the "Pony" cover is bad and he doubts that it was made by Parker Lyon but rather by Needham. This, I doubt, as I never heard that Needham ever actually had any fake handstamps made. He did pull some queer stuff but I refuse to believe he was quite that bad.

I was a bit suspicious that this cover might have been made by that latest clown, Manson, but I don't think he was clever enough to make a cover like yours.

If you can give me any information on the source of the cover, it will be appreciated.

Regards.

Sincerely yours,

32-55

# ROBERT A. SIEGEL

# POSTAGE STAMPS

AUCTIONS

APPRAISALS

WANT LISTS

TELEPHONES  
MURRAY HILL 2-4309  
WHITE PLAINS 9-5837

505 FIFTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK CITY

Aug.17,1954

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook  
P.O. Box 31  
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan;

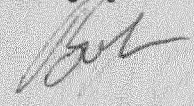
In regards to the "Pony" cover, my customer that sold it to me obtained it from John Fox about eight years ago. It was from a group of three covers John had acquired at that time. I am most interested in hearing from Mr. Parker on this cover and receiving his opinion in regards to same.

The quarter of the 12c '51 was withdrawn from my sale when the P.F. cancelled their certificate. I was never advised why. It would seem reasonable that when any cover is condemned a reason why should be given.

I would like to get one of the color slides of the 10c type IV you mentioned.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely yours,





PAID  
Wells, Fargo & Co.  
OVER OUR CALIFORNIA AND COAST ROUTES.

Red



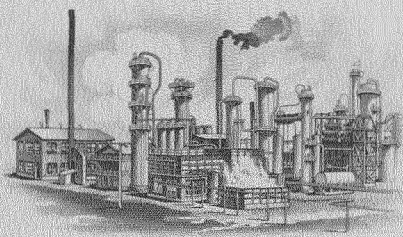
Blue

Mr W F Brennan  
Grammar School N.S.  
Cor 7th & J Streets  
Sacramento City

Butt Cover  
Nothing On Back

A 502

PHONE 125



CRYSTAL Refining Company OF CARSON CITY  
INCORPORATED

CRYSTAL PETROLEUM PRODUCTS

CARSON CITY, MICHIGAN

Ionia, Michigan.  
July 25, 1954.

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

Dear Stan:

As indicated in my last letter, am enclosing a beautiful horizontal pair from Plate Three - "B" Relief - many plating marks - hope you can plate it and that it will tie in some new position for you. Am sure you will be interested in this piece which I assume is perhaps new to you. It was lot #25 in the Stolow sale of last July 15-16th. I bid \$29.00 on it and they let me have it for \$25.00 which I thought was nice of them - they seldom do this. I assume it would have brought a lot more had it been in a Kelleher sale and described as from Plate Three. Please sign it on back as being from Plate Three with position if it is readily plated and let me know your fee, Stan - assuming of course it is from Plate Three as I feel certain it is. Am enclosing on the same card, the 3¢ stamp that was alongside it and the small piece of folded letter sheet to which these were attached (I soaked them off piece myself). Evidently New Orleans cancel in November 1856. It is known that New Orleans had Plate Three 1¢ stamps.

Not much else to report, Stan. Joan will be home from summer geology camp Tuesday night but has to turn around and go back before the week is out. Rene has been feeling tired of late - can't seem to eat as she should - wish she would perk up.

Rene joins me in regards and best wishes to all.

Sincerely,

*Jack*  
J. G. Fleckenstein.

JGF/k  
Enc:

July 27, 1954.

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

Dear Jack:

Herewith I am returning the 1¢ 1851 pair. This certainly is Plate 3 and the positions are 61L3 - 62L3. Position 61L3 is an imprint position and can be identified by the small curl on the shoulder which extends down into the top of "E" of ONE. Among the Jefferies Plate 3 photographs, there is a poor single of 61L3 on negative No. 22. Incidentally, I had no previous record of 62L3, so this pair identifies a new position for us. There don't seem to be very much to identify 62L3, which is probably the reason it has not been plated up to this time.

I made a photograph of this pair and later I will send you a print.

I am sending copies of this letter to Morris Fortgang and to Mort Neinken and later I will send prints to them.

With regards -

Yours etc.,

(32-56)

July 27, 1954.

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

Dear Jack:

Because Mort and Morris are very much interested in the plating of Plate 3, I am sending them copies of my letter to you and later I will send them photographs. I made a color slide of this pair in order to record the shade. Would you care for one?

I have signed it on the back for you and am charging you a fee of \$4.00 which will include return registration and an enlarged black and white print.

I believe that Mort was away when this sale took place but it is odd that Fortgang overlooked this item. You probably noted that in my other letter I did not mention that this pair came from the Stolow sale. I was surprised that they gave it to you below your bid. Gregory Mozian attends their sales and you could entrust your future bids to him as he is thoroughly reliable. However you would get better service if you mentioned you are a close friend of mine and I recommended him.

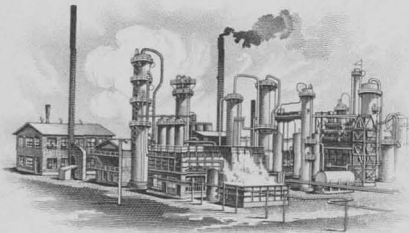
I note that Rene has been a bit below par. Tell her to investigate Gerital. I have several friends who say it is fine for that tired feeling.

I have a hunch that John Fox made some sort of a deal with Ruth. He is a very convincing talker and can lay down the cash in advance. Are you sure she did not see him on his recent visit to Detroit?

Our best to all.

As ever yours,

PAID  
4.00



PHONE 125

CRYSTAL *Refining Company* OF CARSON CITY  
INCORPORATED

CRYSTAL PETROLEUM PRODUCTS

CARSON CITY, MICHIGAN

Ionia, Michigan.  
August 1, 1954.

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

Dear Stan:

Thanks for yours of July 27th returning the horizontal pair from Plate Three - positions 61-62 L-3. I think this is a nice item and probably worth all I paid for it - what do you think about it? Beautiful color.

Joan got back last Tuesday and left again at 4:30 AM this morning to return to Golden, Colorado. Probably won't be back home now until Xmas vacation. She likes it very much out in the West.

Rene is still under the weather and I'm worried about her condition. Maybe tho its just overwork and worry and we hope and pray she will snap out of it.

I just can't believe Ruth Stark would be taken in by Fox. Anyway, I'll see her soon and find out what she plans to do, but she indicated she would consult you (at my suggestion and Charlie Shier's) before doing anything, and I still think she will.

Weather has turned nice and cool and hope it stays this way for a while.

Rene plans on going up fishing again this month and this may make her feel better.

Regards.

Sincerely,

*Jack*  
J. G. Fleckenstein.

JGF/  
Enc \$4.00

OTTO M. A. BACHER, D.PH.  
MANAGING DIRECTOR

3257  
MEMBER B.P.A., P.T.S., A.P.S.,  
COLLECTORS CLUB, NEW YORK

# THE WESTMINSTER STAMP CO., LTD.

THE SPECIALISTS IN U.S.A. POSTAGE STAMPS

REGENCY HOUSE, 1-4, WARWICK STREET, LONDON, W.1.



TELEPHONE: GERRARD 4900

OB/B

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook,  
Fort Thomas.

July 8, 1954.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

It is quite a time since we have not heard from each other. The reason for that, on this side, is, of course a simple one: I had nothing of any importance to report.

Today, however, I have something which, I feel, will be of some interest to you.

A friend of mine bought a big accumulation of foreign covers and found among them two as per enclosed photos. The 10¢ 1869 used on April 1 1869 and the 15¢ type I used on April 2 1869 (the line after the 2 is just a smear) are the earliest uses of the two stamps I know of and much earlier than the Scott catalogue dates.

You will note that the various markings and their dates tally well on both covers and I cannot detect any erasures, corrections or anything phoney with either of them.

What do you think? My friend says he would also be prepared to let me send you the originals in case you want to see them. Incidentally, the 15¢ is very fine, while the 10¢ is off center as the photo shows but otherwise without defects. At what price he wants to sell, should you be interested, I do not know as yet, because he does not seem to have made up his mind in this respect. However, since he is a dealer I do not think he intends to sit on the covers for ever.

Hoping you are well

I am with best wishes

yours sincerely

July 26, 1954.

Dr. O. Bacher,  
% Westminster Stamp Co. Ltd.,  
London, W. 1, England.

Dear Doctor:

I was pleased to have a look at the photo prints enclosed in yours of the 15th. It is rather strange how several earlier dates of use of 1869 stamps have shown up lately. Last week I examined for a friend, a cover that he had bought in the Laurence Sale of July 12th last. It was Lot 555 and was addressed to Palermo, Sicily. It showed a 31¢ rate composed of a 12¢ 1869, a pair of 2¢ 1869 and a 15¢ Lincoln. There was no such a thing as a 31¢ rate. However, plenty of covers are known with the 15¢ per 1/2 ounce rate. Therefore, was this originally a cover with the 15¢ Lincoln, a single rate, and did someone add the 1869 stamps to give added value to the cover? The New York postmark was "Apr 1" (1869). Laurence described it as the "earliest known date on the 2¢ and next earliest on 12¢." Therefore, yours with earliest dates of the same period was quite a surprise.

My earliest recorded use of the 10¢ is April 7, 1869. Your cover shows "Apr 1" 1869. My earliest record of the 15¢ Type I is "Apr 3" 1869. Your cover is "Apr 2" (1869).

It is hardly fair to try and judge a cover by a photograph, especially in this day and age of the Aperati's, Eareski's and other very shrewd artists, however, here are a few observations -

10¢ 1869 cover. To Spain, from New Orleans April 1, 1869. New York April 6. London April 17. All these postal markings appear genuine. New Orleans did use this type of postmark in April 1869. I can't tell much about the "tie" on the 10¢ stamp, and if it is questionable then the cover is probably genuine, but a 10¢ '69 may have been substituted for a 10¢ '61 or 10¢ '67.

The rate to Spain by "open mail" via England was 10¢ at this period. I have a photograph of a cover that Sir N. Waterhouse sent me several years ago. It was from this same correspondence and very similar to your cover and used in May 1869. I find that I had no occasion to question the Waterhouse cover, though all I had was the photo print.

Regarding the New York sailing date of Apr 6. I find that a ship of the Hamburg Line sailed on Apr 6 ('69) with mail for Europe "Via Southampton and Hamburg." "Paid - Only to England" meant a 10¢ rate. You will note "AM. PKT" in the New York postmark. This meant, "at the expense of the U.S. P.C.D." rather than by a ship of U. S. Registry. The reason the rate was 10¢ was 2¢ U. S. domestic and 8¢ sea to England, (to the British frontier). I see no reason to question this cover from the photo. Whether or not this 10¢ stamp was the one used on this cover could only be determined by a careful examination of the cover itself.



#2. Mr. O. Bacher - July 26, 1954.

Regarding the 15¢ '69 cover. I would like to see the back of this cover. Note the New York date of Apr. 7, with the "6" (credit). Also note in the French postmark the "Serv. Am. Packet." This combination of "6" and "Am. Pkt" meant that this letter was sent from New York by "Am Pkt" on "Apr 7" 1869. Not actually by a ship of U. S. registry but at the expense of the U.S. P.C.D. to England.

I note there was a sailing of a British Cunard mail ship from New York on April 7 1869 but no sailing of an "Amer. Pkt." This makes me wonder if the year dates have been changed to "69" from "68" or "67?" The French artists make these changes very cleverly, and it is a favorite trick to remove a 15¢ Lincoln and substitute a 15¢ 1869. Quite a profitable substitution. I recall such a cover that I examined within the past few weeks. I might add that the rate on your cover was actually 15¢ but I would have to examine the cover itself to determine whether this stamp, in my opinion, was actually used on the cover. I doubt very much if the actual use was "Apr 7 1869." It could not have been 1870 or later but it could have been(?) 1868. I regret that my records do not include a list of the sailings from New York for the month of April 1868.

Again thanks for a look at these photographs.

I apologize for such a lengthy letter, but I not only desired to give you some data, but to record for my own benefit, what I thought of these two covers.

Confidential. The same three photographs were submitted to me last week by Bernard Harmer of the New York office of H. R. Harmer. I returned them to him with the same information I have given you above.

I note that your friend might be willing to send the covers to me for a look and if this can be arranged I would indeed be most grateful.

I am enclosing you a photograph of the cover I mentioned that was in a recent Laurence sale (New York).

With all good wishes -

Cordially yours,

# The Westminster Stamp Co., Ltd.

DIRECTORS: O. BACHER, D. PHIL., B.P.A., P.T.S., A.P.S.—S. BACHER.

THE SPECIALISTS IN U.S.A. POSTAGE STAMPS

Regency House,

1-4, WARWICK STREET, PICCADILLY CIRCUS,  
LONDON, W.1.

Selections on approval and Want Lists executed from  
the most comprehensive U.S.A. stock in Great Britain.



Bankers:  
Barclays Bank Ltd.,  
Piccadilly Circus,  
London, W.1.

*My  
request  
approved*

Stanley B. Ashbrook, Esq. 21-8-1954  
33 N. FT. Thomas Avenue.  
Fort Thomas, Ky. 404

ALL GOODS REMAIN OUR PROPERTY UNTIL PAID FOR.

On Appro.

1869 10¢ o/mnt

1869 15¢ T. I o/mnt

Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

I succeeded in getting these 2 covers  
so admirably dealt with by you in your letter of  
July 26, from the owner for your inspection. The  
owner he does not want to sell, promised me,  
however, first refusal when he changes his  
mind (no doubt he will!). However news in  
that way by accident, I understand. So forget  
about it. Please return covers at your earliest  
convenience. When I have them for sale one day,  
you, in turn, will have first refusal from me.  
All this on the basis that they are genuine which  
I leave to you to decide.

Yours sincerely  
O. Bacher

Fine U.S.A. (Collections & Singles) bought at best Cash Prices.

*P.S. Forgive my scribbling. My secretary on holiday - am alone here!*

**R** LONDON, W.1.  
No 6471



REC'D  
FEB 54  
ALBANY  
T.B.O.

FEB 54  
T.S.  
B.O.

Mr. Stanley B. ASHBROOK

33 N. FT. THOMAS AVENUE.

FORT THOMAS.

KY.

U.S.A.

BY AIR MAIL  
PAR AVION

THE WESTMINSTER STAMP CO. LTD.,  
REGENCY HOUSE, 1-4, WARWICK STREET,  
PICCADILLY CIRCUS, LONDON, W.1.



Aug. 25, 1954.

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

Dear Dr. Bacher:

Herewith the two 1869 covers which you forwarded under date of August 21st. I have made a very careful examination of both covers and I am pleased to report that both, in my opinion, are genuine in every respect. I am giving them a write-up in my September Issue of my "SPECIAL SERVICE," a copy of which I will send you when issued next week. I will also advise Gordon Harmer of these new early dates so that if he wishes he can include them in the 1955 edition of the S.U.S.

Thanks for your card from Switzerland which arrived in due course.

Again may I thank you for your kindness.

Cordially yours,

32-57

Dr. O. BACHER  
Westminster Stamp Co. Ltd.  
REGENCY HOUSE  
1-4 - Warwick St.  
LONDON, W. 1.  
England

Engraved

DO NOT MAKE ENVELOPE

Dear Doctor

Mr Bernard Harmer  
% H. R. Harmer Inc  
32 East 57th St  
New York City

DO NOT MAKE ENVELOPE

DO NOT MAKE ENVELOPE

DO NOT MAKE ENVELOPE

1

JUL 13 1954

I was pleased to have a  
~~look at the photo~~  
look at the photo prints  
enclosed in yours of the  
15<sup>th</sup> x ~~and which~~  
~~The photo~~

It is rather strange how  
several earlier dates of  
use of 1869 stamps have  
shown up lately. Last  
week I examined for a  
friend a cover that he  
had bought in the  
Lawrence Dale of July 12<sup>th</sup>

last. It was Lot 555 and  
was addressed to Palermo  
Secily. It ~~had~~ showed a 31¢  
rate ~~rate~~ composed of a  
15¢ 1866 Lincoln, a 12¢ 1869,  
and a pair of 2¢ 1869. I  
knew ~~of~~ no 31¢ rate to  
Italy by any route, ~~at that~~  
The New York postmark  
was April 1 (1869).

Lawrence <sup>Described 15¢</sup> ~~Lincoln~~, "earliest  
known date on 2¢ and  
next earliest on 12¢".

photos of New York show me  
two covers, one of April  
10th 1869 of the 10¢, and  
April 2<sup>nd</sup> 1869 of the  
15¢. My earliest of record  
of the 10¢ is April 7 1869,



last. It was Lot 555 and was addressed to Palermo, Sicily.

It ~~had~~ showed a 31¢ 2 rate composed of a 12¢ 1869, a pair of 2¢ 1869 and a 15¢ Lincoln. There was no such a thing as a 31¢ rate. However plenty of covers are known with the 15¢ per 1/2 ounce rate. There fore was this originally a cover with the 15¢ Lincoln, a single rate, ~~with~~ ~~the~~ 1869 stamps added to give additional value and did some one add the 1869 stamps to give added value to the cover? The New York postmark was "Apr 1 (1869)". Lawrence described it as the "earliest known date on the 2¢ and next earliest on 12¢."

There ~~fore~~ yours with

earliest dates of the same period  
was quite a surprise

My earliest recorded use  
of the 10¢ is April 7, 1869.  
your cover shows "April 1"  
1869. My earliest record  
of the 15¢ Type I is "Apr 3"  
1869. your cover is  
"April ~~1~~ 2" (1869).

~~copy of the 154 Type I Apr 3 1869~~

It is ~~to~~ ~~hardly~~ hardly fair to  
try and judge a Foucault by a 4  
photograph, especially in this  
day and age of the Speratus,  
Zareski's and other very  
shrewd artists, however there  
are a few observations.

10¢ 1869 Foucault. To Spain, from

New Orleans April 1 1869. New

York April 6. London

April 17. All these postal

markings appear genuine.

New Orleans did use this

type <sup>OF POSTMARK</sup> in April 1869. I can't

tell much about the "tee"  
on the 10¢ stamp, and if it  
is questionable then the

Cover is probably genuine  
but a 10¢ 69 <sup>MAY HAVE BEEN</sup> substituted  
for a 10¢ 61 or 10¢ 67.

The rate to Spain  
by "open mail" via  
England was 10¢ at  
this period. I have a  
photograph of a cover  
that Sir N. Waterhouse  
sent me several ~~years~~  
years ago. It was from  
this same correspondence and  
very similar to <sup>YOUR COVER</sup> ~~this~~ and  
used in May 1869. I  
found that I had no  
occasion to question <sup>The WATERHOUSE</sup> ~~the~~  
<sup>COVER</sup> ~~though~~ all I had was  
the photo print.

Regarding the New York

(5)

Sailing date of Apr 6. I  
found that a ship of the  
Hamburg Line sailed on (6)  
Apr 6 (69) with mail for  
Europe "Via Southampton  
and Hamburg". "Paid - Only  
to England" meant a 10¢  
rate. You will note  
"A.M. P.I.T." in the New York  
postmark. This meant  
"At the expense of the U.S. P.O.D."  
rather than by a ship of U.S.  
Registry. The reason the  
rate was 10¢ was 2¢ U.S.  
domestic and 8¢ sea  
to England. (To the British  
Frontier). I see no reason

to ~~answer~~ <sup>QUESTION</sup> this cover ~~to~~  
from the photo. Whether or  
not this 10¢ stamp was  
the one used on this (7)  
cover could only be  
determined by a careful  
examination of the  
cover itself.

Regarding the 15¢ '69 cover.

I would like to see the  
back of this cover. Note  
the New York date of Apr 7,  
with the "6" (CREDIT)x,  
also <sup>NOTE</sup> in the French postmark  
the "Serv. Am. Packet". This  
combination of "6" and  
"Am Pch" means that  
this letter was sent from  
New York by "Am Pch" on

"Apr 7" 1869. Not actually  
by a ship of ~~America~~ U.S.  
registry but at the expense  
of the U.S. P.O. to England.

I date there was a 8  
sailing of a British  
canned mail ship from  
New York on April 7 1869

but no sailing of ~~"a"~~  
an "Amer Plch" x This  
makes me wonder if  
the year dates ~~had~~ have  
been changed to "69" from  
"68" or "67"? The French  
artists make these  
changes very cleverly, and  
it is a favorite trick

to remove a 15¢ Lincoln  
and substitute a 15¢  
1869. I think a profitable  
substitution. I recall (9)  
such a cover that I  
examined within the  
past few weeks. I might  
add that the rate  
on <sup>YOUR</sup> ~~this~~ cover was actually  
15¢ but I would have  
to examine the cover  
itself to ~~to~~ determine  
whether this stamp <sup>IN MY OPINION</sup> was  
actually used on the  
~~this~~ cover. I doubt  
very much if the actual  
use was "Apr 7 1869". It



could not have been 1870  
or later but <sup>it</sup> could have (10)  
been (?) 1868. ~~was~~ I regret that  
my records do not include  
a list of the Paulings from  
New York for "The <sup>MONTH OF</sup> April 1868.

Again thanks for a  
look at these photographs.  
I apologize for such a  
lengthy letter, but I not  
only ~~was~~ desired to give you  
some data, but to record  
for my own benefit, what  
I thought of these two  
loaves. ~~A~~

July 1<sup>st</sup> "Service Issue."  
I thought perhaps you  
would be interested in  
my remarks regarding  
the late 30s and  
also my story about  
"Mux". Maybe you  
heard the first part  
of this story from a  
mutual friend of  
ours.  
With kindest regards  
Yours truly  
Cordell Myers

Confidential. The same (11)

Three photographs were submitted to me last week by Bernard Harmer of the New York office of H. R. Harmer. I returned them to him with the same information I have given you above.

I note that your friend might be willing to send the covers to me for a look and if this ~~can~~ can be arranged I would indeed be most grateful.

I am enclosing you a photograph of the cover I mentioned ~~to~~ that was in a recent Lawrence Sale (New York) with all good wishes  
Cordially yours

July 27, 1954.

Mr. Millard H. Mack,  
3930 Red Bud Ave.,  
Cincinnati, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Mack:

Thanks very much for yours of the 24th with check for \$2.33.

I did note a diagonal line on the 90¢ stamp when I had it in Tetro and I then put it under my binocular microscope, and after a careful examination, was convinced the line was not an ironed out crease because there was no evidence of a break in the fibers of the paper. Another thing I noted was that the line did not extend clear across the stamp. I was not sure just what this line was as it was scarcely visible outside the tetro. I, therefore, considered the copy sound in every way.

A dealer in Boston by the name of Jack Molesworth inquired recently regarding you. I informed him that you were a personal friend of mine and as a special favor to me would he be very careful in what he submitted to you. If you ever have any complaint of anything he sends you don't hesitate to advise me and I will be glad to assist.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

32-58

July 21, 1954.

Mr. Millard Mack,  
3930 Red Bud Ave.,  
Cincinnati 29, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Mack:

Herewith the 90¢ 1869 as per yours of the 19th. I have examined this copy very carefully and failed to find anything questionable about it. It is a genuine copy of the 90¢ 1869 - S.U.S. No. 122. Genuine as to paper, grill, perforations, cancelation, etc. I have signed the stamp on the back.

My fee for this is \$2.00 plus return postage of 33¢, total \$2.33.

My regards.

Cordially yours,

MILLARD HENRY MACK

Monday

Dear Mr Ashbrook:

I am enclosing a copy of S:U.S #122 with red cancel. I would appreciate it very much if you would examine it to see that it is genuine in every respect, i.e; perfs, cancel, no creases, paper, etc.; and if it is genuine, would you sign it as such on the back.

I again want you to know how much Mr. Marks and I appreciated your allowing us to visit with you recently.

Please let me know what I owe you and I will remit immediately.

Very sincerely,

Millard H. Mack  
3930 Red Bud Ave.  
Cincinnati 29, Ohio.

3930 Red Bud Ave.  
Cincinnati, Ohio

July 24, 1954

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Many thanks for your letter of July 21<sup>st</sup>. I was glad to hear that the 90¢ 1869 is genuine and that there was nothing questionable about it. I thought that I detected a diagonal crease but wasn't sure and so I am happy to find that my eyes were deceiving me.

I am enclosing a check to your order in the amount of \$2.35.

Thanks very much,

Sincerely,

Millard H. Mack

BY M.H. MACK

→ 30¢



QUARTZ - 13 - F64 - 20 MIN



8534

304 1869

Quartz

32 - 58

July 21, 1954.

Dear Louise:

Your letter came while I was up in Michigan on a business trip and you failed to give me any forwarding address. We had a letter from Marjorie today stating that Caroline and you were in Los Angeles, so I am sending this letter care of Marjorie, hoping that she will be able to deliver it to you or to forward it.

Regarding the Elliott portrait. The artist that Dorothy selected stated as I advised you, that he would have to take the portrait to his home and that it would take him about a month to do the work. This might mean two months. I have come to the conclusion that I will not permit the picture to leave my custody for a month or more. He stated he could wrap it in blankets and take it to his home in his car. If I permitted this, I would be running a risk in having the canvas damaged or perhaps damage to the frame. I gave some thought to having Closson's Art Store call for the picture, taking it to their place of business, removing the portrait from the frame and sending the canvas to the artist's home, but after due consideration I find myself unwilling to do this. I am the custodian of this portrait for Elliott, as at my death it is to go to him. I discussed this matter with him and he did not think I should run any risk in permitting the picture to leave my custody. In addition, our living room would have a blank space for a month or more.

I have thought this matter over very carefully because I did not care to disappoint you but I prize that family heirloom above any money value and I would never forgive myself if I permitted it to leave my custody and any damage came to it. I am sure that you can well appreciate my position. I do hope that this letter will reach you before you depart from Los Angeles.

We are having a most miserable summer, the hottest in eighteen years, and there appears to be no relief in sight.

Elliott was in Shelbyville, Tenn. last month and called upon one of the McGills. He had a very pleasant visit with them and saw the twin portrait and the cane.

You can drop me a line and advise me of the receipt of this letter.

Mildred joins me in much love to Caroline and you.

Affectionately yours,

July 21, 1954.

Dear Sister:

Here is a letter that I wish you would get into the hands of Louise Browne before they leave Los Angeles.

Last spring she wrote me would I be willing to have some Cincinnati artist make a copy of the Elliott portrait. I contacted Dorothy and she recommended an artist friend of hers who offered to paint a copy for \$150.00. However he could only do the work on week-ends and at his home. I concluded I would be running quite a risk to permit the picture to pass from my possession. Louise planned to have the work done while she was on the western trip and she planned to return east by way of Cincinnati and pick up the new painting. I do want you to get this letter to her if possible before she leaves Los Angeles because I don't want her to stop off here and visiting with us. I am too busy to be bothered with her.

I am sending you a copy of the letter I have written to her, and if you wish you can explain the matter to our Tucker cousins.

Your letter came this A.M. and I will write you later.

Terrible hot weather here.

Much love -

Affectionately,