

	Scrapbook No. 36
1.	Liberty Va. C.S.A. Provisional
2.	Dr. Carroll Chase RE 3¢ Lowell Bisect
3.	Herman Herst Jr. Re Fake British 30¢ 1860 Cover
4.	1956 N.Y. Exhibition
5.	Elliott Perry Re Premieres Re 3¢ 51 Lowell Bisect
6.	Sir N.E. Waterhouse Re His 1955 sale
7.	Corwith Wagner Re Cover from S.F. in 1852 to France
8.	Raynor Hubbell Re 2 covers
9.	Edw. B. Murphy RE Cover from Mass. to Central City C.T.
10.	Raynor Hubbell Re Cover Strip of Five 2¢ Red Brown
11.	Fred Allen Re 10¢ 55 Corner Copy
12.	Philip G. Rust Re 7R1 ^E Cover – H.W.S.
13.	Win Boggs Re A Fake Garnier Cover in a German Auction
14.	Jack Molesworth Re Cover to France 12¢ 51 + 3¢ 51 Fake?
15.	Jack Molesworth Re 1¢ 1851 – T8R1 ^E
16.	Dr. Scott Polland – Re Pioneer Express Cover
17.	Re: Waterhouse Cover- 5¢ - 10¢47 correspondence in 1947 with Frank Coe 5
18.	Maurice C. Blake Re ‘ “Twice Delivered” Re – Earliest N.Y. Ocean Mail
19.	Robert Myerson Re 1¢ 1851 Type 1C 49L4
20.	Dr. O. Bacher Re 5¢ 1856 Cover “Earlies” In Waterhouse sale Lot 175
21.	Henry Hill Re 5¢ 1856 Cover Earliest as above
22.	Dr. O. Bacher Re Lots 600-605 Waterhouse Sale
23.	Henry Meyer Re Various Covers
24.	Eugene Jaeger Re Feby 1849 Cover to England (Hutchinson)
25.	B.F. Evans Re H.S. of 3 5¢ 1869 Grill
26.	Jack Moleworth 1¢ 51 - 10¢57 Cover to Australia
27.	Chas I. Altman Grundy Center Iowa Cover Similar Leominster
28.	August Hendleman
29.	Van Dyk MacBride Fake C.S.A. Frame26
30.	Philatelic Foundation #5578 1047 #5615 1¢ 1851
31.	Philip G. Rust Re: Hawaii Cover
32.	Tracy W. Simpson Re Cover by Prussian Closed Mail
33.	Mort Neinken 2 covers to Genoa Italy
34.	Van Dyk MacBride Re Baton Rouge
35.	Jack Molesworth 5¢ Confed 1861 Early? 1¢ 1857
36.	Ezra D. Cole “Overland Mail”
37.	Grazy Muzzy Re Various Confed Covers including 2¢ 1863 Red Br
38.	Morris Everett Re Army of Tenn. Re “Chicamauga”
39.	Cameron Plummer Re: 5¢ Prov.
40.	Ezra Cole Re: 3¢ 61 Express Mail
41.	Philatelic Foundation Re Polander 15¢ 69, Cover No. 5712
42.	E.R. Gullford 5¢ 1863 Brown Prepaid Ship
43.	Edson Fifield Re 5¢ Organge Slater 5 Orage Pichel
44.	Roger Weill Re 3¢ + 2¢ Ship 1861 1863

45.	Ezra Cole Re The Caspary Collection
46.	John S. Whittlesey 1¢ 1851 Portland, Oregon
47.	M.C. Blake Re Sailings in Jany 1856
48.	Robt Myerson Re 3¢ 1869 Toledo Shoo Fly
49.	John D. Pope III Re 1847 covers Abroad
50.	L.J. Heyman 24¢ 1860 Imperf
51.	Millard Mack Re 2¢ 1869, Bisect
52.	M. C. Blake RE: Prepaid Ship Rates
53.	Tracy Simpson Re Two Covers to the Cape of G.H.
54.	Henry A. Meyer Re Boston "STEAM"
55.	Rev. H.W. Whitamaker Re: 3¢ 69 No Grill
56.	Theo Gore Re 10¢ 1847 Used Aug 1 1851
57.	Michael M. Karen Re 10¢ 1855 3RI
58.	Stanford G. Gesner Re - 90¢ 1860 Belmont Stamp Co.
59	- 319

60 - 338

61 - 354

62 - 355

63 - 364

Compliments

Van Dyk MacBride
744 Broad Street
NEWARK (2) N.J.

Scott's Monthly Journal

Published by
Scott Publications, Inc.
Edited by James B. Hatcher

Jan.-Feb., 1955
Volume 35, No. 8
Whole No. 405

APR - 6 1955



Also Used at Salem

Confederate Provisional of Liberty, Va.

By Van Dyk MacBride

PAID
5cts.

ONE of the long-standing puzzles of Confederate philately seems to have been at least partly solved by the recent "find" of a second copy of the little adhesive stamp illustrated herein on a cover postmarked Liberty, Va. Long known and illustrated in the Scott Catalogue as #74X1, the issue and use of this 5c black, typeset sticker has been credited to Salem, Va., with a note reading "Also used from Liberty, Va."

The present Dietz Confederate Catalogue (1945 edition) lists the stamp separately under both Liberty and Salem, Va., and in "Historical Data" under Salem, Va., says: "This Provisional and that of Liberty, Va., are identical, and it is assumed that both are of the same origin."

These rather indefinite and somewhat confusing listings stemmed from the fact that while the stamp was known used on several covers from Salem, only one example of it had been found on a cover postmarked "LIBERTY, Va." The natural conclusion was that some citizen of Salem had put this one on a cover which he later mailed in Liberty and that the postmaster there permitted it to go through.

Here it might be well to state that the provisional stamps, handstamps and envelopes privately made by the local postmasters and used temporarily when regular government stamps were not available, were

valid only in their place of origin and with few exceptions were not recognized as prepayment of postage when mailed in any other place. This new "find" of a second copy of this provisional stamp on a cover postmarked Liberty, Va., pretty definitely establishes the fact that supplies of it existed in both places!

A study of all available examples shows that the stamps are all from the same lot, probably made from a series of crude typeset forms in a row printed in strips on small sheets of paper. As may be noted from those illustrated herein, as well as from the cuts in the catalogues, the separate settings differ slightly from each other, but all known copies are from the same set of forms and are printed on the same white laid paper.

Shared His Stamp Supply

It would appear that the postmaster of one of these two towns, probably Salem, had a supply of these stamps made by his local printer and then shared them with the postmaster of the other place. Liberty (which has since been renamed Bedford) is in Bedford County, while Salem lies to the east in adjoining Roanoke County. Both are in southwestern Virginia, west of Lynchburg, and are about 30 miles apart.

(Continued on page 192)

Scott's Chronicle

This Chronicle is the Fourth Supplement to Volume I and the Third Supplement to Volume II of the 1955 Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue and the twenty-second Supplement to Scott's Popular Catalog. The supplement to Scott's Popular Catalog consists of all listings followed by a dot (•).

It is published tentatively subject to final revision, including possible number changes and deletions, before being added to the next edition of the Catalogue.

UNITED STATES

Pennsylvania Academy
of the Fine Arts Issue.



C. W. Peale in his Museum
A511

Rotary Press Printing.

1955 Perf. 10½x11. Unwmkd.
1064 A511 3c rose brown 5 2•

Issued to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the founding of the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, Philadelphia.

Land Grant Colleges Issue.



Open Book and Symbols
of Subjects Taught
A512

1955 Perf. 11x10½. Unwmkd.
1065 A512 3c green 5 2•

Issued to commemorate the centenary of the founding of Michigan State College and Pennsylvania State University, first of the land-grant institutions.

DOCUMENTARY REVENUE STAMPS

Types of 1940 Without Overprint

1954 Perf. 11 Wmk. 191
Size. 19 x 22 mm.
R665 R23 55c carmine 78
R666 " 80c " 1.20

Size: 21½ x 36¼ mm.

R675 R24 \$4 carmine 6.00
R678 " \$20 " 30.00

THE BRITISH COMMONWEALTH OF NATIONS

AUSTRALIA



Antarctic Flora
and Fauna and
Map
A84



Olympic Circles
and Arms of
Melbourne
A85

Engraved.

1954 Perf. 14 Unwmkd.
276 A84 3½p black 7 •

Issued to publicize Australia's interest in the Antarctic continent.

1954
277 A85 2sh dark blue 45 •

Issued to publicize the 16th Olympic Games to be held in Melbourne November - December 1956.

BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE

Type of 1938

with Portrait of Queen Elizabeth II

Engraved.

1955 Perf. 13x13½ Wmk. 4
154 A12 ½p green 2 •
155 " 1p rose carmine 3 •
156 " 2p brown 5 •
157 " 3p ultramarine 7 •
158 " 4½p indigo 10 •
159 " 6p rose violet 15 •
160 " 1sh black & olive green 28 •
161 " 1sh 3p black & rose violet 35 •
162 " 2sh 6p black & carmine 70 •
163 " 5sh black & ultramarine 1.40 •
164 " 10sh black & brown 2.80 •

BURMA

Types Similar to 1954

Designs: 10p, Sangha (community) of Cambodia, 15p, Council meeting. 50p, Sangha of Siam. 1k, Sangha of Ceylon. 2k, Sangha of Laos.

Typographed.

1954 Perf. 13 Wmk. 254
153 A22 10p deep blue 5 •
154 " 15p deep claret 7 •
155 " 50p green 25 •
156 " 1k carmine 50 •
157 " 2k violet 1.00 •

Issued to commemorate the 6th Buddhist Council, Rangoon, 1954-56.

OFFICIAL STAMPS

Nos. 139-142, 144, 145A and 146-151

Overprinted
in Black

အိုးရ်ဂ်

a. Overprint 13mm. Long
b. Overprint 15mm. Long

Perf. 13½x14, 14x13½, 13

1954 Wmk. 254
O68 A15 (a) 1p brown orange 2
O69 " (a) 2p plum 2
O70 " (a) 3p blue 2
O71 A16 (a) 5p ultramarine 3
O72 A17 (a) 15p green 7
O73 A18 (b) 25p light red orange 12
O74 A16 (a) 30p vermilion 15
O75 A18 (b) 50p blue 25
O76 A19 (a) 1k rose violet 50
O77 " (a) 2k green 1.00
O78 " (a) 5k ultramarine 2.50
O79 " (a) 10k light blue 5.00

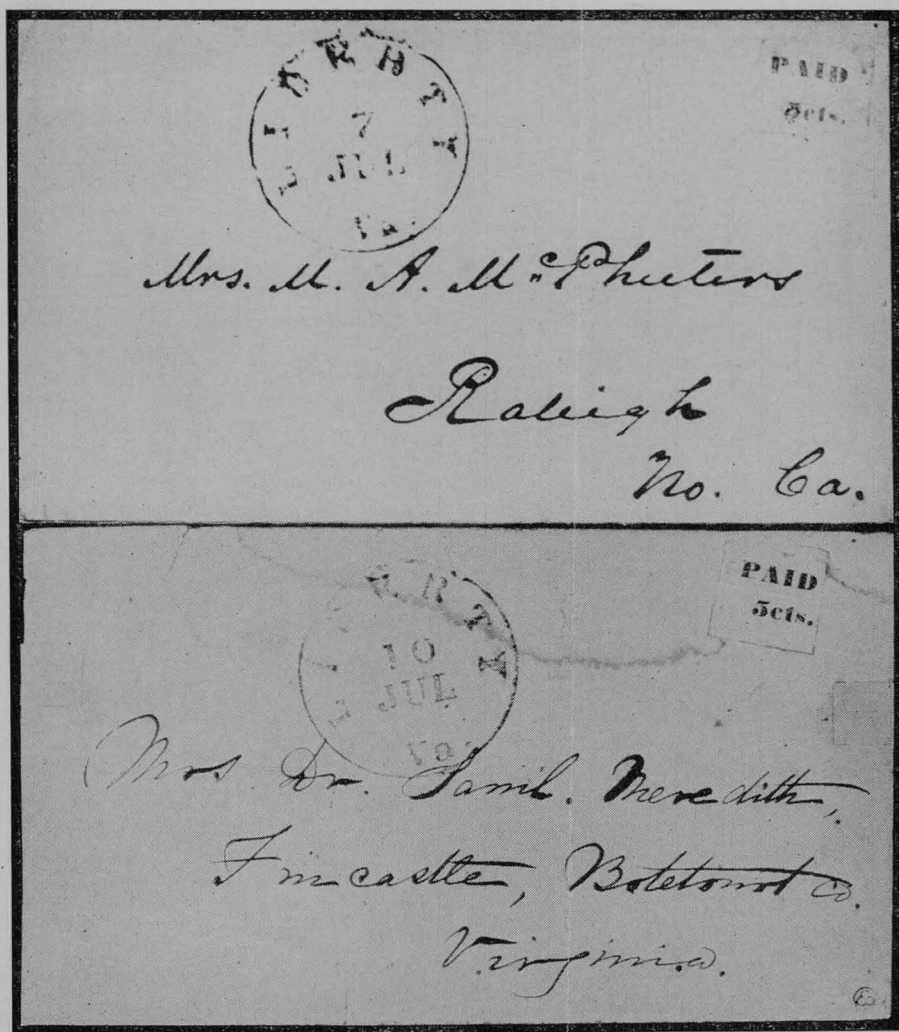
CEYLON



King Coconuts
A92

Photogravure

1954 Perf. 11½ Unwmkd.
329 A92 10c brown & orange 5 •



Upper, courtesy John A. Fox; lower, Hind sale catalogue.

Above, the recently found second known cover bearing the 5c postmaster's provisional stamp used from Liberty, Va. Below, the only previously known cover used from Liberty with this stamp.

CONFEDERATE PROVISIONAL

(Continued from page 189)

The mail route of the time doubtless ran through the two towns, for the writer of this article has seen a cover used with a 10c blue engraved stamp of the 1863 general issue, canceled Salem, Va., and endorsed "via Liberty, Va." All of which may well serve to indicate that a close relationship between the two towns and their postmasters probably existed at that time.

There can be little doubt as to the authenticity of the recently found Liberty cover. It was discovered among the original papers in an old estate in the South by a non-philatelic friend who submitted it to the present writer. He is an official of a Southern university and an outstanding authority and writer on Confederate history. Accompanying it were two other covers similarly postmarked Liberty, Va., in June and July, but with the postage indicated

SCOTT'S CHRONICLE

Chronicle of New Issues—Continued

EGYPT



Egyptian Flag and Map
A116

Design: 35m, Bugler, soldier and map.

Photogravure

1954	Perf. 13½x13	Wmk. 195
372 A116	10m rose violet & green 6	•
373 " 35m	vermillion, black & blue green 20	•

Issued to commemorate the signing of the evacuation agreement with Great Britain, Oct. 19, 1954. No. 373 included a 5 millime surtax for the postmen's bonus fund.

OCCUPATION STAMP For Use in Palestine

فلسطين

No. 330
Overprinted
in Carmine

1954	Perf. 13x13½	Wmk. 195
N 39 A110	20m purple	12 •

PALESTINE



Forest Research Institute, Dehra Dun
A110

Photogravure

1954	Perf. 14½x14	Wmk. 196
353 A110	2a ultramarine	6 •

Issued to publicize the fourth World Forestry Congress, Dehra Dun, 1954.

OFFICES ABROAD

Cambodia

India Nos. 207, 231,
211, 216 and 217
Overprinted in Black
अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय आयोग
कम्बोज

1954	Perf. 13½x14	Wmk. 196
1 A91	3p gray violet	2 •
2 A101	1a turquoise	3 •
3 A93	2a carmine	6 •
4 A95	8a blue green	24 •
5 " 12a	blue	35 •

The overprint reads "International Commission Cambodia."

Laos

India Nos. 207, 231,
211, 216 and 217
Overprinted in Black
अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय आयोग
लाओस

1954	Perf. 13½x14	Wmk. 196
1 A91	3p gray violet	2 •
2 A101	1a turquoise	3 •
3 A93	2a carmine	6 •
4 A95	8a blue green	24 •
5 " 12a	blue	35 •

The overprint reads "International Commission Laos."

Viet Nam

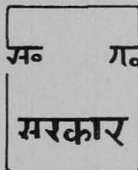
India Nos. 207, 231,
211, 216 and 217
Overprinted in Black
अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय आयोग
वियत नाम

1954	Perf. 13½x14	Wmk. 196
1 A91	3p gray violet	2 •
2 A101	1a turquoise	3 •
3 A93	2a carmine	6 •
4 A95	8a blue green	24 •
5 " 12a	blue	35 •

The overprint reads "International Commission Viet Nam."

NATIVE FEUDATORY STATE Rajasthan

Kishangarh No. 20a
Handstamped in Rose



1949	Pin-perf	Unwmkd.
32 A4	1a dull lilac	

IRAQ

Type of 1954

Engraved

1954	Perf. 11½x12	Unwmkd.
151 A28	40f orange brown	24

IRELAND

AIR POST STAMPS

Type of 1948

Perf. 14½x14

1954, Dec. 13	Engraved	Wmk. 262
C5 APl	8p red brown	20 •
C6 " 1sh	3p vermillion	35 •

(As No. C1)

NEW ZEALAND

POSTAL FISCAL STAMP

Type of 1931-39 Redrawn

Surcharged in Black

Typographed

1954	Perf. 14	Wmk. 253
AR96 PF5	3sh 6p on 3sh 6p	
	green	1.00

Denomination of basic stamp is in small, sans-serif capitals without period after "sixpence."

PAKISTAN



Peak K-2, Karakoram Mountains
A17

Engraved

1954	Perf. 13	Unwmkd.
65 A17	2a violet	8 •

Issued to publicize the conquest of K-2, world's second highest mountain peak, in July 1954.



Mountain Pass
A18



Gilgit Mountains
A19



Agricultural Scene
A20

Designs: 1a, Badshahi mosque, Lahore. 14a, Emperor Jahangir's mausoleum. 1r, Cottonfield. 2r, River craft.

Engraved.

1954	Perf. 13	Unwmkd.
66 A18	6p rose violet	2 •
67 A19	9p blue	3 •
68 " 1a	carmine rose	4 •
69 A18 14a	red	6 •
70 A20 14a	dark green	52 •
71 " 1r	yellow green	60 •
72 " 2r	orange	1.20 •

Issued to commemorate the 7th anniversary of Pakistan's independence.

OFFICIAL STAMPS

Nos. 66 to 72 Overprinted in Black

or Carmine

SERVICE

1954	Perf. 13	Unwmkd.
O35 A18	6p rose violet (C)	2 •
O36 A19	9p blue (C)	3 •
O37 " 1a	carmine rose	4 •
O38 A18 14a	red	6 •
O39 A20 14a	dark green (C)	52 •
O40 " 1r	yellow green (C)	60 •
O41 " 2r	orange	1.20 •

SCOTT'S MONTHLY JOURNAL

by "Pd 5c" and "Paid 5c," respectively, in manuscript. As all are addressed to the same person in the same hand, this one bearing the adhesive provisional stamp thus proves to be one of a series of letters from the same correspondence.

The stamp is not tied to the cover by a cancellation or postmark, as is equally true of the stamps on the other covers illustrated herein, but it is tied by means of the small age or gum stains which can be seen in the photograph. Many Confederate postmasters in small towns often did not bother to cancel their own provisionally issued stamps, as their successful re-use would be most unlikely.

First in Caspary Collection

The only other known cover used from Liberty, Va., with this stamp, was in the famous Ferrary and Hind collections and is now believed to be in the collection of the late Alfred H. Caspary of New York (see illustration).

An example of one of the Salem, Va., uses of this stamp is also illustrated. This photograph is from the Luff collection and permission to use it herein was kindly granted by the Philatelic Foundation. An oddity of this particular cover is the "Paid 5" written on the cover above the provisional stamp. This appears to have been written by the sender, as it is in the same hand as is the address and the "Ex.B" (for Executive Business?) notation. Probably

disregarding this, the postmaster required that one of his provisional stamps be used, attached it to the envelope, charged it to the sender's account, and postmarked and sent the letter on.

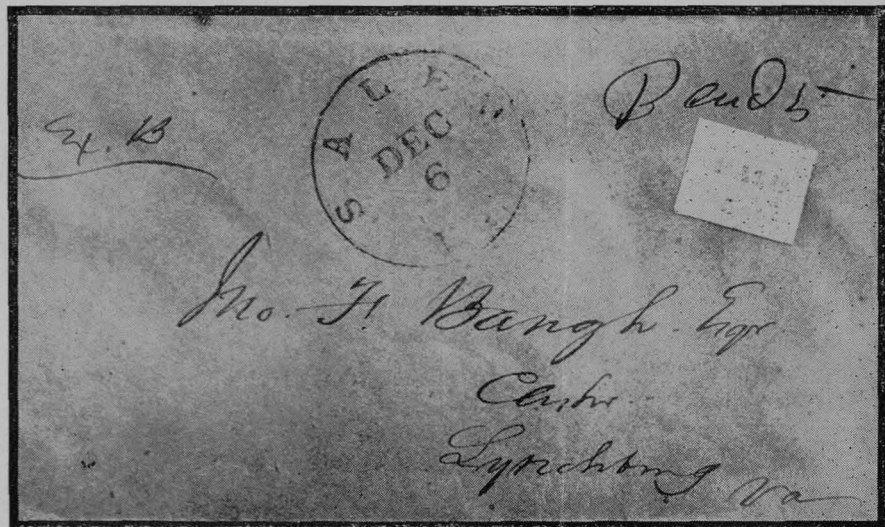
Liberty Listing Promised

The finding of the second copy used from Liberty is of great importance, for as always, a single example of nearly anything lacks the substantiation that a second, or further, examples provide. It is an odd, but nevertheless an obvious fact, that the value of each of two such objects is greater than that of the former single but less-substantiated example.

This postmaster's provisional stamp has therefore been approved for listing in future Scott Catalogues under both Liberty and Salem, Va., and will thus receive the recognition it deserves. It also is, of course, one of the rarest of the Confederate provisionals, and as only two are known used from Liberty, it will probably be valued at a higher figure than its Salem mate. Several examples of the stamp used from Salem are known, and their present catalogue valuation is \$1,000.

Agency List Ready

Collectors who want a copy of the new list of U. S. stamps now available at the Philatelic Agency, may send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to the Philatelic Agent, Post Office Department, Washington 25, D. C.



Courtesy of The Philatelic Foundation.

The 5c provisional on a cover used from Salem, Va.

SCOTT'S CHRONICLE

Chronicle of New Issues—Continued

ST. KITTS-NEVIS

Type of 1952 with
Portrait of Queen Elizabeth II

Engraved

1954	Perf.	12½	Wmk.	4
127 A10	24c	carmine & black	28	•
128 "	48c	brown & olive bistre	55	•
129 "	60c	deep green & ochre	65	•
130 "	\$1.20	deep ultramarine & deep green	1.30	•
131 "	\$4.80	carmine & emerald	5.20	•

ST. LUCIA

Type of 1936-46 with
Portrait of Queen Elizabeth II

1954	Perf.	14½x14	Wmk.	14
159 A22	3c	red	4	•
162 "	6c	orange	7	•
163 "	8c	rose lake	9	•
164 "	10c	ultramarine	12	•
165 "	15c	brown	17	•



Arms of the Colony
A29

Perf. 11x11½

166 A29	25c	Prussian blue	28	•
167 "	50c	brown olive	55	•
168 "	\$1	blue green	1.10	•
169 "	\$2.50	dark carmine rose	2.75	•

SOUTH-WEST AFRICA



Rock Painting
of Two Bucks
A55



Rhinoceros
Hunt
A56

Designs: 2p, "White Lady." 4p, Elephant & giraffe. 4p, Karakul lamb. 6p, Girl blowing Kudu horn. 1sh, Ukuanjama woman. 1sh 3p, Heroe woman. 1sh 6p, Ukuanjama girl. 2sh 6p, Lioness. 5sh, Gemsbok. 10sh, Elephant.

Photogravure

1954	Perf.	14	Wmk.	201
249 A55	1p	rose brown	3	•
250 "	2p	dark brown	5	•
251 A56	3p	brown violet	7	•
252 "	4p	olive gray	10	•

253 A55	4½p	blue violet	10	•
254 "	6p	gray green	15	•
255 "	1sh	magenta	28	•
256 "	1sh 3p	rose pink	35	•
257 "	1sh 6p	dull purple	42	•
258 "	2sh 6p	yellow brown	70	•
259 "	5sh	blue	1.40	•
260 "	10sh	dark green	2.80	•

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS

Malacca

Type of 1954

Typographed

1954	Perf.	18	Wmk.	4
34 A1	8c	green	6	•
36 "	12c	rose red	8	•
37 "	20c	ultramarine	14	•
41 "	50c	ultramarine & black	35	•

Penang

Type of Malacca, 1954

Typographed

1954	Perf.	18	Wmk.	4
34 A1	1c	black	2	•
36 "	8c	green	6	•
37 "	12c	rose red	8	•
44 "	\$5	chocolate & emerald	3.25	•

TRANS-JORDAN

POSTAGE DUE STAMPS



D3

Engraved

1954	Perf.	11½	Wmk.	4
53 D3	1f	orange brown	2	•
54 "	2f	yellow orange	2	•
55 "	4f	yellow green	3	•
56 "	10f	rose carmine	6	•
57 "	20f	yellow brown	12	•
58 "	50f	blue	28	•

ZANZIBAR



Sultan Khalifa bin Harub
A23

1954	Perf.	12½12	Wmk.	9
244 A23	15c	green	5	•
245 "	20c	scarlet	6	•
246 "	30c	ultramarine	10	•
247 "	50c	purple	15	•
248 "	1.25sh	brown orange	35	•

The frames differ on Nos. 245 and 247.
Issued to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the birth of Sultan Khalifa bin Harub.

THE AMERICAN NATIONS

BRAZIL



Allegory of the
Spring Games
A348

Photogravure

1954	Perf.	11½x11	Wmk.	267
814 A348	60c	red brown	4	•

Issued to publicize the Fourth Spring Games, 1954.

CHILE

Type of 1953

Lithographed.

1954	Perf.	13½x14	Unwmkd.	2
285 A127	80c	green	2	•

COLOMBIA



Tapestry Madonna
A264



College Cloister
A265

Designs: 10c, Brother Cristobal de Torres.
20c, College chapel and arms.

Perf. 12½x11½, 11½x12½

1954		Engraved.		Unwmkd.	
629	A264	5c orange & black	4	•	
630	"	10c blue	8	•	
631	A265	15c violet brown	12	•	
632	"	20c black & brown	16	•	

Issued to commemorate the 300th anniversary (in 1953) of the founding of the Senior College of Our Lady of the Rosary, Bogota.

March 25, 1955.

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

Dear Doc:

Here is a photo of the two fake bisects - both on pieces of paper and both dated "Aug. 3." Phil Ward wrote me that he did not think I should have mentioned that the 3¢ is illustrated in your book. It never occurred to me that you would have any objection and I refuse to believe that you would. I have a suspicion that someone may have got hold of an old and discarded Lowell, Mass. stamper and made these two fakes. No doubt he made more than these two so I suppose others have been defrauded. Have you any recollection as to where you obtained the 3¢? I found the 12¢ in the Stark collection but Harold left no memo as to where he obtained it though he had \$200.00 on the back. Whether this was his cost price or appraisal was not indicated.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

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

Dear Stan:-

April 5 '55

Yours of the 2nd at hand. I've
gone over the two photos just as carefully
as I know how and I am satisfied that
they come from the same hand stamp.
I believe the small differences (which
surely exist) are due solely to the
light & heavy inking.

If you will take a pair of callipers
I think you will find that the distance
between any two parts of a letter or
between different letters is exactly the
same - making a slight allowance for
light & heavy inking. I have used
this method for years to determine whether
or not two postmarks were the same and
I am well satisfied with its accuracy.
The "Ang" W is not inked at the top of the
middle part.

Try my method &
I think you will find it a good one.
I sent the my two examples I
have of this mark.

Best regards

CC.

April 12, 1955.

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

Dear Doc:

Thanks for yours of the 5th with return
of the two Lowell photo prints. I am making some
new photos and later I will send you some prints.

Summer weather here - up to near 80 today.

Best wishes -

Yours etc.,



HERMAN HERST, JR.

SHRUB OAK, N. Y.

Feb. 1, 1955.



to put it briefly ...

I don't know whether you received this notice of this new publication but I thought you might like to put it in your files. I have a very good recollection of having seen this same cover on one of my trips to Europe and I am absolutely certain that it is not legitimate. No need to acknowledge this, but I know that you like to keep a record of these things, so I am glad to send it along.

Herman Herst, Jr.

SANDERS'

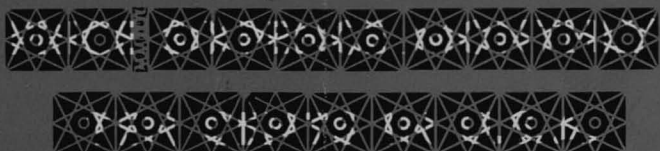
PHILATELIC

JOURNAL

ANNOUNCEMENT



[for description see back cover]



**FULL
DETAILS
INSIDE**

■ ■ ■ ■ ■ announcing a new venture in philatelic journalism ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

HERE is an introduction to a newcomer in the field of philatelic publications—a new magazine for collectors which we feel sure YOU will want to read regularly.

Behind each issue of SANDERS' PHILATELIC JOURNAL will be the resources and reputation of the firm of J. Sanders of Southampton—one of England's leading stamp businesses—whose house journal it will be. It will appear monthly, and the first number will be out on March 1st.

The only magazine of its kind to be published in this country south of London, the S.P.J. will be well illustrated and will be printed on paper of good quality. It will contain something to appeal to everyone interested in stamps and postal history. Regular features will include forthright comment on subjects of philatelic importance, an up-to-the-minute new issue guide for the British Commonwealth, and market notes.



MANY articles of lasting interest will be contributed to the S.P.J. by leading philatelic writers, among them L. N. and M. Williams, Harold G. D. Gisburn, W. H. S. Cheavin, Ian Hamilton, Leo Baresch, W. G. Nodder, Desmond Eagar and R. C. Cade. But that does not mean the less well-known writer will not be given his chance. The columns of the magazine will be open to all who have something new or something worth while to say about any aspect of philately.

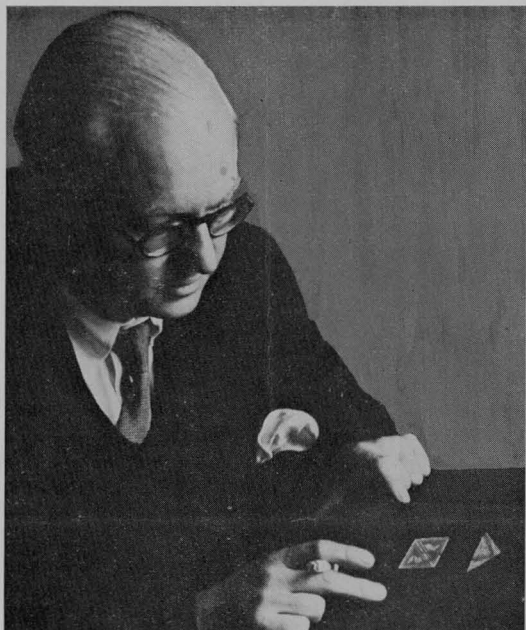
In these days of ever-increasing study and research, the collector's bookshelf has assumed an important place in ensuring the full appreciation of the hobby. So the S.P.J. intends to give prominence to book reviews. To support and encourage authors, the Editor plans to promote a special "Book of the Month" feature—not necessarily *every* month—for which volumes of exceptional merit will be selected.

One thing readers will not get: and that is page after page of advertisements. Advertising will be strictly limited. And to start with the magazine will consist of 20 pages.

Comments and criticisms from readers—and especially helpful suggestions on how the magazine can be improved—will always be welcome; we hope the Editor's postbag will be a heavy one!



THE PUBLISHER



J. SANDERS

[Photograph by "Southern Newspapers" Ltd.]

ALTHOUGH SANDERS' PHILATELIC JOURNAL may have an expensive look about it, it will not be expensive in price. It will cost sixpence a copy—or 7s. 6d. a year (one dollar in U.S.A.) post free direct from the publisher.

The reason for the modest price lies in the publishers' plans for a really extensive circulation, not only in Britain but in North America, where the firm of J. Sanders is already well-known. And for an international magazine like this what hometown could be more appropriate than Southampton, terminal port of the world's largest liners?

You will find a subscription form for the first year's issues of the S.P.J. on the back of this folder, and we hope you will become one of our first regular readers.

FIRST ISSUE OUT ON MARCH 1

PROUD OF OUR HOME - TOWN

WE who are connected with the firm of J. Sanders are proud of Southampton, the town in which we have our homes and our work. For Southampton is a town of character. Roman, Saxon, Norman, Medieval and Tudor periods have all left their mark on Southampton; and equally well worth telling are the stories of the town as an 18th century spa, and of its development in the past 120 years to its present eminence as one of the greatest international ports of the world.

That is why SANDERS' PHILATELIC JOURNAL is making a special feature of the town's history. Southampton's maritime importance has meant that the town has played a large part in postal traffic; and the story of the posts provides many of the most interesting sidelights in the long and fascinating account of Southampton's progress—from the day the Roman legions sailed up Southampton Water, to the day when the record-breaking liner *United States* steamed triumphantly up the same channel after winning the Blue Riband of the Atlantic.

Miss Elsie Sandell, a leading authority on the subject, will contribute a series of articles on Southampton's history to the S.P.J., and the first will appear in the March number. Make sure of your copy NOW.

THE EDITOR



KENNETH W. ANTHONY

ILLUSTRATION on front cover shows:

U.S.A. 1857/61 30c. orange, tied by blue grid and red "NEW YORK 19" to cover to London. An unusually attractive and rare item in really superb condition.

Price £35 or \$98 nett.

March 1
is the date
for the first
number of ——— **SANDERS'**
PHILATELIC
JOURNAL

..... Please tear off here

SUBSCRIPTION FORM

To the Editor,
SANDERS' PHILATELIC JOURNAL,
7, Commercial Road,
Southampton, England.

I wish to subscribe to the magazine and include remittance for 7s. 6d.
or (one dollar, U.S.A.) for one year's issues, post free, beginning with the first
number in March, 1955.

Name.....
(Block Capitals Please)

Address.....

.....

.....

ALTERNATIVELY, you can send 8d. or 12c. for a sample copy.

Feb. 6, 1955.

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

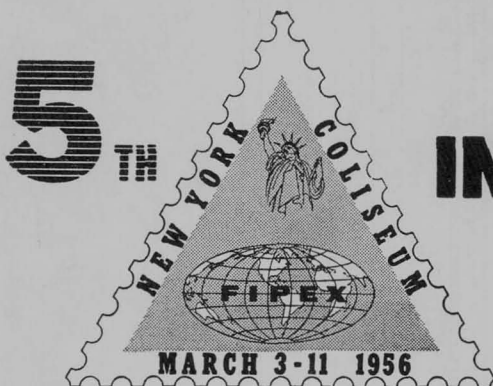
Pat -

Thanks very much for your kindness in sending me the front page from the British publication. You are quite right, the cover is a fake and evidently some clown removed a 24¢ 1861 and substituted the 30¢ 1860, and changed the year dates on the back. Or he might have removed a poor 24¢ 1860 and saved himself the trouble of changing the dates.

Here is a tip - Be careful of 10¢ 185-57 Type IV stamps. Some painter is converting Type II and Type III into very clever Type IV. In fact, extremely clever.

With regards -

Cordially yours,



EDWIN E. ELKINS, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
880 East 35th St., Brooklyn 10, N. Y.

INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIC EXHIBITION

HEADQUARTERS: 22 EAST 35th STREET NEW YORK 16, N. Y.

April 1, 1955

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

No doubt by this time you have probably read about the Fifth International Philatelic Exhibition, known as "FIPEX" to be held in New York City in March 1956.

We expect this Exhibition to be very outstanding in every way possible. The United States Post Office Department is to cooperate by the issuance of a new stamp, of a Post Card and of a Souvenir Sheet. It will have an Exhibit that will surpass anything shown in the past anywhere. The Bureau of Printing and Engraving will also have an outstanding display which will include the printing of the new stamp.

The expectations are that the crowds will far exceed the 200,000 who visited "CIPEX-1947".

We are anxious to secure cooperation of collectors in every State of the Union. With this in mind, we are desirous of having representatives in every part of the country and we wonder if you would be our Regional Representative in your section of the country.

Your duties would be to help secure collector exhibits for the Exhibition, secure new members for the Association of Stamp Exhibitions, Inc. in addition to assistance for the Guaranty Fund, advertisements in our Program, etc.

There would be no remuneration for this service, but we feel that the honor of representing out outstanding Exhibition would justify the effort you may make.

It is an honor to be able to extend this invitation to you, and I sincerely hope you will accept.

We hope to have the pleasure of meeting and greeting you at the Exhibition, and we are sure you, your family, and your friends will have an enjoyable trip to the Coliseum if you are able to be in New York in March 1956.

Very sincerely,

Edwin E. Elkins
Secretary



INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIC EXHIBITION

HEADQUARTERS: 22 EAST 35th STREET NEW YORK 16, N. Y.



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

April 13, 1955.

Mr. Edwin E. Elkins,
880 East 35th St.,
Brooklyn 10, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Elkins:

This will acknowledge receipt of yours of the 1st extending an invitation to me to be a Regional Representative in this section for the International Philatelic Exhibition to be held in New York next March.

I sincerely appreciate the compliment of this invitation but circumstances are such that my present philatelic activities are so great that I find it utterly impossible to take on any additional duties.

Sincerely yours,

Sept. 9, 1955.

Mr. H. L. Lindquist,
153 Waverly Place,
New York 14, N.Y.

Dear Harry:

Re - yours of the 26th and the FIPEX. I did receive an invitation from Mr. Elkins last spring to serve as a "Regional Representative in this section of the country." I assumed that this would mean that I would have certain duties to perform as he outlined in his letter. Under date of April 13th, I advised Mr. Elkins that my philatelic activities were so numerous that it would be impossible to take on any additional duties.

What I had reference to was the handling of the Stark collection in addition to all my other work. While I appreciated the compliment I felt that I would not be equal to any further demands upon my time.

I haven't had a picture taken in twenty years and I would not care to have a new one made and shown to the public. It might hurt my reputation as well as my business. However, if you think I should serve and it will not add any additional work, I will abide by your decision, but no picture.

I also have yours of the 31st which I have carefully noted. Harry, you mentioned "CUPEX" but I must confess I am not informed what and where this is to be held.

We had a letter from Marie Jacobs this week stating that they planned to drive south the last of this month and would stay overnight in Fort Thomas.

With all good wishes -

Cordially yours,

H. L. LINDQUIST

PUBLICATIONS

153 WAVERLY PLACE, NEW YORK 14, N. Y.

September 12, 1955

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

Dear Stan:

I'm glad to have your letter of September 9, for even without a photograph I certainly want your name as a representative for FIPEX. As I mentioned in my last letter, I think this will be the greatest thing that will happen in the rest of our lifetime and certainly you should be identified with anything as important and as international as this.

Dick Bohn and myself are leaving for Washington tonight in order to keep an engagement with the State Department tomorrow. They are going to invite all of the foreign governments officially through the ambassadors; so this again will make it something very unusual. I have charge of the foreign exhibits, and it is my ambition to have every single country of the free world represented, if only with a set of their current stamps. I don't think of another industry where every government of the world could take part as they can in a stamp show, for everyone of them of course issues stamps. We have representatives in practically all of the countries, although there are still a few, like Cambodia, Laos, South Vietnam and others where we haven't been able to contact any stamp collectors. But by hook or crook we even hope to have them represented through their government.

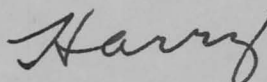
At the same time, I think you are altogether too modest about your photograph. You always looked like the real handsome Southern gentleman to me, and I think I have an old portrait, if you would only give me permission to use it.

But you certainly should be in these books for they will be in libraries for generations to come. So if I haven't got a late picture, I certainly would be justified in using the latest one I have, but you have to give me the O.K.

I'm sending you a copy of the first prospectus of CUPEX, but the next one will contain the full list of classifications, and will be much more explanatory. We have been writing it up in STAMPS regularly and we have quite an article in this forthcoming issue that gives far more details than any of the previous writeups. This is a government sponsored show and celebrates the 100th anniversary of Cuban stamps. I'm acting as the American representative, and of course we will want to make a good showing there.

With best personal wishes, I am

Sincerely,



HLL/G

March 30, 1955



Stan; .

I am very pleased to have the prints, and data you send in your letter of the 27th, and the slide of Sperati's 10c 1847. Thanks a lot.

If luck holds the Carrier Book will be finished in April, but it may be a tight squeeze. A great deal of new data has had to be checked and added - more than 1,500 references in one city alone. Probably the worst, altho several others are bad enough. Last week 38 chapters were ready, including nearly all the short ones. There are about 32 other chapters, including most of the longer ones.

I am willing to comment on the various matters referred to in the several letters for what my ideas may be worth.

I understand that none of the 1c Confederate were issued to the public for use on account of the change in the rate. I do not consider that to make the "stamp" an essay. The design having been officially accepted, the impressions are unissued stamps. The "stamp" is a legitimate part of Confederate postal history and has long been a collector's item. I see no advantage to be gained by dropping it from catalogs. The footnote might be expanded to state why the 1c value was not issued, instead of leaving the fraternity guessing.

Regarding the so-called Premiere Gravures of 1861, in my opinion the original designs before being altered were certainly essays. The impressions of those designs could be called "samples of work" with equal accuracy. In philatelic parlance both a design which is not accepted, and impressions of that design are called "essays". Apparently you are restricting the term "essay" to a design which was ordered by a government, but was not accepted. I am of the opinion that many philatelic essays all over the world were not ordered by a government, but were made privately with intent to obtain a stamp contract. I think you will find that the proposals for the 1890 U.S. issue did not order any prospective bidder to do anything - not even the American Bank Note Co. whose contract was expiring. The official specifications did not restrict bidders to any particular designs. In my opinion any designs submitted by any bidder would have been essays if those designs were not accepted. "Samples of work" could be almost anything and not necessarily stamp designs, but an essay for a postage stamp would have to be a design which was suitable for use as a postage stamp. That, and the fact that it was not accepted and used "as is" is what makes it an essay.

I believe I am in agreement with you that the issued 10c which is listed as #58 should be listed as Type I of #68, and that the 24c which is listed as #60/60a should be listed as the first color of #70. #58 should be the premier printing from Plate 4, whether it can be identified or not, and #60 should be the premier printing of the 24c, which is believed to be identifiable.

find



Altho premier printings of the 10c, 24c and 30c probably were not intended to be issued for postage when they were printed, I incline to the opinion that they are valid today, because the burden of proof rests on the government, and the government could not prove that these impressions had not been issued. The same holds true for the 3c scarlet and 3c lake of the 1861-66 series. I refer, of course to unused copies, with authentic perforations, and on stamp paper. If any of these are, in fact, valid today because the post office could not legally refuse to accept them, they may be properly listed as postage stamps in stamp catalogs.

In other words, the lapse of time has had the effect of removing the proof which the government would need to invalidate these impressions. Or has possibly done so.

The "fraud warning" has been noted on page 215 of Dr. Chase's book in re Lowell splits, with thanks to you. The two examples remind me of Jarrett's work, but I don't recall that he was operating as early as 1929. Some students have a higher batting average for accuracy than others, but I don't know of anyone who bats 1,000 all the time. About the best I hope to do is make a good average.

The 1c '51 with 3c '61 4c combination is very welcome even tho it cannot be published in the Carrier Book. Unique in my experience. I think Bedford was what is now the Bedford section of Brooklyn. New York Mail Stations H to N were established later than April 1865, but "G" was opened on Broadway near 32nd St. (in the Herald Square section of later years), in 1860 or 1861. The letter was probably collected by a carrier working out of Station G. I assume the stamps were cancelled there rather than after the letter went downtown to the main office, if it did, instead of being placed in a pouch and taken direct to the railroad station. At that period there are a dozen, or maybe several dozen, rather striking New York cancellations in black, but I do not know that any of them have been identified with any of the stations. You may have the clue with this cover. There must have been more than one cancelling clerk at the main office and each of them may have had a particular design on his duplex stamper, thus enabling the cancelling clerk who cancelled each piece of mail to be identified, postmarked and

wherever he may have worked.

No delivery panel (Fig. 46 TT, page 188, Vol. II) has been noted later than the July 15, 1861 use stated on that page. Hence they probably do not occur with 1861 issue stamps, and thereafter the cancellations would be the only means of identifying the stations, unless the address and the letter gave an indication, which local letters might, but the stamps would probably be cancelled with carrier postmarks.

As ever

Elliott Perry

April 14, 1955.

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

Elliott:

I have yours of the 30th which I have read several times and carefully noted. I note this in your letter, quote:

"Regarding the so-called Premieres Gravures of 1861, in my opinion the original designs before being altered were certainly essays." Technically I cannot dispute that statement, however, I did not choose to call them "Essays" simply because they are in fact something more than mere "essays." They are "samples of work" - "sample labels" - samples of design - samples of engraving - samples of plate layout - samples of paper - samples of color - samples of gum samples of perforation. Can you call to mind any other U.S. "Essays" that cover all those points? I am sure that the 1869 "Essays" will occur to you. They are also "sample labels" the same as the "Premieres." Why didn't Luff call these the "Premieres Gravures of 1869?" Was there any difference between the two? I don't give a rap what anyone chooses to call Luff's Premieres but as far as I am concerned I think any disinterested student will agree that my term "sample labels" is much better and more expressive than the term "Essays."

Re - the 3¢ 1851 Lowell bisect illustrated in the Chase book. Bear in mind that the Chase book ran in serial form in the A.P. in the middle twenties and in an A.P. number of 1924 this Lowell fake was illustrated. So it dates back earlier than 1929 (as you stated), in fact, Chase must have had this fake in his collection much earlier than 1924. He recently advised me he had no recollection where he acquired it. I thought Jarrett was possibly the chap who made it but do you think he was in circulation as early as 1922?

I am enclosing two photographs herewith. One of the 3¢ bisect, the other of a postmark on a genuine 3¢ '51 cover postmarked Lowell. This is genuine beyond any question. In a recent letter, Doc expressed the opinion that both strikes came from the same stamper. I feel sure he is wrong. What do you think? Please return these prints to me.

I was pleased to learn your Carrier book will soon be published.

Yours etc.,

Norwood Farm,
Effingham,
Surrey.
Telephone: Bookham 7.

1st April, 1955

Dear Mr Ashbrook,

Now that Harmers with the co-operation of Dr Bacher have completed the lotting of my collection I feel I must write you a line to thank you for your valuable expertisation of the covers on which they had some doubts which were sent to you for your opinion.

I was delighted to hear that you were able to give clean certificates to so many of them especially as these included that very important strip of 10c 1857 showing all the three varieties of recut. I am also ~~sure~~ you were quite right in your criticisms of those that were faked up in some way or other and they of course will not be included in the sale.

Of these I would like to mention two:-

No. 16: the split 2c 1862

In spite of being part of a correspondence to the same addressee from Waterbury with stamps covering the 15c rate with town postmarks in the same colour as the word "Paid" I quite agree with your conclusion. None of the other covers has the "Aachen" marking denoting "Prussian Closed Mail". I expect the split has taken the place of two other

stamps making up the rate of 28c (~~there~~ would have been plenty of room for them) but I cannot remember where or when I obtained these covers. I do not think it was from Paris.

No. 18. The pair of 15c 1869 Type I used on cover

I always thought that ^{this item} was correct but as you turned it down I soaked off the pair of stamps and found that the gum was some kind of very adhesive glue and that one of the stamps had several defects!

I may mention that Harmers and Dr Bacher condemned three or four items as "bad" and threw them out before consulting you and I only hope that all the remaining ^{doubtful} items of any importance were among those that have been submitted to you.

My love for the stamps of the U.S.A is as strong as ever and I am very sorry to be parting with my collection but it seemed to me to be more fun to do so while I am here than to leave the matter to my dismal executors who don't know the difference between a postage stamp and a luggage label !

Thanking you again for your most valuable advice and with kindest regards,

I am,
Yours sincerely,

Stanley B. Ashbrook Esq

P.O. Box 31

33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.,

Fort Thomas, Ky

(By air mail)

W. Waterhouse

April 7, 1955.

Sir N.E. Waterhouse,
Norwood Farm,
Effingham, Surrey, England.

My dear Sir Nicholas:

It was most kind of you to write me such a nice note of appreciation and I want you to know that it will be filed away with letters received in the past that are especially treasured. And thanks also for the added information on several of the covers, especially the No. 18.

Some of those artists over in Paris have become proficient in making exact imitations of many of our postal markings, and frequently I run across a faked cover that looks as though it simply must be genuine.

Although you are giving up your collection, I feel sure that your interest in the stamps of the U.S.A. will not wane, and if at any time you have any item that raises a question and if you think I might supply some sort of an answer, I will consider it a privilege if you will call upon me.

I am taking the liberty of enclosing a copy of my March 1st "Service Issue," in which I discussed a stamp that was in your collection in the early nineteen forties.

I will I could get over to attend your sale but I am past the three score and ten and am compelled to take it a bit easier than in former years.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

C. CORWITH WAGNER . . .

INSURANCE AGENCY

SUITE 1834 BOATMEN'S BANK BUILDING

SAINT LOUIS (2)

ACCIDENT
HEALTH
LIFE
FIRE
BONDS
BURGLARY
& HOLDUP
AUTOMOBILE

ESTABLISHED
1914

MAIN
1-1640

March 29, 1955.

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook,
33 No. Ft. Thomas Avenue,
Fort Thomas, Kentucky.

Dear Stan:

I enclose herewith a cover which recently came into my possession on which I would like to have your "expert opinion" - for a fee, of course.

In my opinion the postal markings are "good" - but what puzzles and interests me - is the American Express Co. label with its "Postage two cents." "Paid" - and the small boxed PAID in blue. Where - Why - and how did the express company get into this picture? - and why a 2¢ postage charge? I direct to your attention that under the express label is a written word that I can not make out; also that the label is tied at the upper right corner by what I think to be a black foreign postal marking.

The cover intrigues me from a postal history stand-point and I will greatly appreciate your telling me if the cover is "OK" and if so, an explanation of the part the express company played in the handling this cover. Be sure and state your fee for the service rendered - when you return the cover. Thanks in advance for your anticipated help.

Mrs. Yeckel left last Saturday for a trip to Cuba - Nassau and other southern points of interest. She expects to be back about Easter, or shortly thereafter. Kind personal regards.

Sincerely yours,

C. Corwith Wagner.

April 7, 1955.

Mr. C. Corwith Wagner,
1834 Boatmen's Bank Bldg.,
314 North Broadway,
St. Louis 2, Mo.

Dear Corwith:

I was down in Kentucky for the better part of a week, hence the delay in acknowledging receipt of yours of the 29th enclosing the stampless cover to France in 1852 from San Francisco.

Re - the sticker of the "American Express Co." I do not recall that I ever saw one of these before. That handstamped PAID looks a bit familiar but I do not recall where I saw it in the past.

The rate to France from California and the West Coast was 26 per $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce by "Amer. Pkt." from New York. This letter was placed in the San Francisco P.O. and after that there was no service that the Express Company could render. All transit was handled by the U. S. Mail Via Panama to New York and thence to England by the Collins Line (Amer. Packet). Thus this green sticker could only mean that the letter was given to the Express Company to convey to the S.F. P.O. - not to the ship in my opinion, but such a thing might have been possible. I never heard that the P.O. had a clerk at the ship up to the time of sailing but such a thing might have been possible.

The sailings from S.F. for Panama at that time were the 1st and 16th of the month, unless those dates fell on Sunday, in which event the sailing was postponed until Monday. This S.F. postmark shows "16 Sep." The letter inside is dated the 14th. Sailings by the Collins Line was on Saturday. The red New York postmark is faint but it shows "Oct 16." In 1852, Oct. 16, fell on Saturday. San Francisco put on the three blue markings - the postmark S.F. PAID and "26." If the boxed "PAID" is genuine I suppose it was applied by the Express Office in S.F. No doubt 2¢ was a proper fee for carrying the letter to the P.O. or the ship. The red British p.m. on back is Oct. 28, 1852. I suppose what I am again trying to state is that after entering the U. S. mail it surely went thru regular channels to its destination.

I made a color slide of it and I will send a copy out to my friend Jessup and see if he agrees with my analysis.

Naturally there is no fee for the above. I am always delighted to hear from you and to see any items that seem to be odd. I might add, that 26¢ payment merely paid the postage to England, after that it was rated just the same as if it had been a letter originating in England and sent unpaid. The handstamped "8" was the French postage due of 8 decimes or about 15¢ in our money at that time. A decime was a tenth of a franc (exchange was approximately 19¢).

Not being familiar with this green label I cannot state whether it was on the cover at the time the letter was mailed but I am inclined to believe that it was. The cover itself and the markings are perfectly genuine and normal. Covers from S.F. at this rate to France are far from common, although this rate was in effect up until April 1, 1857. I have records of the 26¢ paid by stamps for example, a

#2. Mr. C. Corwith Wagner - April 7, 1955.

pair of 10¢ 1855, plus a pair of 3¢ 1851, etc. During the middle of the fifties, the S.F. P.O. employed a stamper for Paid stampless mail which had "26 PAID" at the bottom.

It was nice that Mrs. Yeckel was able to get away and have a nice trip and a change. I am sure she misses Mr. Yeckel beyond words because he was a wonderful character in every way.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

COPY

April 7, 1955.

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St. Louis 2, Mo.

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It was nice that Mrs. Yeckel was able to get away and have a nice trip and a change. I am sure she misses Mr. Yeckel beyond words because he was a wonderful character in every way.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

Sellers Cover
\$225.00

March 6, 1955.

PAID

MAR 25 1955

Mr. Raynor Hubbell,
Box 573
Griffin, Ga.

Dear Raynor:

This will acknowledge receipt of yours of Feb. 21st returning the Frame Line cover, (face) of Richmond, April 1863 - also yours of the 3rd with check for \$380.36. I note you are still holding the Frame line cover of "CULPEPER C.H. Va., priced at \$50.00. —

PAID

MAR 17 1955

Regarding the two items that you enclosed for my opinion. Cover from Nashville Ten addressed to "Ben F Thurston Esq - Metropolitan Hotel - Cincinnati, Ohio." It is my opinion that this cover is a fake. I do not believe that either of the Confederate stamps were used on this cover, nor do I believe this is a Flag of Truce cover. I think you can figure this one out yourself. The Nashville date appears to be either Mar 4 or May 4. However, it is immaterial. Federal forces occupied Nashville on Feb. 23, 1862, and according to my recollection, it was not held by Confederates after that time. Why would there be a Flag of Truce after Feb. 1862? Aside from the above the whole thing is very unconvincing and must have been made by some amateur faker. No fee for the above.

Re - the Nashville. I am not any sort of an authority on this stamp so have to decline an opinion. I think it should be sent to the P.F. Committee but I suppose Shenfield could give you a dependable opinion.

I am enclosing a very beautiful and rare cover - a pair of New Orleans with Imprint - S.U.S. 62X5 - Ex-Brooks - Ex-Brown and authenticated by me on the back. The price is \$225.00.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

PAID

MAR 25 1955

RAYNOR HUBBELL

SPECIALIZING IN THE PURCHASE OF OLD STAMPS



COLONEL C. S. A.
MEMBER: A. S. D. A.
A. P. S.
S. P. A.
COLLECTORS
CLUB OF
NEW YORK

BOX 573 GRIFFIN, GEORGIA

3/10/55.

Mr. Stanley Ashbrook

Box-31-

Fort Thomas-Ky.

Dear Stanley:

Thank you for your letter of the 6th. The cover from Nashville did not look good to me, but the owner is O.K., and I wanted to be sure to give him the right answer. I am not an expert, and my contact with you is a very valuable thing. What was elementary to Sherlock Holmes, was not so simple to Watson, but if I remember rightly, Watson got to be pretty good him-self.

I like the New Orleans Cover you sent, I also want the other frame-line, for which I have not accounted yet. I have been buying a lot of stuff lately, and some of it was quite heavy. Be a little patient with me on these two items, for a few days.

I have the dis-cards of one of the principal members of our C.S.A., and I can't swallow every thing at once. These dis-cards are pretty fine stuff, and only dis-carded because of better pieces to take their place.

Very sincerely,

Raynor Hubbell

RH/grh

\$50⁰⁰

March 21, 1955.

Mr. Raynor Hubball,
Box 573
Griffin, Ga.

Dear Raynor:

Herewith the Atlanta P.M.P. cover. The price to you is \$75.00 less \$25.00 or \$50.00 net, provided you pay cash.

I would appreciate if you would send me a check by return mail for the New Orleans cover or if inconvenient please return the cover to me. I must insist that in the future if I send any items to you that you pay cash or return them to me. I thought that in the past I made it clear to you that I deal only on a cash basis.

With regards --

Cordially yours,

PAID
MAR 25 1955

RAYNOR HUBBELL
SPECIALIZING IN THE PURCHASE OF OLD STAMPS



220 EAST POPLAR STREET

GRIFFIN, GEORGIA

3/18/1955,

Mr. Stanley Ashbrook

Box-31-

Fort Thomas-Ky.

Dear Stanley:

Answering your letter of the 16th. I will take the Atlanta item, of which you sent photo, at \$75.00 " less a liberal discount " Please send it to me and state what the "liberal discount" is.

Sincerely,

Raynor Hubbell

RH:grh

Edward B Murphy

3836 HILL TOP ROAD
FORT WORTH 9, TEXAS

March 31, 1955

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

I am trying to locate the town and state on the enclosed cover and shall appreciate it very much if you will give me the benefit of your experience and knowledge.

I am reasonably sure this cover is addressed to Central City, Colorado Territory. The date of posting the letter is 2nd month, 24th day, year ? (Quaker date) - at least that is the way it looks to me. The town to me looks like CHELMA but that town can't be found in the Post Office Guides for 1857 and 1870.

Would you please give me your opinion as to the town name and what state the town is within?

Any help you may give me will be appreciated.

Yours truly,

Edward B Murphy

April 7, 1955.

Mr. Edward B. Murphy,
3836 Hill Top Road,
Fort Worth 9, Texas.

Dear Mr. Murphy:

Please pardon the delay in replying to yours of the 31st enclosing ~~the~~ 3¢ 1861 cover which I am returning herewith. I agree that the address is to Central City - C.T. and about the only P.O. that seems to match the "CHELMS" is CHELMSFORD MASS. I don't know why a town in that state would use a Quaker date. The town is 24 miles N.W. of Boston. I note that in 1900 it had a population of about 3800. I searched thru an old Gazetteer and was unable to find any town or village that had "Chelma" or "Chelms." Sometimes we find small villages that were not post offices. It is possible that this might have been from some Union soldier and from an army camp. Feb. 24 would have been 1862.

I am wondering if you would be interested in the following cover:

From HEMPSTEAD TEX (year ?) with three 1¢ 1857 Type V to New York. The price is \$8.50. If interested, here is a card for reply.

With kindest regards -

Sincerely yours,

Edward B Murphy

3836 HILL TOP ROAD
FORT WORTH 9, TEXAS

April 10, 1955

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

I thank you for your wonderful help you gave me on the 3¢ 1861 addressed to Central City, Colorado Territory.

Thanks for the offer to sell the cover from Hempstead Texas. But, don't believe I would be interested.

I am interested in covers as listed below and would appreciate receiving any of the items on approval.

KANSAS TERRITORY

Missouri City
Mountain City
Nevada

Colorado Territory

Missouri City
Mountain City
Black Hawk Point
South Boulder
Central City
Rollinsville
Nevada
Bald Mountain
Gold Dirt

Colorado - Before 1900

Bald Mountain
Central City
Rollinsville
Apex
Russell Gulch
Black Hawk

I also collect interesting covers with the 3¢ 1857 Type II and early Special Delivery.

Again thanks for the help.

Yours truly,

Edward B Murphy

RAYNOR HUBBELL

SPECIALIZING IN THE PURCHASE OF OLD STAMPS



COLONEL C. S. A.
MEMBER: A. S. D. A.
A. P. S.
S. P. A.
COLLECTORS
CLUB OF
NEW YORK

BOX 573 GRIFFIN, GEORGIA

4/II/55,

Mr. Stanley B Ashbrook

Box-3I-

Fort Thomas-Ky.

Dear Stanley:

I bought the Second String of earl Weatherly's accumulation. In it was the enclosed strip of 5- -2¢- Red-Brown on cover, with grid cancellations.

Is it O.K. in your opinion ?

Very sincerely,

Raynor Hubbell

RH:grh

April 14, 1955.

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

Dear Raynor:

Herewith the C.S.A. 2¢ 1863 cover as per yours of the 11th. The chances are that this strip did originate on this cover but of course that is pure guess-work and I would never even consider signing such an item as being genuine when founded on nothing but guess-work. This would be among the easiest things for a faker to make - He could use any old cover - make a grid and tie an unused strip to the back. It would not require an hour's work. The best advice I can give you is to sell this "as is." Then there is no come-back.

Congratulations on acquiring some of Earl's material. Earl is a grand fellow - I hardly see how they could come any finer. He is doing a most commendable piece of work, a southerner putting together a magnificent collection of Confederates. More power to him.

With best wishes -

Sincerely yours,

P.S. no fee.

RAYNOR HUBBELL

SPECIALIZING IN THE PURCHASE OF OLD STAMPS



COLONEL C. S. A.
MEMBER: A. S. D. A.
A. P. S.
S. P. A.
COLLECTORS
CLUB OF
NEW YORK

BOX 573 GRIFFIN, GEORGIA

5/5/55,

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook

Box-3I,

Fert Thomas-Ky.

Dear Stanley:

Have you any more of those books I bought of you ? Have you any stamps you want to sell me ?

Mrs Hubbell and I are going up to the Palmer House, Chicago, for the big A.S.D.A. show, May 13th, 14th, and 15th,. I will have a booth there. We are flying up from Atlanta a week from today, May 12th.

Would you please look at 3 items I am enclosing, and charge me for what you can tell me about them ? Express Mail in Reconstruction Days, Important Letters per Sloans Column. ^{Mobile} Memphis " per Steamer Cherokee", Picked up at some Alabama River Landing ?

Please mail to me at the Palmer House, Chicago, marked " Hold for arrival for American Stamp Dealers Show, May 12th."

If you have some frame lines, on or off covers, that show frame lines fairly well, send them along, too.

Sincerely,

Raynor Hubbell

RH/grh

May 10, 1955.

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

Dear Raynor:

Regarding the three covers enclosed in yours of the 5th.

Express cover from Mobile. I attach very little importance to this item. By 1867 mail routes had been re-established. This was merely a letter carried "outside of the U.S. Mail" by Express. Such items are not scarce. The addressor complied with the law by using a U. S. stamped envelope. Sloane's remarks do not cover the situation as it existed. It was not the lack of postmasters, as he inferred, but the making of new contracts with mail contractors to carry the mail over Government mail routes. As I stated above, by 1867, new contracts had been let and the old routes put back into operation. There is no marking on this cover to show that any charge was made by the Express Company.

Goldsborough N.C. stampless. In my opinion, this is a "Paid 5" of a period prior to July 1, 1851. I do not believe that your cover has any C.S.A. connection.

10¢ 1863. You are correct, in my opinion, that this was carried by the Steamboat Cherokee to Mobile. There was a steamboat that ran on the Alabama River into Mobile during the war years by the name of the Cherokee. I suppose your friend Scruggs could confirm this statement.

No fee for the above.

I could let you have about a dozen of my Confederate books. You could take orders and ship them later.

When I can find a little time I will mail you some Frame Lines.

With best regards -

Sincerely yours,

FROM THE DESK OF

FRED W. ALLEN, Box 539, NEW ROCHELLE, NEW YORK

(Owner of the WESTCHESTER STAMP COMPANY)

APR 11 1955

Dear Steve -

I enclose quite a remarkable copy of
#14 - Presume it is No 1 of the Plate.

In a pc of sheet margin should it not bring
a good price? Especially so if I accompanied
it with a note from you on it and one of
your little photos — Please execute
this if you consider it wise and advise
if you see fit. I had Kelleher in mind
to sell it. —

Regards,

— Fred —

April 14, 1955.

Mr. Fred W. Allen,
Box 539,
New Rochelle, N.Y.

Dear Fred:

Herewith the 10¢ 1855 as per yours of the 11th. If you have a copy of my book, you will find a part of this position illustrated on page 37, Fig. 29B. The position is LRL. This book was written in 1934 and what I wrote at that time about LRL, I do not believe today. About the only thing unusual about your copy is the sheet at top and left, giving it a big size. I suppose some collector might be willing to pay more for this feature but I wonder how much?

I would not care to have a letter of mine exhibited to enable anyone to obtain more for an item than it is worth. I am sure you understand. I would gladly pay you \$15.00 for this stamp but I would not pay any more.

Thanks for the photograph. Looks as though you have taken on weight since I last saw you. I am going the other way - getting thinner every year. Someday a good gust of wind will come along and I'll go away with it.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

PHILIP G. RUST
WINNSTEAD PLANTATION
THOMASVILLE, GEORGIA

April 12th.1955

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

Dear Stan:

Enclosed is the 7RIE cover.More on that later.

I am also keeping the block of 10 of the 10¢ 1855 at \$1,850 and the FREE cover from the Saltonstall correspondence, having the 10¢ 1847, pen canc. 'faded,' at \$175. My check for \$2,025.00 in pay't. for the two items is enclosed.

As a favor to me, will you report that I needed the 10¢ block very badly, so I had to pay their price which I thought was about \$500 too high. You might tell them I have bought more of these stamps than any other living soul. (during the last 4 yrs)

Maybe they'll surprise me with a bargain once in a while. Also it looks as though I were a fair prospect for quite a batch of the X collec. items.

The 7RIE cover has many mysteries.

1. Why is one of the pair badly creased?
2. Why does the ink of "SPRINGFIELD" appear very much bluer than the killer?
3. Why didn't the killer strike hit the S.E. corner of the pair at the time it made a mark on the cover just below the pair? This mark below is the same ink as SPRINGFIELD!
4. The stamps have been lifted and put back. Of course one does this looking for thins and repairs, but it never HELPS a cover.

The stamp is 7RIE all right, but was it ever on that cover? The price is 50% higher on cover--quite a temptation, EH?

5. Also, under the lamp there is a clean area bounded by a straight line (edge of a removed stamp?)

As I see it, the most damning thing of all is No. 3

I'll keep on reporting what I see until you tell me you're not interested.

Keep the 'X' stuff coming. I'll keep enough and return enough to keep everyone happy.

We are looking forward to your visit very much.

Sincerely yours,



April 15, 1955.

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

Dear Phil:

Regarding your analysis of the 1¢ 1851, 7RLE, cover. Please consider this just as a friendly exchange of views and in no way any effort to influence you to purchase this item. It is darn seldom that a 7RLE shows up, whether on cover or off cover, and when I can lay hands on one to sell, catalogue prices don't mean a thing. What does count is condition. If the copy on this cover was absolutely superb, I could get \$1,750.00 for the stamp off cover or \$2,250.00 on cover, whether with the pair or without it. The pair don't mean a thing except that it shows the rate from Springfield, Ill. to Keene, Ky. The year use was surely 1852, that is, March 4, 1852.

I consider this stamp as fine, but not superb, because it has a small tear in the left turned-under ball, however, both balls show and also the two bottom corner ornaments. In so many copies these corner ornaments are cut into. This stamp surely shows the full Type I design and it has a nice wide sheet margin at top. In addition, it is lightly canceled, except for part of the top label and top right.

I have known this cover for over twenty years, some years in fact before my friend Mr. X acquired it. It was in the collection of a collector who was very particular and I have reason to believe he paid a round price for it.

There is no doubt in my mind that the single and the pair came from the same sheet of 200, because the color and impression, paper, etc., are a perfect match. I believe I know the One Cent 1851 better than any living person, in fact, I can spot them ten feet away with both eyes shut. I am absolutely convinced that the blue of the Springfield postmark is the same as the blue grids on the stamps and I would bet my last dollar that this pair and single were used on this cover as we see them.

I never noticed there was a crease in one of the stamps in the pair, but if there is, such a crease could have occurred before the stamp was attached to the cover. Back in 1852, I suppose a person didn't care whether they folded some stamps or not. I have been told that it was quite common for men to carry unused stamps in their hat bands. As far as I am concerned, I couldn't vouch for that because I don't know whether men's hats had any inside bands at that period.

Re - your query No. 2. I don't believe the Blue of the postmark appears any bluer than the grids on the stamp but if it looks that way to you perhaps the blue of Springfield is on a white background rather than against the blue ink of the stamp and the bluish paper (due to the impression). Your No. 3. I certainly do not agree with the conclusion reached by you for the simple reason that all the

#2. Mr. Philip G. Rust - April 15, 1955.

blue of the postmark and grids came from the same ink pad.

Your No. 4. I agree 100% that it is bad to remove stamps from a cover and replace them, but in many cases more good is accomplished than harm. When I want to look for "thins" or "repairs" I do not find it necessary to remove stamps. By holding the cover to a very strong light, one can generally see any such defects. I do not think that any "fixer" put these two items on this cover, but as stated above I believe they were put there by the person who addressed this letter.

And finally I endorsed this cover on the back as follows:

"This cover is genuine
1¢ 1851 - Type I - 7RLE"

I don't see any reason why I should change that statement in any way, and further, I sincerely and whole-heartily believe this cover, as is, is worth \$1,500.00. I now have a record of over 60 copies of 7RLE and I have photographs of the great majority of these. I have been compiling that record since 1915 and I believe my appreciation of the value of a 7RLE is more comprehensive and better understood than any person living or dead. What do I care what the S.U.S. says is the value of an off cover copy or of a cover? What I go by is a number of points - foremost of which is condition. If the 7RLE on this cover was superb, the price would be \$2,250.00. As it is I think this cover is cheap at \$1,500.00 and I would urge Mrs. X to keep it rather than reduce the price by any amount.

Now Phil, this is not a sales talk in any sense of the word because I will not have a bit of trouble selling this cover. Of all people in the world who can sell a 7RLE without much trouble I believe I am that person. Why not? I haven't lifted my finger as yet to sell this, and I really will not have to go very much out of my way to place it.

In this particular case I believe your analysis was incorrect and I believe that every statement of mine, as above, could be proved.

I suppose it was a good thing that we did not continue on South last Monday as the weather has been more or less miserable all week and much worse south where there has been heavy rain and flooded rivers. Maybe in a couple or three weeks the weather will be much better and Mrs. Ashbrook and I will drop in at "Winnstead."

By the way, did you note how the last batch of "X" covers were handstamped and signed? Which do you prefer? Plain pencil or the stamp and signature? I find the public in general prefer s the latter.

Did you receive the Waterhouse catalogue that I sent you? I noticed that I received quite a bit of advertising. They should have sent me more covers than they did. Had they done so there are a number in the sale that would not have been included. Bacher put a number in that he should have thrown out. Sir Nicholas is a grand character but he was badly imposed upon by a number of French and British crooks.

My apologies for the length of this letter, but you asked for it.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

April 15, 1955.

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

Dear Phil:

Since writing the enclosed, I looked up my records of the 7RLE cover and here is a note that I made in 1940 when the cover was in the Mr. Blank collection.

"Copy #16 - 7RLE - collection
Single on cover with 3¢ rate from 'Springfield, Ill. - Mar 4 (1852?) to Keene, Ky.'" Cover has vertical pair Plate IE sheet margin, positions 90LLE - 100LLE - badly creased vertical and repaired, tied lightly with smeared blue grid. Postmark is blue. The 7RLE single is tied with smeared blue grid. It has wide sheet at top, side ornaments at top left are nipped, also left ball is nipped. Otherwise design is intact. Grid is to right from back of head beyond stamp at right. Quite a nice copy but not superb. This memo made atSt. while on a visit to Mr. on Sep. 21, 1940." (unquote)

The above might explain why the pair might have been removed from the cover, the pair repaired and crease ironed out but there is no indication that the 7RLE was removed.

By the way, Mary Todd Lincoln was living in Springfield, Ills. in 1852 and as you know, she came from Lexington, Ky. It is my recollection that Keene, Ky. is only a short distance from Lexington. Maybe Mary addressed this envelope!!! If so, it would be a real bargain at a much higher price.

Yours etc.,

PHILIP G. RUST
WINNSTEAD PLANTATION
THOMASVILLE, GEORGIA

April 15th.1955

Dear Stan:

The various books from the Mr. "X" collec. arrived today and I enclose check for \$106. in pay't. The copy of the Stamp Specialist is being returned under separate cover. I own one of these,so someone else should have a chance at it. thThank you for being thoughtful about this.


I haven't seen any of the P.M.G. repoerts.Is that the source of your info. about ship sailings? I've always marveled at the supply of facts that you've assembled over the years. It's been fun,too,hasn't it?

In the Life and Adventures of a Philatelist,I read about the attempt of Coulson to sue for a comm^{ss}ion on some Worthington material. Heh,Heh!

You haven't had time to advise me on the 7RIE cover. Am I all wet on this? At any rate,no one can explain why the S.E. corner of the pair doesn't have a ~~strike~~ strike!

It was nice talking again on the phone;and 'so glad you had a nice Easter.

Sincerely yours,



April 18, 1955.

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

Dear Phil:

Yours of the 15th received with check for \$106.00 for the various literature items from the library of Mr. X. Thanks very much. I am also in receipt of the "Stamp Specialist."

I note that you read with some interest the little book by Alvin Good. As you noted, Alvin was the philatelic secretary to the late George Worthington who was the leading U. S. philatelist during the early part of this century. When Worthington became involved in financial difficulties along about 1913, "Colson of Boston" attempted to take advantage of the situation and steal what he could of the collection. Worthington's financial difficulties arose over the financing of a traction road out of Cincinnati. The advent of the automobile wrecked many such companies in the first couple of decades of this century.

Re - the Annual Reports of the P.M.G. These are invaluable for many sources of information on postal history. Much of my data on the sailings of mail ships was compiled from newspapers of the periods. I formed a small group back in the middle thirties to finance the cost of such research work in New York, San Francisco and New Orleans.

Re - the 7R1E cover. I regret that I do not have a fine natural size black and white photograph but here is a print that was made in the early nineteen forties, and also color slide A38 - 32. My 1940 memo stated that the pair had a crease and had been repaired, so I assume from that memo that I discovered this or that the owner informed me of this at the time. I also assume that if the pair was repaired that it was removed from the cover for that purpose. Perhaps whoever removed it, failed to replace it in the exact position it had occupied. Sometimes it is necessary to remove a stamp from a cover for some purpose. For example, I removed the 3¢ 1851 "bisect" (Lowell) to determine whether this half of a stamp was on the "piece" when the postmark was applied. After removing the "bisect" I photographed the "piece" by ultra-violet - the result, no trace of any removed portions of the postmark.

Again re - the pair on the 7R1E cover. There is a small dot of blue on the N.W. corner of the pair. Surely this letter required 3¢ - and the pair is in the exact shade and impression of the single, so this pair must have been used on this envelope. And further, don't you think that the writer attached it in a horizontal position? And don't you think this is the reason the postmark is so far to the left?

The early editions of the P.L. & R. instructed postmasters not to use the "date stamp" to cancel postage stamps. A great many obeyed this instruction, as in this case, but a great many did not, especially large cities such as New York and Philadelphia. Using a grid and a dated postmark required two operations, and in such

#2. Mr. Philip G. Rust - April 18, 1955.

application it could be that different pads could have been used of the same color of ink. Hence two shades of blue (dater and grid) would not prove conclusively that either was a fake. In the middle and late fifties New Orleans on domestic mail used a red postmark and a black grid.

The above are just minor points to bear in mind in judging the validity of a cover.

If the New Yorker returns the cover I will make some good black and white photos which we can attach to this correspondence for future reference.

It was 84 here today. Quite a change from the winter weather of a few weeks back.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

P.S.--We had to run down to Lexington yesterday so this letter did not get into the mail until the 20th.

S.

MEMO FROM

THE PHILATELIC FOUNDATION

22 East 35th St. New York 16, N. Y.

Apr 12, 1955

Dear Stan:-

Thought this might
interest you — any comments?
Hope you had a pleasant
Easter -

We are planning a special
January C.C.P. — 35th year of
the Magazine and 60th year
of the Club — we would like
an article in it from you —
Can you let us have some
thing? —

Regards
Hmp

April 15, 1955.

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

Dear Win:

Thanks for the cut of the cover. This is a Garnier cover, and it is a fake and was undoubtedly made by Zareski, the little rat over in Paris. He got hold of the Garnier correspondence and "fixed" a quantity of them. It is hard to state exactly what he did to this but if the New York and French markings are genuine and I have no reason to doubt they are, then this was a prepaid letter with 30¢ Paid. The "24" in the New York marking is a credit of 24¢ out of 30¢ paid. Of course, you cannot take 24¢ out of 15¢, but that don't bother Zareski. All he strives to do is to make them look good.

I certainly will furnish you with an article for the January 1956 C.C.P. I promised Henry Goodkind an article a long time ago and I will make good.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

MEMO FROM

THE PHILATELIC FOUNDATION

22 East 35th St. New York 16, N. Y.

Apr 19, 1955

Dear Stan:-

Thanks for your comment
on the Cover - you have taught
me enough about rate marks
for me to suspect that it should
have had 30¢. Photo enclosed
as requested.

Many thanks also for the
promise of an article - know it
will be interesting -

Regards
W. H. W.



See 36
P. 13

2988

A sale By Hans Grolbe
Hanover Germany May 9-11-55
By Win B0993 Apr 1955

May 9-11-1955. Hans Grolbe - Hanover, Germany
Tafel 43



1324



1162



1323



606



1525



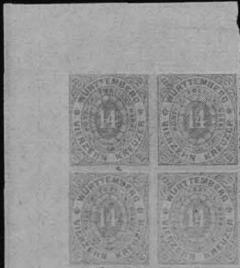
1864



1869



1518



1639



1894



1656



1892



1907



2143



2029



2042



2040 Fehldruck



2043

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



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

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

April 22, 1955

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

Dear Stan,

Many thanks for your letter of April 13th and your opinion on the 1¢ 1851 which was just as I expected it would be. I am returning enclosed the photos which you kindly sent along.

Also enclosed is an interesting cover on which I presume the postage was insufficient since it has the French "Due" marking. Such always makes me a bit suspicious so I would appreciate your examining it and signing the reverse if you feel it is genuine. Advise your fee and I shall be glad to remit promptly.

I shall look forward to receiving your lists on the Stark collections when they are prepared. There is a strong possibility that I may be able to use something from it at your regular retail price.

I was quite interested in your reference to Mr. Jarrett with regard to the fake bisects. I have done a little business with him and have met him personally and have been fairly well impressed with his knowledge and also have found no reason to doubt his integrity. However, I do not really know him well and have had few dealings which would give him an opportunity to attempt to pull anything questionable. Therefore, for my own information only I would be interested in knowing what evidence you may have of nefarious activity on his part other than the quarter 12¢ stamp on cover which he was trying to sell some months back.

Though I know Bruce Daniels very well, he is no special friend of mine and has several times taken certain actions which I did not approve of and also failed to give me the consideration which I feel should be due in view of the fact that I am his largest buyer at auction. I heartily agree that he was certainly quite foolish in not making a refund on the 3¢ 1851 item. I always bend over backwards in that respect myself, but fortunately have not found it necessary to take back more than three or four items in the past five years, which I believe is a fairly good record.

block
You are correct that I bought the 5¢ 1856 in the recent H.R. Harmer sale. I have removed the top three stamps since they contain defects and now have a very fine and sound block of eight which is still the largest known I presume since the second largest known is supposed to be one of six. I am asking \$2,500 for the block of eight. I received a letter from Henry Hill yesterday asking me about the block since apparently he is writing a book and wishes to have it recorded in same.

With kind regards, *Jack*

\$ 2.00
PAID MAY - 7 1955

April 25, 1955.

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

Dear Jack:

Herewith the cover to France in 1859. I regret that I cannot sign this, as in my opinion it is not genuine, though I suppose it could be. If the stamps were put on before mailing why are they down in the lower left corner? There was plenty of room where the New York postmark is. Further, this is quite a late use of imperforate stamps, especially from New York; and further, on short-paid mail it was customary for the New York office to mark such mail "SHORT PAID." In fact, as I recall, the Treaty had such a provision. I think this is a typical stampless unpaid letter of this period but I do not consider the above evidence is sufficient to condemn it, because it is just possible that the stamps might have been used originally just as we see them. I believe you will concur 100% with my analysis. Would you mind if I used this cover in my Service at some future time? See my Vol. 2 - page 126. This "SHORT PAID" was September 1859. I am charging you a fee of \$2.00 on the above.

Re - the 1¢ 1851. The person who put that stamp in the sale was very much disappointed that the sale did not go thru. He wrote me he thought the stamp was 16R1E rather than 18R1E.

Jack I doubt if I will issue any lists on the Stark collection as I seem to be able to move items quite fast without going to that trouble. I will send you some material and perhaps you can find some items you could use. However, I warn you in advance that the prices are not cheap.

Confidential. I have heard that Jarrett is a bad actor and that he served time for some sort of fraudulent philatelic activity back in the early or middle nineteen thirties. I believe Elliott Perry can give you detailed information. Personally, I have no facts about him, only rumors.

I note your remarks about Bruce Daniels. He did refund on the 3¢ fake bisect but only under the most vigorous protest.

I wish you success on the 5¢ 1856 block.

With regards -

Yours etc.,



Canada



16
Messrs B. Mifflin & Co

Paris.



A 690

By Molesworth

Photo To Be Returned

April 13, 1955.

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

Dear Jack:

Re - the 1¢ 1851 enclosed in yours of the 8th. The stamp is 18R1E, the position immediately below the Type IB, 8R1E. I enclose a photo print of 8-9-18 - 19R1E, which please return. This shows how 8R1E touched 18R1E. You can see that 18R1E had a small break in the top line as you mentioned, but I do not think such minor breaks takes a 1¢ out of the Type II class and puts it into Type IIIA. In my opinion, 18R1E is a Type II. No charge for the above.

Re - your letter of the 7th, thanks for the postage enclosed.

Re - the Stark collection. Mrs. S. and the Estate does not wish any publicity, hence when I have to refer to it, it will be "Mr. X." You inquired how I will handle it. Just the same as I have handled some large collections in the past. No publicity, all by "private treaty" as the British state. There may be some Confederates but not many. I am not selling any part in "lots."

Thanks Jack, for your remarks on the 12¢ 1851 fake bisect. I suspect that slicker "Jarrett" made this item as well as the 3¢ 1851 and the 12¢ quarter about which we had some correspondence.

Your friend Bruce Daniels refused at first to make a refund to me on the 3¢ '51 and I understand he is making a public exhibition of all the correspondence we had on the subject. No matter what I wrote him the fact remains that he sold me a fake and he should have offered to make a prompt refund without any argument. He made a bad mistake in incurring my enmity because I can do him a lot of harm.

I note you will make a prompt refund on any bad items you sell. That is a wise policy and shows you are smart whereas Daniels is a fool.

I have carefully noted your remarks on several subjects. My impression is that unless you had some sort of an agreement or contract you wouldn't have a leg to stand on. Where a person has no legal grievance it is best to forget the incident. Many wise merchants adopt the policy that the customer is always right. It may be hard to swallow at times but it must pay off in the end.

I note your remarks on the 5¢ 1856 that has some resemblance to the "Indian Red." I suppose a lot of people think they have a 3¢ 1861 "Pink" until they lay their copy alongside of a real certified Pink or Pigeon. No argument after that.

I was informed you bought the 5¢ 1856 block in the recent H. R. Harmer sale. Incidentally, I have known all about this item for many years. Do you know who put it in the Harmer sale? I believe it sold @ \$2,000.00 to order - Is that correct? When

#2. Mr. Jack E. Molesworth - April 13, 1955.

this was discovered years ago a dealer advertised it in Mekeel's @ \$3,650.00. I have a copy of the ad that I clipped. It later came up in a sale in 1920, but I failed to record the price. It was offered to Henry Hill last Fall and he turned it down. I have a very fine photo (8 x 10) that I made last summer.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

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



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

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

April 8, 1955

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

Dear Stan,

Enclosed is 1¢ 1851 that was supposed to be a Type IIIA and also position 18R1E. However, the break at the top is very slight and I note that this position is listed by you in your book as a Type II.

I would therefore greatly appreciate your examining the enclosed and letting me know what type you would now consider it.

With best wishes,

Jack E. Molesworth

JEM/pww
Enclosure

P.S. Off to record could you see evidence of the strip having
been chemically treated?
A.P.S.
S.P.A.
C.C.N.H.



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

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

April 7, 1955

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

Dear Stan,

My thanks for your letter of April 1st. I greatly appreciate your comments on the items submitted and also your generosity in making no charge for them. Enclosed please find your postage in returning. Your comments on them were about as I had expected.

I am quite happy to hear that you have acquired the Stark collection for sale and hope that you will do very well with it. I shall not mention it to anyone until you have publicly announced it. I would be quite interested in details as to the manner in which you plan to use in disposing of it. If there are any Confederates, I would be interested in them either individually or as a lot if you should have the authority to so dispose of them.

I have read with considerable interest your comments on the fake 12¢ bisect and also the 3¢ bisect. However, I had never seen either of these items before to the best of my recollection and also sold nothing of this nature to Harold Stark to the best of my recollection. In fact, during the entire time in which I was in contact with him, I doubt that I sold him more than a dozen different items and all of these were full covers. All of my records of over a year old are filed away in a rather inaccessible spot, though should Mrs. Stark's investigation indicate a possibility that they might have been acquired through me, I would be pleased to search out the carbon I would have of any shipment to him with the purchases from same marked on it. Naturally, if I were to sold something of this nature that later turned out to be a fake, I would be more than glad to make a complete refund on it.

Please be assured that I have no intention of drawing you into a controversy with Mr. Rust. In fact, there is no open controversy between us whatsoever as I have decided to refrain, at least for the present, from taking any legal action or even suggesting same to him. Rather, I have recently written to him indicating the knowledge which I had and also expressing some disappointment that he decided to go direct in making the purchase but not suggesting any commission to me. I also enclosed a few items which might be of interest to him and since they were being sent, included also the strip which you saw. I have not as yet heard from him but will let you know his comments when I do. I certainly would not dispute his word on the plating of the item. However, I have found him to be dead wrong quite a few times in the past on various aspects of regumming, reperfining, etc.; and in fact, at one time had to take great pains to point out that he actually could not tell clever reperfining by submitting to him a picked lot of items for his opinion. I cut apart perforated pairs with scissors, broke blocks of four and noted the position numbers, etc. and also included items which I knew to have been recently reperfining by a local source. He did not have the courage to let me know his opinion but insisted that I tell him what items were what. After such information was sent, he obviously saw that his own opinions were without foundation and more or less admitted it without coming right out and saying he was wrong. At least, the result was that he afterwards rarely questioned any reperfining.

I appreciate very much your suggestion that I send the 5¢ 1856-along to Henry Hill of Minneapolis. Though I am now convinced that it is not the henna brown, I might do as you suggest just to see what his comments may be.

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



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

Jack E. Molesworth

Philatelic Dealer and Broker

102 Beacon Street

Boston 16, Massachusetts

May 3, 1955

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

Dear Stan,

Enclosed you will find not only this letter but also one dated yesterday which was dictated by me on Friday but not prepared until yesterday, Monday, as my secretary does not come in every day. As you can see from it, I fully intended to buy the #31 cover at \$450 but as the result of a rather embarrassing incident which occurred yesterday before the letter was mailed I have decided to pass it and am returning it enclosed.

The possibility mentioned in the third paragraph in my letter of yesterday did unexpectedly occur. When I decided to buy the cover on Friday, I also sent it along to a contact of mine in New York who called me by phone yesterday afternoon to let me know that the cover had already been seen all around New York and that it had been offered to a party there at a price of \$400 net. Though there was of course no obligation on your part to mention to me that the cover had been offered elsewhere before being submitted to me, I would greatly appreciate your mentioning in the future if the cover has been offered elsewhere and if possible mentioning either the names or the locations such as a collector in Chicago or a dealer in New York, etc., not only to prevent my being embarrassed by offering it to someone who has already seen it at a higher price but also to determine how many of my own possibilities have already been covered on it. This is especially important since I would be presumably paying you the full retail price on any item purchased as previously indicated by you. I would, of course, expect that you would give me the same price as anyone else and not a higher one as the information given me would indicate in this case. However, I do realize that prices are often rounded off in conversation and that the information reaching me may not have been 100% accurate even though my contact in New York City was aware of my cost and still maintained that the asking price had been \$400 previously.

I would still be very interested in seeing anything that you can submit and do feel that I should be entitled to first shot at some items at least as it is much more difficult for a dealer to buy something that has been shown around than it is for a collector who will keep it in his own collection, which I trust you will understand. I should emphasize that I would be buying outright for my own stock and not asking for the material on consignment and would still keep the #31 cover were it not that it appears to have been offered around rather extensively at a lower price than my cost creating thereby a rather impossible situation for me on resale which I hope you will understand.

*P.S. Enclosed are Two covers
on which I would appreciate
your opinion.*

With kind regards,

JEM/pww

Jack E. Molesworth

P.S. I would hope that the business we have done in the past would merit first shot at some of the Confederates if they are at all worth while.

May 7th, 1955.

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

Dear Jack:

Herewith the two covers that you enclosed in yours of the 3rd.

I have endorsed the cover to Nassau, (N.P.=New Providence - Bahamas) as genuine. This is rather unusual as it shows no U.S. postmark but I feel sure it is genuine.

Regarding the other cover to Bavaria. This went by the Bremen Packet, by which the prepaid rate was 15¢. The red New York shows that this sum was PAID, as it has the regular credit of "12." I suppose the person mailing this cover put on a 2¢ B.J. and took it to the N.Y. sub-station "D" to mail it. The clerk told him the rate was 15¢ so he paid 13¢ in cash and the letter went thru. I suppose the blue postmark reads, "N. Y. POST OFFICE - ??? - St D." I enclose a 3¢ 1861 cover with a similar marking. This, a cover from "Williamsburg, N.Y." to New York. In my opinion, a most unusual cover with this sub-station marking (price \$5.00). Return it if you have no desire to acquire it.

My fee on the two covers is \$3.00.

Regards.

Sincerely yours,

Enclosed:
3¢ 1861 cover @ \$5.00

Fee \$3.00

S.B. 36-15

PAID

2 Covers belonging
to SBA enclosed

April 12, 1955.

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

Dear Doctor:

I am enclosing a cover which does not belong to me but which I am trying to buy. The owner wants \$250.00 for it. The stamp is of course a Type IV and is unquestionably genuine. I never saw this Express marking before and I am wondering if you are familiar with it? I have racked my brain for an explanation of the Due 2/8. If it was just "2/," my guess would be that the due was "two bits." I can hardly believe it is 2 shillings 8 pence.

The owner has another cover - same origin - same address, etc., but it has only a 10¢ 1855 and no express marking. I will greatly appreciate any information you can give me.

I am also enclosing a nice little cover from S. France in 1864, which I can offer you \$20.00.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

RETURNED BY
RETURNED BY
RETURNED BY

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

ALBERT BUILDING
SAN RAFAEL, CALIFORNIA
TELEPHONE GLENWOOD 4-2451

4-14-55

Dear Mr Ashbrook :-

You may have forgotten that it was the faked "Premier Express" covers which led us to exposing the so called fake Levy covers a few years ago. Enclosed is a photograph of one of these fakes which may remind you of these phonies with their rubber handstamps. Look up Levy's original article in *Stamps*, about his so called amazing find. Also how he combined this express with the printed frank of a so called *Spears Express*, also his later retractions concerning all of the various faked frankes which we exposed.

At any rate your cover is a remarkable item. The only other Premier Express handstamp that I have ever seen is in the Wiltzel collection

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

ALBERT BUILDING
SAN RAFAEL, CALIFORNIA
TELEPHONE GLENWOOD 4-2451

at the Wells Fargo bank in San Francisco.
Enclosed is a photograph of this cover
and I think it is the same handstamp
as yours, except for the central portion,
which cannot be made out on the
Wiltsie cover. Little is known about this
express except that it travelled from
Georgetown to the ^{many small mines}
in that vicinity. ^{about 2 years 1853-57} I think your cover
was carried by U.S. mail to Georgetown
and was then picked up by Pioneer
Express and delivered to the addressee,
who apparently left his forwarding address
with the express agent, when he went off
to one of the small mines in that vicinity.
Wiltsie's cover shows the mail going
out of Georgetown; Pioneer Express apparently
carried it to Georgetown.

The Due 2/8 is most interesting
In my opinion it means 2/8 of one.

MATTHEW E. HAZELTINE, M.D.
W. SCOTT POLLAND, M.D.
HOWARD HAMMOND JR., M.D.
ARNOLD A. NUTTING, M.D.
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TELEPHONE GLENWOOD 4-2451

dollar or two bits. One bit was a
smith of gold worth $12\frac{1}{2}$ cents or $\frac{1}{8}$
of one dollar. From the crude type of
handstamp, I don't think our
Pioneer Express agent was a highly
educated person.

Although \$50⁰⁰ seems high for
this cover, I would pay this for it,
if you could get it for me, for this
price. I don't think many people
beside Ed and myself know the
meaning of this particular mark, or
appreciate the vent stamp on such
an item.

I have 2-3 covers similar to
the one you sent with the S.F. log.

Kindest regards,

Sincerely

W. Scott Polland

\$ 285⁰⁰

April 20, 1955.

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

Dear Doctor:

Thanks so much for the data on the Pioneer Express cover. I am writing the owner to inquire if he will pay me a commission in case I can place the cover for him. I have since learned that he attended the A.P.S. Convention at San Francisco and showed his covers to several people and they told him it was very valuable. He even paid a visit to the Wells Fargo bank and since I wrote you he sent me the following memo, quote:

"The Pioneer Express ran from Georgetown, Eldorado County via Bottle Hill to small camps on the north side of the American River in 1858 and 1859.

The camps were Georgetown, Volcanoville, Last Chance, Ground Hog's Glory, Mount Gregory, Hell's Delight and Bogus Thunder.

This data was taken from the files of the
philatelic exhibit of the Wells-Fargo Company
in San Francisco, Cal. in July 1948."

(unquote)

He also sent me the enclosed cover which is from the same correspondence, with the statement that these two are the only ones that he owns. He wrote that because the Type I stamp is heavily canceled he will let me have it for \$37.50.

I don't think he has offered these to anyone but me and you have the first crack at them. Send me your check for \$287.50 and if he refuses to pay me a commission it will be okay with me. If it is just the same with you please don't tell Edgar where you obtained them.

Incidentally, I must confess that I had forgotten that the "Pioneer" was one of the covers that Levy faked. The name Pioneer rang a bell, but I couldn't remember any connection.

I return your two photo prints with thanks. It is my opinion that the handstamp on the Wiltsee cover is the same as the one on this cover. I think that both read (in the center) "Due."

I believe your analysis of the "2/8" is correct. Very interesting indeed. In the early part of the last century Spanish dollars had a wide circulation in the south. Lack of small change resulted in people cutting the coins into "eight bits" - thus the origin of the term. On the basis of such "coins" our early postal rates were fixed as you will recall. I suppose they even cut a "bit" into two pieces as we had rates of 18 3/4¢, "a bit and a half." Due two eighths of a dollars is undoubtedly correct.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

FRANK L. COES

2 COES SQUARE

WORCESTER 3, MASS. U. S. A.

J. P. S. L-1003
A. P. S. L46-2972
P. P. P. HL52-375

July 21st

WANT LISTS
FILLED

Mr. Stanley Ashbrook:

Just a few lines. Had a call from Ed. Coffin- talked a half hour. Usually does, and while he did n't say he wished-did say "when we get to write Ashbrook maybe we'll tell him"

I assumed he did n't feel to proddy and peppy and likely would n't write, but hoped I would.

So-he said the Vermont & Mass R.R. terminated at Fitchburg. (Brattleboro to Fitchburg?) and the man at the bank of Commerce was the paying Teller- but the Bank was not listed in the 1850 Boston Directory-and was listed in the 1851- and this man listed as paying teller. So far no trouble, and merely confirmatory-but the 5 & 10 '47 were to be deminetized July 1st 1851-so the mailer was unloading his stamps(?) being a Vermont Yankee and of a saving temperament. (Which is Ed's joke)

The rate is not explained-and can't be till we know the weight it covered.

The carry-after Fitchburg would have to have been thru South Framingham junction to Boston. Only line in use before the date of demonetization. The R.R. cancel likely to have been standard (no remark on color) and by the clerk having pouch that was filled with way station mail-which would make the letter either a drop at the terminal or a way station addition. But before arrival at Fitchburg(??)

Says he was glad to have lived to see a photo of a "dream cover " in which the cancel was perfect. Both.

I remarked that maybe there were back stamps. Says rarely on R.R. mailed covers-which is news to me-but the back stamp if on might be indicative of route, after Fitchburg?

Anyway- recording his enthusiastic approval. Ed is getting along. Worse physically than I am-and older. Never knew how many years, but I am 76.. Qnyhow felt he'd feel glad to have me tell this-some may be news to you, but I fancy not a word except about Ed.

He does n't get out much and phones often.

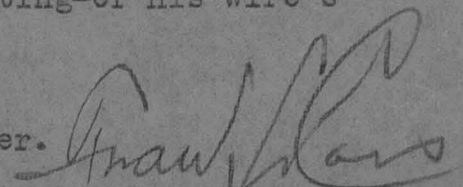
Few realize it, but to him is due the greater part of the data dug out of the Worcester Library-Green Pamphlet collection- about the J. Tiffany gifts and material sent here. Tiffany as you know was a relative of Worcester Tiffany families, and the Library got a copy of every one of his pamphlets and books- Ed fears all not preserved, but he knows all that are in existence here.

So there is a bit of personal history Ed has been a great stamp research worker, and still is-altho slowed up plenty.

Thanks for your reading. Might help-someone will have to do some writing about him soon I fancy. I think he quit the APS back some years. Maybe la/sed because he quit collecting-or his wife's death may have influened it. Nice chap anyway.

Regards and best wishes.

Yours as ever.



24
July 24, 1947.

Mr. Frank L. Coes,
2 Coes Square,
Worcester 3, Mass.

Dear Frank:

It was indeed nice to hear from you after such a long lapse. Your letters are always welcome.

Regarding the illustration of the 1847 cover in my article in "Stamps." This cover is in the collection of Sir Nicholas Waterhouse and I imagine that he has owned it for some years. It was in his exhibit at the recent Cipex and that is the only time that I ever saw it. Sir Nicholas sent me a photograph of it last spring and he noted on the back that the R.R. markings are in orange. Of course the two are not as pronounced as they appear in the illustration because they photographed very faint and I inked them in in black ink on the photo so that the illustration would not be a flop. I noted at the Cipex that the cover really is not superb - it has a faded-out appearance and the stamps showed very faint pen marks. I doubt if these were actually acid removed but more likely a poor grade of ink that simply faded out to quite an extent. They don't even show in the photograph that I have.

I believe that the cover is perfectly genuine and that it was surely a triple 5¢ rate. Waterhouse never advised me of the year of use but if this Boston bank was not listed in the 1850 directory then perhaps the use was "Apr. 10, 1851."

I was much pleased to get the data as furnished by Mr. Coffin and I'll pass it on to Waterhouse.

I do not know if there was anything on the back but I would be greatly surprised if there was. There was no back-stamping in those days on domestic mail.

I judge from the photograph that the cover is an envelope, not a folded letter, hence it would hardly show the town of origin. It was surely a Way letter, mailed with the route agent on the V. and M. R.R. Perhaps he first canceled the stamps with some poor (thin) ink and finding it unsatisfactory he made a second hit with his postmark stamper. Some people claim that it was contrary to "Regulations" to use the postmark stamper as a canceler prior to 1851. Perhaps it was, but I am not sure.

#2. Mr. Frank L. Coes, July 24, 1947.

Covers showing the entire 1847 issue are darn rare and are bringing big prices, but here is the "issue" tightly tied by a R.R. postmark. This is a nice cover but it is not as beautiful as a similar cover in the Newbury collection. By similar, I mean a 5¢ and 10¢ tied by a red "NAUGHATUCK R.R." This is on face as well as on the two stamps. The use, Jan. 1850, a folded letter addressed to New York City.

These two "5 and 10" combinations are the only ones I have ever seen with R.R. markings.

Last fall a "5 and 10" cover sold @ \$1,675.00 in a New York sale. However, it was a "Forwarded" - that is, mailed over 300 miles with a 10¢ and forwarded less than 300 miles with a 5¢.

Some prefer this "combination" but personally I like the straight triple rate. Such an item with grids brought \$1,100.00 in the Brown sale back in 1939.

Perhaps all of the above will be of some interest to Mr. Coffin, but tell him that while the Waterhouse cover is a rare item, it is hardly a "dream cover" so far as looks are concerned.

I don't recall that I ever met Mr. Coffin but I was interested in your reference to him.

Assuring you again of the pleasure of hearing from you, and with best wishes, I am

Cordially yours,

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

April 25, 1955

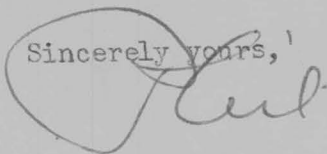
Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
33 N. Ft. Thomas Avenue
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan:

The Waterhouse Catalogue
has just arrived and as expected, the sale
contains a great number of magnificent
pieces.

I am writing Gordon
Harmer today per attached copy. Do you
agree with me insofar as the 1847 cover
is concerned or if I am wrong, please tell
me why.

Sincerely yours,¹

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "Philip H. Ward, Jr.", enclosed within a large, loopy oval flourish.

PHILIP H. WARD, JR.

enc.

U
O
P
Y
April 25, 1955

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

Dear Bernard:

This morning's mail brings to hand a copy of the Waterhouse Auction Catalogue and I must say that it is truly attractive. The sale, as was to be expected, contains some magnificent pieces. I think Sir Nicholas possibly has a better taste for our issues than anyone else outside of our borders. I know the sale will bring tremendous figures and I only regret it is not being held in New York.

Incidentally, I cannot understand lot #88 showing a 5¢ and 10¢ 1847. The cover shows a 15¢ rate, which was not possible on a small cover going from somewhere in New England on the Vermont & Massachusetts Railroad to Boston, which is also in New England. The envelope is small and would not have required a triple rate. The fact that the stamps were both pen cancelled looks to me as if these were two pen cancelled copies that had been cleaned and then put on a faked cover. How could they have cleaned off the pen cancellation without affecting the real cancellation? I am only drawing my conclusions from your picture plus the usage of the cover and, of course, I could be wrong.

Sincerely yours,



PHILIP H. WARD, JR.

April 27, 1955.

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

Dear Phil:

Thanks for yours of the 25th. The subject is very interesting indeed. This cover was in the Waterhouse Exhibit at Cipex in 1947 and I did mention it in an article in "Stamps" in July 1947. After Cipex I had Sir Nicholas send me a photo of it and I used the print to illustrate my article. I never saw the actual cover except in the frame at the Exhibition. I had a bit of correspondence with Frank Coes regarding the cover after the sale.

Please bear the following in mind - A dim pen mark on an 1847 stamp don't always mean a pen-removed. In lots of cases it was a poor grade of ink that faded out. I have noted perhaps a half-dozen cases. Why would you expect Bernard to give you an explanation on the cover? Englishmen don't know a thing about our stamps much less our covers. Please advise me of his reply and I will discuss the cover with you later. At most, you wouldn't buy it I am sure because the whole cover looks like it had been out in the sun and had faded; stamps, postmarks, etc. That is my recollection.

Regards.

Cordially yours,

MORRISON CAFETERIA COMPANY
INCORPORATED

Birmingham, 5, Alabama.
Wednesday, July 20, 1955.


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

Dear Stan,

I know you wont get this now until you get back from your trip but wanted to write while it is on my mind. The three registered letters came today and all in good shape. I enclose my check to cover the return registry-fees, amount \$5.67.

I was much pleased with your descriptive notes on each. I want to ask you a couple of questions. On the lot 288 which was an off cover Orange-Brown with a blue Baltimore cancel, you put the note on the back that the cancel was genuine. Shouldn't you also have just said "O.-B."? It seems to be that most are in the dark just what is an O.B.

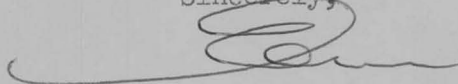
And another question which you might help me with. In the case of lot 682, a cover with a 90¢ carmine or rose with a pair of 10¢ bank-notes. You authenticated it alright but made no mention of the fact that "~~in-your-opinion-the-90¢-was-a-Continental~~". Would you so state that as your opinion? To me the cover after I examined it carefully is dated Feb. 1 and elsewhere appear 1879. The SUS says that the American did not combine with the Continental until Feb. 4 1879. May I send the above two back to you for this additional marking?



I had a letter from Ezra today. At the pottom of the page after signing the same he printed this postscript:
"Lot 86- I had 250 lbs. plus plus from another bidder. It was N.G. EZ."

To me its all so strange. He wrote me that he had bought the lot for me from London at 105 lbs. No mention until now of another bidder. I'll find out somegow who bought that lot. Do you have any way of finding out where it went?

Sincerely,



Aug. 1, 1955.

Mr. Roger C. Weill,
407 Royal St.,
New Orleans 16, La.

Dear Roger:

Thanks for yours of the 29th regarding the Waterhouse 1847 cover. It will be interesting to learn what the P.F. concludes. Personally I think that to get right down to cases on this cover, the 10¢ stamp should be very carefully removed to see what if anything is underneath. In fact, a photograph should be made by ultra-violet with the 10¢ removed. I doubt if this would appear necessary to the Committee. Such an examination should only be done by one who is very efficient. If the P.F. states the cover is genuine then the only thing I could do is to remain silent or get into a fuss with them. As to the latter, why should I go to that trouble?

With best wishes to Raymond and you -

Cordially yours,

July 28, 1955.

Mr. Roger G. Weill,
407 Royal St.,
New Orleans 16, La.

Dear Roger;

The following is strictly confidential. In a letter to Cyril Harmer, dated June 5th last, I wrote him as follows, (This was a postscript to a letter regarding some fifty covers in the sale that I had examined), quote:

"P.S. Since writing the above, I note that I failed to mention Lot 88. It is quite true that I described and illustrated this cover in an article that I published in "STAMPS" magazine in 1947. At the time I wrote the article I had not examined the actual cover, (as I recall), but only a photograph. Today, I would refuse to authenticate the cover as genuine, because I am highly suspicious that only the 5¢ stamp was originally used on this cover. I think the 10¢ stamp should be removed and the cover subjected to a most thorough examination. If I did not doubt the cover in 1947 and do doubt it today, it is because we live and learn." (unquote)

After the article was published in "STAMPS" I was furnished with some data on the addressee on the cover.

Today I had a post card from Raymond from Rome. No doubt he is home by this time.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

Aug. 1, 1955.

The Philatelic Foundation,
22 East 35th St.,
New York 16, N.Y.

Attention: The Expert Committee

Gentlemen:

It is possible that you may have the following U. S. 5¢-10¢ 1847 cover, which was Lot 88 in the recent London sale of the Waterhouse collection, submitted for an opinion.

The catalogue description stated that this cover was described by me in an article that I published in "Stamps" July 19, 1947. This might be construed by some that I considered this cover as genuine. This would be a wrong assumption because at the time that I wrote the article all I had was a photograph which had been sent to me by Sir Nicholas with the assurance the cover was genuine.

I never saw the actual cover until several months ago. I think your Committee should make an extremely careful examination of this item before issuing a certificate. I believe that it would be advisable to remove the 10¢ stamp to learn what was underneath. This cover sold @ almost \$1,700 in the sale and if it is at all questionable it should be returned to the Harmer London firm. I want it distinctly understood that this cover does not have my okay.

I request that the contents of this letter be kept as strictly confidential.

Sincerely yours,

P.S.—There were many pen-cleaned stamps in the Waterhouse sale. My advice is to be careful.

Winthrop S. Boggs

180 Prospect St
East Orange, N.J.
Aug 4, 1955

Dear Stan:-

Your letter of Aug 1, to the Expert Committee to hand. It must have been mental telepathy as I was on the verge of writing you about the cover you mention which is now before us.

Would you write me privately your opinion of it? If you send it to my home address I assure you no one will see it unless you say so. If you want to see it again drop me a line at the office and I'll have it sent out to you.

The heat has been terrific - however I had ten fine days in Cape Cod - which were a great help.

Hope you are feeling O.K.
In the mean time
Kindly regards
W.S.B.

Aug. 9, 1955.

Mr. Winthrop S. Boggs,
180 Prospect St.,
East Orange, N.J.

Dear Win:

Re - yours of the 4th. The following is confidential. It is my opinion the cover is a fake but I may be wrong. I haven't the time to devote to making a complete examination free of charge, so if the Committee would send the cover to me I would be compelled thru lack of time to decline an opinion.

That Waterhouse Sale was full of fake items. He was a fall-guy for the Paris crooks. I suspect that almost every unused item in the '47s and '51s are pen-cleaned. It is a shame that American buyers fell so hard for a lot of stuff in that sale.

Remember the above is confidential. No reason why I should stick my neck out and attempt to correct some of the evils of philately.

It is much cooler out this way, thank heaven. Hope you are 100% okay.

Sincerely yours,

36-17
EZRA D. COLE

Rare Postage Stamps

NYACK . NEW YORK

Commissions . Appraisals

TELEPHONE NYACK 7-0964

October 13th, 1955

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

Dear Stan:

First I will take up your comments on the Waterhouse lots:

Lot 289: Even if this blasted cover was good and I'll bet a goodly sum of money it is not, I don't see how the Philatelic Foundation could authenticate it. It seems to me the very best they could do about that cover is to say that they don't know and refuse to pass on it.

Lot 88: This is of course pictures on the back of "Stamps" this week by Raymond and Roger Weill. I will also wager a good sum of money that this is bad and I thought so all the time. You will note the pen marks do not show in the illustration in "Stamps". For the life of me I cannot figure out how two strikes of the same cancellation can be so exact. Do you suppose this fellow does this with a photographic process of some kind or what?

Re Scruggs. Just be sure that Earl Antrim, Steve Rich and Eddie Elkins know about this.

O. K. on lot 162. It is a bad stamp no matter what is the matter with it.

It certainly is too bad about Dr. Sellers. I don't understand how a person can get into this sort of a mess.

Sincerely,

Ezra D. Cole.

EDC:mkl

Oct. 16, 1955.

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

Dear Ezra:

Please refer to your letter of the 13th and the three lots in the Waterhouse sale, and keep the following confidential.

Lot 289. I had a letter from Dr. Bacher dated Oct. 10th last from which I quote as follows:

"Lot 289. What the Foundation did not know, you may - it's the background of the cover. You, yourself, stressed the importance of "background" in some cases, and how right you are! The family of addressee, "Vallentin," has been in contact with my own for a long time during the last and early this century. Veit Vallentin, a famous German historian, was a friend of my father's. His brother Julius is mentioned in the vertical manuscript writing next to the female design. The letter came from Berlin, out of the family correspondence, a few years back. I am absolutely sure it was never tampered with. No philatelist had access to the family archives over the last 70 years or so. With regard to this you can rely on my judgement. And I was there when the letter turned up! Together with a lot of rubbish, with and without stamps.

Incidentally, your previous statement was "may be or may not be genuine" or to the effect that one cannot prove the genuineness of the item. I cannot see how one can disprove it, in strict scientific terms." (unquote)

He probably sold the cover to Sir N. so had the P.F. turned it down he would have had to make a refund. I wonder if you believe his story?

Lot 88. That cover is addressed to a bank that did not come into existence until 1851 - I had this looked up in the Boston directories. This establishes the use as 1851, and after March 1849 there was no such a thing as a triple domestic rate. I believe this cover originally had only the 5¢, that the 10¢ was added and postmark painted on the 10¢ stamp. I wrote the Foundation before they had the cover that I suspected the above and to be careful. I am seriously considering informing them that hereafter no free opinions from me. That I will charge them the same as anyone else. What do you think?

Re - Scruggs. Antrim and Steve Rich as well as most everyone else know all about Scruggs and the stuff he pulled at Louisville. Note the enclosed copy of a letter to Ben Reeves.

With best wishes -

Yours etc.,

Sept. 17, 1955.

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

Dear Ezra:

Yours of the 14th.

Waterhouse Lot 88. The P.F. never sent the cover to me, but I wrote them not to be influenced by the catalogue description as I had not seen the cover when I wrote the article. The only way that I will know their opinion would be if the Weill boys tell me. Anything I learn I will advise you.

I note your remarks about Fipex.

Regards.

Yours etc.,

To Raymond Weill

August 17, 1955.

MEMO

Dear Raymond:

Re - Lot 86 in the N.E.W. sale. Here is a photo by ultra-violet of the 10¢ 1847 on that cover. This is a beautiful cover as you will recall. The question arises - Is the Philadelphia PAID genuine? If so, then the stamp was cleaned before it was used on this cover. Note how I brought out the pen marks.

Yours etc.,

RAYMOND H. WEILL Co.
ROGER G. WEILL - RAYMOND H. WEILL

MEMBERS
AMERICAN STAMP DEALERS ASS'N
AMERICAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY
SOCIETY PHILATELIC AMERICANS
COLLECTORS CLUB, NEW YORK
BRITISH PHILATELIC ASS'N, LTD.

Philatelic Dealers

407 ROYAL STREET
NEW ORLEANS 16, LA.

July 29, 1955

Stanley B. Ashbrook
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan:

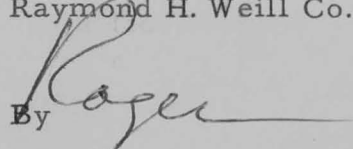
We much appreciate the information contained in your July 28 letter.

Raymond advises me that Cyril Harmer acquainted him with your comments regarding the 5¢-10¢ 1847 combination cover in the Waterhouse sale. We bought this item because you had not definitely concluded it is bad. Harmer has agreed to take back any items which are not approved by either you or the Philatelic Foundation. If the Foundation thinks it is good we will then request your opinion. We thought it would be interesting to you to know what the Foundation concluded. We hope that such an arrangement is acceptable to you.

With best wishes from Raymond and myself,

Yours sincerely,

Raymond H. Weill Co.

By 

rgw:lc

Re Lot
88

MAURICE C. BLAKE
11 MASON STREET
BROOKLINE 46, MASSACHUSETTS

November 5, 1955

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

Dear Stanley:

I have received your letter of November 1st, mentioning in regard to the Waterhouse 5¢-10¢ 1847 cover that it is regrettable that the Expert Committee should authenticate a questionable item.

I was not aware from your letters to me on this cover that you had concluded that it is questionable in any other respect than the illegal 15¢ rate on April 10, 1851. You have not commented on my hypothetical possible erasure of a Boston manuscript "Due 5", although I believe in the confidential letter which I returned you noted that at Cipex the cover had a faded out appearance and the stamps showed faint pen marks. If the pen marks were merely faded also, not actually partially removed, perhaps then there was no erasure of a ms. "Due 5" to improve the appearance of the cover itself, though it still suggests such erasure in the photograph of the Waterhouse Catalogue.

One other point in your confidential letter that I neglected to mention is that there would be no reason for this letter to have been conveyed from Fitchburg via Worcester to Boston, as normally it would have gone directly over the Fitchburg R.R. and thus to Boston I suppose.

Yesterday several of us from Boston together with Dr. Gerald Smith who has driven from Oregon to the East had an interesting rendez-vous at Amherst, N.H. with Dr. Carroll Chase. As "Doc" mentioned the Waterhouse cover, I told him of my surprising interview with a gentleman at the Merchants Bank who had joined the Bank of Commerce in 1881 and known Mr. A. S. Lincoln as Paying Teller there. When C.C. said that you felt that the 10¢ 1847 might have been added and the R.R. postmark partially painted on the 10¢ stamp, I was much surprised as this possibility was news to me.

It is true that the bottom of the 10¢ stamp covers part of "Esq" of the address, however the APR / 10 on the stamp and part of the letters "V" and "s." hardly appear in the photo to have been "painted", and would it have been possible to copy the exact hue of the handstamp? It still seems as though erasure of "Due 5" may be more probable. If the 5¢ and the 10¢ were affixed by the sender, presumably he had scaled the letter at over 1½ but not exceeding 2oz. and was not aware that this weight required 20¢ postage from March 15, 1849 through June 30, 1851.

For the Expert Committee to have authenticated this item, without calling attention to the illegal 15¢ rate, even if it had been overlooked at the Boston P.O., hardly seems excusable, as my pamphlet on the subject is on file in the Collectors Club Library and known to at least some members of the Committee.

Sincerely yours,

Maurice C. Blake

Re Lot 88

Nov. 7, 1955.

Mr. M. C. Blake,
11 Mason St.,
Brookline 46, Mass.

Dear Maurice:

Here is a color slide of the Rohloff 5¢ 1847 cover - It is not as good as I generally turn out but it will give you a better appreciation of the item. Please return at your convenience.

I have your letter of the 5th regarding the 5¢-10¢ 1847 cover that was Lot 88 in the Waterhouse sale. Herewith is a color slide of the cover that you can return to me. I agree that this might have had a penciled "Due 5" which someone might have erased but if you will examine this slide against a strong light with a magnifying glass, I do not believe you will find any trace of such an erasure.

I believe that the cover originally had the 5¢ stamp and that some "fixer" added the 10¢ and painted the postmark on the 10¢. It is very faint as the slide shows. The black and white photo that I have of this cover was made of a retouched photo. Sir Nicholas sent me a photo of the cover and in order to bring out the R.R. marking for illustration purpose, I drew in the strikes on the photo in ink. This slide will give you a true appreciation of the cover.

I advised Weill that I was suspicious of the cover and that I thought that the 10¢ should be carefully removed and the cover photographed by ultra-violet to see if there was any trace of a removed marking under the 10¢ stamp. I have refused to express a definite opinion until I was sure on this point. My opinion as the matter stands at present is that I am highly suspicious of this cover. And I think I have a perfect right to be. Do you not agree?

Further - unless the P.F. Expert Committee made such an examination as above - I do think it is regrettable that they issued a certificate stating the cover is genuine. Do you agree?

If I did not express my suspicion of the cover in our correspondence it was because I had no desire to damage the property of the Weill firm unless I was quite sure in my own mind that my suspicion was justified.

Ré - copying of the exact hue of the postmark on the 10¢ stamp. I believe the slide will show how faint and faded is the portion of the postmark on the 10¢ stamp. Yes, I think such a paint job would be very easy for a real Paris "artist." One of the mistakes that is so often made is not giving proper credit to the almost perfect work that such crooks turn out. It is a most deplorable error. They really do strive for perfection and we would all be less gullible if we went on the theory that they can accomplish most anything rather than to entertain a doubt that they could do some simple things. It has been stated that the top ones in the profession work under the ultra-violet so that their work cannot be detected by the human eye. That is why I use photography by ultra-violet because a panchromatic plate by the U.V. rays will record far more than is visible to the eye. Also Maurice, bear in mind that they, "fixers", have all the modern tools of science to work with and they

#2. Mr. M. C. Blake - Nov. 7, 1955.

make such work a lifetime job. We play right into their hands when accepting their work as "genuine in every respect." That is the fault I have to find with the Expert Committee of the Foundation. They simply do not know enough to recognize the good from the bad. Just because an item looks good is no reason to assume that it is good. Their certificates, in so many cases, that I have observed seem to indicate they go entirely on "looks." It is a very grave error.

It is probably just as deplorable to condemn an item that is genuine as it is to authenticate, as genuine, a very clever fake. I make a very serious effort to avoid either mistake and while I do not kid myself that I am right ten times out of ten I do endeavor, to the best of my ability, to reach a high percentage.

Because Carroll discussed this cover with you I am taking the liberty of sending him a copy of this letter.

With best wishes -

Sincerely yours,

Enclosed:

A49 - 31

A75 - 14

Returned

NOV 20 1955

NOV 20 1955

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

Nov. 5, 1955

Dear Stan: In spite of the fact that it
rained like the devil a nice crowd
came up here yesterday to give Dr. Smith
a good luncheon.

While we were talking, the question
of that 5 + 10th of the R.R. cover
came up. Someone said that a

clear photo shows traces of either
a pretty truck and 5 markings on
part of such a marking that someone
had tried to erase!

If this is true, wouldn't it
tend strongly to authenticate the cover?
So it seems to me.

Please don't quote me on this as
it is - as far as I am concerned -
merely hearsay. But I thought you
would like to hear it.

It rained here steadily for a
week!

Best

as ever

C.C.

APR - 6 1955

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 Maurice C Blake
11 Mason St
Brookline 46 Mass

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

April 6, 1955.

Mr. Maurice C. Blake,
11 Mason St.,
Brookline 46, Mass.

Dear Maurice:

I am enclosing a cover that was sent to me by my good friend Oliver H. Wolcott of Copley, Ohio. Note the small blue marking "Twice Carried - No Pay." The Boston marking on the back seems to match your #2237 in "B.P.M." The year date in this strike while not plain appears to be 1864 which agrees with your #2237.

This letter originated at "New Hamburg, N.Y." on Jun 30 - addressed to Boston - back stamped received there on "JUL 2 - 1864." Forwarded from Boston on "Jul 7" with pencil "Due 6." This was surely rated at Boston. It was sent to Caldwell, N.Y. I judge the small blue "NO PAY" was applied at that office to explain why two rates were necessary. However, it does seem strange that such a small(?) post office would have enough letters of this type to justify such a stamper. This makes me wonder if by any chance it could have been applied at Boston? I doubt it as I know of no use of blue at the Boston P.O. In addition, I failed to find this marking in your book. And further - the Act of March 3, 1863 provided that double postage be charged on unpaid letters. This was forwarded twice with apparently no payment, then why not Due 12 instead of Due 6?

The Act of March 3, 1865, provided that all unpaid domestic letters be sent to the Dead Letter Office, those that were paid in part be sent to the addressee and the unpaid portion be collected on delivery.

Do you suppose that the Boston P.O. clerk failed to rate this letter correctly in July of 1864 and the Caldwell clerk permitted the mis-rating to go thru uncorrected?

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

RECEIPT OF MAILING
WAS OBTAINED FOR THIS LETTER PER
POST OFFICE DEPT FORM 3817

Oliver H. Wolcott

2985 Copley Rd.

Copley, Ohio

April 4 1955.

My dear Stan,

Since receiving your last letter I have already received a card from Fred Seiberling telling me of his telephone call to you when he was last in Cincinnati. Time does fly. We are planning a trip to Dayton a little later on and hope we can then run down to see you. Will let you know if we can work it out.

At the last G. P. S. Annual I was awarded the Alvin Good Cup for my exhibit of U. S. Territorials. It made me feel pretty good. I want you to see them some time.

I have already started my yard and garden work so I do not have any trouble in keeping busy. I am always glad to hear from you and with best personal regards to you and Mildred I remain,

Cordially,

Ollie

P. S. I am enclosing an item I got recently which I have never seen before. It apparently never had a postage stamp but was forwarded and 6 cents due collected upon delivery. The blue hand stamp "TWICE CARRIED NO PAY" is new to me. Did you ever see this? Ollie.

April 8, 1955.

Mr. Oliver H. Wolcott,
2985 Copley Rd.,
Copley, Ohio.

Dear Ollie:

Re - yours of the 4th. I am taking the liberty of sending the cover that you enclosed, down to my good friend Maurice Blake, and herewith is a copy of the letter that I wrote him.

As you probably know, Maurice is the author of that very fine study, "Boston Postal Markings" (B.P.M.). I will advise you later what his reaction was. He is quite a keen student. Perhaps you met him at the 1951 affair at Philadelphia. I remember that he attended.

If you get as close as Dayton, we do hope that you run in and see us.

Fred told me when he was here recently (by phone) that you had won an award at the G.P. Annual celebration. My heartiest congratulations.

Again re - your cover. No, I have never seen or heard of such a marking. I cannot believe it was applied at Boston.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

MAURICE C. BLAKE
11 MASON STREET
BROOKLINE 46, MASSACHUSETTS

April 16, 1955

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

Dear Stanley:

Since receiving your letter of April 6th containing the extraordinary cover of Mr. Oliver H. Wolcott with blue TWICE CARRIED/NO PAY, I have been much occupied and had an historical paper to read, non-philatelic, last evening, which accounts for my delay in reply.

The RECEIVED/ 1864/JUL/2/BOSTON. on back is B.P.M.2237, as you say. However, you add you know of no blue use at Boston, but in your ONE CENT 1851-1857, Vol.II, page 155 mention is made of the double circle three bars PENNY POST/PAID. in blue of January 5 (1861?). In B.P.M.Pl.35, No.631, also Pl.61, No.631 oblong framed PAID is recorded in blue on 3¢ 1861 from 11/15/62 to 12/13/63 of which I now have several and since publication also have No.632 in blue both on 1¢ and 3¢ 1861 but without certainty of year of use. I query whether this envelope did not originally bear adhesive stamp or two stamps (1¢ 1861 and 2¢ 1863), for though no gum seems visible, the right end of the cover is blank and with space for two stamps perhaps struck with killers not tying at NEW HAMBURGH N.Y. JUN 30, except that a bit of such cancellation in black exists to the right of the red concentric BOSTON JUL 7. In such case assuming the stamps came off en route to Boston, the carrier might have hoped to collect the postage but got NO PAY, only information of forwarding address from 43 Beacon Street, Boston to Caldwell, N.Y. and the despatching clerk in Boston on July 7 may then have been able to see that the cover originally had adhesives that had been lost and so sent the letter forward at only Due 6 the stampless double rate from Boston to Caldwell by Act of March 3, 1863. That Act also provided for no carrier delivery fee, so just possibly a carrier made up the NO PAY accordingly, but the former above analysis is my best tentative guess. What do you think of it?

I have taken the liberty of having the TWICE CARRIED and Due 6 traced for the Boston record. I suppose Mr. Wolcott may not want to part with this item, but if he ever does I should greatly like to purchase it for my Boston collection. The cover is enclosed herewith.

I have not yet received the book you so kindly are loaning me, but I appreciate it as well as the fine data in your letter of April 13th regarding the Ship "Pacific" from N.Y. Jan.20,1849.

This leads me to tell you that I have reluctantly just decided to break up some of my to and from California accumulation at the behest of Sam Paige for his auction on Friday, June 3rd, next. But in doing so I gave him clearly to understand that some years ago when Edgar Jessup looked over my westerns, I promised to let him have some of them first if I ever let them go. So I recently sent him a dozen or more that I thought he might want, of which he has kept six, but I made it evident that in both cases I wanted to retain examples of the three types of N.Y.Ocean Mail postmarks, especially those that I used in presenting the intermediate type in STAMPS of June 8, 1940.

Now I must confess that I have long surmised that there

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook

April 16, 1955

MAURICE C. BLAKE
11 MASON STREET
BROOKLINE 46, MASSACHUSETTS

- 2 -

may have been or was still another Earliest Type New York Ocean Mail to California postmark of which I have examples on covers of MAR/27 (1849) with large red ink script 80 unprepaid; of MAY/26 (1849) "per SS Falcon" with curved red PAID and black encircled 40; and strangely also of MAY/28 (1849 ?-was the "Falcon" delayed in sailing from Friday, May 26 until Sunday, May 28 or even until Monday in 1849 ?) this cover with curved PAID red and script 80 in black ink; on JUN/26 (1849) with encircled black 40 unprepaid; and again on JUN/27 (Tuesday in 1849) likewise unprepaid with encircled black 40; on SEP/20 per "SS Ohio" with black curved PAID and black encircled 40---all of these with a 27mm. NEW-YORK low date in red, except that of MAY/26 in black.

Of course, this NEW-YORK postmark may well have been thought to have been and perhaps may have been a "regular" New York postmark, but thus far I have been unable to locate it on any cover except these to San Francisco, with one exception and that also on a cover to San Francisco, a folded letter dated at St. Louis, December 26, 1849 and struck with this peculiar NEW-YORK low date in red JAN/7, but actually not making any sailing prior to Saturday, January 12, 1850, as shown by the additional 34mm. black NEW-YORK/JAN 12/40.

I have thought it would hardly do for me to offer another Earliest Type Ocean Mail, having already been credited in some quarters with the intermediate "Blake" type!. However, I have found but three "regular" New York postmarks from 1813 to 1844 that somewhat resemble the 27mm. low date, but none of which is exactly the same in size of circle or spacing of NEW-YORK. I enclose rough tracings of these three "regulars", and a tracing of the tentative earliest type Ocean Mail for your consideration, and comments.

Edgar Jessup was kind enough in his reply to quote (from Kipling (?) "A promise made is a debt unpaid", adding that mine was now paid in full.

With best regards,

Sincerely yours,

Maurice C. Blake

MAURICE C. BLAKE
11 MASON STREET
BROOKLINE 46, MASSACHUSETTS

April 22, 1955

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

Dear Stanley:

On further thought re the TWICE CARRIED cover, it seems to me quite probable that the envelope originally contained matter weighing $\frac{1}{2}$ -oz., perhaps an engraved plate or doubled letter to cause the vertical crease in from right margin, and if so was prepaid by two 3¢ 1861 stamps from NEW HAMBURGH N.Y. to Boston; where the carrier tried twice to deliver the letter at 43 Beacon Street before obtaining the forwarding address, NO PAY meaning simply to refer to the legal prohibition of the Act of 1863 of collecting any carrier fee. In that case, assuming the two stamps were still on the cover, the "Due 6" would be the correct charge merely for forwarding the letter to Caldwell, N.Y. and it may be that the bit of black cancel left on the cover was applied at Boston, being the bottom of one of the style of cancellations shown in B.P.M. Plate 62, Nos. 1018-1032 which were in use in 1864.

Your fine MAIL STEAMSHIPS, 1852 arrived safely and I certainly appreciate it. From the sailing dates listed it seems that I must revise some of my tentative year dates for my covers with the 27mm. NEW-YORK low date postmarks, as follows:

Pmk. in red

1849 MAY/26 to Hale "on board Ship Pacific" inscribed "per Steamer Falcon via Chagres" was correctly assumed to be 1849, as so listed in Doc.No.91, p.38 and Senate Ex.Doc.50, p.198

1850 MAY/28 to Llyod Minturn, Esq. San F. is the date given for the "Ohio" in 1850 in both Documents

1850 MAR/27 to Hale presumably for sailing of the "Ohio" listed in both as March 28, 1850, as the only March listing in 1849 is for the "Falcon" on March 8, 1849

1849?? JUN/26 both to Hale, apparently for a June 28 sailing, listed or and in 1849 for the "Falcon" in Doc.No.91 and in Senate Ex.Doc.50, p.198, which continues further giving June 28, 1850?? JUN/27 in 1850 for the "Ohio".

Pmk. in black

1849 SEP/20 to Hale, inscribed "pr Steamer Ohio via Chagres", so listed for September 20, 1849 in both Documents, the late September sailing in 1850 being September 26 in Senate Ex.Doc.50.

From the foregoing, use of the 27mm. postmark is thus recorded from May 26, 1849 to May 28, 1850, and perhaps until June 27, 1850(?).

The Collectors Club has asked the Boston Philatelic Society to provide the Club program for Wednesday, May 4, 8 P.M. Six of us are going to N.Y., giving a pot-pourri on early Sweden, early Russia. Sources of Stamp Designs, Watermarks, Malta (Grabfield), and Scales for U.S. Domestic Letter Postage (Blake) at 10 minutes (and

nor over 15 minutes) each for a total of one hour to 1½ hours in all, so we shall have to rely chiefly on our exhibits of which there are to be 20 frames of 12 album pages each frame, some of the frames of material supplied by other members of the Boston Society who will not attend the N. Y. meeting.

I have been allotted two frames. I am wondering whether I may ask permission to include your photo of the lovely Valentine cover showing three 5¢ 1847 and PAID/5 / 20 from Boston, as an example of the quadruple rate by the scale of 1849-1851 ?

I mentioned the date of the next Sam Paige sale as June 3rd, but he now tells me that he ^{has} decided to hold it on June 10th instead.

I expect to return your MAIL STEAMSHIPS book carefully wrapped and protected early next week, probably on Monday, the 25th.

With renewed appreciation and best regards,

Sincerely yours,

Maurice C. Blake

April 26, 1955.

Mr. Oliver H. Wolcott,
2985 Copley Road,
Copley, Ohio.

Dear Ollie:

At long last I am returning your stampless cover which I sent down to Maurice C. Blake who is our foremost authority on Boston postal history. Maurice and I had quite a bit of discussion regarding this cover. I don't know where that small blue marking was applied and I don't think Maurice does either. I quote from his latest letter dated April 22nd:

"On further thought re - the TWICE CARRIED cover, it seems to me quite probable that the envelope originally contained matter weighing $\frac{1}{2}$ -loz., perhaps an engraved plate or doubled letter to cause the vertical crease in from right margin, and if so was prepaid by two 3¢ 1861 stamps from NEW HAMBURGH N.Y. to Boston, where the carrier tried twice to deliver the letter at 43 Beacon Street before obtaining the forwarding address. NO PAY meaning simply to refer to the legal prohibition of the Act of 1863 of collecting any carrier fee. In that case, assuming the two stamps were still on the cover, the "Due 6" would be the correct charge merely for forwarding the letter to Caldwell, N.Y. and it may be that the bit of black cancel left on the cover was applied at Boston, being the bottom of one of the style of cancellations shown in B.P.M. Plate 62, Nos. 1018-1032 which were in use in 1864." (unquote)

I am wondering if you would sell this cover to me because it intrigues me and I would like to investigate it further. Now Ollie if it means anything to you don't you dare let me have it.

Mildred joins me in the best of wishes.

As ever yours,

April 29, 1955.

Mr. M. C. Blake,
11 Mason St.,
Brookline 46, Mass.

Dear Maurice:

Please pardon the delay in acknowledging receipt of your recent letters. I have had the collection of the late Harold Stark placed in my hands for dispersal and I have been so occupied with it that I have had to lay aside all correspondence that was not urgent.

Re - page 155 - Vol. 2 - My One Cent book. This page and chapter was written by E. Perry. I have no recollection of seeing a cover used at Boston with any blue markings, but I am making this statement from memory and in my Boston files I may have a blue recorded.

I have carefully noted your remarks about the "NO PAY" marking. I agree that it is quite possible that the letter when mailed had a stamp or stamps at the right end. I am enclosing a photo print herewith.

New York Ocean Mail. The difference between what I listed as the earliest type and the one you mention seems to be in the size, rather than in the style - my type measured 30 MM whereas your new one measures 27 MM. I wonder if it made any difference in 1849 what stamper was used on mail via Panama to California? I suppose any postmark was suitable. In order to keep the record straight I do think you should publish an article on the subject and give facts as you know them up to date. I am sure that you agree that in research work one must not always expect to make the record complete.

Many thanks for your tracings. I have a number of photos of my "earliest type" but unfortunately the prints are not exact size and I failed to mark the size of the New York postmark when I made the exposures. What I called the "First Type" were all uses in 1850 and 1851. This the 30 MM size. I don't seem to have a record of this type in 1849 but I did not make a careful search.

Re - yours of the 22nd. Your first paragraph appears to me to have the correct solution to the "NO PAY" cover. I assume that blue was used in the Carrier Division of the Boston P.O., and that this is properly a carrier marking. I will send E. Perry a photograph.

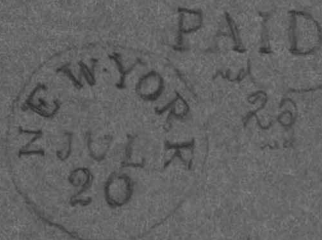
Of course you have my permission to use the photograph of the valentine cover.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,



1813 Red ms 12/23
to Philadelphia
26 1/2 m



1817 Red to Savannah
26 m



1844 Red to Albany
27 1/2 m

(red ink)

[Large stylized signature]

Consent by 20th



[Red 27 m]

August 1844

(Lawrence and mining & trading Co.)

San Francisco

[white envelope
no contents]

California

ROBERT MYERSON

APRIL 30, 1955

Good Morning MR. ASHBROOK:

It's BEEN some time since I have sent anything back for your opinion but I am enclosing one cover this time for you to LOOK OVER.

It seems to be a type III (Plate IV) But I'd like your opinion on it. also enclosed find the slip that accompanied the cover when I purchased it.

When you send the cover back send along your Expertizing Fee and my check will follow immediately.

hoping to hear from you soon, I remain,
Sincerely,

Bob Myerson
927 Stanford Ave
Los Angeles 21,
Calif.

APS-23076
WES-217

\$4⁰⁰

May 2, 1955.

Mr. Robert Myerson,
927 Stanford Ave.,
Los Angeles 21, Calif.

Dear Mr. Myerson:

Herewith the cover with the One Cent 1851
as per yours of the 30th. The description of this
copy is correct. This is a Type IC from Plate 4
and a very beautiful copy.

I have endorsed the cover on the back.

My fee is \$4.00.

PAID

MAY 10 1955

Thanking you, I am

Sincerely yours,

400

OK

ROBERT MYERSON

5/6/55

! Good Morning Mr. Ashbrook:

Many thanks For your nice letters
and the comments about the
cover you Expertised. I feel
much better now. The cover
was part of a large accumulation
I recently Purchased and at the
time I had no time to send it
away.

Enclosed find my check For
4.00 to cover cost of your fee.

I recently was in S.F. and the morning
I arrived I was with Scott Pollard.
He showed me his "Prize" Express
cover you had just sent. We was
quite happy with it.

Best regards,
Bob Myerson

TELEPHONE ATLANTIC 6191
TELETYPE MP-347



JANNEY, SEMPLE, HILL & CO.

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

4-25-55

Stanley B. Ashbrook
P.O. Box 3⁺
33 No. Ft. Thomas Ave
Ft. Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan;

The Waterhouse Catalogue arrived today and the material in it makes my collection look small.

I am going to have some bids in for the 5¢ 56 and 57s and I hope that at least a few pieces will be obtained.

In the sale are some pieces I would like your judgement on.

Lot 175. Earliest known usage. I have a picture of it.	L80	My guess
		290.00
181 Howard Express	L200	475.00
271 Red Brown vertical pair.	L 30	105.00
267 Indian Red Cover	L 80	250.00
277 Red Brown Cover	L100	250.00
289 Orange Brown on Patriotic	L200	750.00
165 61 L imprint	L 25	75.00

Lot 175
Tell me if you will the history of lot 175, what it sold for and if possible the price it will bring. Are my guesses all out of line. Just make a note on the back of this letter please.

Jack Molesworth did cut the top three stamps from the Filstrup block. Price is 2,500.00.

Many thanks for your trouble.

Henry

DIRECTORS:
A. J. HILL - B. J. CASE
H. W. HILL - H. P. HILL
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A. E. COX - S. J. MIROCHA
T. S. SNYDER - L. W. WELD
J. L. NORBECK



April 27, 1955.

Dr. O. Bacher,
Westminster Stamp Co. Ltd.,
London, W. 1, England.

Dear Doctor Bacher:

Re - Lot 175 in the Waterhouse Sale. I note the statement "Passed by S.B.A." etc. I do not recall that I have ever seen this cover but I have a memo that you showed me a photo in 1946 but I cannot find the print so I must have returned it to you.

I have had several inquiries regarding this cover. Can you send me a photo print?

Thanks.

Sincerely yours,

P.S.—I am receiving a number of inquiries re - items in the Sale and it is taking up quite a bit of my time.

May 2, 1955.

Mr. Bernard Harmer,
6 West 48th St.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Bernard:

Re - Lot #175 in the Waterhouse Sale, I suggest that you send this cover to me by Registered Air Special Delivery, so that I can make a careful examination of it.

I note the catalogue description states: "Passed by Stanley B. Ashbrook." There is no notation on this cover that I authenticated it, and if there is anything wrong I suggest that the cover be "sold as is," or better, withdrawn from the sale. There was no authority from me that my name be used in connection with this cover.

I am today writing Dr. Bacher regarding it and doubtless he will take it up with your London Office.

Sincerely yours,

May 3, 1955.

Dr. O. Bacher,
Westminster Stamp Co. Ltd.,
London, W. 1, England.

Dear Dr. Bacher:

I am enclosing herewith copy of a letter I have this day written Bernard Harmer of the New York Office of H. R. Harmer, regarding the 5¢ 1856 cover in the Waterhouse sale, Lot 175. According to my records, Sir Nicholas advised me of this cover back in 1936 and I listed it in my record of earliest known. In 1946, you sent me a photograph. I suppose at the time I should have questioned it but apparently I did not. We live and learn and I suppose I have learned quite a lot about U. S. covers used to foreign countries since 1946. At any rate, what I thought then has nothing to do with what I may think today about a lot of items. Apparently I have never seen this cover.

This cover has the New York postmark of "MAR 15" with "Amer. Pkt." and surely this cover went by "American Pkt." because the sailing dates by the Collins Line, "Amer. Pkt." were on Saturdays, and in 1856, March 15 fell on a Saturday. The British Pkt (Cunard) sailings were on Wednesdays, and never on Saturdays. The fact this cover went by American Pkt is confirmed by the French receiving postmark which reads, "ETATS UNIS PAQ AM" - "Calais" - Literal translation of this is - "From the U. S. by Amer. Pkt to England, thence to France thru Calais."

In your description of Lot 175 you stated: "This cover was prepaid for British Packet and shows due marking of "8," but was sent per Amer. Pkt and the due marking changed to "16." (unquote)

The change in the due marking was not as described by you, but rather - The letter in France was first rated as a single, of not over $7\frac{1}{2}$ grammes, but was found to weigh over $7\frac{1}{2}$ grammes, hence two rates or 16 decimes was due. These due markings also prove the letter was conveyed by Amer. Pkt (Collins Line), because had it been conveyed by Cunard (Br. Pkt), the French due would have been "13" decimes for a single (not over $7\frac{1}{2}$ grammes), or "26" decimes for a double.

However, in my opinion, the final and positive proof that this cover is a fake, is a 5¢ rate in the U.S. did not apply to mail Via England to France by "Amer. Pkt." Rather than 5¢, the rate was 21¢ and it had to be prepaid. Please refer to my One Cent book, Vol. 2, page 341, Fig. 56AA. Here is a double 21¢ rate - Note the French receiving - same as on the Waterhouse cover and the "16" due marking. On page 339, Fig. 56W, is a single 21¢ rate by "Amer. Pkt." Note the same French receiving and the single "8" French due. Now refer to page 323, Fig. 56E - the foreign rate table - Note "FRANCE," and the second column - quote in part: "On all letters between the United States and the countries here named when sent through the United Kingdom, the (see page 324) United States postage and that only must be collected in the United States by prepayment when sent ~~xxxxxx~~ and 21 cts the single rate when conveyed by United States Packet" (unquote). (You can read this whole instruction).

To be explicit, the 5¢ internal rate under the U.S. - British Treaty applied

#2. Dr. O. Bacher - May 3, 1955.

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You can readily appreciate that the 5¢ stamp on this cover does not make sense. This was surely a stampless cover and 21¢ was paid in cash or charged to the addressor at the time of mailing. Some faker took a stampless cover and added the 5¢ stamp, and incidentally, created "the earliest known use."

Perhaps the New York P.O. should have stamped this letter as "Paid 21¢" but this payment concerned only the U.S., not England or France, so why advise those countries of the U. S. internal payment. The letter would not have been forwarded by New York unless the payment had been made. I have noted quite a number of cases similar to this where the N.Y. P.O. failed to make any notation on a foreign rate cover of the cash payment of postage.

I feel sure that my analysis will convince Sir Nicholas and you that I am correct, and that the cover will be removed from the sale.

The subject of U. S. foreign rates and markings is a very complicated subject. I suppose we should view a cover with some suspicion which has a stamp stuck in the upper left corner. Before the French and New York postmarks were put on this cover there was plenty of room for a stamp or stamps in the upper right.

With the elimination of this cover as the "earliest" my next of record is a cover that is owned by a friend of mine and bears a date of March 24, 1856. I will advise the editor of the S.U.S. to change the date in the catalogue. I believe you will agree that this fixing is a typical Zareski job. Too bad that rat cannot be imprisoned or better still be hung.

Will you kindly show this letter to Sir Nicholas.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

May 3, 1955.

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Will you kindly show this letter to Sir Nicholas.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

Re 5d #1856 Cover
March 15 1856

4-29-55

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

Dear Stan;

Thank you for yours of the 27th. I shall get this letter off before I leave for Iowa tomorrow.

Re- The Waterhouse collection. and the following lots.

175. Earliest usage. I know anyone runs a chance that an earlier date will show up, but I should have it. The picture you had given to me and I am returning it tho I ask you to send me another copy for my book.

181. This I donot care particulary if I own.

271. I shall go after.

267. This is cover which I need.

277. Shall put in a bid on it.

289. I am aware that orange brown covers can be fixed. But if it is good what a fool I would be if I did not own it. I can get it subject to your O.K.

165. I know imprints are scarce but this one is cut into on the right and 75.00 is about right, but not over 115.00.

About Harolds material. I wish I could buy all of his and Waterhouse8S collections. But I have to be modest in my purchases so I shall have to wait following the latter sale. I know how you feel about Bacher and I presume that it is because of some of the fakes he had. However, remember that he purchased much of his collection from other places besides from Bacher.

Les said today that he was going to see you soon. His wife has agreed to let him go to London and Stockholm. If he does go I will let him exercise my bids for me. I cannot get excited about having Cole bid for me. I would much rather have Bacher, and I dont trust either too far. An awful thing for me to say.

I get home May 15. Then to Denver to see if we can buy out a competetor.

very Sincerely

Henry W. Hall

May 1, 1955.

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

Dear Henry:

Thanks for yours of the 29th with the photo print of the 5¢ 1856 Waterhouse cover, Lot 175 in the Waterhouse Sale. I enclose copy of a letter I have today written to Bernard Harmer which speaks for itself. I am very suspicious of the cover, doubting very much if the 5¢ stamp was used originally on it. I have searched everywhere for a duplicate photo but failed to find one so the one you sent me must have been lifted from my card index files. Further reference to my files shows that I never saw this cover and my photo was of a photo sent me by Dr. Bacher in May 1946.

This cover has the New York postmark with "Amer. Pkt." and surely this cover went by "American Pkt" because the sailing dates were Saturday and in 1856, March 15, fell on Saturday. The British Pkt (Cunard) were on Wednesdays, never on Saturdays. The fact this went by American Pkt is confirmed by the French receiving postmark which reads, "ETATS UNIS PAQ AM" - "Calais" - Literal translation of this is, "From the U.S. by Amer. Pkt to England, thence to France thru Calais". Dr. Bacher misdescribed this cover as follows: "This cover was prepaid for British Packet and shows due marking of "8," but was sent per Amer. Pkt and the due marking changed to "16." (unquote. The change in the due marking was not as described by Dr. Bacher but rather - The letter in France was first rated as a single not over 7½ grammes, but was found to weigh over 7½ grammes, hence two rates or 16 decimes was due. These due markings also prove the letter was conveyed by Amer. Pkt (Collins Line), because had it been conveyed by Cunard (Br. Pkt), the French due would have been "13" decimes for a single (not over 7½ grammes) or "26" decimes for a double.

However, the final and positive proof that this cover is a fake in my opinion is - a 5¢ rate in the U.S. did not apply to mail Via England to France by "Amer. Pkt." Rather than 5¢ the rate was 21¢ and it had to be prepaid.

Please refer to my One Cent book, Vol. 2, page 341 - Fig. 56AA. Here is a double 21¢ rate - note the French receiving - same as on the Waterhouse cover and the "16" due marking. On page 339, Fig. 56W is a single 21¢ rate by Amer. Pkt - Note the same French receiving and the single "8" French due.

Now refer to page 323, Fig. 56E - The rate Table - Note FRANCE - and the second column - quote in part: "On all letters between the United States and the countries here named when sent through the United Kingdom, the (see page 324) United States postage and that only must be collected in the United States by prepayment when sent ~~xxxxxxxx~~ and 21 cts the single rate when conveyed by United States Packet." (unquote)

To be explicit - the 5¢ internal rate under the U.S.-British Treaty applied only to transmission by British Packet to or through England. It had to be prepaid, and if by "Amer. Pkt" the rate was 21¢ per ½ ounce, and it had to be prepaid. So you can readily see that the 5¢ stamp on this cover does not make sense. This was a stampless cover and 21¢ was paid in cash or charged at the time of mailing. The New York P.O. should have stamped it as "Paid 21¢" but this payment concerned only the

#2. Mr. Henry W. Hill - May 1, 1955.

U.S., not England or France, so why advise them of the payment. The letter would not have been forwarded unless the payment had been made. I have noted quite a number of cases similar to this where the N.Y. P.O. failed to make any notation on a foreign rate cover of the cash payment of postage.

So by all means do not bid on this cover even if I fail to have it removed. However, I am sure they will remove it.

Back in 1946 I suppose I did not question this cover but we live and learn and what I might have thought in 1946 has nothing to do with what I think today. The subject of foreign rates and markings is a very complicated subject. I suppose we should always view a cover with some suspicion when we see a stamp stuck in the upper left corner. Before the French and New York postmarks were put on this cover there was plenty of room for a stamp or stamps.

With the elimination of this cover as the "earliest" my next of record is a cover that is owned by Theodore Gore of Wichita, Kansas. I have a description of his cover but apparently no photograph so I am writing him today to please forward it to me so that I can make one. I will send you a print in due course.

You will have to change the date in your book. I am indeed sorry but please blame Zareski rather than me. Later I will advise Gordon Harmer to change the date in the S.U.S.

Re - lots mentioned in your letter.

Lot 267 - 5¢ '57 Henna. Let us hope this is the Henna color.

Lot 289 - The Orange Brown cover. There is just a chance it could be good so have it distinctly understood - no pay unless I okay it.

Lot 165 - Imprint. Okay. I was pleased to learn that Les is planning to attend the Waterhouse sale so you will be 100% safe in having your bids executed OK.

I note that you will be back home by the 15th, but perhaps this will reach you sooner.

If Harmer sends the 5¢ 1856 cover I will also make slides.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

May 1, 1955.

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

Dear Henry:

Thanks for yours of the 29th with the photo print of the 5¢ 1856 Waterhouse cover, Lot 175 in the Waterhouse Sale. I enclose copy of a letter I have today written to Bernard Harmer which speaks for itself. I am very suspicious of the cover, doubting very much if the 5¢ stamp was used originally on it. I have searched everywhere for a duplicate photo but failed to find one so the one you sent me must have been lifted from my card index files. Further reference to my files shows that I never saw this cover and my photo was of a photo sent me by Dr. Bacher in May 1946.

This cover has the New York postmark with "Amer. Pkt." and surely this cover went by "American Pkt" because the sailing dates were Saturday and in 1856, March 15, fell on Saturday. The British Pkt (Cunard) were on Wednesdays, never on Saturdays. The fact this went by American Pkt is confirmed by the French receiving postmark which reads, "ETATS UNIS PAQ AM" - "Calais" - Literal translation of this is, "From the U.S. by Amer. Pkt to England, thence to France thru Calais". Dr. Bacher misdescribed this cover as follows: "This cover was prepaid for British Packet and shows due marking of "8," but was sent per Amer. Pkt and the due marking changed to "16." (unquote. The change in the due marking was not as described by Dr. Bacher but rather - The letter in France was first rated as a single not over $7\frac{1}{2}$ grammes, but was found to weigh over $7\frac{1}{2}$ grammes, hence two rates or 16 decimes was due. These due markings also prove the letter was conveyed by Amer. Pkt (Collins Line), because had it been conveyed by Cunard (Br. Pkt), the French due would have been "13" decimes for a single (not over $7\frac{1}{2}$ grammes) or "26" decimes for a double.

However, the final and positive proof that this cover is a fake in my opinion is - a 5¢ rate in the U.S. did not apply to mail Via England to France by "Amer. Pkt." Rather than 5¢ the rate was 21¢ and it had to be prepaid.

Please refer to my One Cent book, Vol. 2, page 341 - Fig. 56AA. Here is a double 21¢ rate - note the French receiving - same as on the Waterhouse cover and the "16" due marking. On page 339, Fig. 56W is a single 21¢ rate by Amer. Pkt - Note the same French receiving and the single "8" French due.

Now refer to page 323, Fig. 56E - The rate Table - Note FRANCE - and the second column - quote in part: "On all letters between the United States and the countries here named when sent through the United Kingdom, the (see page 324) United States postage and that only must be collected in the United States by prepayment when sent ~~xxxxxxxx~~ and 21 cts the single rate when conveyed by United States Packet." (unquote)

To be explicit - the 5¢ internal rate under the U.S.-British Treaty applied only to transmission by British Packet to or through England. It had to be prepaid, and if by "Amer. Pkt" the rate was 21¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce, and it had to be prepaid. So you can readily see that the 5¢ stamp on this cover does not make sense. This was a stampless cover and 21¢ was paid in cash or charged at the time of mailing. The New York P.O. should have stamped it as "Paid 21¢" but this payment concerned only the

#2. Mr. Henry W. Hill - May 1, 1955.

U.S., not England or France, so why advise them of the payment. The letter would not have been forwarded unless the payment had been made. I have noted quite a number of cases similar to this where the N.Y. P.O. failed to make any notation on a foreign rate cover of the cash payment of postage.

So by all means do not bid on this cover even if I fail to have it removed. However, I am sure they will remove it.

Back in 1946 I suppose I did not question this cover but we live and learn and what I might have thought in 1946 has nothing to do with what I think today. The subject of foreign rates and markings is a very complicated subject. I suppose we should always view a cover with some suspicion when we see a stamp stuck in the upper left corner. Before the French and New York postmarks were put on this cover there was plenty of room for a stamp or stamps.

With the elimination of this cover as the "earliest" my next of record is a cover that is owned by Theodore Gore of Wichita, Kansas. I have a description of his cover but apparently no photograph so I am writing him today to please forward it to me so that I can make one. I will send you a print in due course.

You will have to change the date in your book. I am indeed sorry but please blame Zareski rather than me. Later I will advise Gordon Harmer to change the date in the S.U.S.

Re - lots mentioned in your letter.

Lot 267 - 5¢ '57 Henna. Let us hope this is the Henna color.

Lot 289 - The Orange Brown cover. There is just a chance it could be good so have it distinctly understood - no pay unless I okay it.

Lot 165 - Imprint. Okay. I was pleased to learn that Les is planning to attend the Waterhouse sale so you will be 100% safe in having your bids executed OK.

I note that you will be back home by the 15th, but perhaps this will reach you sooner.

If Harmer sends the 5¢ 1856 cover I will also make slides.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

April 20, 1955.

Dr. O. Bacher,
Westminster Stamp Co. Ltd.,
London, W. 1, England.

Dear Doctor Bacher:

I have your Air letter of the 15th and I thank you for the data on the Red Cross sale of the 7R1E. It has since been reported that the Weill boys sold the stamp to a twelve years old collector. Probably the son of some big Texas oil man. Just imagine!!!

Also many thanks for the additional data on the 5¢-10¢ 1847 cover that was sold in a Robson Lowe sale last January. Did I write you that Herst offered this to quite a good friend of mine @ \$1,450.00? I suppose he turned it down. Where it is at present, I do not know.

The Harmer firm in New York sent me half a dozen copies of the N.W. catalogue. So far I have not had time to study it carefully but I think you did a superb job. My hearty congratulations. As I study it in detail I will write you if I have any comments.

Regarding Lot 600. It seems to me that there is very little evidence that the 24¢ stamp was used originally on this cover. To assume that it did appears to me as pure speculation. I think it should be offered "as is."

Re Lot #605. I don't seem to have any record of this cover, though there is something about it that looks familiar. By any possible chance can you send me a photo or if not give me the exact wording in the French postmark. I will have inquiries as to what I think about the cover.

More later on the catalogue.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

LOT
600

Lot
605



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.

THE SPECIALISTS IN U.S.A. POSTAGE STAMPS.

REGENCY HOUSE, 1-4, WARWICK STREET, PICCADILLY CIRCUS,
LONDON, W.1.

BANKERS:
BARCLAYS,
PICCADILLY CIRCUS,
LONDON, W.1.
TELEPHONE:
GERRARD
4900

OB/B

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

April 29, 1955

Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

Many thanks for your letters of April 20 and 24. The compliment you paid me, coming from you, made me blush. I need not repeat that any comments you may like to make will be much appreciated by me.

Nearer to the sale I shall suggest to the "powers-that-be" to offer lot 600 with extension.

As to lot 605 Harmer's New York House will let you have photo, but I suppose you will personally inspect the cover at New York.

RE:-LOT 314 and the very interesting point you raise. I studied the cover quite a bit. It is a French TREATY double rate affair, carried by American Packet, as shown by the Calais double ring marking. Of each single rate of 15¢, the amount of 6¢ was retained by the USA for internal plus sea carriage charge, while another 6¢ credit went to France plus 3¢ to Britain (coming in at Dover-Calais), This makes 9¢ credit to the foreign countries per single rate or 18¢ per double rate. This amount was credited at the Boston Foreign Exchange Office as per red postmark on cover.

I hope that will be the right solution and I am glad that you asked me the question, because you are the only student known to me who could answer it with authority.

With regard to the "guarantee" remarks which, it is much regretted, you did not like, may I say, in all sincerity and with conviction, that, in view of your tremendous standing as an expert the world over, an "Ashbrook opinion" that an item is genuine, is considered by all informed philatelists AS GOOD AS A GUARANTEE - or even better. Need I say more!?

So far as buyers at the sale are concerned who, after all, will have read the wording of your opinion in each case on the reverse of the cover, I am convinced that no difficulty whatever is likely to arise. Obviously statements in the catalogue cannot bind you in any way, and Harmer's, as they told me today, will take care of any complaints which are, however, extremely unlikely, in their and my own opinion. Personally, I am, of course, sorry that I did not query the wording, because it transpired now that you did not like it.

Would you be good enough to obtain for me list of prices realised of Siegel's sale Feb. 24? Will refund all charges. Bob bought a number of items in that sale (incl. the 1847 covers you mention in the March SERVICE) from me when he called here in December and, funny to note, is therefore perhaps reluctant to send me the list direct! It's a mentality I find hard to understand, because I am always glad to see my customers - whoever they are - to do good business with items bought from me.

Many thanks and best wishes!

Yours sincerely

THE WESTMINSTER STAMP CO., LTD.

REGENCY HOUSE, 1-4, WARWICK STREET, PICCADILLY CIRCUS,

LONDON, W.1.



DATE

AM-11 24, 1952

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

First fold here

BY AIR MAIL

AIR LETTER

IF ANYTHING IS ENCL. APR
CLOSED THIS LETTER 55
WILL BE SENT BY
ORDINARY MAIL.



Sender's name and address :-

THE WESTMINSTER STAMP CO., LTD.,
REGENCY HOUSE, 1-4, WARWICK ST.,
PICCADILLY CIRCUS, LONDON, W.1, G.B.

Second fold here

Stanley B. Ashbrook, Esq.
33 N. Fort Thomas Ave.
Fort Thomas
Ky.
USA

THE 'APSLEY' AIR LETTER

Form approved by Postmaster General No.—71995/IK

To open cut here

To open cut here



THE WESTMINSTER STAMP CO., LTD.

MANAGING DIRECTOR: O. BACHER, D. PHIL.

MEMBER BRITISH PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION, PHILATELIC CONGRESS OF GREAT BRITAIN, PHILATELIC TRADERS' SOCIETY, LONDON,
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LONDON, W.1.

BANKERS:
BARCLAYS,
PICCADILLY CIRCUS,
LONDON, W.1.
TELEPHONE:
GERRARD
4900

Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

May 2, 1955

RE:- Yours of April 27 & 28 which arrived together.

Lot 175. Had to trace the relevant album page at Harmer's. It took quite a time, but I am always happy to oblige. In Sir N.'s neat handwriting there is the following annotation: "Mr. Ashbrook wrote on Nov. 10, 1936 'Now I am quite sure this cover is OK. It was prepaid for British Packet but was sent by American Packet. The French clerk assessed as per Am. Pkt. but then noticed it was not fully prepaid 21¢ and changed the 8 to 16. 5¢ plus 16 makes the 21¢ prepayment necessary. I am listing this cover as a use of March 15, 1856'."

Lot 386. "Sold with extension" = Sold with extension of time to be submitted for the opinion of a recognised authority. The phrase as stated in catalogue is customary in England, the warning contained in it being obvious. In strictest confidence: item was put up only by a majority decision and because owner liked it so much that he even went to the trouble to add other pieces to the lot which, in his opinion, have a bearing on its genuineness. This shows you how the wind blew! Personally, I did and do not like the item. But, on democratic principles, I was in the minority - and that was that. I repeat, this bit of inside information must remain strictly between you and me. On many items we had to come to a decision of a similar character and, though our collaboration was smooth and pleasant, the negotiations for the decisions and the way how to describe certain items required a lot of restraint and tact. Apart from the items you condemned, quite a number was returned to the owner. The very best was done to keep the catalogue "clean".

Further, in confidence. Ward wrote to Bernard H. - and he, in turn, to Cyril Harmer - that he could not understand the triple rate on cover, lot 38. I had him referred by Cyril to your article in STAMPS of 19 July 1947 which appeared after you had seen the cover at the CIPEX. I added that only the weight of the unknown enclosures could explain the triple rate over the short distance. Ward thought, the envelope was too small to have required a triple rate for weight! A strange argument, I must say. Incidentally, I am of course aware of the doubts as to triple rates at a certain period in the 1840's - from your recent information - but through lack of a year date on the cover cannot pass on it from that angle.

I thought you might like to know what sort of criticisms begin to reach us now. To deal with them takes up quite a lot of my time. It flatters me that one falls back on me - behind the scenes, anyhow. But what credit do I get for my (very considerable) share in the entire matter in public?

With regards

yours sincerely

PS. Am told that Bernard H., New York, would have, on application, additional photos for you.

W.B.

May 4, 1955.

Dr. O. Bacher,
Westminster Stamp Co. Ltd.,
London, W. 1, England.

Dear Doctor Bacher:

Replying to your Air Letter of the 29th, I trust that you will arrange to have a photograph of Lot 605 sent to me. I regret that I will not be able to go down to New York to inspect the lots.

Re - Lot No. 314. I am enclosing a photograph of a cover quite similar to No. 314, a "Garnier" with a 45¢ rate and with a strip of three 10¢ 1857 all Type IV, same positions as the strip on No. 314. You will note that both have the red "18" credits, though one is a double rate, the other is a triple rate. Both were sent by "Amer. Pkt." American Packets sailed on Saturdays. The Boston date is Friday Mar 25 1859. This letter passed thru the Boston Foreign Exchange Office and then was sent down to New York for the Saturday sailing on the 26th. On the 45¢ rate cover the New York date is May 14 (1859). This was Saturday.

Your explanation of an 18¢ credit is in error. On mail carried to England, the U. S. retained 9¢ out of each 15¢ single. This 9¢ represented 3¢ internal and 6¢ sea. The U. S. credited the other 6¢ to France, who in turn paid Britain for Channel (3¢) and retained 3¢ for the French internal. So you see an "18" credit by Amer. Pkt. Via Britain applies to a 45¢ rate, not to a 30¢ rate. However, do not be disturbed as Lot 314 is genuine. The "18" can be easily explained. We have a few on this side who have a fair knowledge of the debits and credits but the word few is not an under-statement.

Thanks for the compliment, but I have no abition whatsoever to have an opinion by me regarded as the last word, much less as a guarantee. You would be surprised (?) how often I am wrong, especially on Zareski's work. I am positive that that criminal holds me in very low esteem because I am sure that he could point to a lot of his fakes that I have declared were genuine. However, I believe I am learning a bit day by day and perhaps someday I will have a much better rating on his work.

I find that I have a copy of the pricex of the Siegel Sale of Feb. 24th. I will make a photo copy and send it to you.

Sincerely yours,

May 4, 1955.

Dr. O. Bacher,
Westminster Stamp Co. Ltd.,
London, W. 1, England.

Dear Doctor Bacher:

Re - Lot 87 in the N.W. Sale. I note this is described as a 10¢ 1847 from Springfield, Ill. to San Jose, Calif. This is just a little reminder that when the 1847 stamps were current the single rate to California was 40¢. The 1847 stamps were illegal for postal use after June 30, 1851. There was no prepaid 10¢ rate to California until April 1, 1855.

I would like very much to see a photograph of this cover and trust that you will arrange to have one sent to me before the sale.

Sincerely yours,



THE WESTMINSTER STAMP CO., LTD.

MANAGING DIRECTOR: O. BACHER, D. PHIL.

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BANKERS:
BARCLAYS,
PICCADILLY CIRCUS,
LONDON, W.1.
TELEPHONE:
GERARD
4900

THE SPECIALISTS IN U.S.A. POSTAGE STAMPS.

REGENCY HOUSE, 1-4, WARWICK STREET, PICCADILLY CIRCUS,
LONDON, W.1.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

May 10, 1955

Thank you so much for your letters of May 3 & 4.
Photos of lots 87 and 605 will be sent direct to
you by Cyril Harmer. I have, of course, dealt with your requests
AT ONCE.

Lot 314. Be good enough to tell me why, after all,
this was a 45c rate, with only 30c prepaid in stamps and no
DUE markings discernible (to me) on the cover. If you do not
elucidate me on the point, I cannot answer the question, should
it be put to me. And that's where you started from when broach-
ing the subject in a recent letter! I do not claim to be an
expert on rates. Any inquirer will be told that you gave me the
solution. Your "copyright" safeguarded!

Lot 175. By now you know - from my explanatory
lines - HOW it came about that your name ("passed by S.B.A.")
was used. Unfortunately you wrote to Bernard Harmer before you
had my lines. With the information now in your hands, you might
have written differently or not at all. I don't wish to put you
in a quandary - but can you blame ^{me} for following you blindly, as
it were, when I quoted your 1936 letter to N.W., preserved on the
album page, in the description of the item in the auction cat-
alogue!? How were we to know that you had changed your mind?!
It transpires from your lines of May 3 that you did so between
1946 and now, and while I cannot deny that we live and learn and
that to err is quite human - you are undoubtedly too modest a-
bout yourself (letter of May 4). In my experience - and I hope
you don't mind my saying so - ASHBROOK IS RIGHT 99 OUT OF 100
TIMES. So you HAVE already a pretty good rating on Z.'s and
others' handicraft. - Sir N. being away on a short holiday -
salmon-fishing in his 79th! - Cyril and I have to await his re-
turn before the withdrawal of the lot can be decided upon. Of
course, I will show him your intriguing letter.

Awfully good of you to make photo copy of the
Siegel list. A thousand thanks! And also for the photo of the
Jamet cover. What tremendously long odds against duplicating
a strip of those three recuts - and on cover, in addition!

Inundated with work at present: (1) my own little
business; (2) N.W. sale, creating great interest all round; (3)
giving assistance, as voluntary helper, to our local conservative
headquarters (out at lovely old Highgate, far above London, where
we live for so many years) for the forthcoming election fight.

Later more.

Sincerely yours

O. Bacher

IT IS ABOUT TO START
IN EAR WEST.



THE WESTMINSTER STAMP CO., LTD.

THE SPECIALISTS IN AIR POSTAGE STAMPS

REGENCY HOUSE, 1-4, WARWICK STREET, PICCADILLY CIRCUS, LONDON, W.1.

May 10, 1955

Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

Thank you so much for your letters of May 5 & 4. Photos of lots 84 and 803 will be sent direct to you by Cyril Harner. I have, of course, dealt with your requests AT ONCE.

Lot 814. Be good enough to tell me why, after all, this was a 450 rate, with only 500 prepaid in stamps and no DUE markings discernible (to me) on the cover. If you do not elucidate me on the point, I cannot answer the question, should it be put to me. And what's more, where you started from when broaching the subject in a recent letter! I do not claim to be an expert on rates. Any inquirer will be told that you gave me the solution. Your "copyright" safeguarded!

Lot 475. By now you know - from my explanatory lines - HOW it came about that your name ("passed by S.B.A.") was used. Unfortunately you wrote to Bernard Harner before you had my ideas. With the illustration now in your hands, you might have written differently or not at all. I don't wish to put you in a quandary - but can you blame me for following you blindly, as I did, when I quoted your 1950 letter to H.W., preserved on the same page, in the description of the lot? How were we to know that?

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.

Second fold here

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

BY AIR MAIL

AIR LETTER

IF ANYTHING IS ENCLOSURED THIS LETTER WILL BE SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL.

PLEASE CHECK AIR MAIL ADVANCE



THE 'APSLEY' AIR LETTER

Form approved by Postmaster General No.—71995/1K

To open cut here

To open cut here

May 9, 1955.

Dr. O. Bacher,
Westminster Stamp Co. Ltd.,
London, W. 1, England.

Dear Dr. Bacher:

I requested Bernard Harmer to send Lot 175 to me for careful examination. This was some time ago and my request has been ignored, though I requested that the cover be sent to me by Registered Air Mail Special Delivery for immediate return. I can assure the Harmer firm if they do not care to give me complete co-operation in this sale that they need not expect any co-operation from me. If you care to advise Sir Nicholas of this it will be agreeable to me. Because so many of the illustrations are so incomplete I would like to have the following lots sent to me from London, as I will not make any more requests of the New York office. If you cannot have the lots sent to me then I trust that you will send me photographs.

Lot 176. This was surely a 15¢ rate, so why only 5¢? The New York credit is 12¢. It is my guess that this stamp was not used on this cover and that the cover was a prepaid stampless.

Lot 199. If the date was 1856, there was no 30¢ rate in 1856 - The French due was "8." If 1856, this would indicate a rate by Amer. Pkt. of 21¢ prepaid, which leads me to suspect that this strip was not used on this cover.

Lot 350. Your description is in error. The "old stamps" were not legal in Ohio in Oct. 1861. This cover was sent unpaid with a debit to Prussia of 23¢. This is not a "Short Paid" but rather an "Old stamps not recognized." The above as I see it from the illustration.

Lot 351. The rate to Germany was 30¢, not 24¢, so from what there is of the illustration, there is something very radically wrong, however, your description gives no hint of this. Why?

Lot 372. The rate on this cover was originally 15¢, which makes me wonder if this was not a prepaid stampless?

I am receiving so many inquiries regarding lots in this sale that I am admittedly getting a bit peeved. They come from friends whom I can not ignore. This costs me time and my time to me is money. Can you wonder that I am damn sore if any request that I make of the Harmer firm is ignored?

I will appreciate a prompt reply.

Sincerely yours,

May 9, 1955.

Dr. O. Bacher,
Westminster Stamp Co. Ltd.,
London, W. 1, England.

Dear Dr. Bacher:

Thanks very much for yours of the 2nd, which I can assure you I will treat as strictly confidential.

Lot 175. Mentioned in your letter. I wrote you about this last week. I am sure this cover is a fake and I am advising the Editor of the Scott Specialized to change the date in the catalogue to March 24, 1856, a genuine cover.

Lot 386, should be withdrawn. There is no question in my mind that this is a rank fake.

Lot 88. I never had this cover in my hands for actual examination. In confidence, I am very suspicious of it as I have unearthed some facts regarding the addressee. When I wrote the article in "Stamps" all I had was a photograph. I would not sign this cover today as genuine, nor would I sign the Newbury cover. I wrote Mike Newbury to submit his cover to me but he ignored my request. I did not intimate it was questionable, so if he is satisfied it is okay with me. I certainly would not authenticate that cover today.

Regards.

Cordially yours,

May 9, 1955.

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Westminster Stamp Co. Ltd.,
London, W. 1, England.

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I will appreciate a prompt reply.

Sincerely 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,
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LONDON, W.1.

BANKERS:
BARCLAYS,
PICCADILLY CIRCUS,
LONDON, W.1.
TELEPHONE:
GERRARD
4900

Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

RE:-Your 2 letters of 9.5.

May 13, 1955

I am sorry that you feel you have cause for complaint regarding H.R.H.'s method of dealing with your request. I should think that the delay was unintentional and perhaps in connection with the New York showing. I presume you do not know that the collection arrived in the nick of time for the N.Y. viewing on May 4. I understand it had been in a N.Y. Custom's House for about a fortnight and could not be traced! The liner "Britannic" which afterwards, on its return journey to England, caught fire which destroyed most of the mail - weren't we lucky! - carried the consignment to N.Y., arrival April 13. From then on it took over a fortnight to "find" and clear the shipment. I understand a complaint has been lodged with the authorities.

Perhaps Bernard Harmer was holding your letter during that period of considerable anguish. In the meantime you will have received 47 lots for examination from Mr. Harmer. This ought to convince you that there is, also on the part of the New York firm, every intention to cooperate with you. I hold no brief to defend anybody, but since I am an independent man, employed only as a "free lance" in this affair, my opinion might carry weight with you. As to my own attitude: you know very well that you have, and always will have, my fullest cooperation.

Consequently, when two days ago a cable of B.H.' reached Harmer's, London, suggesting the submission of 47 lots to you, I immediately agreed with Cyril H. that his brother's suggestion should be approved. N.W. will, of course, agree with it, because it is in the interest of the sale.

Since we are not aware of the single numbers of the 47 lots, kindly inform me by return if any of the ones you want to see as per yours of May 9 are not with them. The bulk of the collection is on its way back to us. On arrival we would then send you what you want to, but have not seen. The photos we have here are the same as in the catalogue. So they would not be of much help to you. Satisfactory?

Lot 88. Please look up your letter to me of July 25, 1947. As requested I passed on the information therein to N.W. and I see now that you changed your mind in the meantime. A cover okayed by S.B.A. is OK to me. Lot 176. I may have slipped up. Lots 199, 351, 372 - cannot say off hand, must inspect again. Lot 350 - was I mislead by page 203 in Vol. 1 of Brookman's 19th century US? Will go through my literature to find where I got that "Oct. 1861" from. - Generally speaking: please appreciate the enormous difficulties in describing 1000 19th century US lots of the N.W. type ON THIS SIDE OF THE ATLANTIC and in collaboration with others, not trained in this field in your modern methods. So be not too hard on me for the mistakes I made, trusting there will not be too many. Would you still say it is a good catalogue or have you changed your mind in this respect? In view of all I learned from you (and, perhaps, missed to learn) I would much like to have your verdict.

Yours very sincerely

Alfred Bacher

I should say "WE" made!

THE WESTMINSTER STAMP CO., LTD.

THE SPECIALISTS IN U.S.A. POSTAGE STAMPS

REGENCY HOUSE, 1-4, WARWICK STREET, PICCADILLY CIRCUS,
LONDON, W.1.



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.

Second fold here

Stanley E. Ashbrook, Esq.
33 N. Fort Thomas Ave.
Fort Thomas
Ky.
USA

BY AIR MAIL

AIR LETTER
IF ANYTHING IS OPENED
CLOSED THIS LETTER
WILL BE SENT BY
ORDINARY MAIL.



THE 'APSLEY' AIR LETTER

Form approved by Postmaster General No.—71995/1K

To open cut here

May 16, 1955.

Dr. O. Bacher,
Westminster Stamp Co., Ltd.,
London, W. 1, England.

Dear Doctor:

I have your two letters of the 10th and 13th. Herewith copies of letters that I have today written to Bernard Harmer and Phil Ward.

I want it distinctly understood that I do not wish to do anything that will unjustly affect the success of this sale, on the other hand I think the Harmer firm will save themselves some trouble if they withdraw before the sale all items that are questionable, because, many items will be purchased by buyers on this side and the chances are that some will be submitted to me for my opinion before payment is made. I will not hesitate to condemn any and all that I consider questionable or bad.

As you perhaps realize by this time there is no necessity to furnish me with any further photos. I carefully examined 47 lots last week.

Re - your query about Lot 314. I never doubted this cover for a moment. The "18" indicates it was a 45¢ rate. There are two explanations for the "18" R (1) An error in the 18 credit by the Boston Exchange clerk or (2) and the most logical - the addressor prepaid as a double but the N.O. clerk found it weighed slightly over $\frac{1}{2}$ oz., hence knowing the firm, charged them with an additional 15¢ and in his way bill to Boston noted it was a prepaid 45¢, hence sent to France as fully prepaid with the proper "18" credit. One can take their choice, but the cover is genuine. This is my opinion, but not a guarantee.

Re - Lot 175. No, I would not have written differently for the simple reason as explained in my letter herewith to Bernard. You had no right to quote me without my permission. I strenuously object to the use of my name in auction catalogues without my permission, because we live and learn in philatelic research work and I certainly don't know all the answers by a long-shot. I reserve the God-given right to change my mind at any time and if anyone has any fault to find with same I simply do not give a damn.

Thanks for yours of the 13th re - the delay. This shows that it is wrong to jump to conclusions.

Re - Lot 88. Again the same applies. What I thought of this in 1947 may not apply today. You will recall the cover you sold Mr. Newbury. Some time ago I wrote Mike Newbury to send that cover to me so that I could carefully examine it again. He never complied with my request which is OK with me, and may I add, fortunate for you.

Re - Lot 176. Confidentially Ezra Cole pass this a genuine, which proves to a degree what I wrote Bernard, viz., that I doubted if anyone in

#2. Dr. O. Bacher - May 16, 1955.

New York could have turned out a better job than you did. Ezra is like Zareski, he failed to realize that you cannot credit 12¢ out of 5¢. However Ezra did think Lot 199 was really terrible.

Re - Lot 372. I enclose a photo print. Imagine a 40¢ rate to France!!! This photo sure looks very similar to Lot 372. On 372, the French postmark and the N.Y. credit of "6" indicates the actual rate was 15¢.

Re - Lot 350. Brookman don't know a thing about 19th U. S. covers. His knowledge is zero and he admits it. As far as I am aware Bilden don't know as much as Les. This is not a smart-Aleck statement but the truth although it is possible Bilden does not realize it is the truth.

Again Lot 350. Even had this 24¢ stamp been legal in October 1861 the cover would have been rated just the same. Also just like the same as if the use had been a year earlier, because the rate was 30¢, not 24¢ or anything less than 30¢, hence the black (debit) of New York with a charge to Prussia of 23¢.

May I sincerely apologize for my remarks re - the Harmers for their delay in sending me lots that I desired to see.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

**HOBBY
INTERESTS**

PICTORIAL PHOTOGRAPHY
EARLY EVANSVILLE
HISTORY
EARLY OHIO RIVER
STEAMBOATS
STAMP COLLECTING
MEMBER: COLLECTORS CLUB,
S.P.A., A.P.S., C.P.S.

Henry A. Meyer

MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT • CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

RESIDENCE 516 READ STREET

TELEPHONE 5-6380

EVANSVILLE • 11 • INDIANA

**PHILATELIC
LINES**

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

MY ZONE NUMBER HAS BEEN CHANGED TO

10

PLEASE USE THIS NUMBER HEREAFTER.

April 8, 1955

Dear Stan:

It seems impossible to get a chance to write to you except when I have a few days off, as I have right now. Since I may not get to write again until the middle of June, I'll make the best of the opportunity today.

I have not replied to your letter of March 16, mostly because it did not need a reply. But I should acknowledge the enclosure, the Ditto copy of your letter to Tracy announcing that the Lowell, Mass., bisect shown by Doc Chase is a fraud. Too bad. But after it had been accepted by Doc and by you as O.K., I wonder how you discovered the sad truth.

The main object of this letter is to send you some prints of some interesting covers I have had for study lately. The number of extra fine and especially interesting covers coming up for auction the past winter has been overwhelming. Neal and I have sent for as many as we could decently ask for, for inspection, and I made shots of them. We have bid liberally, with only fair success. Prices are hitting the ceiling and smashing right on through. At times I am tempted to sell out and forget the whole thing. I need the money to apply on back payments on my pension, which I will need to be using in just a few years.

One of the pictures I am sending you needs some comments from me. It is the one with STEAM 10 and Packet 5, added to 15. First, please read Bill's explanation on page 99 of the 1954 Congress book. After you have had a chance to think it over, consider my alternative explanation:

The writer was traveling toward Chicago on a canal packet. On the inland canals, the packets were the passenger boats, which also carried light or perishable freight and express, and which made 5 miles per hour, as compared with two miles per hour for the clumsy boats carrying heavy, bulky freight. The canal left the Illinois River at LaSalle, the head of navigation for steamboats. The writer gave the letter to the canal boat captain, who kept it with him ~~until~~ the rest of the up-trip and on the down trip until he reached LaSalle, where he gave it to a steamboat captain on a non-contract boat bound for St. Louis. (The Illinois River steamboats were all based at St. Louis.) The two captains consulted together about the handling of the letter. The steamboat captain knew that at St. Louis the letter would be marked either Steam 5 or Steam 10, for he had often waited while the clerk in the St. Louis post office did so. Neither man knew whether postal regulations authorized the payment of a fee. So perhaps the canal boat captain waived his fee, or perhaps the steamboat captain took a chance and gave the canal boat captain 2 cents. One of them marked the letter in pencil, Packet 5. At St. Louis, the steamboat captain took the letter to the post office and explained what he had done. Either

the clerk agreed that it was all right and gave the steamboat captain 4c, or he said they had no business doing it that way and let him lose the 2c. I rather think he O.K.'d it, because he did not cross out Packet 5, but let it stand and added the amounts to 15. (They probably did not have a handstamp 15, because they seldom needed it; probably 99% of the letters they handled in 1850 were rated 5, double 5, 10, double 10, or 40 to the west coast.) So I believe the extra 5 cents to be inscribed on the letter because of its handling by canal boat, and not for the transportation from St. Louis to Potosi, which we know from studying hundreds of covers was always included in the postage charged at the point where the letter made port.) I was in the room when Bill read his paper, but did not raise any question there, because I wanted to see the cover first.

I need something from you. Elliott wrote me that you found a postal regulation of 1861 by which the prepayment of the Way fee by stamp was compulsory and that such letters did not need to be marked Way. I did not find that regulation; I probably didn't look in the right place. Can you quote it to me, if not too terribly long, and give me chapter and section number?

Elliott deeply appreciates the help you have given him in preparing his Carrier book. Nearly every time he writes, he tells me something you have found for him and quoted to him. He is especially glad that you gave him the location of the regulation that the carrier delivery fee could not be prepaid with a U.S. stamp. That cleared up one of the most troublesome spots in the study of carrier regulations.

Neal has had a sad loss. He owns a vertical strip of three, mint, 3c 1851's which Doc Chase has identified as coming from the "three rows"--whatever they may be. He was going to send it to you and ask you whether you could sell it for him on commission. Now he can't find it anywhere. His last recollection is that he was writing you the letter to go with it and was interrupted. The interruption was longer than he expected, or he got to doing something else, and he has never again found either the strip or the letter. I asked him whether he had possibly finished and mailed the letter. He thinks not, but doesn't want to ask you, because you are always so super-prompt about answering and/or acknowledging, that he knows you would have acknowledged it right away. Nevertheless, as a last faint hope which is hardly a hope, I decided to ask you whether you have any recollection of receiving it from him.

As soon as school is out in June, I want to tabulate and reorganize all the data I now have and hope still to acquire on the mark MAIL ROUTE. Every year when the S.P.A. special number of STAMPS is being prepared, I am asked to write an article. That was my article in August, 1954; in August, 1955, I want to make it my "Second Report" on the same subject. I hope to have it finished in time to submit it to you before sending it to Harry. I have had my research correspondent in Washington searching the records and pestering the P.O. Dept. for some regulation or directive requiring the use of the mark MAIL ROUTE, but she writes me that nothing of the sort can be found.

I'll end this now, but will hold the envelope open until some prints now in the blotter rolls get dry so I can describe and enclose them. It is too warm to have heat in the house, so it is hard to dry the prints. The only place where there is a current of warm air is on top of the gas-driven refrigerator. I can probably take them out later tonight and mail this Saturday.

Yours sincerely,

Henry

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MY ZONE NUMBER HAS BEEN CHANGED TO

10

PLEASE USE THIS NUMBER HEREFTER.

April 16, 1955

Dear Stan:

Some more questions have come up, so I am writing again, after making sure that anything I ask you in this letter will not cross up or complicate anything I asked in my letter of early this week.

Early in my work on post offices of Southwestern Indiana (which we hope at last to publish soon) I had several very early Postal Guides (by whatever name they were then called) on loan from you. I am now going to ask you a couple of questions, which I am asking you please to look up for us, if you have the particular Postal Guides I name. I know I had those I will now mention from somewhere, and it may have been from you.

1825 and 1828. Please look up Mill Port or Millport, and copy everything on that line--county of given, postmaster if given, distance from Washington and/or from state capital, compensation, or whatever is printed there. I know there won't be much, but what there is, we need to clear up a duplication of post office names, if we can locate the right books.

1813. Same facts needed for Montgomeryville.

Several covers have shown up in auctions recently, bearing two 2c 1869 stamps on letters to France. Part paid, naturally; but do you know of any rate which ever existed, which might make letter writers think the rate from the home town to the port on a letter bound for France was 4 cents? If 3c, I would say, "Internal rate only paid." If 5c, I would say, "They were still thinking of that earlier 5c rate for internal postage on letters to France." But 4c has me puzzled. There must have been something which caused various letter writers to think 4c made sense from some point of view.

Neal and I recently bought a lot of stampless covers sight unseen, and were pleased to find among them 5 Indiana stampless--but all five are much too late for stampless covers. Here is the list:

Reynolds, Feb. 19, 1861	"PAID" only
Connersville, April 11, 1861	"PAID" only
Indianapolis, Aug. 17, 1861	"PAID 3"
Knox, Feb. 24, 1862	"3 PAID"
Rensselaer, Sept. 20, 1862	"PAID 3"

I noticed the Indianapolis cover first, and thought, "The postmaster there had received the demonitization notice, and didn't want to take any chances, so he accepted cash postage instead of stamps." But I see by your book that Indiana had until Sept. 10 by the original notice, which practically eliminates demonitization as the reason on that cover; and it could not have anything to do with the rest of the covers. Are you aware of any special circumstance in 1861 and 1862 which may have caused cash payments to be accepted in Indiana or anywhere?

In a day or two I'll have some more photographs of interesting covers to send you. I have some waiting now.

As ever,

Henry

April 28, 1955.

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

Dear Henry:

I have your two letters of the 8th and 16th and the cause of the delay in acknowledging is because the collection of the late Harold Stark of Ann Arbor was placed in my hands last month for dispersal and I have been working on it seven days a week as well as seven nights. I have not had any spare time for regular correspondence and all but the most urgent has been briefly acknowledged with a promise of a reply of some later date. It was most kind of you to send me the photo prints and I can assure you that I went over these with the greatest of interest. You certainly do manage to dig out the most unusual items and I must say that no one that I know is more fortunate in this respect.

Re - your query about the 3¢ 1851 bisect, the enclosed photo with my compliments is the answer. I ran across the 12¢ in the Stark collection. Both items are on "pieces" - both dated "Aug. 3." I have searched high and low for 3¢ 1851 used at "Lowell Mass" and have found a number of covers but not a single genuine cover with a match to the one on these two items. This does not prove it is a fake. It could be from a genuine stamper that someone got hold of long after its use was discontinued.

Re - the "Steam 10" cover into St. Louis addressed to POTOSI Mo. I have carefully read Bill's remarks in the 1954 Congress book but I am inclined to favor your analysis, or perhaps the 15¢ represented 5¢ to St. Louis and 10¢ to POTOSI. It is possible any S.B. fee paid was not added to the postage rate.

Re - Way Fee. I do not recall that I gave Perry any such information. In fact, I know of no regulation or ruling whereby the prepayment of the Way Fee was compulsory by stamp.

Re - Carrier Delivery Fee - The data I gave him was not a regulation or a ruling by the P.M.G. It was not official but merely an opinion voiced by Holbrook, editor of a monthly Post Office publication. Being unofficial it does not definitely clear up this controversial point by any means. I believe I found it in the publication dated 1861 or 1862. Nothing new, as I discovered it three or four years ago.

Re - Neal Grabert. You can assure him for me that I never received any letter from him about a strip of the 3¢ 1851. I haven't seen any such an item in recent years (unused). If anyone submits such an item I will notify him at once. I advise him to notify Chase and Tracy Simpson. Tracy will be glad (no doubt) to report the loss in the 3¢ 1851 "Chronicle."

Mail Route. I will be only too glad to look over your article but I fear I could be of little assistance as your research work on this subject has gone far beyond any knowledge I possess.

Re - yours of the 16th. MILL PORT. I have an 1827 list of offices but no such an office is listed in Indiana or any other state. A number of Milford but no Mill Port or Millport. I have a Gazetteer of 1832 which lists all towns and villages

#2. Mr. Henry A. Meyer, April 28, 1955.

in the U.S. There is no Mill Port. I do not have an 1813 list. In the above 1932 no such a town as Montgomeryville is listed.

Re -- Paid in cash after Jan. 1, 1856. It is my opinion that such items are plain violations of Post Office Regulations and due to the office running out of supplies of stamps. In such cases I think the Washington Department gave permission. Better this, than to send a letter collect.

Now for the prints that you so kindly sent to me.

Steam - Manzanillo. This is from the Mexican town of "COLIMA" - 30 miles N.E. of Manzanillo. Over 1/2 oz. Looks like Neal did a good job.

24¢ 1861 - Iowa. If I ever saw that "3 cents" before I do not recall it, hence I think it must be very uncommon. I judge it was applied at Chicago or Detroit. I will request Horace to send it to me for study. As you know, foreign rate markings are one of my top specialties.

10¢ plus 1¢ from Boston to California. Most uncommon but my what a price - \$44.00 !!! You are right - no such a thing as an 11¢ cent rate.

Grundy Center Iowa Due 3 cents. This is very similar to the Leominster, Mass. labels. Looks so similar I wonder if they were printed there. Have you ever seen any of the Leominster items?

Iowa Straight Line. Another cover belonging to Horace. He does manage somehow to dig up the most unusual Iowa items. Incidentally, I keep in very close touch with him. A wonderful character and a very charming gentleman. Mrs. Ashbrook and I are very fond of him. One of those kind of friends that makes you glad that you are a philatelist. The avocation would not be near so wonderful without the fine friends that we make. You should know because you have had plenty of experience.

3¢ 1861 - Express Mail. In my opinion this is a fake. I will investigate.

1¢ 1869 cover. H.S. of three. Quite a nice item.

Stampless to Switzerland

St. Louis to Switzerland. I judge the date was November 1852. This was the 20¢ rate by the Havre Line from New York to Havre. Postage had to be prepaid. The "Paid -Part" meant "Paid only to the French Frontier" not a common cover.

D.L.O. cover of 1858 - Very neat. A nice cover.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

April 18, 1955.

Mr. Eugene Jaeger,
34 Sumner Ave.,
Norwood 7, R.I.

Dear Mr. Jaeger:

Here is a cover that I may have discussed with you in the past but if so, I don't remember. I had quite a friendly argument with a collector in Detroit about this cover. I claim that this cover was rated at Charleston, S.C. under the terms of the new U.S.-British treaty - but it reached New York before the treaty actually went into effect, viz., Feb. 15, 1849. Therefore no credit was given to Great Britain, as per the Treaty.

You will note that 24¢ was paid at Charleston. When the letter reached Liverpool on Feb. 19, 1849 and it was rated as entirely unpaid, with one shilling due. Thus double postage. On this account would you class this as a retaliatory rate cover, or would you class it as an error in rating at the Charleston P.O.? In other words, Charleston should only have charged the writer 10¢ - same being the U.S. postage to New York.

In my opinion, regardless of the way the cover is classified, I think it is a very interesting cover, as it reached New York on Feb. 7 (?) about a week before the U.S.-British Treaty went into effect. I believe there was a period of about a month prior to Feb. 15th when the "retaliatory rate" was not charged either in this country or Britain.

With kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

April 21, 1955

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

I have yours of the 18th and cover enclosed.
No, I had never seen this one before and it is quite interesting.
I never had any luck getting covers mailed the first 3 or 4 months
of 1849. My first properly marked cover is from Newport, R. I. dated
June 11, 1849. I have retaliatory rates from August to December 1848.

Perhaps a review of some pertinent dates might be in order.

Dec. 15, 1848	Treaty signed at London.
Jan. 26, 1849	Treaty ratified.
Feb. 15, 1849	Can you tell me where I may find that this is the <u>official</u> date on which the Treaty went into effect?
May 14, 1849	Details approved by both Nations.
May 31, 1849	Details ratified by British P. M. G.
June 19, 1849	Publication of Details by U. S.
July 1, 1849	Effective date of Details so far as they are not already in effect.

There is no doubt that Charleston jumped the gun and rated this as a
Treaty cover but N. Y. had as yet no authority for Credits & Debits.
If they had such authority the Credit would have been 19¢ by Brit. Pkt.
Britain had no choice and collected 1/- as usual but I certainly would
not call it retaliation. Because a British Packet carried it they
were lawfully entitled to their shilling.

I return your cover enclosed and thanks for letting me see this.

Sincerely yours

Eugene Jaeger

April 28, 1955.

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

Dear Jack:

Here is the cover that ruined me with
Hutch. I believe it is a very interesting item
because it has a story to tell.

I sent it down to Jaeger -- who is a much
better student of rates than Harold was. Here is
his letter returning it. Note how thorough he is.

His letter is the 100% correct analysis of
this cover. I am sure you will agree it is worth
far more than \$12.50. Today, I would not take twice
that price for it. Return it at your convenience.

Regards.

Yours etc.,

Stanley B. Ashbrook

4/9/55

P.O. Box 31

33 N. H. Thomas Ave.

Fort Thomas, Kent.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook;

Thank you very much for your letter and the enclosed. I am returning your 5¢ stamp due to the fact that at the moment I am not particularly interested in this issue but as time passes then I may very well change my mind. Your stamp is the finest I've seen and would welcome it as an addition to my collection.

I am enclosing for you to authenticate a cover franked with, as you can see, a strip of 3 of # 95. The

② stamps are not tied but if you will observe carefully, the cancellation ties the stamps to the cover between the perforations. Now, I don't know if this is acceptable to any dealer and therefore I would appreciate your opinion on this. Also, ^{state} from the plate it came from and if possible the year it was sent.

Thank you again!

Sincerely,
B.F. Evans

1009 S. 26th St.
Arlington, Va.

Stanley B. Ashbrook
P.O. Box 31
H. Thomas, Kent.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook;

Thank you for your letter and in regard to the cover please hold it and refrain from signing it until you hear from me again as I would like to hear from you first.

As long as you mention the rate it did occur to me as being a rather large one for such a small envelope and the letter being sent within the state, causes one to think. Do you think that the cover is a fake? I look at it from the point of view that the

② Stamps are faintly tied between the perforations and that is the only leg I can stand on. You might take into consideration though, the possibility of something ~~heavy~~ heavy being sent through the mails and this therefore causing the 18¢ rate to be used.

The above is the way that I look at the cover and I hope I have been of some assistance.

Thank you again!

Sincerely,
B. F. Evans

1009 S. 26th St.
Arlington, Va.

April 14, 1955.

Mr. B. F. Evans,
1009 South 26th St.,
Arlington, Va.

Dear Mr. Evans:

I am in receipt of yours of the 9th with return of my 5¢ 1857 Henna, and the postage booklet. Thanks very much. This will also pay the return postage on the cover that you enclosed. I will hold this cover pending a reply from you. If I give you an opinion on this cover I will sign it on the back but there will be an authentication fee of \$5.00. You can advise me if you care for same.

Regarding the cover. Here we have a postage payment of 18¢ on a letter going from a small town in Mississippi to another. The envelope is not large, hence this could hardly have been a 6 x 3¢ rate. I am wondering if you thought it strange that this letter required the strip? I would like to have your analysis of the cover.

In all probability I could make a rather good guess as to the year of use, but I would have no way of knowing from what plate the stamps came. On stamps issued as late as this, so many plates were used, we don't bother to try and learn the plate numbers. After all it would be very immaterial.

I enclose a stamped addressed envelope for a prompt reply.

Sincerely yours,

April 20, 1955.

Mr. B. F. Evans,
1009 S. 26th St.,
Arlington, Va.

Dear Mr. Evans:

I have your Air letter of the 17th. In reply, may I respectfully state this - If you would go to a doctor and ask him whether you had a bad heart or some other ailment, would you expect him to advise you without a fee?

Before you decide whether you wish to pay a fee on your cover, you ask me the question - "Do you think that the cover is a fake?"

When a doctor says you owe me a fee of \$5.00 or \$10.00, I believe the majority feel that the opinion or diagnosis is well worth it. I believe that the great majority are conscientious. Don't you?

I am honest in believing that the \$5.00 fee that I named would be well worth it. I give much information free of cost but when I know that a collector can profit by the data I give him I think he is dishonest in attempting to obtain it free.

I will hold your cover pending further advice.

Sincerely yours,

Stanley B. Ashbrook

P.O. Box 31

H. Thomas, Kent.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook;

Received your letter last week and have been contemplating on how I might return it.

Regarding the cover, believe me, I had every intention of sending you the \$5- for your opinion but in my last letter I was merely giving you my so-called analysis as you had previously asked. I was then waiting for a reply and was going to follow up with the money.

I guess I must've written the letter wrong or else you interpreted it wrong but anyway I hope your opinion of me is not as bad as I think it is.

Thank you for your consideration

Sincerely

B. F. Evans



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

May 10, 1955

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

Dear Stan,

I greatly appreciate your recent wire indicating that my informant in New York was in error in indicating that the 10¢ 1847 cover had been offered there for \$400. I am quite glad to hear that such is the case as I had considerable doubt that such information was correct. I can, of course, understand your offering it to Rust and Dick as they are probably the two best prospects for such a cover in the United States at the present time. What probably happened in New York was that Dick showed the cover to Siegel who also possibly showed it to several other clients in New York with the result that it became rather well known in that area. Dick is very close to Siegel and in fact, Siegel is selling his 20th century collection at auction the latter part of this month. Though I am sure my informant had no intention of lying, I shall be a bit more skeptical of his comments with respect to price at least in the future.

As indicated in my May 3rd letter, I am still interested in any covers from the Stark collection that you care to send along but would greatly appreciate your indicating at least in general where-else they may have been offered before submitting to me so that I shall not be embarrassed by offering them to someone who has already seen and turned them down.

Enclosed is a cover with 12¢ 1857 on which I would greatly appreciate your comments with regard to the rate. If it is genuine, your signature and explanation on the reverse will be appreciated. Also enclosed are two off-cover items on which I would appreciate your comments. Advise your fee and I shall remit promptly as usual.

With kind regards,

Jack E. Molesworth

May 13, 1955.

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

Dear Jack:

I have yours of the 10th re - the 10¢ 1847 cover. I was quite peeved that anybody would make the statement that this had been offered all over New York.

Regarding the three items you enclosed.

One Cent. No opinion. I have no interest or use for such an item. The only kind of an item of this sort that I would think of passing on would be a cover with a copy tied tight by a Chicago postmark of the proper date. I think a person would be foolish to even consider buying an item such as this. No charge for this advice.

10¢ 1857. No opinion. I think it speaks for itself - a copy without cancelation. Whether it ever had one might be proved by a photo by ultra-violet and it might not.

Cover. This was from Detroit apparently in March 1858. The rate to Australia at that time via England and Southampton was 33¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. - 5¢ was our share (U. S. internal) - The 28 was our credit to G.B. To right of the PAID is "33" in pencil. This was prepaid. I doubt if the 12¢ was used originally on the cover, because I believe this was a paid stampless (in cash). However, ~~this~~ there is a remote(?) possibility that the person who mailed the letter put the stamp on and took it to the Detroit P.O. and was told he owed an additional 21¢. Take your choice.

No fee.

Sincerely yours,

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



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

Jack E. Molesworth

Philatelic Dealer and Broker

102 Beacon Street

Boston 16, Massachusetts

May 13, 1955

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

Dear Stan,

Many thanks for your comments of May 7th on the two covers. Enclosed is my check for \$3. I am also returning the #65, priced at \$5, though very much appreciate your sending it along to illustrate the post mark.

Enclosed are five Confederate items on which I would greatly appreciate your comments and signature if genuine on the covers. I sent these to Larry Shenfield for an official opinion of the Confederate Stamp Alliance Expert Committee, but he is in Europe until the end of June; and since you are also a member of it, I hope you may be able to give me an official opinion. I personally have my doubts concerning the two perforated items. The cover with the ~~Five~~ greens is an interesting one that you might like to include in your special service if you agree it is genuine as I feel it is myself. Apparently Natchez Mississippi fell to the Union forces about a month prior to the "June 26, 1863 post mark" on this cover which incidentally is also addressed to Jackson, Mississippi which likewise fell several weeks before the date of the post mark. Since I am sure the post mark is genuine, I am wondering if the history books are correct? Your comments will be appreciated.

I appreciate the additional information regarding the #2 strip of four on cover. I assure you I understand your position with regard to offering the material to dealers and collectors at the same price and have not intended to imply any feeling that you should offer to split commissions etc.. Rather, if there is anything I can use, I am quite willing to pay the full retail price and also realize, as you indicated, that certain collectors will doubtlessly be far better customers than any dealer in the total sales picture and should therefore get just as good a price as a dealer. As indicated in the last sentence of the second paragraph of my May 3rd letter, I had doubts as to the 100% accuracy of the price information which my New York contact had given me as I was rather sure that you would not be quoting a cover at one price to one buyer and a higher price to another, regardless of their identities.

P.S. Also enclosing 5d+10d 1847
Combin. cover from
Fox Sale for your opinion.
JEM/pww

Faithfully yours,

Jack E. Molesworth

P.P.S. What did
you think of
30d 6p covers
in W. House
Sale?

May 15, 1955.

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

Dear Jack:

Your Air Mail Special did not reach me until Sunday noon. I note it was mailed on Friday, the 13th. Probably was sent by a covered wagon. One pays for Service that one does not get.

Thanks for your check for \$3.00 and return of the 3¢ 1861 cover.

Re - the items that you enclosed and which I am returning herewith.

Confederate 2¢ Green cover. I believe that you will recall that Vicksburg fell at the same time as Gettysburg and the time was July 4, 1863. It was not until after Vicksburg fell that Natchez was occupied by Federal troops. I don't believe I am familiar with this Natchez postmark with year date and the only reason I believe this cover is genuine is because it looks genuine. If I was requested to bring any proof other than this I would be out on a limb. I am charging you a fee of \$3.50 on this item.

While I am a member of the C.S.A. "Expert Committee" I very seldom serve. I have no time for free work.

I do not like the perf cover or the perf on piece.

Re - the 10¢. Of course, this is not Rose, and it could hardly be classed as "Dull Rose" - "Brown Rose" or "Deep Rose" so in my opinion, it is in the "Carmine" class but not a representative example of that color.

Re - the block. No comment.

Re - the 1847 cover. The use was early - Mar 1848 - The 5¢ is an early color - the pair is an early. I believe enclosures could have required a five times rate. I see no reason to question this cover. I was impressed with one feature - on the pair - one grid vertical (as on the 5¢) and the one to right - horizontal. Most unusual. I have signed this on the back. My fee is \$3.50.

Re - the Waterhouse Sale. I have been requested from many friends, dealers, etc., for my opinion on lots in the Waterhouse sale. One dealer wrote and asked if I would give him a list of all the fakes in the sale. I replied that I would be glad to do so at \$5.00 per lot. No reply. There are covers in the sale that look good as gold, that are fakes. A lot of buyers who will depend on their judgment will get badly stung. I have color slides that I made of over 60 lots in the sale.

Regards.

Yours etc.,

Fee \$7.00

Return

Postage .62

(S B 26 24)

Des Moines, Iowa,

May 8, 1955.

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook,

Fort Thomas, K. Y.,

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

My friend Horace Poole has requested I forward one of my Iowa Ghost covers which happens to have an interesting marking, for your inspection and I am very glad to do so. If you can figure just what actually happened I will be glad to receive your opinion on same.

Sincerely,

Chas. I. Altman

Chas. I. Altman,

2936 Rutland Ave.,

Des Moines 11, Iowa.

May 13, 1955.

Mr. Charles I. Altman,
2936 Rutland Ave.,
Des Moines 11, Iowa.

Dear Mr. Altman:

Thanks very much for your kindness in the loan of your cover with the corner card of Grundy Center, Iowa. I was shown a photograph of your cover and I was impressed with the resemblance to similar stickers that were used by the Postmaster at Leominster, Mass. in the middle eighteen fifties to well along in the sixties. I have been informed that the Leominster postmaster owned a printing shop. He printed his stickers on various color paper and over the years he used various wording in different styles of type. I enclose a photo print of one which I lifted from my files. This sticker was on thin blue paper. Will you kindly return my print in the stamped envelope herewith.

Your cover has no evidence of year use and no postmark. The absence of the latter makes one wonder if this cover actually went thru the U. S. mail? The notation, "By favor of Mr. Saint," rather confirms that it might have been privately conveyed but if so why the sticker? I do not believe I can supply the answer.

Again many thanks.

Sincerely yours,

Chicago 37 Illinois
May 5, 1955

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook,
33 No. ~~7th~~ Fort Thomas Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Kentucky.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Some time ago I mailed you
a few stampless covers. It maybe that you did not
receive them, it maybe that you disapproved my
sending them, or ^{that} I did not price them. It may
be other reasons, that I have not heard from you.
I should have enclosed postage which I did not
do. However I am now enclosing one dollar
to cover the expense of returning them to me,
if they have been received.

Respectfully yours,

N.B.

Augustus Hendelman.

If you have any doubts as to my integrity,
I hereby offer the following-

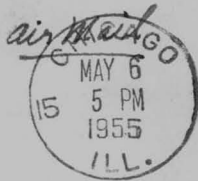
Mr. Walter Emerson - President C.P.S. 1954

Mr. Henry Meyer - Evansville, Ind.

Mr. Ben. Reeves - President S.P.A.

AUGUSTUS HENDELMAN

6334 KIMBARK AVENUE
CHICAGO 37, ILLINOIS



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



10c
20c
30c
40c
50c
60c
70c
80c
90c
1.00

A vertical column of postage values on the right side of the envelope.

May 9, 1955.

Mr. Augustus Hendelman,
6334 Kimbark Ave.,
Chicago 37, Ill.

Dear Sir:

I am in receipt of yours of May 5th. I do not recall offhand receiving any covers from you. If you sent them by regular mail, without enclosing return postage, the chances are I returned them the same way if I considered they did not have any value.

I am returning the dollar bill to you.

Very truly yours,

Van Dyk Mac Bride

744 BROAD STREET

NEWARK 2, NEW JERSEY

May 10th, 1955.

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

Dear Stanley:

The enclosed 10¢ "Frameline" has been submitted to me for the opinion of the C.S.A. Authentication Committee.

I am suspicious of it, - the "framelines" don't look right to me, and they may have been painted in. Because of your knowledge of that stamp and your plating of nearly all its positions, I would like to have your opinion. I'm therefore asking your help in this case as you are also a member of that Committee. Will you please let me know promptly?

I'll see that the cost of your registered postage, etc. is refunded to you promptly. Thanks, and regards!

Sincerely,



MacB/HK

May 14, 1955.

Mr. Van Dyk MacBride,
744 Broad St.,
Newark 2, N.J.

Dear Mac:

Here is a slide of a stamp sent to me by Dr. Frazier of Washington, for my opinion. I returned it and stated that I was no authority on Confederate P.M.P's, hence no opinion. Off the record I stated I believed it was a fake.

I am sending two color slides of the "Specimen" copies to have prints made. These will be sent to you later. It takes some time.

I am returning herewith the fake "Frame Line." I have seen quite a few faked copies but this is positively the worst. This is a K & B print and as you know, K & B never had the Frame Line plate or made any prints from it. This thing is terrible and absolutely worthless.

With every good wish -
Cordially Yours,

Slide enclosed
M45-30

P. F. 5615

May 1955

Pair 1¢ 1851 on envelope to Germany.

2¢ Circular Rate, unsealed

By Amer. Pkt. Direct to Havre and by
French postmark of "6 ADUT 57"

Query, "Is this Scott #7 - Type II -
Scott 8A - Type IIIA, etc."

Opinion. The pair is from Plate 4, and
very close at bottom. Both stamps were
Type III before the cut at bottom destroyed
the type.

The cover is genuine in all respects.

Stanley B. Ashbrook

May 9, 1955

P. F. 5578

May 1955

Single 10¢ 1847 tied to F.L. by black numeral "10."
Black postmark of LOCK HAVEN "P. A." Sep. 10.
No evidence of year of use.
Addressed to Concord, N.H.

Query, "Is this genuine in all respects?"

Opinion - In my opinion, this cover is genuine,
a 10¢ rate (over 300 miles) from Pennsylvania to
New Hampshire.

Stanley B. Ashbrook

May 9, 1955



Black

No Year

Black



James H. Johnson Esq

By R.F.
5/6-55

5578

Mr Foster

now at

Concord

CH

A 693

Black



3197

San Juan
Fürst. Anstalt. Staats Ministerium
Dresden
Germany

By
P. F.
5/6 - 55
5615

A 693

April 26, 1955.

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

Dear Phil:

Nice talking to you this morning. I had previously sent you an Air Registered with nine (9) covers totaling \$2,120.00. Included was the #36 - the 7RLE cover which I sent you for a further look. I made an enlarged photograph of the cover and I will send you a print tomorrow. I intended to make a photograph by ultra-violet just to see what it would show but I did not get around to it.

Regarding our conversation. Re - Stark covers #139 and #14.
Cover #139 - This was from Honolulu to England in 1860. The U. S. stamps are a strip of 3 of the 10¢ 1857 Type V and a single 1¢ 1857 Type V - total 31¢. Underneath the stamps is a Honolulu postmark in red which reads, "HONOLULU - SEP 1 - U. S. POSTAGE PAID." To be more explicit, Hawaii and U. S. postage (to England) paid at Honolulu. The writer of this letter paid a total of 36¢ in postage as follows:

5¢ Hawaiian
2¢ Ship Fee (private ship to S.F.)
29¢ U.S. postage to England.

Regarding the latter. From the Eastern States, the rate to G.B. was 24¢ but from the Pacific Coast it was 29¢. I suppose the writer of this letter took it to the Honolulu post office and was informed the total postage would be 36¢, so this was paid in cash, whereupon the clerk stamped it with the red Honolulu postmark over which he applied the U. S. stamps. (Supplies were kept on hand there.) He then handed it to a private ship sailing for San Francisco. When the ship arrived at S.F. the Captain deposited the letter (possibly along with a number of others) and the clerk paid him a 2¢ fee. Thus what we call a "prepaid Ship Fee letter." I believe the dates are as follows:

Honolulu Sep. 1, 1860
San Francisco Sep. 23, 1860
London Nov. 5, 1860

For the Honolulu postmark see my 1¢ book, Vol. 2, page 261, Fig. 51H. I believe this type of marking came into use in 1857 or 1858 (from memory). After July 1, 1860, the sailing dates from San Francisco for the East-bound mail were the 1st, 11th and 21st of each month. This letter probably arrived too late to catch the sailing on the 21st, so it may have been sent by the Overland Mail on Sunday, Sept. 23rd, 1860 rather than be held over until the next sailing (for Panama) on Oct. 1st. The large "19" represents the credit to England and shows that the letter was sent from "New York" by a Cunard British mail steamer, the credit being 16¢ for the Atlantic (sea) crossing and 3¢ British internal. The U. S. net share of this postage was therefore 10¢, which incidentally was the California rate at that time. To sum up - the total postage paid was divided as follows:

Form 3813
(1-54)

RECEIPT FOR DOMESTIC INSURED PARCEL

Addressed for delivery at:

Thomasville *Ga.*
(Post office of address) (State)

Postage *16* cts.

Insurance fee *5* cts.

Special delivery cts.

Special handling cts.

Fragile

Perishable

Other endorsement



POSTMASTER,

By *J M*

SENDER.—Enter name and address of addressee on other side and read information regarding endorsements and indemnity. 16-13285-14

SAVE THIS RECEIPT UNTIL PARCEL IS ACCOUNTED FOR

This receipt must be submitted to support any claim for LOSS. In case of damage, spoiling, or partial loss, the wrapper bearing the insurance endorsement may be submitted for consideration as evidence of insurance if receipt is not available.

Unless specifically initialed on receipt by postal employee, it is understood the parcel contains nothing of a fragile or perishable nature. In absence of endorsement on receipt, no indemnity will be paid for fragile or perishable matter not properly prepared for mailing.

Claim must be filed within 1 year from date of mailing.

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

Sent to _____

INSURANCE COVERAGE IS AVAILABLE UP TO \$200.

#2. Mr. Philip G. Rust - April 26, 1955.

Hawaii 5¢
Ship Captain 2¢
U.S. 10¢
Britain 19¢
Total 36¢

I am today forwarding to you a copy of the Hawaii book by the late Admiral Harris. This is Item #17 on the Library List of the Stark lot. I presented this copy to Stark in 1949; so I am purchasing it from the estate and presenting it to you with my compliments. When I autographed this for Stark I got it turned around and in some darn foolish way I signed the last page instead of the front part of the book. You can tear out this page if you wish.

Admiral Fred Harris was a prince of a fellow and a most charming gentleman and a great philatelic student. I believe he is rated as one of the greatest Naval Engineers ever turned out by Annapolis. When F.D.R. was Assistant Secretary of the Navy he came to know Harris quite well and recognized his great ability. When F.D.R. first heard of the attack on Pearl Harbor, the first thing he did was to get Harris on the phone. He ordered him to catch a plane immediately and take full charge at Pearl Harbor. This because the Admiral had been stationed there and knew Pearl Harbor as well as any navy officer. He furnished all the material for the book and had Henry Meyer write it and others to assist in the drawings, etc.

Re - Cover #141 - I note that there is no memo on the Stark album page that either of the stamps are damaged or repaired. I humbly apologize if I overlooked this fact. When you return the cover to me I will send it up to Detroit with a recommendation that the repair work be noted and a substantial reduction made in the price.

My apology also for such a lengthy letter.

Best wishes.

Cordially yours,

TRACY W. SIMPSON
66 ALVARADO ROAD
BERKELEY 5, CALIFORNIA

May 9, 1955

Dear Stanley

I will appreciate the favor if for a fee you will shed light on cover of which markings are traced attached. The cover is addressed in German to Wurtemberg (Koenigsreich Wurtemberg). Origin Philadelphia. Jan 12 1860

I figure the rate was 30¢ as indicated by what is apparently the 15 decimes mark in ~~green~~ ^{blue} ink on the face — also by the black pen-and-ink "30".

But how do they get a debit of 23¢ for American packet transit?

There is no reference to Prussian Closed Mail on the cover.

I know of no place where I can find detailed instructions for applying debit + credit exchange marks, though your Vol II and Blake's book both touch on it. However, I doubt if the Blake breakdown on his page 153 is correct for multiple rates because as I understood it the ship-to-shore was 2¢ flat regardless of weight in the British tabulation, but maybe I am mistaken.

I hope all is okay with you and Mrs. Ashbrook — and I wish I hope also that our paths will cross.

Very sincerely

Tracy

May 12, 1955.

Mr. Tracy W. Simpson,
66 Alvarado Road,
Berkeley 5, Calif.

Dear Tracy:

Re - yours of the 9th, I am returning your tracing herewith. Your cover was sent by "Prussian Closed Mail" and was forwarded unpaid - the U.S. rate was 30¢ in 1860. The New York postmark is surely in black and it was a debit to Prussia of 23¢. The Aachen marking on the back proves (among other things) that this went "P.C.M." Bags were sealed at New York and were sent thru England and Belgium to Aachen. There they were opened by the Prussian Office, the mail sorted and distributed to various European countries. We paid Britain by bulk weight and Belgium got her share. Out of each 30¢ rate (per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.) the U.S. share was 23¢ and the Prussian 7¢.

I had a complete write-up on "E.C.M." in one of my Service Issues of several years ago. There is no published article that I know of on the subject of foreign rates and markings, and it is a good thing, because it would do far more harm than good. It would educate the fakers to cheat collectors. God knows they know too much as it is, by simply copying genuine covers. I am sorry that I published what I did in my One Cent book, however, I have devoted a lot of space in my Service to the study.

Further re - your cover. The 3¢ stamp paid no part of the rate, it was a case of all or none, no part pay. Further no decimes on this class of mail. The blue manuscript was Prussian.

Of course, there is no fee.

Edgar spent last weekend with us.

Mrs. Ashbrook joins me in best of regards.

Cordially yours,

Town Capital
Canton of

GLARUS

34 Mi.

SE of
ZURICH

NE SWISS

ST GALLEN (ST GALL)

19 Mi.
SE of
Constance

on left bank of the
STEINACK

Italian GENOVA

French GENÈS

GENOA (English)

Sardinia

By P.C.M. 38d per
 $\frac{1}{2}$ oz

French Mail

21d per $\frac{1}{4}$

42d " $\frac{1}{2}$.

Champion Pants

Manufacturing Co., Inc.



SALES OFFICES IN PRINCIPAL CITIES

FORTY-NINE WEST TWENTY-THIRD STREET • NEW YORK 10, N. Y.

CABLE ADDRESS, CHAPANTS, N. Y.

May 17th, 1955

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

Dear Stan,

I am just sending the enclosed two covers to you out of curiosity.

I note the 38¢ rate on the cover addressed to Genes~~s~~. Originally I thought this city was Genoa, but apparently I am wrong. In looking up the P L & R for 1857, I note a 38¢ rate to the Sardinian states. Out of curiosity, does this cover come under this rate?

The other cover is definitely addressed to Genoa, but I don't understand the 42¢ rate.

I know you are busy and probably this may require a long explanation, but if it doesn't, please advise me.

Did you get a chance to make prints of the items I sent you several weeks ago?

I am sending a specialized collection of 60 album pages on the 1¢ 1857 Type V to the exhibits at Oslo and Stockholm. Harry Lindquist is taking them with him. I have spent a lot of effort on this exhibit, and I am just wondering how the people in Europe will receive it.

Anna and I send Mildred and you our best.

Sincerely,

Mort.

MORTIMER L. NEINKEN

MLN:HL
ENC.

#2. Mr. Nortimer L. Neinken - May 21, 1955.

time. The "K23" is his notation which meant he had a photo made and its number was "K23" - Also the "1924 - H.S." is a notation made by him. Probably "H.S." was his cost but I do not have his code.

42d
On the back of the 24¢ cover are two "BAHN POST" marks - One reads, "ST GALLEN - ZURICH" - This town was east of Zurich. The other reads, "Zurich - Glarus." Both are well known Swiss towns. All three of these markings (Zurich) were applied on the same date, viz., Sep 11 1860. These two covers interested me and I wanted to get the facts about them to satisfy my own curiosity.

With regards -

Yours Sincerely,

P.S.--In case I desired to write these up in the Service would you have any objection?

Jack Fleckenstein has been here for the weekend and I showed him these two covers. We had an argument over the 1¢ 1857 pair. What is your opinion? Has a part been added at upper right to the stamp at right or is this just a paper crease before printing?

May 21, 1955.

Mr. Mortimer L. Neinken,
49 West 23rd St.,
New York 10, N.Y.

Dear Mort:

Herewith the two covers as per yours of the 17th. Both are very interesting. One, the 38¢ rate is from New Orleans in December 1858 - "New York, Jan 5" (1859). The other, the 42¢ is from New Orleans and New York in August 1860. Both are from the same firm in New Orleans to different addresses in Genoa, at that time, in the Kingdom of Sardinia. One is addressed to Genes, which was French for Genoa, the other to Genova which was Italian for Genoa.

The 1859 P.L. & R. quotes to Sardinia,
By P.C.M. 38¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.
By French Mail 21¢ per $\frac{1}{4}$ oz.
42¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.

I do not have a rate table for August 1860, but I do have the official rates as of October 1860 and they were as follows:

By P.C.M. 42¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.
By French Mail 21¢ per $\frac{1}{4}$ oz.
42¢ " $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.

You will note a difference in the P.C.M. rate of 4¢. You will note one has a hand-stamped credit of 19¢, the other a red pen credit of 15¢, also a difference of 4¢. Our share of rates by P.C.M. at that time was 23¢. Thus the one with 19 credit (42¢ minus 19¢) gave us a net of 23¢, and the other with 15 credit (38¢ minus 15¢) gave us a net of 23¢.

Mail by P.C.M. was sent in sealed bags thru England and Belgium to Aachen on the Belgium - German border. There the bags were opened and all mail forwarded by Prussian Mail to destinations.

On the back of both covers I note postmarks of "CURS." From the dates this must have been a town between Aachen and Zurich. I distinctly remember that I knew at one time the English name for this town but I cannot now recall what it is. I looked up all references I have but nothing doing. Please find out for me. I note on the back of the 38¢ are two postmarks of "CURS" - one dated "19 JAN," the other "26 JAN." Why was this letter held over at "CURS" for a week? What did "BAHN POST" mean? Was it "Rail Road Post" or "Rail Post" - Surely Swiss. On the 42¢ is the used P.C.M. marking of "Aachen" (the French Aix-La-Chapelle). This is repeated on the 38¢ rate over the two 12¢ at left.

On the face of the 38¢ is a red handstamp (S.L.) - which may have meant "Via Switzerland." I do not recall seeing this before. I note the letters are routed out of New Orleans by "N.O.J. & G.N. R.R." This was the "New Orleans Jackson & Great Northern R.R." In 1864, this road ran to Memphis, Tenn. - a distance of 206 miles, thru Jackson to Canton and to Memphis. This is surely part of the present "Illinois Central R.R." I note that the 42¢ cover was in Knapp's collection at one

Champion Pants



Manufacturing Co., Inc.

SALES OFFICES IN PRINCIPAL CITIES

FORTY-NINE WEST TWENTY-THIRD STREET • NEW YORK 10, N. Y.

CABLE ADDRESS, CHAPANTS, N. Y.

May 27th, 1955

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

Dear Stan,

Many thanks for your letter of the 21st and your comment about the two covers. I did find out that Genes was the French name for Genoa from an Italian importer with whom we do business, who happened to come into our office a few days ago.

In reference to the postmark of "Curs" may say that I tried to find a town by this name in the atlas which we have at home which shows all the railways running from Aachen to Zurich, but no soap. It seems to me that this may have been a border town. I don't believe that it has any connection with Karlsruhe. As soon as I get a chance, I am going over to the Public Library to see if I can locate an atlas of the year 1850, which may give me more information.

I note what you say about the argument between Jack and yourself as to whether or not the part at the upper right of the 1¢ stamp being added. I think it is just a paper crease. I tried to plate the pair and it is not from the left pane of Plate 1 of which I have your photograph, nor could I plate it with whatever material I had available from the right pane, but I ~~have~~ have a stamp on which the ornaments are very close to the one which is defective, and I am quite sure that this piece has not been added.

Certainly if you wish to write up these covers in The Service, I would be complimented.

Did you photograph the covers?

Kindest regards.

Sincerely,

MORTIMER L. NEINKEN

MLN:HL

6/13-55

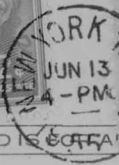
CURS ? The only thing I

can think of is Exchanges as in
money — the Swedes use "KURS" —
Germans, French + Dutch "CURS"

List follows

Sael

(Pelander)



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

VIA AIR MAIL

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

See Lot 41
in Pelander Sale
4/24 - 1955
A689

Print loaned Neinken

per Steamship Via N.O. & G.N.R.R.



19 MACHEN 9 9
FRANCO

Sig. Rappelli
Trassineti
Perova



Italia

per Steamer. Via R. R. G. A. R. R. & Co

ANATA FRETTA
NEW ORLEANS



Monsieur Giuseppe Galino
P.I.

FRANCA

Genova

Adm
2

MacBride

744 BROAD STREET

NEWARK 2, NEW JERSEY

May 17th, 1955.

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

Dear Stan:

Thanks a lot for yours of May 14th. Here is the slide of the Baton Rouge Provisional stamp which you say belongs to my good friend Dr. G. G. Frazier of Washington. As I no longer have my collection of originals to check against, I have to rely on my reference collection of counterfeits and fakes in cases such as this.

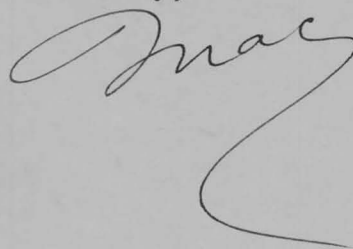
In Dietz "Postal Service" under Counterfeits (page 81) it is stated "The ground work on the original measures $4 \frac{1}{2}$ mm. from center to center, while this famous counterfeit measures $3 \frac{3}{4}$ mm." The counterfeits in my reference collection do measure $3 \frac{3}{4}$ mm. between the circles in the background of this stamp, and they also measure that on the stamp in the color slide you sent me. Going by this, therefore, and without seeing Dr. Frazier's stamp itself, I would agree with your opinion that it is a counterfeit. I will send Dr. Frazier a copy of this letter for his information.

Thank you for your comments on that fake 10¢ "Frameline" which was submitted to us. As I told you it was my opinion that the framing lines had been added to a copy of the ordinary Type I stamp by drawing them in, and I am glad to have your confirmation of this. I have so notified the owner.

I am sending you herewith a copy of the May issue of Scott's Monthly Journal, in which you will find my article on that Atlanta Provisional envelope you owned.

My best!

Sincerely,



MacB/HK

A.P.S.
S.P.A.
U.C.N.U.



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

Jack E. Molesworth

Philatelic Dealer and Broker

102 Beacon Street

Boston 16, Massachusetts

May 18, 1955

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

P.S. Is the enclosed 1¢ 1857 2
Type 1 C?
Is not the enclosed C.S.A. No. 1
Cover from Egyptian coll. & new
earliest known date?

Dear Stan,

Many thanks for your letters of May 13th and May 15th. I appreciate very much your gratas comments on the items in the May 13th letter.

Enclosed is my check for \$7.62 to cover your fee on the items enclosed with the May 15th letter. I was quite pleased to see your comments on the Confederate 2¢ green cover as one of my clients had informed me that the 1929 Dietz book indicated that Natches fell in May of 1863, though unfortunately I unintentionally sold my personal copy of such book and do not have one on hand to check. Should you run onto a copy, I would greatly appreciate your sending it along as I need it badly for my personal library.

I can naturally understand that you were quite peeved that anyone would indicate that the 10¢ '47 cover had been offered all over New York. If you will check my original letter of May 3rd, you will see that my informant indicated to me that the cover "had already been seen all around New York", which of course is somewhat different than it having been offered all over the city. However, if the deduction in my letter of May 10th is correct, I am sure you can see that his comment had a certain amount of validity. Also, it should be apparent that any efforts to sell the cover in New York by someone other than the party to whom you sent it were certainly made in an effort to assist you in moving the cover which were certainly altruistic ones. Though naturally such action made the cover less desirable to me, I certainly do not feel that anyone stepped out of line in any actions that they took with regard to it. Also, I sincerely hope that you will agree that having received the information which I did from New York, I had no choice but to communicate such comments to you and await your refutation of them which was the expected and realized result. You may be assured that I have never had any doubts as to your own manner of dealings but still felt it necessary to have your side of the picture before disbelieving the comments of a party whom I consider to be quite reliable. At least, if you were in my shoes, I certainly would expect and hope that you would do just as I did.

I was quite interested in your comments with regard to the Waterhouse sale and of course am quite interested in knowing which lots are fakes, though naturally am not prepared to pay \$5 per lot for such a list. I would certainly expect H.R. Harmer to pay the expense of having any questionable items expertized by you after which I would assume your opinion would become public knowledge, at least from them if not from you. I naturally understand that you are professional expert and certainly would not expect you to supply such information ^{free} to any curious party that might inquire. However, as a subscriber, I would hope to see such information in your "Special Service" sometime prior to the auction and hope that you will see fit to include it there.

With best regards,

Faithfully yours,

JEM/pww

May 22, 1955.

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

Dear Jack:

Re - yours of the 18th. Thanks very much for your check for \$7.62 as per mine of the 15th.

Dietz book on Confederates. Write August Dietz for a copy. No doubt he can supply one.

The Waterhouse Sale. I believe if you will seriously consider the matter that you will agree that it would be most indiscreet if I published any list of covers in the sale that in my opinion are questionable in any way. I have no desire to damage the success of the sale or to incur the ill-will of Sir Nicholas, Dr. Bacher or the Harmer firm. Further, if the time ever comes that I would feel compelled to give advance information, free of charge to subscribers to my Service regarding fake covers in auction sales I would discontinue the Service. I heard that you intend to attend the sale. Is that true?

Confederate cover enclosed

Two 5¢ 1861 Green. The use was not Sept 1861, but 1862, or possibly later. Many post offices used 1861 year logos in 1862 and even in 1863. This was not an overweight but a single rate of 10¢ in 1862. In 1861, the rate was 5¢.

Re - 1¢ 1857. The identifying feature of a IC is the bottom ornament at left corner. This is covered by the cancel. The best I can do is to state - This was a Type IC, in my opinion before the cancel covered up the type characteristic.

No fee, but you can refund return postage.

I will be away on a short vacation of ten days commencing May 26.

With regards-

Yours etc.,

EZRA D. COLE

Rare Postage Stamps

NYACK . NEW YORK

Commissions . Appraisals

TELEPHONE NYACK 7-0964

May 27th, 1955

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

Dear Stan:

There is a difference of opinion on this lot from the Fox sale and I expect to pay for the opinion or the owner will, so write me whatever you want to in a letter to me, but write something in a separate letter which I can show to Fox or the owner, or both.

No question about condition. John Fox described this as "carried outside the mail".

I am sending you the pertinent paragraph from the owner's letter so you will see what he wants and what his questions are.

Sincerely,

EDC:mk1

Ezra D. Cole.

Regarding cover attached to a John A. Fox auction slip #812. In my opinion, the only thing of interest about this cover is the envelope with the imprint -

"Overland Mail - Via Los Angeles."

But whether this is genuine or not I do not know, as I have no record of an envelope with this imprint.

There is no evidence that I can detect that this is in the class that is termed, "Carried Outside of the Mail." Some person could very well have used this envelope to send a note, privately, to the addressee. For example, John Fox could write a note and enclose it in an envelope and send it over to a friend in New York by one of his employees but would that give the envelope any philatelic value? Technically the note would be carried outside of the mail, but in my opinion, as stated above, the term "C.O.T.M." - refers principally to such carriage as "Via Nicaragua," or to mail carried privately by express messengers. A letter carried from San Francisco, privately, in 1850, to New York and placed in the mail there with a 5¢ 1847 and addressed to Boston, is an example of a letter "carried outside the U.S. Mail." Such an item is of interest because 35¢ in postage was avoided.

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK

JUNE 5, 1955

FEDERAL-MOGUL CORPORATION

11031 SHOEMAKER AVENUE

DETROIT 13, MICHIGAN

EXECUTIVE OFFICES

June 1, 1955.

Dear Stanley,

On Feb. 2, 1955 I made out a check to Jack Fleckenstein for \$40.00 to be endorsed and sent to you. This has never been cashed. I guess Charley Ohlsson lost it and the others. I am enclosing a new check for \$40.00 for you to cash.

I think I acknowledged your letter of Feb 23d which contained your good report regarding my 5d plus 10d cover to France.

Your Confederate booklet was read ~~very~~ thoroughly and appreciated. I have just bought a few covers from the John Fox auction. One was the earliest use known of 10d blue - 1863 - Type I your Figure 24. Your mimeographed sheet says this is April 23d, your book April 22d.

The best examination I can make indicates
April 22. The top half of the second numeral
is exactly like the 2. I don't believe
a 3 has the top half same as 2. The
bottom half is smeared a little. If there
is a good chance it is April 22d I would
rather mount it as April 22d because
the catalogues show April 22d the
earliest use.

I also bought the earliest use
of Type II on cover, May 1, 1863.

I now own eight of the covers
you illustrate in your Confederate
booklet.

Another cover I bought is
the 2¢ brown ¹² and 10¢ cover you wrote
about in Weekly Philatelic Gossip. volume
55 number 23, Feb. 7, 1953. I am confused
as to how to write this up. Several people
I think disagree with your assumptions.

FEDERAL-MOGUL CORPORATION

11031 SHOEMAKER AVENUE

DETROIT 13, MICHIGAN

EXECUTIVE OFFICES

Jack Moleseworth thinks that the letter was written at Georgetown (Lewis County) West Virginia and carried to Richmond, Va. by hand for mailing. If so Georgetown W. Va., wasn't it in the Confederacy in 1864 was it? Was it in the Union? Was there communication with ease between W. Va. and Va. during the war — or did it have to go by Flag of Truce. Please let me know how much I can say in writing up this cover that seems positive.

I also purchased the cover shown as Figure 4 in your booklet.
With my very best regards.
Gray Muzzey

over

P.S. Was the Little Hattie the ferry boat
plying between the Forts (Sumter
and Johnson) (any others?) and Charleston?
Therefore all in the same Postoffice
and 2¢ handstamped paid for a drop
letter from a fort to Charleston.

I was in Europe, Asia, and
Africa around the Mediterranean
all of March and most of April so have
not written earlier.

June 7, 1955.

Mr. Gray Muzzy,
11031 Shoemaker Ave.,
Detroit 13, Mich.

Dear Gray;

Mrs. Ashbrook and I were away for a little rest and vacation of a couple of weeks and I found yours of the 1st on my return yesterday. May I thank you very kindly for your check for \$40.00. I am at a loss to understand in any way Charlie Shiersen's action in this matter. Soon after the first of the year he called me by phone and insisted that I make the trip to Detroit and that my expenses would be refunded to me by a little group of B.P.S. members. It was rather hard to drop everything at that time and leave but Charlie was most reassuring and insistent. The weather was too bad to risk a trip by car and on account of a bad accident at our airport Mrs. A. would not consider a trip by a small plane, so we traveled by a train, both going and coming. We left Friday morning early and did not get back until almost 9 P.M. the following Tuesday. Please pardon these details but I would like for you to know the facts just in case you might ever be able to furnish me with some intimation what it was all about and what on earth prompted Charlie to act in the way that he did. I believe that Jack Fleckenstein will inform you that it is just as much of a mystery to him as it is to me. I suggest that you stop payment on the former check and I believe that Jack has done likewise. Incidentally, I notified Charlie that we would arrive at Dearborn on Friday night but I never laid eyes on him until Monday noon. It was indeed a pleasure to see you and to go over your collection with you.

Re - the earliest known date of use of the 10¢ 1863 - Type I. It is my opinion the date is APR 23 1863. This cover belonged to Knapp at one time. When I wrote the Confed booklet I was also under the impression that the day date was "22" instead of "23." It is a long long story and this disputed day date resulted in a split between August Dietz and me. He had a Frame Line cover with a similar strike of the damaged "23." No use in going into details but he was proved to be wrong and was not honorable enough to admit his error. After a very thorough and careful examination I feel confident that you will find the injured "3" is a "3" not a "2." The S.U.S. gives Apr 23 1863 and the date is correct, and listed from your cover. If Dietz gives April 22 1863 his catalogue is wrong.

Regarding the Type II cover of May 1, 1863. I presented this cover to Larry Shenfield some years ago and here is an exact copy of the memo in my records, quote:

"Confed - 10¢ Die "B" Early date May 1, 1863 (?)"

An S.B.A. cover presented to L.L. Shenfield June 25, 1938 - This has a very early fine color milky blue with the extra line around the design showing very clearly. Postmark tying stamps is not real clear but apparently May 1, 1863 - Richmond, Va. in black - the Richmond type without serifs - It is surely 1863 and the "May" is quite plain, also the "1" of the day date but this may be "1" and it may be anything from 11 to 19 inclusive - This should be listed as "Probably May 1st, 1863." (unquote).

#2. Mr. Gray Muzzy - June 7, 1955.

I find that Shenfield commented as follows, quote:

"Confederates Re - earliest use 10¢ 1863 - Type II

Shenfield wrote 8/10/54: 'Your note on the early date, May 1st, 1863, of the Type II, is a perfect note except for the fact that the figure "1" is centered directly under the "a" of May and, therefore, if it were some other date it must have been off center in the mortise which is most unusual for Richmond.'" (unquote)

Re - the 2¢ Red Brown cover that I made the subject of an article in Gossip, issue of Feb. 7, 1953. Perhaps you missed the subsequent article that I published later, issue of "Gossip" of May 2, 1953. I enclose a copy with my compliments. The history of old Fort Johnson is most interesting as it dates back to Revolutionary days - long before Fort Sumter was built. I regret that at the moment I cannot lay my hands on my Gossip article of Feb. 7, 1953, so I cannot intelligently reply as to why I did not think that the "Georgetown" was in Lewis County or elsewhere. I will have to reply later. I fear, that off hand, I cannot answer your other queries and will have to try and give you the answers later.

Soon after our return home last winter I sold all the Confederate material that I had with me at Dearborn and at present I haven't anything very unusual, but should anything show up I will be glad to submit same to you.

By this time you are probably aware that I am dispersing Harold Stark's collection for Mrs. Stark and this leads me to inquire if there might be any items that you would care to see? I doubt if the collection has anything in Confederates but it does have some very fine Pony Express covers, foreign rate covers, etc., etc. Also many rare Civil War Patriotics. I have one fine volume of the latter priced separately at approximately \$2200. on which Mrs. Stark authorized me to name a special price in case anyone cared to purchase the complete volume.

With my kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

June 7, 1955.

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

Dear Jack:

Referring to your query about the Confederate Flag of Truce cover in the recent Fox sale. I cannot help but wonder why you thought that this might have originated in such a town as "Georgetown Virginia" which you stated was in (quote) "Lewis County, which was in the center part of what is now West Virginia." (unquote)

I have before me the P. L. & R. of 1859 and there is no such a post office listed as "Georgetown, Virginia" but I note an official guide of October 1863 does list "Georgetown, Lewis Co., Va." and an 1867 list gives "Georgetown, Lewis Co., West Va."

I do not believe that Lewis County, W. Va. was in Confederate hands during the fall of 1864, hence I doubt if it made much difference one way or the other if the letter originated at Georgetown, D.C. or Georgetown, W. Va. If so, I would surely appreciate advice.

I am wondering if you have a copy of my article that appeared in "Gossip," issue of May 2, 1953, a follow-up article about the same cover.

If I made any errors in the two articles and you can give me any facts, I will be delighted to have them and will again publish a revision.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Mr. Gray Muzzy of Detroit.

Sincerely yours,

A.P.S.
S.P.A.
C.C.N.H.



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

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

June 15, 1955

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

Dear Stan,

Regarding the Confederate combination cover which I purchased for Mr. Muzzy in the recent Fox sale, I certainly do not wish to appear adamant in my suggestion as to the possible origin as I certainly have no conclusive proof for such. I have a list of post offices published by the Post Office Department in 1862, and it does list "Georgetown, Lewis Co., Va." I would agree that this town was probably not in Confederate hands in the Fall of 1864.

However, it appears to me that since Georgetown was in the same state as Richmond, separated by the mountains that it is quite probable that people from the western part of the state did have easier access to the eastern part of the state even though it was in the hands of opposite forces than was the case in any other areas of the war at that time. Based on this assumption, I considered it quite possible that a party might have carried it by hand on a trip to Richmond and mailed it there.

On the other hand, since the cover does not have any of the customary "Flag of Truce" markings, which I would expect it to have had it originated in Georgetown, D. C. and gone "through the lines" I have assumed that the likelihood of its going "through the lines" without such markings is less than the likelihood of its being carried by hand from western Virginia to Richmond and mailed there.

I shall be quite interested in your comments on my reasoning, which is merely a suggestion since I have no factual proof for it any more than I can see factual proof in the suggestion that it originated in D. C.

Faithfully yours,

Jack E. Molesworth

JEM/mg
cc. to Mr. Gray Muzzy

MORRIS EVERETT
R. D. 3, FAIRMOUNT BLVD.
CHAGRIN FALLS, OHIO

5/16

Dear Mr Ashbrouce -

I have recently acquired a cover with a "CHICKAMAUGA" cancellation and another with an "ARMY OF TENN." cancellation. These are just like those illustrated in the Dicks catalogue.

I have searched high and low among the reference books that I have and can find nothing about these cancellations other than they are "Army cancellations."

The catalogue says there are well known to specialists in this field.

There must be a lot of information
about these somewhere. Can you tell
me about them? If not, can you
tell me who can? Please advise.

My own limited observation is that
the "Army of Tuen" cancellation has
shown up in auctions far more
often than the "Chicamanga". Is the
latter the rarer one?

Mine are both on the 10¢
Ancker and Daly steel plates and
include the stamps in the case of
the "Army of Tuen".

I enclose a 3¢ stamp for a return
letter. Please advise if there is a charge

June 7, 1955.

Mr. Morris Everett,
R.D. 3,
Fairmount Blvd.,
Chagrin Falls, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Everett:

I have been away from home on vacation and upon my return yesterday I found yours of the 26th, which accounts for this tardy reply.

Naturally I have long been familiar with the two army markings that you mentioned but I regret to state that beyond that my knowledge is zero. I suppose what the catalogue implies is that the markings are undoubtedly genuine as they have long been familiar to students of C.S.A. postal issues. So far as I can remember I do not recall any published article on the subject of either one.

I never attached much importance to their origin, taking for granted that they were army mail postal markings used by some of the forces operating around Chattanooga. It seems to me it might prove a rather difficult matter as to which part of the forces actually used either one.

It is my recollection that the "A of T" generally appears struck on a 10¢ 1863, whereas the curved "Chicamauga" generally appears on the face of the envelope. Perhaps this is the reason Dietz did not list the latter as a cancellation. I believe I have seen more examples of the "A of T" rather than of the other.

I am sure you are well acquainted with Confed specialists who might be in a position to give you some facts, viz., Dietz, MacBride, Shenfield (now abroad), Tom Parks, Fred Grant, etc.

I think that the subject deserves an investigation and I trust that you will pursue it and develop some interesting facts. If I can assist in any way please do not hesitate to call upon me.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

June 6, 1955.

Mr. Cameron Plummer,
% The Haunted Book Shop,
55 So. Conception St.,
Mobile, Ala.

Dear Mr. Plummer:

Herewith I return the three stamps as per yours of the 2nd. Before giving you an opinion on this I thought it advisable to advise you in advance regarding my fee because I do not wish you to pay same unless entirely satisfactory to you.

I have made a most careful examination of the three copies and am prepared to furnish you with accurate information as follows:

5¢ New York fee	\$3.00
10¢ 1847	" 3.00
5¢ Providence	" 3.00

If you do not consider the above investment is worth while, then may I respectfully request that you reimburse me with the return postage.

Mrs. Ashbrook and I passed thru Mobile in our car one night last week and spent a most enjoyable evening with my old and most valued friend Dr. Sellers. I recalled it had been the first time since 1916 that I had been in your city.

With kindest regards -

Sincerely yours,

55 South Conception St.,
Mobile, Alabama
2 June, 1955

Col. Stanley Ashbrook,
Fort Thomas,
Kentucky

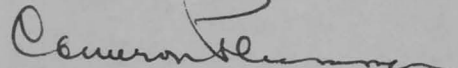
Dear Colonel Ashbrook:

The enclosed stamps were
sent to me by a correspondent with a lot of other
miscellaneous material which was accumulated by
a merchant seaman who lived in India some years ago.

Will you kindly give me
your opinion as to what they are, whether genuine,
and if not, the origin of the reprint or counterfeit,
if you can place it? I would like also to have your
bill for your professional service in this connection.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,


Cameron Plummer

at The Haunted Book Shop

Stamps appear to be
1. U.S. #2
1. N.Y. Post office
1. N.Y. Post office

All Three Separate Copies

No 42154

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

SENT TO

Mr Cameron Plummer

STREET AND NO.

55 South Conception St

CITY AND STATE

MOBILE (15) Ala

If you want a
return receipt,
check which

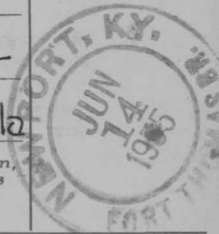
☐

7¢ shows
to whom
and when
delivered

☐

31¢ shows to whom,
when, and address
where delivered

POSTMARK
OR DATE



1. Stick postage stamps to your letter to pay:
 - 15-cent certified mail fee
 - First-class or airmail postage
 - Either return receipt fee (*optional*)
 - Special-delivery fee (*optional*)
2. If you want this receipt postmarked, stick the gummed stub on the address side of the letter, leaving the receipt attached, and present the letter to a postal employee.
3. If you do not want this receipt postmarked, stick the gummed stub on the address side of the letter, detach and retain the receipt, and mail the letter.
4. If you want a return receipt, write the certified-mail number and your name and address on a return receipt card and attach it to the back of the letter.
5. Save this receipt and present it if you make inquiry.

June 14, 1955.

Mr. Cameron Plummer,
% The Haunted Book Shop,
55 South Conception St.,
Mobile 15, Ala.

Dear Mr. Plummer:

I am in receipt of yours of the 9th returning the three stamps. I regret that I failed to inform you that it would not be necessary to return the copies to me as I made a very complete record of them last week.

I also regret to inform you that these are all "imitations," each one the product of one Jean Sperati of Paris, France, who is considered to be the most skillful philatelic counterfeiter of all time. This criminal received quite a write-up in the Saturday Evening Post several years ago. As I recall, the article was headed, "He Fooled the Experts," and this was no exaggeration as some of his products passed some of the most efficient philatelic experts in Europe.

In addition to these three U. S. stamps he also turned out counterfeits of the U. S. Despatch Post and two Confederates, the 10¢ Rose Lithograph of 1862 and the "TEN" cents (engraved) of 1863. The former is not very clever but his "TEN" would be apt to fool even one who is well versed in the general issues of the Confederacy.

Last year the British Philatelic Association, in order to stop further products by Sperati, bought from him all his dies, products, etc. He was flooding the market with numerous counterfeits of British Colonials.

Re - the three items herewith. 10¢ 1847. This is not considered to be as clever as some of his "imitations," but it does have a resemblance to a line engraved stamp. The paper differs from the genuine.

5¢ New York. This is a reproduction of position #29 on the plate and is a very clever imitation of that position. The paper is different and the signature "A.C.M." is very poor. This counterfeit frequently turns up in New York auctions. It gets by nine out of ten dealers.

5¢ Providence. This is a very dangerous forgery. It is an almost perfect imitation of position No. 12 on the plate. The paper is quite a close match and the "engraving" is extremely clever.

Sperati charged about \$10.00 each for these three copies and they find a ready market now that the counterfeiter is said to have nothing more to sell. He was supposed to sign each of his copies on the back in pencil but we seldom find such.

May I thank you very kindly for your check for \$9.00.

#2. Mr. Cameron Plummer - June 14, 1955.

I noted your remarks re - spurious items and I agree that the problem is quite a serious one. It is really deplorable that such a fascinating avocation as philately should be faced with such a menace.

With kindest regards-

Sincerely yours,

PLUMMER-MARSTON BOOK CO., INC., MOBILE

DATE OF INVOICE	INVOICE NO.	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	DISCOUNT	NET AMOUNT
		fee for certification of three stamps as per letter this date			\$9.00

DETACH BEFORE PRESENTING

June 9, 1955

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Enclosed is our check for \$9.00 in prepayment of your fee for services in certification of the enclosed three stamps, to wit:

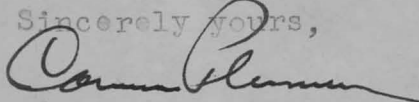
- 1 New York "Post Office"
- 1 Providence "Post Office"
- 1 U.S. Scott's #2

These stamps are so pretty that I felt sure they were counterfeits of some kind, and hesitated for over a year sending them to you. I hope you can assure me that they are genuine! However, if they are spurious, or are proofs or other non-standard issues, I would like to have that information, too. I can in any case recover the cost of your certification.

Some years ago you rendered me the service of certifying some spurious Nashville postmaster provisionals which came to me in a lot of covers I bought, and which an employee had sold to a gentleman in Washington as genuine (in all good faith.) We reimbursed the gentleman, and I think I gave the original counterfeits to our mutual friend Dave Sellers. I hesitate very often to deal in the "classics," because of the excellent phonies which are going the rounds. It's pretty hazardous business. I grow more and more to dislike it, because of the real danger of unwittingly selling somebody something which is not what it appears to be.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,



Cameron Plummer
for The Haunted Book Shop
55 South Conception St.,
Mobile, 15, Alabama

Thanks for your letter of June 14, 1955
re the Sper/ati forgeries. I had read of
them in the London Philatelist, I think, but
didn't realise I had bought some with the
Indian collection. The items I sent you did
seem to me too "pretty" and I never did offer
them to anyone for sale, for that reason.
I am glad to have your information, and have
marked each item on the reverse in ink "Sperati."

Yours sincerely,

Cameron Plummer
Cameron Plummer, The Haunted Bk Shp



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS



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

May Geo. B. Dyer
9th Maine I.
3rd Brig. 1st Div. 10th A. C.
via Newbern N. C.



B641

5/6-55

B 641

BY E. COLE

June 5, 1955.

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

Dear Ezra:

Herewith the 3¢ 1861 cover with "Express Mail." Yes, this is the item that I wanted to see. The darn thing looks good but I wonder? I never saw this marking before, unless it was on a cover that was shown to me years ago with a 10¢ 1847 tied by this same wording. By any chance, have you any information on this? I made a black and white photo which I would like to use in a Service Issue. Have you any objection?

Regards.

Yours etc.,

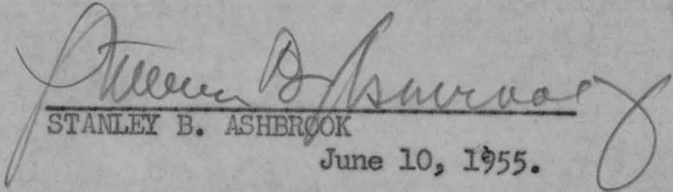
P.F. Certificate No. 5712

15¢ 1869 on cover from New Orleans Feb. 1, 1870 to Bordeaux, France.
New York Feb. 8, 1870. (Pelander Sale Apr. 29, 1955, Lot 94).

Was this stamp used on this cover originally?

Opinion. When this cover came up in the Pelander Sale in April, I sent for it and made the enclosed photo of it alongside of a print showing the regular rate and markings for a letter by direct mail to France after Dec. 31, 1869. Prior to Jan. 1, 1870 and for many years previous the single rate ($\frac{1}{4}$ oz.) had been 15¢, hence many people especially in New Orleans had been accustomed to pay that rate. This cover may have had a 10¢ 1869 which some fixer removed and substituted this 15¢ stamp or it could have been used as we see it with 5¢ overpaid. Who can say? New Orleans did use a killer such as this, hence the cover may be genuine in every way. However, the firm of Rochereau & Co. was in almost daily correspondence with Bordeaux and it would seem a bit odd for them to be overpaying by 5¢ on each $\frac{1}{4}$ oz. letter as late as Feb. 1st.

Will the Committee kindly return the photo print to me.


STANLEY B. ASHBROOK

June 10, 1955.

MEMO FROM

THE PHILATELIC FOUNDATION

22 East 35th St. New York 16, N. Y.

July 12, 1955

Dear Stan:-

I return herewith the
photo of the 15c cover you so
kindly loaned the Expert Com-
mittee for reference. Many thanks -
And the Committee passed the
cover as O.K.

I'm off to Cape Cod to-
morrow for a vacation. The
heat has been terrible. Hope
you are well - Regards
Mrs.

F128
GREEN - 10 SET

[B622]

PHOTO
PRINT



Blue

*Messieurs J. J. Andicolle & Co
Gordeaux*



Blue

Lot 94

Pelander Sale 4/20-55

Red



*George L. Hotteguier
Chy M. M. Hotteguier & Co
Paris France*

6/21/70

TAH 3

Did This 15c Stamp Originate On This Cover?
The Rate DIRECT To CHERBOURG was 10¢?
Did The New Orleans Firm Overpay By 5¢?

B
629

1
E. R. Guilford, Stamps

4527-49th 2515 13th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

I have studied the enclosed cover with the following results -

1st The paper of the envelope seems to be of a fairly heavy type of brown paper commonly used to wrap parcels - The envelope ~~itself~~ itself with its peculiar cut & the rough edges of the interior flaps would seem to be home made. The three musilage sealers would also incline me to this opinion. ~~It~~

2nd - the postal marking of Pensacola Fla. Feb 29 would indicate a leap year - This could be 1868-1864-1860-1856-1852 - or 1848 - I would eliminate 1844 and think 1848 as improbable as the use of folded letter sheets was more common than envelopes in these periods. However Mr. Konvick indicates that this marking was used as early as 1849.

3rd - By carefully lifting the stamp, I find that the manuscript marking under the stamp is 5 - The manuscript 5 is out of keeping with the ~~addresses~~ sender's writing embodied in the address and I consider the 5 as probably added by another person than the sender.

E. R. Guilford, Stamps

4527-492515 19th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

4th The 5¢ brown stamp, identical as Scott #76 issued Feb 5th 1863

5th The manuscript cancellation fails to tie the stamp to cover at any point -

6th The manuscript cancellation at first glance appears to be the initials P. C. G., the month appears to be possibly June the day 6 and the year 1863 - However the writing is so faded & illegible that almost anything can be made of it -

These are the facts as I decipher them - Now for the possibilities

1. This is a stampless cover from Pensacola Fla 1848 vintage, which would account for the 5¢ rate - The stamp having been added at a later period to try to enhance the value of the cover.

2 This is a ship letter ~~un~~paid at Pensacola and forwarded at 5¢ rate

3 This is a regular letter sent in 1863 as dated on the stamp forwarded due to Milton where a 5¢ stamp (proper rate for due mail was added and manuscript cancelled.

E. R. Guilford, Stamps

2515 13th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

4 I would completely eliminate this as a Confederate item 5¢ rate for obvious reasons - Pensacola falling into Union hands early in the war, if I remember correctly I would also eliminate #2 as a workable hypothesis because of the hand made envelope. - Of course at any period including today it is legal to send letters in home made envelopes, but as you ~~know~~ know, the great period for this was during & immediately after the Civil War when the paper shortage in the South was acute.

The manuscript cancel could be read a roughly written RLEY or carelessly written Riley - Riley was Postmaster at Milton at this time - If his 1863 cancellation is complete the 9 of 29 in the ~~for~~ Pensacola must be an inverted "6" - The 5¢ would in ^{Feb} 1863 be a correct due rating as I read the regulations (not changed until March 63) - The scratched date on the cancel could be read as anything

E. R. Guilford, Stamps

4527-4906 2515 13th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

All in all I am most inclined to theory #1 that this is a stampless of the 48's and that the stamp is gingerbread.

If you can reach any conclusion on this matter or from your vast fund of Philatelic lore add any peice to the puzzle, you would place me immensely in your debt.

Sincerely yours

E. R. Guilford

P.S. I can find no rate to justify a 5¢ stamp in 1864

June 10, 1955.

Mr. E. R. Guilford,
4527 - 49th St., N.W.,
Washington 16, D. C.

Dear Mr. Guilford:

Herewith your cover with the 5¢ 1863 Brown, postmarked Pensacola, Florida. Here are some observations:

1) There is actually no evidence that this stamp originated on this cover. There seems to be a crease in the cover under the stamp, but apparently the stamp does not show a crease. However, this does not prove anything because the paper may have had a crease before the stamp was attached.

2) I do not know whether a use in 1864 or 1868 for this postmark would be too late or not. I have no definite data on that point.

3) Pensacola was evacuated by the Confederates on May 10, 1862. The earliest use known of the 5¢ Brown is February of 1863. If this stamp was actually used on this cover, it would be my guess that the year use was 1864, rather than 1868 (leap year).

4) Re - the rate. This could well have been a prepaid Ship Letter into Pensacola, 3¢ postage plus 2¢ ship fee. The town of Milton is a few miles north of Pensacola. The letter could have been brought in by a private ship and a 2¢ fee was paid the Captain. I suppose the letter could have originated at some point along the Gulf Coast and sent by private ship to Pensacola for mailing. The writer evidently did not wish the addressee to have to pay a 2¢ ship fee. I suppose the manuscript date could be some late date in January. I have no idea what the writing is but it is most unusual for a cancel on a Ship Letter, if that is what this is. The stamp should have arrived at the Pensacola P.O. in unused condition. Too bad it is not tied tight by the Pensacola postmark.

I believe this is just about as far as I can go.

Thanks very much for your check for \$1.50.

Sincerely yours,

June 18, 1955.

Mr. Edson J. Fifield,
511 Fifth Ave.,
New York 17, N.Y.

Dear Edson:

Further referring to the unused copy of the 5¢ Orange - mint copy - that you loaned to me in yours of the 9th and which I returned to you under date of the 14th. The following is confidential; it is my personal opinion, given to you without any fee, hence I request that you do not quote me or mention that I expressed an opinion on this stamp.

In my opinion, this is not an unused copy, it is not o.g., but rather this is a pencanceled and cleaned copy and the gum on the back is not original. I made several photographs of the stamp on special plates by ultra-violet light and I enclose one of the prints. After you have carefully inspected this print I request that you return it to me.

I suggest that you submit the stamp to the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Foundation for examination. Further, I suggest that you request the following:

- 1) Is this the real Orange shade?
- 2) Is this an unused copy?
- 3) Is the gum on the back the original?

I am not prepared to state whether you could rely on the opinions given by the Committee.

If perchance you would prefer to have a written opinion by me together with several photographs, the fee would be \$25.00.

The principal reason that I request that all information in this letter be treated as strictly confidential is because it is given to you and you only free, and is intended only for you and no one else.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

June 18, 1955.

Mr. Edson J. Fifield,
511 Fifth Ave.,
New York 17, N.Y.

Dear Edson:

Perhaps you have heard of Mr. Philip Rust of Thomasville, Ga., and no doubt you have had some dealings with him. In a conversation with him today your name came up and he inquired about you. This is to advise that I recommended you to him in the highest of terms and informed him that he could rely on any statement you made to him. If you have not heard the following please treat it as confidential.

It is rumored that Mr. Rust recently acquired the Frank Sweet collection of the Eighteen Forty Sevens. It has been my understanding that this was the finest specialized lot in existence. It has also been my guess that the Norcross lot of these stamps was the second finest. I am wondering if a better deal could not be made if the Norcross collection was sold intact to Mr. Rust, rather than sell it at auction? Much expense could be saved in the way of cataloguing, etc.

Please do not mistake my motive in making this suggestion. I have no desire to horn in. If the suggestion appeals to you I will be glad to put you in touch with Mr. Rust. If not, may I inquire if the used copy of the 5¢ Orange, the Slater copy could be bought privately? I believe that Mr. Rust would like to own it, and if this strikes you with any favor, you might get in touch with him. My only interest is that I would like to see the stamp in his collection.

Mr. Rust is leaving for the Continent a week from today, so you might have trouble reaching him but the chances are I could help.

With kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

Edson J Fifield

STAMPS OF THE WORLD FOR COLLECTORS
5 1 1 F I F T H A V E N U E
N E W Y O R K 1 7 , N E W Y O R K
TELEPHONE OXFORD 7-1927

June 9, 1955

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

Dear Stan:

After patient waiting I have been able to procure the two orange '47s which you have been anxious to get hold of for study. I enclose both herewith on their original auction slips. By this you can readily see that the owner did not, as I mentioned to you, assemble any sort of collection.

The two lots are: One from the Kelleher sale, Lot No. 193, held November 16, 1946, for which I paid \$420, used copy; the second lot is from the Ward sale, believe it was the Picher property, held October 23, 1946, Lot No. 55, an unused full gum copy, for which I paid \$775.00.

I shall be very much interested to have your remarks regarding these two items. I know I paid enough for them at the time, but believe they should bring these prices or more should I be fortunate enough to have them for sale, as you can never tell what will happen.

By the way, can you give me any information as to what is happening to the Newbury lot? From all I can gather they are going to hang on to it for some time to come.

Regarding the lc 1851, Type 1 7R1E, this item is gone with the wind, and as it was bought by an agent I do not know who owns it today. Sorry I cannot help you out on this item.

Kindest regards.

Edson J Fifield

Sincerely,

EJF:GM

Enclosure - Stamps - Registered Mail

Auction Sales A Specialty



June 14, 1955.

Mr. Edson J. Fifield,
511 Fifth Ave.,
New York 17, N.Y.

Dear Edson:

Thanks very much for your kindness in sending me the two (2) copies of the 5¢ 1847 Orange, which I am returning herewith. You stated you would appreciate my opinion regarding them. I suppose I could not give a better account of them than the enclosed clip from the April 1954 Issue of my "Special Service." I believe these remarks would be of special interest to the collecting public so I am sending a copy to "Stamps" with the request that same be published at an early date. In the event you have the sale of the two copies in the future I do not believe my published comment will do the market value any harm.

I remember the Slater copy clear back to the Worthington Sale in 1917 but I didn't have sense enough at that time to buy it. To pay such a premium for just a "shade" seemed rather silly to me. I never dreamed that in all the years to follow that I would never again see a color to match it. This color is so darn close to some of the prints of the late eighteen fifties and early fifty-ones that it is unquestionably a true color. I mention this because it has been questioned at times in the past and a suspicion raised that it might be a chemical changeling. I think such a suggestion is silly, and not worthy of serious consideration.

Re - the Newbury collection. About the best that I can give you is the following which please treat as confidential. About a year ago Mike Newbury informed Ernie Jacobs in words to this effect. "Ernie if you have any idea of cutting in on the sale of Uncle Saul's collection, you might as well forget it because no sale will ever take place during your lifetime. You are much too old to ever witness such an event."

Ernie did not tell me that in confidence so I am privileged to repeat it to you but nevertheless the chances are that Mike or Ernie would not care to be quoted. It is my opinion that Mike meant exactly what he said. Everything confirms this belief. I don't think Mike needs the money and it is possible he don't dare sell it for reasons best known to him.

Okay Edson, on the 7RLE. Is it possible that Mr. Norcross did not own a 1¢ 1851, 7RLE?

I made some color slides of the two 5¢ '47 and when processed I will send examples to you.

With every good wish and again many thanks, believe me
Sincerely yours,

vey, just before closing time at the Post Office, or to ships of Independent Lines sailing for Panama or Nicaragua. As there were no lamp-post boxes or mail collection, the public had to take their mail either to the San Francisco Post Office or to the ships. Kimball's mail-bags saved his clients this trouble and for which no charge was made, to my knowledge.

Mail sent by the Independent Line ships "Via Panama" bear New York postmarks, as likewise, mail "Via Nicaragua." Kimball had special handstamps to distinguish various classes of mail deposited in his bags.

"NOISY CARRIERS" - "SACRAMENTO, CAL."

Now if Kimball conveyed mail from his mail-bags at his San Francisco stationery store to the San Francisco Post Office or direct to the ships, how come such a cover as No. 144? Why the postmark of Sacramento? In those days much of the travel between San Francisco and Sacramento was by river, and upon the river steamers it has been definitely established that Kimball had regularly traveling agents to and from the gold mines and it seems possible he might have operated news stands on the steamers where mail could have been deposited. In proportion to the large amount of mail deposited in his city mail-bags, the number deposited on the river steamers must have been very small, hence the extreme rarity of a "NOISY CARRIER" cover with a Sacramento postmark. I have been reliably informed that another such cover is known from the same "Nancy Delano" correspondence but I have never seen it. Look thru your "Noisy" covers and see if you have a "SAC. CITY." If so, you have a great rarity.

One more interesting point in regard to cover No. 144. The postmark was "30 Mar" and the year was 1855. My records show that on Saturday, March 31st, 1855, the U. S. Mail Steamer "John L. Stephens" sailed from San Francisco for Panama with "treasure" and the U. S. Mail, so this letter surely traveled by that famous old Pacific Mail Company steamship. The regular sailing date was the 1st, but in 1855, April 1st fell on Sunday, so the mail ship departed a day earlier, or March 31st. By the act of March 3rd, 1855, the rate to and from California and Oregon was increased to 10¢, effective April 1, 1855, so the "Stephens" carried out of San Francisco the last mail at the old 6¢ rate and no doubt this "NOISY" cover was in the lot. Since the 6¢ rate sailing occurred on the last day of March and the next sailing was April 17th, 1855, it follows that anything like a first day cover of the new 10¢ rate from California to the West, is practically an impossibility, (that is on April 1, 1855).

It is surely the story behind the cover that makes the cover, and here is quite a striking example.

THE 5¢ 1847 ORANGE

The S. U. S. had for many years prior to 1953, listed a 5¢ 1847 Orange color, in fact, the first edition of the S. U. S. dated 1923, listed an Orange and priced it at \$50.00 used, compared to \$5.00 for regular copies. No price listed for unused. Previous to that first "S. U. S." the Scott catalogue had for a number of years, listed No. 280 as a "5¢ Orange." The 1952 "S. U. S." listed No. 10 as "5¢ Orange" and priced same at \$750.00 unused and \$100.00 used. In the 1953 and 1954 editions of the S. U. S. the "orange" listing was dropped

and instead "No. 1C" is listed as "5¢ Red Orange" and quoted at \$1,000.00 unused, \$150.00 used. In my opinion, this was a very sensible correction because the stamp that is really an Orange, that is, the color very close to an orange peel, is a very rare stamp and as far as I am actually aware, may be unique. Where stamps of a certain color are unique or extremely rare, it is my opinion they should not be listed even in a specialized catalogue. For example, we have the 3¢ 1861 Pink, but there is a rare Pink color which is known as the "PIGEON BLOOD." This peculiar tint of the 3¢ Pink is quite a rarity and is eagerly sought after by students of the rare colors of our early stamps.

Personally, I never saw but one 5¢ 1847 which I could lay on top of a ripe orange and note that the colors of the orange peel and the stamp were much the same or quite similar. I refer especially to that unique 5¢ 1847 "Orange" known as the "Slater copy," because at one time, it belonged to the late A. B. Slater of Providence, R. I., known to all his close philatelic friends of his day as "Uncle John." Incidentally, Mr. Slater was an authority on the Providence Postmaster Provisional and wrote a book on the subject, entitled, "The Stamps of the Providence, R. I. Postmaster 1846-1847." (1930) It has been stated that the "Slater 5¢ 1847 Orange" came from the Worthington collection and perhaps it did, as Lot 19 in the Worthington sale of August 21, 1917 by Morgenthau was described as "Orange, brilliant shade, lightly cancelled in blue." The sale price was \$48.00. Fine copies of the regular shades in that sale averaged around \$2.00 or \$3.00.

THE SALE OF THE SLATER COPY

On March 23, 1935, portions of the Slater collection were sold at auction by Kelleher (381st), and Lot 201, the 5¢ 1847 Orange was purchased by the late Judge Robert S. Emerson of Providence, R. I.

The first time that I saw this unusual stamp was at the A. P. S. Convention held at Providence, R. I. in 1922. At that time Senator Ackerman had his magnificent collection in numerous volumes of the 1847 Issue on display, and well do I remember a private session in the Senator's hotel room. Among those present were Ackerman, Dr. Carroll Chase, "Uncle John" Slater, Judge Emerson, Adolph Fennel, Lyman Seely, Elliott Perry and perhaps a few others. Slater had his 5¢ Orange and we all searched the Ackerman collection to see if we could find a copy to match the orange-peel color. Years later Perry recalled that session by some comments in his "Pats" from which I quote as follows:

"The particular 5¢ 1847 stamp which has been recognized as THE true orange was in the Worthington collection and was cancelled in blue. At the A. P. S. Convention in Providence (about 1922) that stamp belonged to 'Uncle John' Slater and was carefully compared with every 5¢ 1847 in the Ackerman collection - some 1200 copies all told. Altho the Ackerman collection included all the varieties of color or shade which had been in the Chase, McDaniel, and other collections, it did not contain one stamp of the exact color of the Worthington - Slater copy. There were not more than two or three which were close enough to the Slater copy to have perhaps come from the same sheet. Whether the Worthington - Slater copy was orange when it was printed, or became orange later from an

unknown cause, is a matter of conjecture. In any event it seems exceedingly improbable that any 5¢ 1847 sold as "Orange" will match the particular color of that unique(?) stamp."(unquote)
(From Pat Paragraphs - March 1944 - No. 46)

A SECOND LOOK AT THE SLATER
5¢ 1847 ORANGE

In the fall of 1935 I visited Judge Emerson at his home in Providence and again had a good look at the stamp. Later in August 1936, the Judge sent the copy to me so that I could make a careful reading of it by the Ridgway Color Book, and my reference card shows that I read it as, "Dark Orange Rufous II - J - Plate 2." Although Emerson died in January 1937, the Slater 5¢ Orange did not come up for sale until November 16, 1946, when it was sold in a sale by Kelleher. It was Lot #193 and "fetched" \$420.00. It was purchased by a New York dealer for a prominent Eastern collector who possesses one of the finest collections in existence of the 1847 Issue.

AN UNUSED 5¢ 1847 ORANGE

This same Eastern collector is said to be the owner of a companion copy, that is, an unused copy with full original gum and in the "true" orange color. This stamp is known as the Gibson copy. I regret to state that I have no recollection of ever having seen it. It has been stated that it was in the Gibson collection for many years and was purchased by Philip H. Ward, Jr., who in turn sold it to Colonel Oliver S. Picher. In the sale of the Picher collection by Ward, Oct. 23-24, 1946, Lot #55 was described as a 5¢ 1847, "unused, the true orange, mint fresh, V.F. copy of a very rare stamp. Ex-Gibson 28c." (unquote) The sale price was \$775.00, so evidently the color must be exceptional.

To sum up, we have two stamps which are regarded by the foremost students of the forty-sevens, past and present, as the "true Orange," and if only these two copies exist, then it was quite right to drop the color name "Orange" in the "S. U. S." and substitute a color name which is far more descriptive of the stamps which are apt to be offered in auction sales.

Mr. Luff did not list an "Orange" in his fine work on U. S. 19th Century stamps but he did include "Red-Orange." Personally I like the term "Reddish Orange."

"THE TRUE ORANGE."

Dr. Carroll Chase in his superb pioneer study of the 1847 Issue, which was published in 1916, listed an "Orange." as a color that was issued in 1850 and the Ridgway reading that he gave was, CINNAMON-RUFOUS-II'i. Incidentally, this Ridgway color is entirely different from the recording that I made of the Slater copy in 1936 as above. The color that Chase listed as an Orange is more of a cinnamon and is undoubtedly the shade that Mr. Luff originally listed as "Red Orange."

The "Red Orange" should not be confused with the "Orange Brown" or the "Brown Orange" as the two latter shades are entirely different to a trained eye on

stamp colors.

It is not unusual to note a 5¢ '47 stamp offered in an auction as an "Orange," but the chances are it is some stamp in the Orange Brown classification. Also, the chances are many to one it would not be the very scarce S. U. S. "RED ORANGE," but if so, take a tip from me and refuse to permit catalogue prices to influence your ideas on values. Very, very few fine collections of the forty-sevens have a copy of the Reddish Orange. Do not expect to find a copy the shade of an orange peel, but even this might be possible.

AGAIN WE REFER TO THE
NO TRIPLE RATE OF
1849-1851

In the March Issue of this Service, I stated on page #267, quote: "One wonders if P.M.G. Collamer was in favor of doing away with our triple rate and adopting the British system, and hence took advantage of the ambiguous wording of the Act of March 3, 1849 to issue a "Regulation" ordering the change. At this writing I have no record of his issuance of such a regulation or the exact date when the Act of March 3, 1849 went into effect, but assume it was July 1, 1849, as that was the effective date of the "ADDITIONAL ARTICLES" to the British Treaty.

AN IMPORTANT DISCOVERY

I have just been advised by Mr. Maurice C. Blake that he had recently searched thru the files of the Washington newspaper, the "DAILY NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER" and in the issue of Friday, March 16, 1849, had found the "Regulation" or "notice to the public," and "Instructions to Postmasters," signed by the new P.M.G. J. Collamer, and dated March 15, 1849. Evidently the new P.M.G. who had just been appointed, lost no time in putting into effect the "no triple rate." I surmised that he had issued such a "Regulation" but it was my guess that the Act of March 3rd, 1849, did not go into effect until July 1, 1849. It appears it went into effect on March 15 or 16, 1849. His "Notice" to the "Public" and to Postmasters read in part as follows:

"Hereafter, when a letter exceeds an ounce in weight, but does not exceed two ounces, it will be rated with four charges of single postage; xxxx there being a single postage for the first half ounce, a double charge for the first ounce, and two additional charges for each succeeding ounce, or fraction of an ounce, beyond the first ounce. This is ordered by virtue of the provisions of an Act of Congress approved March 3, 1849. etc. etc. etc." (unquote)

A COVER TO FRANCE WITH A
5¢ 1856

The S. U. S. gives the earliest known date of use of the 5¢ 1856 as March 15, 1856, which is from my records. The cover is one which is in the collection of Sir Nicholas Waterhouse of London. I never saw the actual cover but I

have a photograph of it. Apparently it is genuine, but the only evidence of same is the fact the 5¢ stamp is tied by a grid. That clever little crook, Zareski, over in Paris, knows how to tie U. S. stamps to covers with grid cancelers, and also when the occasion arises, with very good imitations of U. S. town postmarks.

Photograph No. 145, is an illustration of a very beautiful cover with a 5¢ 1856, and it shows a use from New Orleans on March 14th, 1856, or one day earlier than the earliest known use. I have known this cover for almost thirty years because it came up in the Waterhouse sale in November 1924, and was Lot #316, described as "5¢ brown, used on entire to Paris, fine." It sold at eight pounds, and sterling at that time was \$4.60, thus approximately a sale price of \$37.00. I believe it was purchased by an American dealer attending the sale and brought to this country. It was sent to me in 1932 to record as the earliest known date of use. I examined it carefully and it "looked" good to me, so I recorded it as the "earliest known." In those days my knowledge of foreign rate covers was less than zero and about all that was required was for a stamp to be securely tied and the cover to "look good." At that time, the cover was the property of one of the most prominent and reliable of the New York dealers. I am certain he never suspected for a moment that anything was wrong. Note that French receiving postmark which reads, "5 AVRIL 56." On the back of this folded letter sheet are two French postmarks with "56" year-dates. Why should any collector doubt for a moment the genuineness of this cover? Is it not similar to lots of 5¢ 1856 covers that you have seen from New Orleans to France?

Now for an analysis. In the first place, this cover was not used in 1856, but rather in 1859. Second, it was originally a stampless cover, not from New Orleans but from New York City and as a stampless it was forwarded entirely unpaid. Further, it weighed over 1/2 ounce and required a triple rate of 3 x 15¢, or 45¢. Only half of the original folded letter is here, the letter itself is missing, and there are no markings on back except two French receiving. Note this black New York postmark. This is a "Treaty" marking and did not come into use until April 1857. It is a debit to France for the U. S. internal postage under the terms of the U. S. - French Treaty. The French marking reads, "ET - UNIS - SERV - BR - A.C.-," meaning - "From the United States by British Packet." Thus this letter was forwarded by British Packet from New York to England and thence to France, and the New York debit of "9" means our share of the total rate was 3¢ per quarter ounce, hence the "9" shows this was a triple rate or over 1/2 oz. (15¢ per 1/4 ounce under the Treaty, effective April 1, 1857). That this was a triple rate, entirely unpaid, is also confirmed by the French manuscript due marking of "24" decimes, equivalent to 45¢ U. S. (8 decimes per 1/4 oz - 16 decimes per 1/2 oz. - 24 decimes per 3/4 oz. etc)

How do I know that the use was from New York on March 23, 1859? The Cunard sailings were every other Wednesday from New York and Boston. As there is no indication the letter was sent from Boston, it must have been sent from New York on a Wednesday, March 23rd. In what year did the 23rd of March fall on Wednesday? The answer is 1859. And further, the routing is, "Steamer Canada." The records disclose that this British Cunard Mail Steamship did sail from New York on Wednesday, March 23, 1859. The New Orleans postmark is a fake

and so is the small French "PD" marking in red. This was applied only to fully paid mail, and meant, "Paid to Destination." Its inclusion here is absurd.

Incidentally, this cover is now in the collection of a New Yorker who sent it to me recently to show a date of use earlier than the one in the U. S. I informed him that I would furnish him with a complete analysis of the cover, but the fee for same would be \$5.00. I failed to receive any reply. I hope I am not sued for branding this "valuable" item as a rank fake.

One more point. Note how the crook changed the year "56" in the French marking. Apparently to make it look more convincing he painted a doubling of the "56," yet none of the other letters in this strike show any "shift," or doubling. And finally one more point - Note the address - viz - "B. MITJANS & CIE - PARIS." Bear that firm name in mind. By any chance do you possess any covers with that address? If so, it might be advisable to have them examined.

ANOTHER PRETTY LITTLE

5¢ 1857 COVER

Photograph No. 146, illustrates a cover to Paris with a 5¢ 1857, Type I, Brown. The Charleston postmark is Jan. 22, 1858. If you will refer to the S. U. S., you will find that the earliest known use of this stamp is July 6, 1859, which date is from my records. In my search for early uses this date has stood as the earliest known for over 35 years. When the crook added this 5¢ stamp to this stampless cover, I suppose he was not aware that a Type I Brown perforated, was not issued as early as 1858, much less as early as January 1858. This was a double rate stampless with 30¢ U. S. or 16 decimes due at Paris. Our debit was 2 x 3¢, hence the "6" in the black Boston Foreign Exchange postmark (debits in black - credits in red). The French receiving is much the same as cover #145, and shows transmission by a British Packet. In 1858, Jan. 27, fell on Wednesday, a sailing date of the Cunard ships, so there was no tampering with the year-dates. And finally, note the address, viz., "MESSRS B. MITJANS & CO., PARIS, France." Someone did a lot of monkey-business with this correspondence.

This cover was Lot 126 in the Gibson sale of June 14-15, 1944 and "fetched" \$50.00. Later it came up as Lot #396 in a Laurence & Stryker sale on May 8, 1948. It keeps me busy keeping track of such fakes and I suppose I am the only one in American philately engaged in such work.

A PAIR OF ONE CENT 1857,

TYPE IV ON COVER

Photograph No. 147, illustrates quite an unusual cover to France in 1858, during the Treaty period, a cover that is genuine in every respect. While it is not unusual to see covers of the period of the first quarter of 1857, the three months preceding the U. S. - French Treaty with a pair of 1¢ 1851 and a single 3¢ 1851, and with the "G. B. 1F 60C," it is most unusual to find a cover of the Treaty period with a 5¢ payment and the British applied "G.B." marking. In this case, the writer evidently thought that all he had to pay

Page #282

was 5¢ as in the period previous to April 1, 1857. However, no partial payments were permitted under the Treaty and hence this 5¢ pay was useless. The Boston office should have placed a debit of 6¢ on this letter but this was apparently overlooked.

WARNING - BE CAREFUL

I have gone into quite a bit of detail in describing and analysing the above covers to FRANCE for the sole purpose of emphasizing the importance of being careful in paying good money for stamps and covers unless you are reasonably sure that they are genuine. It is much safer to have your items authenticated by a recognized authority, and remember, "Just because a cover looks good is no sign at all." The crooks endeavor to make them that way.

(END OF ISSUE NO. 37 - APRIL 1, 1954)

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

COPY

June 18, 1955.

Mr. Edson J. Fifield,
511 Fifth Ave.,
New York 17, N.Y.

Dear Edson:

Further referring to the unused copy of the 5¢ Orange - mint copy - that you loaned to me in yours of the 9th and which I returned to you under date of the 14th. The following is confidential; it is my personal opinion, given to you without any fee, hence I request that you do not quote me or mention that I expressed an opinion on this stamp.

In my opinion, this is not an unused copy, it is not o.g., but rather this is a pencanceled and cleaned copy and the gum on the back is not original. I made several photographs of the stamp on special plates by ultra-violet light and I enclose one of the prints. After you have carefully inspected this print I request that you return it to me.

I suggest that you submit the stamp to the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Foundation for examination. Further, I suggest that you request the following:

- 1) Is this the real Orange shade?
- 2) Is this an unused copy?
- 3) Is the gum on the back the original?

I am not prepared to state whether you could rely on the opinions given by the Committee.

If perchance you would prefer to have a written opinion by me together with several photographs, the fee would be \$25.00.

The principal reason that I request that all information in this letter be treated as strictly confidential is because it is given to you and you only free, and is intended only for you and no one else.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK

Mr Edison J. Field
511 Fifth Ave
New York (17) N.Y.

2 MAKE
Carbon 5

Dear Edison

Further referring to the unused copy of the 5¢ Orange - mint copy that you loaned to me in years of the 9th and which I returned to you under date of the 14th.

The following is confidential, it is my personal opinion, given to you without any fee hence I request that you do not quote me or mention that I expressed an opinion on this stamp.

In my opinion this is not an unused copy, it is not O.G. but rather this is a pen canceled and cleaned copy and the gum on the back is not original. I made several

Photographs of the stamp on special
plates by ~~the~~ ultra violet
light and I enclose one of
the prints. After you have
carefully inspected this print I
request that you return it to
me.

I suggest that you submit
the stamp to the Expert
Committee of the Philatelic
Foundation for examination.

Further I suggest that you
request the following.

- 1) Is this the real Orange Shade
- 2) Is this an unused copy
- 3) Is the gum on the back
the original.

I am not prepared to state
whether you could rely
~~on correct~~ on the opinions
given you by the Committee.

If perchance you would prefer
to have a written opinion
~~to~~ by me together with
several photographs the fee
would be \$25⁰⁰.

The ^{principal} reason that I request
that all information in
this letter be treated as
strictly confidential is
because ~~it~~ it is given to
you ^{AND YOU ONLY} free, and is intended
only for you and no one
else.

With Regards

Sincerely yours

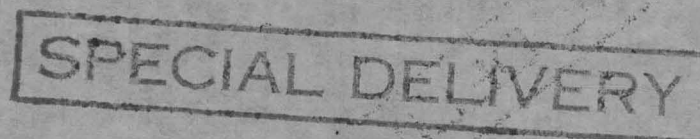
July 8, 1955.

Mr. Edson J. Fifield,
511 Fifth Ave.,
New York 17, N.Y.

Dear Edson:

I have not had any reply to my letter of
June 18th. Is there any reason?

Sincerely yours,



JUL - 8 1955

Edson J Fifield

STAMPS OF THE WORLD FOR COLLECTORS
5 1 1 F I F T H A V E N U E
NEW YORK 17, NEW YORK
TELEPHONE OXFORD 7-1927

July 14, 1955

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

Dear Stan:shbrook:

Replying to your letter of the 18th and note of the other day, the only reason I have not answered sooner is for one thing I have been away, and another is I have been a bit busy.

A funny thing that you should write me about Mr. Rust, as I had already had Mr. Rust and a few other parties in mind to contact regarding an outright sale of the Norcross collection. As a matter of fact I had already contacted Mr. Rust the day your letter came. He was in Thomasville, and I mentioned the reason of my call, and from what you said regarding the Sweet collection I was surprised to hear him mention he might be interested in the outright purchase of the other, however we made a date for Wilmington and closed the deal. He, naturally, asked me to keep the transaction confidential but knowing of your close relationship, I am quite sure he will mention it to you. I also explained to him regarding the 5¢ unused orange, however I did not tell him of your opinion. I did tell him that it had been known as a mint copy for many years, passing from time to time in well known collections, and as far as I knew and in my opinion it was unused, however I left it entirely up to him, whether it is or not, there will be no recourse to me. In figuring it's value I only estimated it at \$500, whereas I estimated the used copy at \$650, so whether unused or cleaned, certainly I did not exaggerate the price.

I think that Mr. Rust got a fine lot of material, and I made a good sale. As you probably know, Mr. Rust is not particularly interested in the cancellation part, but there are some beautiful cancellations in the lot, which I believe will add more value than he realized, but I can readily see his point.

Surely there must have been some mental telepathy working that you and Mr. Rust mentioned my name down south and I would have him in mind up here in the north and I should contact him when your letter was on the way to me. I do want to tell you how much I appreciate your recommendation and suggestion. I could have had a nice auction sale carrying considerable prestige with it, but I think your idea and mine of selling intact will save



Auction Sales A Specialty

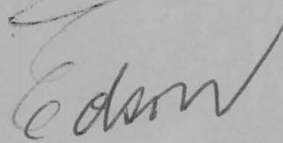
Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook - Page Two.

July 14, 1955

a lot of labor.

I am returning herewith your photograph of the 5c orange, and appreciate greatly your interest in the matter and any confidence you may have given Mr. Rust of myself, and trust that I may reciprocate in the future.

Sincerely,

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

EJF:GM

Enclosure

July 16, 1955.

Mr. Edson J. Fifield,
511 Fifth Ave.,
New York 17, N.Y.

Dear Edson:

Thanks very much for yours of the 14th.

Naturally I was greatly pleased to see the Norcross collection go to Mr. Rust and the only part that I regretted about the transaction was that the unused copy was not returned to Ward. Too bad.

I made color slides of both of the 5¢ Orange and in case you would like to see them at any time I will be glad to submit them, or I can supply you with duplicates @ \$1.50 each.

I suppose you enjoyed meeting Mr. Rust. He is quite a chap.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

June 20, 1955.

Mr. Roger G. Weill,
407 Royal St.,
New Orleans 16, La.

Dear Roger:

Herewith the 3¢ plus 2¢ cover as per yours of the 18th. This is a prepaid Ship Letter into the Philadelphia P.O. In other words, a letter that was brought into the port of Philadelphia by a private ship - the captain was entitled to 2¢ ship fee, hence the addressor paid this in advance rather than have the addressee be charged with it. If the cover is for sale, price it and return it as I like such items.

Roger, I regret very much that I cannot express opinions on lots in the Waterhouse sale. I have consistently refused to do this because Sir Nicholas has long been a very valued friend. I will not incur his ill-will by gossiping about his lots. After the sale I will be glad to carefully examine any lots at a fee of \$5.00 each. I might give you this warning - Be darn careful of any unused.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

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.

June 22, 1955

Stanley B. Ashbrook
Ft. Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan:

I can well appreciate that you would hesitate to criticize any material in the Waterhouse collection before the sale. I certainly would not have asked you to do so except for your letter of May 24. In it, you stated "If there is any lot in the N. W. sale on which you desire my opinion don't hesitate to inquire, etc. "

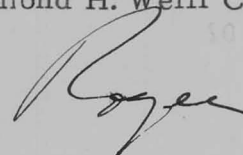
If we do buy any dubious covers in the sale we shall surely submit them to you for an opinion, as per your letter of June 20.

If the enclosed cover is worth \$5.00 to you, that will be fine.

Yours sincerely,

Raymond H. Weill Co.

By



rgw:lc

EZRA D. COLE

Rare Postage Stamps

NYACK . NEW YORK

Commissions . Appraisals

TELEPHONE NYACK 7-0964

Saturday June 18th.

Dear Stan,

Since about the first of May I have managed to be just about as busy as I ever have been. Worse it seems than during the winter when, in the stamp business I expect and hope to be busy.

I do have at least one thing to write you that I did not want to dictate to my secretary and I am not keeping any carbon copy of this letter either.

You wrote me a week or so ago and told me you knew some things about the Caspary business. While Em was here I told him a lot and I think some or all he may have told you. Whether he did or not is O. K. with me for it was not confidential, at least between us three and I hope he did tell you some things. Some things I hope will not get into general circulation.

At any rate here are some things which will be interesting I think :

Caspary committed suicide, he did not jump out a window or shoot himself, he just got tired of living, (with 20 million) he just refused to eat or anything. I saw him three days before he died.

Mrs Caspary died about a year previous and he never got over it. This made it almost impossible to even talk to him very long about anything, even stamps, although I saw him as often as I ever did, perhaps oftener this last year. I never mentioned his stamp collection, unless he brought it up, and never talked to him about what he should do with his stamps, I don't do such things although some people would have done otherwise. Perhaps in view of ~~what~~ ^{what} did happen I was wrong but if I had it to do over again I would do just as I did. About the only thing which we discussed was the fact that he did not want them to be in any museum, that some auctioneers were better than others, that some of his high priced items would be hard to sell at auction if too many were offered all at one time and other self evident factors.

Caspary had made his will I think in 1953, formed a corporation etc etc, in the belief that Mrs Caspary would live longer than he. The will you know about or at least the details were published. Mrs Caspary was taken care of and all the rest was left ENTIRELY to charity.

Mrs Caspary did not like some of his friends at all, she liked Mr Murnane I guess but she could not stand Mrs Murnane, Mr Murnane was his executor. Mrs Caspary's funeral was well attended, I was there she had friends and relatives. At caspary's funeral there were ten stamp dealers, Mrs Dale, Schenfield and about ten other people, most of them people who worked for him. About the smallest funeral I was ever at, so you can see he had very few friends, anywhere.

This is why I could not write you before and dictate the letter: My secretary is a Catholic. As I dug into the estate and all the various things after his death I discovered rather soon that I was doing business with some things and people that I could not get very far with. At first this was a puzzle. Finally the pieces came together. Mrs Murnane and I am sure Mr Murnane are both Catholics. Mr McCarthy, one of the executors is I. R. C. Mr Ward the attorney is I. R. C.

Mc Carthy is president of Austin Nichols, a liquor importing concern and lives in New York, office in BROOKLYN and home in Deal, near Allenhurst. He knew Frank Hollowbush, Caspary knew Frank and had met him down there on fishing trips with Mc Carthy.

Many people had written the Caspary estate but George had an inside because of Frank but mostly because of religion. He also was smart enough to get O'Connor, the Roosevelt executor to write Ward and Mc Carthy even tho he did a louzy job on the Roosevelt estate.

The estate, Caspary's will mostly go to Catholic charties, I'll bet.

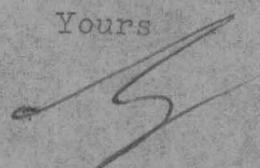
Now I worked on this and did everything I could for I would have liked the job and could have used the money but there are some things I just won't do (even for money) In the first place they tried to chisel me on my fee. They wanted a cheap job. George would do it, CHEAP. Although it will cost them more in the end and will be more costly as they go on. I was honest and told them to begin with how much it would cost. Its going to cost them more than they expected and more than my fee before they are thru. George was half my price but will take four times as long among other things.

Anyway now I'm glad I did not get it. I have been very busy as it is. When the stamps are sold I could not represent two masters, and I'll be better off representing buyers and not sellers. One regret is that I could not have had you to help me and see all his material. This I could not even tell you when I was working on the thing. I would have had someone to help us on the foreign too. As far as I am concerned to H--- with them. I would rather be on the other side.

As to the picture right now; They have had somm people trying to buy it intact. Others want portions of it. I believe from what I hear that the stamps will be sold at auction. POSSIBLY starting this fall or early next winter in a series of sales over a period of a couple of years. This is confidential.

Off to England Wednesday night. Drop me a line either here before Wed. or Care of H. R. H. in London or at the Hoet Savoy. I'll send you all the news when I get back.

Yours



RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

SENT TO

John S Whittlesey

STREET AND NO.

2240 Interlake Iron Corp.

CITY AND STATE

1900 Union Commerce Bldg
Cleveland (14) Ohio

If you want a
return receipt,
check which

☐

7¢ shows
to whom
and when
delivered

☐

31¢ shows to whom,
when, and address
where delivered

POSTMARK
OR DATE



No. 42140

1. Stick postage stamps to your letter to pay:
 - 15-cent certified mail fee
 - First-class or airmail postage
 - Either return receipt fee (*optional*)
 - Special-delivery fee (*optional*)
2. If you want this receipt postmarked, stick the gummed stub on the address side of the letter, leaving the receipt attached, and present the letter to a postal employee.
3. If you do not want this receipt postmarked, stick the gummed stub on the address side of the letter, detach and retain the receipt, and mail the letter.
4. If you want a return receipt, write the certified-mail number and your name and address on a return receipt card and attach it to the back of the letter.
5. Save this receipt and present it if you make inquiry.



Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook,
33 No. Ft. Thomas Ave.,
Ft. Thomas, Kentucky.

21st
June
1955

My dear sir:-

Was talking to my good friend Oliver Wolcott at the Garfield-Perry Stamp Club dinner last Friday nite. I told him about a cover with the 1¢ 1851's on and mentioned that I should have somebody look at it. He immediately said you were the one I should send it to.

This cover was sent to me by a lady who wants me to dispose of some of her stamps and covers for her. This one has the PORTLAND, O.T. cancel, as you notice.

Will you please let me know what the types are of the stamps in the strip and also approximately what the retail value of this item is, as I have to let the owner/the facts before I can sell it. know

Enclosed is a self addressed envelope and currency to cover postage and registration. Please keep the balance and if I owe you anything further for your service please let me know. I will remit immediately.

Very truly yours,

John S. Whittlesey

June 24, 1955.

Mr. John S. Whittlesey,
1900 Union Commerce Bldg.,
Cleveland 14, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Whittlesey:

Herewith the One Cent 1851 cover as per yours of the 21st. The strip is the Type IV, Scott #9. A used strip of three has a catalogue value of \$35.00 and a pair \$22.50. The stamp to left is badly cut and the stamp to right is pencanceled, both features effect the value of the strip to quite an extent. I think the real value in the cover is the fact that it shows the local rate on the Pacific Coast and that the postmark, though faint is a "Territorial." May I thank you very kindly for your enclosure of \$2.00.

There is so much difference of opinion on philatelic values I would prefer not to express an opinion on the value of this item. I feel sure Mr. La Ganke could give you a better idea than I could.

Sincerely yours,

MAURICE C. BLAKE
11 MASON STREET
BROOKLINE 46, MASSACHUSETTS

June 24, 1955

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

Dear Stanley:

In reply to your two letters of the 22nd:-

The British Mail Steamship which cleared from Boston Wednesday, January 2, 1856 was the "ASIA". This from the microfilm of the Boston Evening Transcript.

This and sister steamships were not then advertised in Boston as British Cunard vessels, but as "BRITISH & NORTH AMERICAN ROYAL MAIL STEAMSHIPS." Under this heading, for example, in the Boston Almanac for 1856, p.79, we find:

S. S. Lewis, Agent, No.1, Commercial Wharf, Boston		
Appointed by the Admiralty to sail between Liverpool and Boston, calling at Halifax to land and receive passengers, and her Majesty's Mails, and Liverpool and New York direct.		
Arabia	Persia	Asia (Capt. Edward G. Lott)
Canada	Africa	America-(sailed Jan.30, 1856)
Niagara	Cambria	Europa from Boston)

Regarding ship letter postage after July 1, 1863 I find no provision for prepaid 2¢ ship letter fee plus prepaid domestic postage. The double rate domestic postage applied to unpaid domestic mail and only to such unpaid mail. However, the ship letter charge on July 1, 1863 became twice the regular postage, i.e. 4¢ per ½ oz. to port of entry; 6¢ per ½ oz. beyond port of entry, so far as I have been able to discover regardless of whether prepaid or not prepaid, there being no longer the 2¢ ship letter fee per letter so far as the postage payable by sender or recipient was concerned.

Hence I consider that the Boston regular use of blue pencil "1" to indicate 1¢ due above the 3¢ plus two 1¢ 1861 stamps on the cover to Milton, Mass. was correctly so rated at Boston.

Sincerely yours,

Maurice C. Blake

June 23, 1955.

Mr. R. J. Mechin,
66 East 79th St.,
New York 21, N.Y.

Dear R.J.:


Thanks very much for your kindness in sending me the four copies of the Royal. I note an article by your friend Jewell. Do you get along okay with him?

Here is a cover that was sent to me by a Robt. Myerson of Los Angeles. He wants to know what I think of it. I have not much of a record of the 3¢ 1869 but I seem to have some sort of a recollection that Toledo used a "Bee" cancel. Is this an example? Do you think this stamp originated on this cover? The ring of the postmark is not under the stamp nor is it on the stamp. This does seem odd.

How have you been and what are you doing philatelically?

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,



No. 42134

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

SENT TO

R. J. Mechin

STREET AND NO.

66 East 79th St

CITY AND STATE

New York (21) NY.

If you want a
return receipt,
check which

☐

7¢ shows
to whom
and when
delivered

☐

31¢ shows to whom,
when, and address
where delivered

POSTMARK
OR DATE



1. Stick postage stamps to your letter to pay:
 - 15-cent certified mail fee
 - First-class or airmail postage
 - Either return receipt fee (*optional*)
 - Special-delivery fee (*optional*)
2. If you want this receipt postmarked, stick the gummed stub on the address side of the letter, leaving the receipt attached, and present the letter to a postal employee.
3. If you do not want this receipt postmarked, stick the gummed stub on the address side of the letter, detach and retain the receipt, and mail the letter.
4. If you want a return receipt, write the certified-mail number and your name and address on a return receipt card and attach it to the back of the letter.
5. Save this receipt and present it if you make inquiry.

Myerson
927 Stanford
Los Angeles 21,
Calif.



AIRMAIL

Stanley Ashbrook
33 no. Ft Thomas Ave
Fort Thomas, Ky

ROBERT MYERSON

June 17

Good Morning Mr. Ashbrook:

Here's another one For you.

The cancel seems to be genuine,
and the Postmark But the
"Toledo" P. Mark doesn't tie the
Stamp.

What's your opinion?

Many thanks.

Bob

June 23, 1955.

Mr. Robt. Myerson,
927 Stanford,
Los Angeles 21, Calif.

Dear Mr. Myerson:

I am in receipt of yours of the 17th enclosing the 3¢ 1869 cover. I am sending this cover down to a friend in New York whom I consider the foremost authority on the 3¢ 1869. I will report to you later.

Sincerely yours,

R. J. MECHIN
66 EAST 79TH STREET
NEW YORK 21, N. Y.

June 28, '55

Dear Stan:

When I got back to town last night I found your letter of the 23rd.

Yes, Jewell and I am quite "pale" now - I haven't met him yet but expect to do so next spring when I'm planning on going to Europe.

While the ring of the postmark seems odd, it doesn't seem as tho a faker would be so careless and there are a couple of spots on the stamp which appear to be continuations of the ring of the postmark.

This is a "Shoo Fly" postmark. I had one just like it from Kittredge, N. Car. and have seen it from Toledo, O. which leads me to believe it might have been produced by a company which made such equipment.

Personally, I'd guess the enclosed cover is O.K.

Thanks for the stamps which weren't necessary.

I've been picking up a few Costa Rican

itans and some few may "I Like It" callation
so am keeping up interest.

Drop me a line any time.
all the best,

R.J.

June 30, 1955.

Mr. Robert Myerson,
927 Stanford,
Los Angeles 21, Calif.

Dear Mr. Myerson:

Herewith your 3¢ 1869 cover as per yours of June 17th. In my opinion, this cover is genuine and my friend down East agreed with my conclusion. Further, the cancel is what is known as the Toledo "SHOO FLY," which, in my opinion, is a rather scarce cancelation. It is true that the ring of the postmark seems rather odd, still I suppose it could have been hit in this manner. My friend advised me that he had seen this same type of "SHOO FLY" used at Kitteridge, N.C., so evidently canceling devices of this type must have been made by the same manufacturer.

My fee for the above is \$2.50 which covers all the postage expended.

I have signed your cover on the back.

Sincerely yours,

PAID

JUL 11 1955

ROBERT MYERSON

Good Morning Stanley.

Many thanks,

Rob

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

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

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

June 28, 1955

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

In the first auction of June 19 I was successful in securing the 1847 issue cover that was pictured on the front ^{catalog} cover. It bears your signature on the back with date of Mar. 25, 1955 (which naturally I am pleased to see there) so I am sure you are familiar with it.

While I am in general familiar with the U.S.-British postal treaty of 1848 (effective in 1849), I had assumed that it provided for the payment of the "U.S. postage" only on mail from this country to Great Britain which went by British boats. However, the stamps on this cover (a 5¢ & pair of 10¢ 1847's) are tied by a "19" and so the cover apparently went by British boat yet the entire postage (overpaid by 1¢) was apparently prepaid by the U.S. stamps.

Please tell me whether the U.S.-British treaty originally provided for the prepayment of the entire postage (of 24¢) under some circumstances, or when it was amended to so provide. And I would be interested in any other comments you would care to make about this cover.

If you will tell me your fee for this I will send you my check promptly.

Sincerely,
John D. Pope III

June 30, 1955.

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

Dear Mr. Pope:

I have yours of the 28th.

I do not receive the Herman Herst auction catalogues but no doubt the cover you referred to is the one as per photo print herewith. Incidentally, I did not examine or sign the cover for him but for a prospect to whom he submitted the cover. I have known this cover for some years. It was turned up over in England by Dr. O. Bacher (Westminster Stamp Co.) in the early nineteen forties and sold to one of his clients, who in 1946 sold it in a London sale by Harmer Rooke. Last January it came up in a Robson Lowe sale in London and I was informed that it was purchased by a "small London dealer." I have an idea he represented Herst. Of course, the cover is genuine in every respect.

Now for your query. The U.S.-British Treaty, as you are aware, provided a rate of 24¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce to the British Isles. First class mail could be sent fully paid or unpaid, no part payments were permitted. Mail by British Packet from Boston or New York thru England to certain British possessions and certain foreign countries could be sent with payment only of the U. S. internal under the treaty, which was 5¢. Bear in mind the 24¢ rate was made up as follows:

5¢ U. S. internal
16¢ sea
3¢ British internal

Naturally the 5¢ U. S. internal did not apply to mail by "Amer. Pkt." Mail by such to countries thru and beyond England had to be prepaid at a rate of 21¢ per half ounce. This payment was only to the British frontier, thus the marking, "PAID ONLY TO ENGLAND."

We find covers to China with a payment of 5¢. This was not properly a "shore to ship" but in reality the "5¢ U. S. internal." The postage from the U. S. frontier to destination was collected from the addressee.

As you stated, your cover shows a 1¢ overpay in the rate - the red "19" is the credit to the British of 16¢ sea plus 3¢ British internal - and of course by British Packet (Cunard Line) from Boston.

If you are interested in U. S. covers to foreign countries (and I know of no more interesting specialty) I would think you would find my monthly "Special Service" invaluable. I am sending you under separate cover, sample

#2. Mr. John D. Pope, III - June 30, 1955.

copies (without the photographs) of the June and July issues. The subscription fee is \$100 per year, payable in advance.

At present I am breaking up the fine collection of 19th Century covers of the late Harold Stark of Ann Arbor, Mich. If you will advise what class of covers you specialize in, I may be able to send you some nice items.

There is no fee for the above.

Sincerely yours,



JEFFERSON STAMP CO., INC.

COL. L. J. HEYMAN. A. U. S. RETIRED
A. P. S.-S. P. A, ETC.

POSTAGE STAMPS FOR COLLECTORS

438 SO. 5TH STREET

WABASH 9939

LOUISVILLE 2, KENTUCKY

June 29, 1955

Stanley Ashbrook
131 N. Fort Thomas Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky

Dear Stan.,

I am writing this letter to you, because, I value your opinion of early U.S. stamps far and above all others.

Enclosed you will find a copy of the 24¢ 1860, imperf on a piece of cover which the Philatelic Foundation has pronounced as a "manipulated proof". I, myself, believe they are wrong for the following reasons;

1- It is on a piece of cover, which from examination on the back was probably used on a letter to Germany.

2- The cancellation appears to be correct.

3- This stamp does not and never has belonged to me. It was bought by a client of mine along with about 100 other stamps of the same period(on pieces cut from envelopes) from an old lady who had cuttthem off the covers. These pieces were sold as a lot for "pea-nuts" with no idea that they had any great value.

When I first saw the stamp, I told my client to have it expertized. You see the result. I have told my customer that I value your opinion above that of the Philatelic Foundation; with whom, I know that you have differed in the past.

I may be wrong, but I am anxious to see what you think

S.B.
36 - 50



JEFFERSON STAMP CO., INC.

COL. L. J. HEYMAN. A. U. S. RETIRED
A. P. S.-S. P. A, ETC.

POSTAGE STAMPS FOR COLLECTORS

438 SO. 5TH STREET

WABASH 9939

LOUISVILLE 2, KENTUCKY

of this stamp and will eagerly await your reply.

I am enclosing return postage and registration.

With best wishes always to you and Mrs. Ashbrook, in which
Mrs. Heyman joins,

Sincerely yours,

Laurence J. Heyman

July 6, 1955.

Mr. L. J. Heyman,
% The Jefferson Stamp Co.,
Louisville, Ky.

Dear Larry:

Herewith the 24¢ of 1860 as per yours of the 29th, together with the P.F. certificate #5683. There is absolutely no question that this is a fake, in fact, the thing that is supposed to be a red New York cancelation on the stamp is fraudulent. Further, no 24¢ stamps of 1860 were ever issued to the public in imperforate condition and there should not be a listing such as 37C. Such a thing is a trial color proof and should be listed under that section in the catalogue.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

(36-50)

Thursday

Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

I am enclosing a lot I purchased from a recent H. R. Harmer auction. The cover I am interested in is the one with a ~~per~~ vertical half of the 2¢ 1869 and a single to make up the 3¢ rate. I would like to know if it is possible to tell if this is a genuine cover and not a "fixed" one and if it is possible to tell if this particular one a "fixed cover".

I am going away over the fourth for a few days but I'll be home later next week. Please let me know what I owe you and I'll remit upon my return. Hope you had a grand trip.

Sincerely

Millard Mack

(over)

If this is genuine I would appreciate
your signing it on the back as such.

Thanks

Millard

No. 42145

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

SENT TO

Millard Macle

STREET AND NO.

3930 Red Bud Ave

CITY AND STATE

Cincinnati Ohio

If you want a
return receipt,
check which

☐

7¢ shows
to whom
and when
delivered

☐

31¢ shows to whom,
when, and address
where delivered

POSTMARK
OR DATE



POD Form 3800
Apr. 1955

1. Stick postage stamps to your letter to pay:
 - 15-cent certified mail fee
 - First-class or airmail postage
 - Either return receipt fee (*optional*)
 - Special-delivery fee (*optional*)
2. If you want this receipt postmarked, stick the gummed stub on the address side of the letter, leaving the receipt attached, and present the letter to a postal employee.
3. If you do not want this receipt postmarked, stick the gummed stub on the address side of the letter, detach and retain the receipt, and mail the letter.
4. If you want a return receipt, write the certified-mail number and your name and address on a return receipt card and attach it to the back of the letter.
5. Save this receipt and present it if you make inquiry.



July 6, 1955.

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

Dear Millard:

Herewith the items as per yours of the 30th. We were down in Kentucky over the weekend, hence this tardy reply.

Re - the cover with the 2¢ 1869 "bisect." I suppose this thing could be good but there is no evidence that is, and, of course, I could not authenticate it. I note the use was in October 1869, and there was no reason why any post office should not have had a supply of the 3¢ 1869 at that late date. Further, the use of halves of stamps was contrary to the Department Regulations, in fact, recognition was forbidden. Consider the enclosed cover, for example, let us suppose the writer did not have on hand any 3¢ stamps. This certainly does not indicate that the Post Office at Port Kent did not have a supply. Further, if the writer did not have any 3¢ stamps but did have a supply of 2¢, a pair of the latter could have been used on this letter and some fixer could have cut off the left side of the left stamp. On the other hand, if this letter went thru the mail as we see it, then it is not a legal "Provisional" but rather a "freak" that was passed by some P.O. clerk who was ignorant of the "Regulation," governing such mutilated postage stamps. In my opinion, a "tobacco tag" might have been used in the same manner.

There is no fee for the above comment.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

TRACY W. SIMPSON
66 ALVARADO ROAD
BERKELEY 5, CALIFORNIA

7/2/55

Dear Stanley

I am listing Rameles' collection preparatory to offering it for sale piece by piece. He told his wife years ago that if he ever died she should turn over his collection to me for disposal, so I am "in for it" - and very glad to do it in his memory.

Among his items I find the enclosed two covers and also duplicates of them. For your usual fee will you please give me "the story" on these two covers so I can list them properly. What does the NEW 1.10 YORK mean; also the (50) on the lower rated cover? etc.

If you know of any place where they might be sold to advantage or care to handle them, I am authorized to pay 20% commission.

I am not taking anything for my work, but you are not working outside your profession so could not be expected to do that.

Very sincerely yours

Tracy

No 42127

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

SENT TO

Mr M.C. BLAKE

STREET AND NO.

11 Mason St

CITY AND STATE

BROOKLINE (46) MS

*If you want a
return receipt,
check which*

☐

*7¢ shows
to whom
and when
delivered*

☐

*31¢ shows to whom,
when, and address
where delivered*

POSTMARK
OR DATE

JUN
16
1955

1. Stick postage stamps to your letter to pay:
 - 15-cent certified mail fee
 - First-class or airmail postage
 - Either return receipt fee (*optional*)
 - Special-delivery fee (*optional*)
2. If you want this receipt postmarked, stick the gummed stub on the address side of the letter, leaving the receipt attached, and present the letter to a postal employee.
3. If you do not want this receipt postmarked, stick the gummed stub on the address side of the letter, detach and retain the receipt, and mail the letter.
4. If you want a return receipt, write the certified-mail number and your name and address on a return receipt card and attach it to the back of the letter.
5. Save this receipt and present it if you make inquiry.

June 15, 1955.

Mr. M. C. Blake,
11 Mason St.,
Brookline 46, Mass.

Dear Maurice:

Here are two very rare covers from the Stark collection which I am breaking up. I thought even if you did not care to acquire them you would like to see them.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

Enclosed:

742 - price \$100.00 net
746 - " 125.00 "

RETURNED BY

RETURNED BY

MAURICE C. BLAKE
11 MASON STREET
BROOKLINE 46, MASSACHUSETTS

June 19, 1955

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Stanley:

I appreciate your sending me the two prepaid SHIP covers into Boston after July 1, 1863. Although they are beyond my range to acquire, I am glad to have seen them to add to the Boston records.

I have the cover described in B.P.M., page 140, No. 687A, too late for including an illustrated tracing of the blue pencil "3" on PLATE 39. There has been some question in my mind as to the correctness of including SHIP (B.P.M. 680 of 23x6mm.) and (685-24x6mm.) as two distinct handstamps. Although I do have examples of both at these measurements approximately, as listed on page 140 and illustrated on PLATE 39, still there is sufficient variation between 23 and 24mm. to suggest that inking and manner of striking might account for this difference from one and the same SHIP stamper, but perhaps not, as SHIP(680) occurs from 1855 and earliest recorded as (685) is in 1864.

The blue pencil "1" I am recording as B.P.M. No. 687B, as 1¢ due at Milton, Mass. in addition to the 1¢ plus 3¢ plus 1¢ 1861 stamps for the 6¢ ship letter rate beyond port of entry after July 1, 1863, year of use unknown but the BOSTON/AUG/7/MASS. postmark is one of a series of variants not appearing prior to 1865 (B.P.M. Pl. 63, pp. 206-7). This postmark seems to correspond with one of several distinguished after publication of B.P.M., being rather like the illustrated No. 1041, but with "N" of Boston larger and closer to "O", of which I have others already traced and numbered 1041B. I am unable to identify the portion of cancel that just ties lower right corner of the right 1¢ 1861 stamp.

The arc SHIP/4, introduced on or after July 1, 1863 for the double 2¢ rate on a ship letter to port of entry, with "4" crossed out by blue pencil I have recorded as No. 688A from the cover with 2¢ '63 and 3¢ '61, one cent overpay, both stamps separately tied by SHIP(680).

In this series of 3¢ 1861 stamps cancelled by SHIP(680) is a single 3¢ stamp on cover with a large blue pencil "2", numbered 684A, with red BOSTON MASS/APR/29 concentric postmark (992) representing the 5¢ ship letter rate to Brunswick, Maine, which was Lot 363 in Paige Sale of June 4, 1954, on which I intended to bid but was distracted at the moment it came up by a question from another nearby attendant at the sale so that before I knew it the Lot was quickly sold by the auctioneer to John Fox for \$8.00. After the sale I asked Fox if he could sell it to me, but he said no, as it was for a customer, name naturally not given. Fortunately, however, I had previously made a tracing of the "2" and SHIP for the Boston record. Usage obviously April 29, 1862 or 1863.

Did you receive sample copy of SANDERS' PHILATELIC JOURNAL, Vol. 1, No. 1, March, 1955, Southampton, Eng. with front cover photo of a folded letter to London bearing a 30¢ orange 1860 tied by blue 7-bar encircled grid and supposedly also by large circle NEW 19 YORK/JUL/9 red (no year indicated) priced "£35 or \$98. nett", which with 6¢ overpay looks to me like an application of the stamp on an earlier stampless cover, perhaps a Zareski?

sincerely yours,

Maurice C. Blake

Photos to be
returned

June 26, 1955.

Mr. Maurice C. Blake,
11 Mason St.,
Brookline 46, Mass.

Dear Maurice:

Your Air Special of the 24th received. Thanks so much for your kindness. The owner of the 5¢ 1856 misinformed me regarding the markings on his cover and the use turned out to be 1858 rather than 1856.

Regarding the Ship Letter Rate after June 30, 1863. I think the law referred to UNPAID SHIP LETTERS and if by chance the wording of the law was ambiguous I think the P.M.G. made a special ruling. I believe such a notice appeared in the monthly P.O. Journal. For example, there was a clause in Sec. 31 of the Act of Mar. 3, 1863, effective July 1, 1863, which read as follows: "subject to such regulations as the Postmaster may prescribe."

I enclose herewith six photographs of Hawaii to U.S. covers. These are all subsequent to July 1, 1863. These are all surely "PREPAID SHIP LETTERS." What else could they be?

If a prepaid ship letter into San Francisco was regular postage plus 2¢ ship fee, why wouldn't the same class of postage apply at Boston? Besides, I do not think it would have been fair to charge double postage when a regular rate had been prepaid. If you are not convinced, I will try and find the ruling above referred to. I can show you other covers after July 1, 1863 with 3¢ plus 2¢ prepaid and no evidence of any additional charge.

Again thanks for your kindness and promptness. I will gladly return the favor at any time.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
June 30, 1955MAURICE C. BLAKE
11 MASON STREET
BROOKLINE 46, MASSACHUSETTS

In Regulations of 1866, page 29, Section 193 gives the uniform domestic letter postage rate of 3¢ per ½ oz. ~~prepaid by stamps~~, the complete provisions for domestic postage being found in Chap. XII, Secs. 225-261.

P.L.&R. 1866, Reg. Ch. XIX, p. 29, Sec. 194, quote:

"Sec. 194. At the post-office where letters brought by vessels and steamboats not employed in carrying the mail from any domestic or foreign port are deposited, they will be charged with double rates of postage, to be collected at the office of delivery—that is to say, six cents for the single weight if mailed, and four cents the single weight if delivered at the office; but if such letter has been prepaid by United States stamps at such double rate of postage, no additional charge will be made. If only partly prepaid by stamps, the unpaid balance will be charged and collected on delivery."

The underlining is mine, showing beyond question that on the cover into Boston with the double rate of postage only partly prepaid by 2¢ '63 and 3¢ '61 stamps, the Boston Office was correct in marking the cover "1" in blue pencil, indicating 1¢, the unpaid balance to be charged and collected on its delivery in Milton, Mass.

Incidentally, I wonder whether the source for the confused HAWAII Eighth Period, pages 70-71, may not have been due to late arrival or misunderstanding of the Act of February 27, 1861, Sec. 14 and Sec. 17: "Modifies Act of March 3, 1855 to require 10¢ rate prepaid on letters mailed from any point in the U.S. east of the Rocky Mountains to any State or Territory on the Pacific, and from any State or Territory on the Pacific to any point in the U.S. east of the Rocky Mountains", in view of the Honolulu notice of Sept. 17, 1864: "The charge is reasonable enough, etc....over 3000 miles" (HAWAII, p. 71), rather than a misapplication of the Act of Congress of July 1 (22), 1864 re Contract Mail, as suggested in HAWAII, p. 70.

In the last paragraph of the discussion in your letter of June 26 you say: "Besides, I do not think it would have been fair to charge double postage when a regular rate had been prepaid." But the 2¢ added to the regular domestic postage was abandoned in the Act of March 3, 1863, so that thereafter no regular rate of postage on that basis existed legally, unless by special "regulations as the PMG may prescribe" which may account for exceptional arrangements for Hawaiian-U.S. mail prepaid in Hawaii by U.S. stamps or by cash from Hawaii for such stamps applied in San Francisco. That double postage was required for prepaid ship letters otherwise is not excepted in the Act of March 3, 1863, Sec. 31, and is positively so stated in the 1866 Regulations, Sec. 194.

With best regards,

Sincerely yours,

Maurice C. Blake

MAURICE C. BLAKE
11 MASON STREET
BROOKLINE 46, MASSACHUSETTS

June 30, 1955

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

Dear Stanley:

The answer to the question in your letter of June 26th regarding the six covers shown by the photos to be Prepaid Ship Letters, each handstamped HONOLULU U.S. POSTAGE PAID, certainly is that they could not be anything else. But I am surprised that you should expect the special arrangements for Hawaiian-United States mail, which Admiral Harris found so confusing in what he termed the Seventh, Eighth, Ninth, and Tenth Periods-from July 1, 1863 to October 14, 1867 (HAWAII, Chap.8)-, to have been applicable for prepaid private ship letters incoming at Boston.

It would be useless to discuss the various inferences drawn by Adm. Harris from rather scanty evidence or his extraordinary statement on page 35 that the 2¢ ship letter fee was an obligation of the United States by the laws of 1792 and 1799; to the latter law he also attributes the 6¢ ship letter rate into San Francisco (p.53) and even states on page 69 for the Seventh Period-July 1, 1863 to Sep.16, 1864-:"...we may safely assume....that the ship letter rate to city of port of entry (San Francisco), 6¢ per half ounce, was carried over from the Sixth Period"(April 1, 1855 to June 30, 1863). He neglects the facts that there were special arrangements for Hawaiian mail, that there was a domestic conflict in the United States from 1861 to 1865 which delayed even more than the great distance transmittal and implementation of new Acts of Congress and Orders of the PMG at San Francisco and at Honolulu during these years. In fact I have not discovered that there is any reference in HAWAII to the Act of Feb. 27, 1861, which certainly should have altered the above quotation from page 69 had it ever come to the attention of its author, viz. 5¢ per single ship letter into port of arrival, prepaid or unpaid, 2¢ ship letter fee plus 3¢ postage per ½ oz., likewise when forwarded by mail from port city post office in the U.S. up to 3000 miles (Feb.27,1861-June 30,1863).

I have the full text of Sec.31 of the Act of March 3, 1863 before me. The significant points are that there is for the first time a change in system, no longer any mention of adding the 2¢ ship letter fee to the regular domestic postage and no distinction specified between prepaid and unpaid ship letters. The PMG is authorized "to pay...two cents each.....subject to such regulations as the PMG may prescribe, but all such lettersif for delivery within the U.S. shall be rated with double rates of postage, which shall cover the fee paid to the vessel...".

Of course it would be helpful to have the PMG Orders issued upon the Act, but the substance of them is clearly stated in P.L.&R.1866, where Sec.31 of the Act is repeated in full Ch.VII, Sec.165, p.43. Sec.160 provides for payment of 2¢ per letter to ship masters, except to those of foreign packets, again, which I once quoted of Feb.1861 to you to account for SHIP 3 (B.P.M.Pl.39:(684-684A) bracketed as not necessarily of Boston port of arrival (Usage typographical error from Cuba "11/8/31" for 61, as correctly shown under Dates of Record for the U.S. Marks "11/-/61".

Now turn to P.L.&R.1866, Reg.Chap.XIX, p.29, Sec.193 and 194:

July 9, 1955.

Mr. M. C. Blake,
11 Mason St.,
Brookline 46, Mass.

Dear Maurice:

I have very carefully noted your letter of the 30th and it appears that I am left without a leg to stand on. I will, however, attempt some explanation.

Regarding the last paragraph of your letter which referred to the statement in my letter, that to charge a double rate on a prepaid 3¢ plus 2¢ "would have been unfair." When the "regular rate" of 3¢ had been paid and the 2¢ ship fee had been paid, why should the Department charge an extra cent? 3¢ was the "regular rate". I might add that I was familiar with all the quotes in your letter, when I wrote my letter of June 26, in fact, I had before me the unofficial P. L. & R. of October 1863, which gives the P.O.D. explanation of every section of the Act of March 3, 1863.

It is my recollection that I read in the monthly publication, "The U.S. Mail & Post Office Assistant" that the P.M.G. made a special ruling that on ship letters prepaid @ 3¢ plus 2¢, no extra charge should be made. When I can find a little spare time I will search thru my file of the publication to see if I can find the ruling. I have attempted to make a special study of "ship mail," and have made a special effort to acquire and record all "prepaid ship" covers. For example, only last month I purchased a 3¢ 1861 plus a 2¢ Black Jack - postmarked (tied) Philadelphia Oct 16 1863 to West Chester, Pa. There is no sign of 1¢ postage due.

I have before me a cover with a 3¢ '61 plus two 1¢ 1861 of New York July 24, 1863. No evidence of 1¢ postage due. In fact, the Boston cover that I showed you is the only one that I have ever found that showed any evidence of a postage due.

I also have before me two covers - no sign of origin - both from same writer - both addressed to Charleston, S.C. - both dated in January 1866 - One has a 3¢ 1861 - and "Due 2" (handstamped) - the other a 3¢ U.S. envelope and the same "Due 2." I do not know where the marking "Due 2" was applied. Rather than "ship," I assume that these are "steamboat." I will send any or all of the above to you if you would care to see them.

I am enclosing the following photos from my files:

3¢ '61 plus 2¢ B.J. into Boston to Winchester, Mass. - no evidence of date.

3¢ 1862 Red Brown into Boston to Maine no year. No positive evidence that stamp was used originally on this cover.

I have records of other covers with 3¢ plus 2¢ subsequent to July 1863 - all coastal cities - uses in 1864 and 1865, and as stated, not one show 1¢ due.

As stated above, I am, and have been, familiar with the Act of Congress

#2. Mr. M. C. Blake - July 9, 1955.

and the 1863 and 1866 P.L. & R. and as a result we have -

(1) The law and regulation

VS.

(2) Covers which show prepaid 3¢ plus 2¢.

The question arises - when a person sends me a cover - dated 1864 (for example) into New York, Philadelphia, Boston, New Orleans or some other coastal city and inquires, "What is this rate?" What am I to state? I reply - it is a prepaid ship rate of 3¢ plus 2¢, but according to your letter of the 30th, I am all wrong because there was no such a rate - and this in spite of the fact that I have covers to show that such a rate was recognized.

I am wondering if this letter explains mine of June 26th.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

MAURICE C. BLAKE
11 MASON STREET
BROOKLINE 46, MASSACHUSETTS

July 14, 1955

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

Dear Stanley:

With reference to the last paragraph in your letter of July 9th, Sec. 31 of the Act of March 3, 1863 clearly states "all such(ship) letters...if for delivery within the U.S. shall be rated with double rates of postage", i.e. 2x2¢ to ½oz. and 2x4¢ over ½oz. to 1oz. (have record and tracing but not the cover of a "new" Boston arc SHIP/8) delivery at port of entry; 2x3¢ to ½oz. and 2x6¢ + ½-1oz. for inland delivery, regardless of whether unpaid or prepaid.

Covers showing prepaid 3¢ plus 2¢ after July 1, 1863 were 1¢ overpaid to port of entry and 1¢ underpaid beyond, exemplified by the Stark covers #746 and #742 respectively. The answer would seem probably to be that the senders were not aware of the change in rating from 5¢ in either case above of Feb. 27, 1861-June 30, 1863, although the Boston P.O. evidently was when the Milton cover arrived on Aug. 7th, 1865 or later. It could well be that in the case of the other 5¢ covers you cite after July 1, 1863 that the P.O. of receiving at port made allowance for lack of information by the senders of the 1863 law, and so forwarded the covers inland without any 1¢ due marking. It is also possible that the PMG made such a temporary ruling accordingly, so it would be interesting to determine whether such a ruling was entered in "The U.S. Mail & P.O. Assistant" for the period after July 1, 1863 and prior to the definite contrary Regulation Sec. 194 of P.L. & R. 1866.

It would be helpful to know the place or ship of origin of the two covers of which you sent photos, herewith returned. Neither bears any Boston SHIP source mark: the cover to Winchester could have originated in Boston from a sender who misunderstood the new carrier regulations, thinking that a 2¢ stamp was now needed for collection to the P.O. instead of a 1¢ stamp theretofore, confused by the 2¢ local rate. The cover to Maine with 5¢ 1862 red brown could have been used from Boston August 19, 1862 when the prepaid ship letter rate was 5¢. as East Hampden is just across the Penobscot River from Bangor to which mail was sometimes sent by Steamer especially during the Civil War, but discoloration at left top of stamp makes its use on this cover uncertain.

I note that the Eastport cover Stark #206 is priced at \$10.00, so I enclose my check for that amount hoping that I may be allowed to keep this cover as a companion piece for mine, a folded letter headed Eastport July 22, 1851 with 3¢ o.b. tied by Boston small red grid PAID and with same STEAM(B.P.M.307) in red on the cover to Boston. In BPM p.56 opposite 307 in middle of page I recorded this as latest STEAM in red 7/23/51, because the B. Evening Transcript listed "Steamer Admiral, Capt. Wood, left Boston 12M, Mon. July 21, direct for Eastport; left Eastport Tues. July 22 for Boston; arr. Boston Wed. July 23; left Boston 10AM Thurs. July 24 via Portland 1v. 7PM Thurs. for Eastport." I suppose the ADMIRAL was a contract mail vessel, at any rate it is now known that Favor's Express agents were termed "steamboat mail carriers" by the U.S.P.O. Department, and they served on the Steamer Admiral. No Eastport postmark on my 1851 cover, unusual on the other, still STEAM O.K.

Sincerely yours,

Maurice C. Blake

No 42147

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

SENT TO

Mr M.C. Blake

STREET AND NO.

11 Mason St

CITY AND STATE

Brookline (46) Mass

If you want a
return receipt,
check which

☐

7¢ shows
to whom
and when
delivered

☐

31¢ shows to whom,
when, and address
where delivered

POSTMARK
OR DATE



POD Form 3800
Apr. 1955

OK

1. Stick postage stamps to your letter to pay:
 - 15-cent certified mail fee
 - First-class or airmail postage
 - Either return receipt fee (*optional*)
 - Special-delivery fee (*optional*)
2. If you want this receipt postmarked, stick the gummed stub on the address side of the letter, leaving the receipt attached, and present the letter to a postal employee.
3. If you do not want this receipt postmarked, stick the gummed stub on the address side of the letter, detach and retain the receipt, and mail the letter.
4. If you want a return receipt, write the certified-mail number and your name and address on a return receipt card and attach it to the back of the letter.
5. Save this receipt and present it if you make inquiry.



July 11, 1955.

Mr. M. C. Blake,
11 Mason St.,
Brookline 46, Mass.

Dear Maurice:

Please note the enclosed cover from the Stark collection. I note you list a similar item. This is Stark #206, and it is date-lined "Eastport, Me.," postmarked the same with "Steam" applied at Boston. Was this sent down by a non-contract ship? If so, there is no evidence of a "Ship Fee." Again what right did a postmaster have to send such a letter by a private carrier?

I enclose stamped addressed envelope for return.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

STARK # 206

PAID

July 18, 1955.

Mr. M. C. Blake,
11 Mason St.,
Brookline 46, Mass.

Dear Maurice:

I am in receipt of your letter of the 14th. I believe that the following quote from your letter fully explains the situation, quote:

"It could well be that in the case of the other 5¢ covers you cite after July 1, 1863 that the P.O. of receiving at port made allowance for lack of information by the senders of the 1863 law, and so forwarded the covers inland without any 1¢ due marking. It is also possible that the PMG made such a temporary ruling accordingly, so it would be interesting to determine whether such a ruling was entered in 'The U. S. Mail & P. O. Assistant' for the period after July 1, 1863 and prior to the definite contrary Regulation Sec. 194 of P.L. & R. 1866." (unquote)

I have been very very busy all spring and summer on the Stark collection in addition to all my other work. In fact, have been working every night in this hot and disagreeable humid weather. As a result I have not had the time to search thru my copies of the "U.S. Mail" but I will do so at the first opportunity. As for the P.L. & R. of 1866, it quoted the law that applied to all the post offices in the U.S. Special rulings by the P.M.G. which applied to certain offices only were not included in editions of the P.L. & R.

Re - the two photos that I sent you and which you returned. Neither one displayed any evidence of origin. Unfortunately this is generally the case of such items. I regret the prints were so poor which goes to show that I do not always turn out fine photographic work!

I agree that there is no real evidence that the 5¢ red brown stamp was used originally on the cover. A 3¢ '61 could have been removed and the 5¢ substituted. I examined this cover for Mr. Stark some years ago and gave it the benefit of the doubt, i.e., it could have been used as we see it and before 1863. (Date as shown "Aug. 19.")

Thanks very much for your check for \$10.00 for the Stark cover #206. I am glad that you acquired it because I think it is a nice item and cheap at the price. I would have purchased it myself but I am not buying anything from the collection because I had something to do with the pricing.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

No 511252

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

SENT TO

TRACY W. Simpson

STREET AND NO.

66 Alvarado Road

CITY AND STATE

Berkeley (5) Calif

If you want a
return receipt,
check which

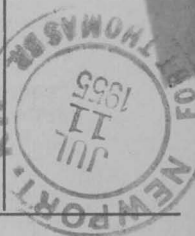
☐

7¢ shows
to whom
and when
delivered

☐

31¢ shows to whom,
when, and address
where delivered

POSTMARK
OR DATE



POD Form 3800
Apr. 1955

Handwritten signature or initials.

1. Stick postage stamps to your letter to pay:
 - 15-cent certified mail fee
 - First-class or airmail postage
 - Either return receipt fee (*optional*)
 - Special-delivery fee (*optional*)
2. If you want this receipt postmarked, stick the gummed stub on the address side of the letter, leaving the receipt attached, and present the letter to a postal employee.
3. If you do not want this receipt postmarked, stick the gummed stub on the address side of the letter, detach and retain the receipt, and mail the letter.
4. If you want a return receipt, write the certified-mail number and your name and address on a return receipt card and attach it to the back of the letter.
5. Save this receipt and present it if you make inquiry.



July 9, 1955.

Mr. Tracy W. Simpson,
66 Alvarado Road,
Berkeley 5, Calif.

Dear Tracy:

I am terribly sorry but that "Louisville & St. Louis" cover got into a small batch that I sent Henry Meyer to record and it is the only one that he kept. Evidently it was priced too cheaply by the Committee.

I will send you any more that turn up that I think might be of interest to you. This was just one of those things that occasionally happen and I am very sorry. I return your check herewith.

I am also returning the two covers as per yours of the 2nd. The 28¢ is (thru) New York July 10, 1875, the other (thru) New York Feb. 6, 1877, thus both "U.P.U." (U.P.U. effective July 1, 1875).

Re - the former, the U.P.U. rate was 27¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. (thus 1¢ over-pay). Our share was 5¢ to England. British share to the Cape was 22¢. All debits and credits under the U.P.U. were expressed in French francs. In the New York p.m. is a credit to England of "1.102 or 1 franc (20¢) plus 10 centimes (2¢) total 22¢.

In 1877 it is my recollection that the Cape had been admitted to the U.P.U. and the rate Via England had been reduced to 15¢ (per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.), hence our share 5¢ and the British 10¢, thus the credit of "50." (centimes).

No fee for the above.

You will find similar covers were offered in the Second Knapp Sale. A dealer would probably pay \$5.00 for the 28¢ and \$4.00 for the 15¢, but this is pure guess-work on my part.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

SENT TO

Mr Henry A Meyer

STREET AND NO.

516 Read St

CITY AND STATE

Evansville Ind

If you want a
return receipt,
check which

☐

7¢ shows
to whom
and when
delivered

☐

31¢ shows to whom,
when, and address
where delivered

POSTMARK
OR DATE



POD Form 3800
Apr. 1955

No. 42144

1. Stick postage stamps to your letter to pay:
 - 15-cent certified mail fee
 - First-class or airmail postage
 - Either return receipt fee (*optional*)
 - Special-delivery fee (*optional*)
2. If you want this receipt postmarked, stick the gummed stub on the address side of the letter, leaving the receipt attached, and present the letter to a postal employee.
3. If you do not want this receipt postmarked, stick the gummed stub on the address side of the letter, detach and retain the receipt, and mail the letter.
4. If you want a return receipt, write the certified-mail number and your name and address on a return receipt card and attach it to the back of the letter.
5. Save this receipt and present it if you make inquiry.



July 2, 1955.

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

Dear Henry:

Here are three covers from the Stark collection that I thought you would like to see. How about the Eastport, Maine? I never saw this "Steam" before. The letter inside is dated, Eastport and it seems the stamp was canceled at Boston - Why not at Eastport, where was the "Steam" applied? At Boston?

Regards -

Yours etc.,

Enclosed:

Stark - 206 @ \$10.00
" 216 @ 30.00
" 217 @ 20.00

✓ RETURNED BY

SOLD

RETURNED BY

CERTIFIED MAIL



**HOBBY
INTERESTS**
PICTORIAL PHOTOGRAPHY
EARLY EVANSVILLE
HISTORY
EARLY OHIO RIVER
STEAMBOATS
STAMP COLLECTING
MEMBER: COLLECTORS CLUB,
S.P.A., A.P.S., C.P.S.



Henry A. Meyer
MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT • CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL
RESIDENCE 516 READ STREET
TELEPHONE 5-6380
EVANSVILLE • 11 • INDIANA



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

July 8, 1955

Dear Stan:

Thanks for letting us see these three covers. Neal liked the Louisville & St. Louis S.B. so much that he took it. If he had not taken it, I would have taken it, although I have one, just because I would not want to let it go elsewhere. Neal and I were over at Louisville at the Philatelic Club last night, and he dangled it enticingly before Charlie Roser, who felt a bit of envy. We didn't tell him where we got it, because he might have felt that he should have had priority. Charlie overrates that mark; he thinks it is even rarer than it is. We are well pleased with the cover and the price.

The Bayou Belle is not one which I needed, but I am glad you gave me the chance, anyway. Please let me see all packet covers which turn up among Harold's things.

Now for a partial solution and a partial un-solution of the Eastport cover. That is not the Eastport STEAM; it is the Boston STEAM, Maurice's No. 307, by far the commonest of the several Boston STEAMS and STEAMBOATS. So the STEAM and the Boston PAID grid correspond all right. (There is an Eastport STEAM, but it is nothing like this. It is a big crude affair, $32\frac{1}{2} \times 5$ mm., the letters the shape of roman type, but some of the serifs so small as to be hardly visible, the rest of them quite large.) The question, then, becomes just the opposite of the one you propounded:

STEAM means that the letter, written in Eastport, was not mailed at the Eastport post office, but was handed to the captain (or other officer) of the steamer bound for Boston. It was put into the post office at Boston, where the captain got his 2 cents and the letter was marked STEAM and the stamp was cancelled. (I am not telling you this; I am just reviewing in preparation for the real question.) How, then, did the Eastport postmark get on the letter? When the Eastport postmaster had postmarked it, he was duty-bound to send it on its way by regular mail, in a mail bag; he could not send it by a non-mail-carrying vessel without violating his duty. Further; Why didn't he cancel the stamp? We have, then, some kind of violation of postal procedure, very similar to my Conyersville-Vicksburg STEAM 10 cover, about which I will write you a separate letter sometime. As a violation, it is quite a curiosity. I wish I could figure how it got aboard a non-mail boat as a loose letter after receiving the Eastport postmark. I'll suggest one possibility, but it is a remote one. The mail for the day had already left Eastport, and the postmaster or one of his family was taking the night boat for Boston, so he carried it along, then let the captain claim his 2c on it as a ship letter. A bit far-fetched, but possible.

Regarding the three negatives of the 5c 1847 orange about which you so kindly sent me a bulletin: After all your subscribers have seen the slides who ask for them, Neal and I would very much like to see them. If we could have them over a Tuesday, we could show them at the club. As ever,

No 42138

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

SENT TO

Mr. L. G. BROOKMAN

STREET AND NO.

**121 LOEB ARCADE
MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.**

CITY AND STATE

*If you want a
return receipt,
check which*

☐

*7¢ shows
to whom
and when
delivered*

☐

*31¢ shows to whom,
when, and address
where delivered*

POSTMARK
OR DATE

JUN 24 1961
NEWPORT

POD Form 3800
Apr. 1955

1. Stick postage stamps to your letter to pay:
 - 15-cent certified mail fee
 - First-class or airmail postage
 - Either return receipt fee (*optional*)
 - Special-delivery fee (*optional*)
2. If you want this receipt postmarked, stick the gummed stub on the address side of the letter, leaving the receipt attached, and present the letter to a postal employee.
3. If you do not want this receipt postmarked, stick the gummed stub on the address side of the letter, detach and retain the receipt, and mail the letter.
4. If you want a return receipt, write the certified-mail number and your name and address on a return receipt card and attach it to the back of the letter.
5. Save this receipt and present it if you make inquiry.



June 24, 1955.

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

Dear Les:

The enclosed 3¢ 1869 and the cover from which it was removed belongs to the Methodist minister here in Ft. Thomas. He would like to know if this is an ironed-out grill or is it "without grill." I told him I didn't know but would send it to you. I couldn't see any trace of a grill but has some sort of cement been used? Should I soak all the gum off and photo by ultra-violet?

Thanks.

Yours etc.,



L. G. BROOKMAN

STAMPS FOR COLLECTORS

121 LOEB ARCADE . . . MINNEAPOLIS 3, MINNESOTA

A. P. S.
C. C. N. Y.
S. P. A.
R. D. P.
A. S. D. A.
M. C. C.

June 27, 1955

Dear Stan:

I cannot visually find any grill on the 3¢ '69 you have forwarded for my examination. I doubt if any grill would be found were it subjected to X ray or other types of photography for I do not think this stamp has been grilled.

A Due to the fact that very faint grills can be pressed out to the point where I believe it is not possible to detect them, I have never been much interested in this variety and I do not think they have much real value beyond their curiosity value. I'm glad to have looked this over for you and you can pass on the information to your friend for whatever it may be worth. (I mean this in the usual sense of the word for of course I want nothing for this opinion).

Just back from a trip to Buffalo, Toronto, and New York. Bought a lot in Buffalo, sold a Canadian lot in Toronto for \$3800 that consisted of only the first 10 numbers in Canada, and then bought a nice British Colonial lot in New York from Irwin Heiman as well as some material at auction. Bilden went with me and he picked up a few thousand dollars worth of covers so I guess we may have had a successful trip. Hot and sticky in New York and I'm glad to be back here. I start out again on July 9th--going first to Indianapolis to a wedding and then will drive to Yellowstone Park with the family. Helen is driving to Iowa and then to Indianapolis and I will fly down there to meet the family before we head West.

Now very much work to do as I've been gone 9 days.

Sincere regards,

June 29, 1955.

Rev. Howard W. Whitaker,
326 North Fort Thomas Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Kentucky.

My dear Doctor:

Herewith the 3¢ 1869 and cover which came back today from Lester G. Brookman of Minneapolis. I am quoting as follows from Mr. Brookman's letter, dated the 27th:

"I cannot visually find any grill on the 3¢ '69 you have forwarded for my examination. I doubt if any grill would be found were it subjected to X ray or other types of photography for I do not think this stamp has been grilled.

Due to the fact that very faint grills can be pressed out to the point where I believe it is not possible to detect them, I have never been much interested in this variety and I do not think they have much real value beyond their curiosity value. I'm glad to have looked this over for you and you can pass on the information to your friend for whatever it may be worth." (unquote)

I am inclined to agree with Mr. Brookman regarding the value an item such as this might have. I believe that it is entirely possible for a skilled faker to eradicate, possibly without a trace, a faint grill from any of the stamps of the 1869 Issue. As Mr. Brookman stated, even a genuine copy has little real value beyond it's curiosity value.

With every good wish --

Cordially yours,

June 29, 1955.

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

Dear Les:

Thanks very much for yours of the 27th with return of the 3¢ 1869 and cover. I agree with your opinion of this 100%. I believe the "fixers" who make the "no grill" varieties of the 1869 stamps soak grilled copies in very hot water then press out a faint grill and then cement the fibers together with some sort of a transparent cement. I wonder if such treatment was given this copy? Just for fun I will photo by ultra-violet and if any funny-business shows up I will advise you.

I also agree with you regarding this variety and I think that in the future I will return such things and inform the sender that such varieties are of no interest to me for obvious reasons - easy to make.

I note that you had a satisfactory trip East and that you are planning a trip to Yellowstone. Fine. I wish that Mildred and I could pay the Park a visit. Have a nice time and send me a "POSTAL CARD" with "I wish you were here."

Mildred joins me in best wishes to Helen, the family and you.

Yours etc.,

July 11, 1955.

Rev. Howard W. Whitaker,
326 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.,
Ft. Thomas, Ky.

My dear Doctor:

Regarding the 3¢ 1869 which I sent to
Lester Brookman last month. I made a photograph
of the back of the stamp by ultra-violet light
and herewith is a print. If you will examine this
print very carefully I believe you will note
evidence of an ironed out grill. The traces are very
faint but are there, in my humble opinion.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

Highland Methodist Church

314 NORTH FORT THOMAS AVENUE
FORT THOMAS, KENTUCKY

HOWARD W. WHITAKER
MINISTER

July 12, 1955

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Thank you so much
for your time and interest,
your letters and photograph -
re: The 3¢ 1869 stamp and cover.

I have sent them on
to Russell Green, Lexington,
Ky., who had sent them to me,
for your opinion. I know
he will deeply appreciate
your service and kindness, and
I deeply appreciate your
thoughtfulness, too.

I have greatly enjoyed
"The Springs of Kentucky" and will
soon return the book. Cordially, Howard

June 30, 1955.

Mr. Theodore Gore,
400 Brown Bldg.,
Wichita, Kans.

Dear Mr. Gore:

I am in receipt of yours of the 23rd and also the express package with the return of the lot of covers, also may I acknowledge receipt of your two checks for \$380.00 and \$75.00 for which please accept my thanks.

I apologize for sending you so many covers that were not of interest but I thought it best to send the entire lot to you in order to avoid not sending any that might be of interest.

Re - cover #599, the 10¢ 1847 cover. Mr. Stark had no notation on his album page that this showed a use of August 1st, 1851 and I evidently overlooked the late date altogether. Had I noticed it I am sure I would have made a photograph. Apparently you got quite a bargain and I can assure you that I am as much pleased as you. Will you please return it to me in the envelope herewith so that I can make a photograph.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

THEODORE GORE
400 BROWN BUILDING
WICHITA, KANSAS

July 6, 1955

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

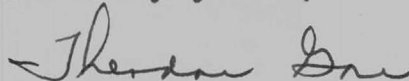
Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

I am enclosing the ten-cent 1847 cover.

I meant to apologize for not keeping more covers out of the large lot that you sent me. I was very appreciative of the fact that you did send me so many, because, as I mentioned, it becomes increasingly difficult to find additional items to augment what I already have.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Theodore Gore".

Theodore Gore

TG/cs
enc

July 11, 1955.

Mr. Theodore Gore,
400 Brown Bldg.,
Wichita, Kans.

Dear Mr. Gore:

Herewith I am returning your 10¢ 1847 cover with use of Aug. 1, 1851. I made a very careful examination of this cover because I wondered if some fixer had removed a 3¢ 1851 and substituted this 10¢ 1847 stamp. After all it does seem strange that a person would have paid 10¢ to mail a letter to Boston from New York when the rate was only 3¢. The writer could have exchanged the 10¢ stamp at the P.O. for three 3¢ and a 1¢. This was still possible a month after July 1, 1851. However, every test that I made confirmed my opinion that this 10¢ stamp was actually used as we see it. The ink of the grid is surely the same as the Express Mail postmark.

In view of the above, I have authenticated the cover on the reverse. If there is any question in your mind will you please advise me.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

MICHAEL M. KAREN
1467 GREENPORT ROAD
FAR ROCKAWAY 91, N. Y.

SPECIALIZING IN UNITED STATES EXCLUSIVELY

FAR ROCKAWAY 7-4827

July 7th, 1955.

Stanley B. Ashbrook, Esq
Post Office Box 31
Fort Thomas, Kentucky.

Dear Mr Ashbrook:-

I am enclosing herewith used single of U.S.
#16 for your signature as to its genuiness.
Please invoice me for your service in this
matter.

Would appreciate the position of the stamp
in the sheet.

Sincerely,


MICHAEL M. KAREN.

Encls- Stamp #16 used.
REGISTERED AIRMAIL.

July 11, 1955.

Mr. Michael M. Karen,
1467 Greenport Road,
Far Rockaway 91, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Karen:

Herewith I am returning the 10¢ 1855 as per yours of the 7th. I regret that I cannot sign this copy for you. The reason is this:

1) Some very clever faker is turning out faked Type IV 10¢ 1855 and 1857 stamps. He uses a plastic ink and some of his painted lines are so very clever the only way to distinguish the genuine is by direct comparison with genuine plated copies. Unfortunately I do not have at present a copy of 3R1 for direct comparison, nor do I own my original reconstructed plate.

2) I am not absolutely sure that this copy is genuine though I suspect that it is. I will not resort to any guesswork when an opinion is requested.

May I suggest that you submit the stamp to the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Foundation.

Sincerely yours,

July 13, 1955

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

Dear Sir,

I am taking the liberty of sending
you a copy of U.S. # 39 together
with related correspondence.

Perhaps you will recall that I
wrote to you about a year ago from
Venezuela, S.A. relative to another
39 which unfortunately appeared to
have a postmark cancellation.

I am hoping that the enclosed copy
will prove to be genuine and that you
will be able to write something nice
that I can put in my collection.

Thanking you for your anticipated
courtesy I am

Sincerely yours
Stanford G. Gerner
STANFORD G. GERNER
517 HEIGHTS RD.
RIDGEWOOD, N. J.

TEMPORARY ADDRESS
UNTIL JULY 20TH

July 16, 1955.

Mr. Stanford G. Gesner,
517 Heights Road,
Ridgewood, N.J.

Dear Mr. Gesner:

Herewith I am returning the 90¢ 1860 and the correspondence with the Belmont Stamp Co., together with my opinion regarding the cancelation on this copy. I am sending copy of the latter to Molesworth. In this case, I attach very little blame to the Belmont Stamp Co., because I feel sure that they would not know a fraudulent cancel from one that is genuine. As for Molesworth, it is my opinion that he would be the last person in professional philately to sell a 90¢ 186 with a genuine cancel at any such a price as \$29.50.

May I thank you very kindly for your check for \$29.50.

Sincerely yours,

July 16, 1955.

Mr. Stanford G. Gesner,
517 Heights Road,
Ridgewood, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Gesner:

Regarding the 90¢ 1860, enclosed in yours of July 13th. I note that this stamp was Lot 104 in a mail sale by the Belmont Stamp Co., their sale No. 24. This stamp described as "U. S. #39 - used - blue cancel - minor repair to UR corner, (cancel guaranteed)."

In my opinion, the blue cancel on this stamp is fraudulent.

Respectfully yours,

July 16, 1955.

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

Dear Jack:

I am enclosing copy of a letter that I have written Mr. Stanford G. Gesner, re - a 90¢ 1860, which he purchased in a "Mail Sale" by the Belmont Stamp Co. I am at a loss to understand why you would sell a used 90¢ 1860 that you believed to be genuine at any such a ridiculous price as \$29.50.

Because Mr. Gesner was assured the cancel is genuine he purchased the stamp. He has paid me \$5.00 for my opinion. I think it would be the ethical and honorable thing for you to do to refund the \$5.00 to Mr. Gesner and to then destroy this fraudulent copy.

Sincerely yours,

July 16, 1955.

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

Dear Jack:

I am enclosing copy of a letter that I have written Mr. Stanford C. Gesner, re - a 90¢ 1860, which he purchased in a "Mail Sale" by the Belmont Stamp Co. I am at a loss to understand why you would sell a used 90¢ 1860 that you believed to be genuine at any such a ridiculous price as \$29.50.

Because Mr. Gesner was assured the cancel is genuine he purchased the stamp. He has paid me \$5.00 for my opinion. I think it would be the ethical and honorable thing for you to do to refund the \$5.00 to Mr. Gesner and to then destroy this fraudulent copy.

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In my opinion, the blue cancel on this stamp is fraudulent.

Respectfully yours,

A.P.S.
S.P.A.
C.C.N.H.



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

Jack E. Molesworth

Philatelic Dealer and Broker

102 Beacon Street

Boston 16, Massachusetts

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

Dear Stan,

First, regarding your letter Hubbell, I did not realize until reading it that he had been President for two terms and was now seeking a third term. Based on this realization I would be inclined to agree with you that he should step down and allow George Malpass to run for President. However, failing to realize this fact I had previously mentioned to George that I thought that Hubbell had done an excellent job for Confederates and is on his last legs so that I felt the least we could do is let him be President again if he so desired it. This opinion was rendered under the misconception that he was running for a second rather than a third term. I believe your point is well made and believe he is mature enough to make up his own mind based on the facts without any influence from me, so I do not believe that I will write him direct about the matter. I am, however, mentioning to Malpass that I feel that he is well justified in accepting the nomination contrary to my original comments to him.

I appreciate very much your sending me a copy of your letter to Mr. Gesner on the #39 which you feel has a fraudulent cancel. I am, of course, quite suprised at your opinion on it since it was my opinion that the cancel was genuine and I so informed the Belmont Stamp Company when they mentioned that one of their buyers had asked about this fact. Naturally, we both realize that it is very difficult to be positive about the cancels on this stamp, but I assure you that I would not have approved it as genuine myself if I had not honestly felt that such was the case. However, not being an expert like yourself my own opinion in a case of this nature is based only on the fact that it looks good to me from my experience with such items. I would, therefore, greatly appreciate a note from you indicating the basis for your rendering a definite adverse opinion on it so that I can see where I have erred in my opinion.

As far as selling a genuine used #39 for only \$29.50 goes, the stamp was significantly defective and therefore I will be more than glad to sell it for slightly in excess of one-fifth catalogue since such items in lots change hands at nearer one-tenth catalogue. If you know where I can secure more for such defective items I certainly would like to know about it. I have already written Mr. Gesner offering to pay him the \$5.00 for your opinion but cannot agree that the copy should be destroyed any more than any other repaired or cleaned should be destroyed. Rather, indelibly marking the stamp for what it is should be in my opinion quite sufficient, since it still has significant reference or space filler value to many collectors. You may be assured that it will be marked for what it is and offered as such if ever sold again.

Faithfully yours,

Jack E. Molesworth

JEM/vf

(over)

P. S. I am especially interested in the reasons for your opinions and shall look forward with interest to a brief outline of them.

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

Dear Sir,

First, regarding your letter of the 1st, I did not realize until reading it that he had been President for two terms and was now seeking a third term. Based on this realization I would be inclined to agree with you that he should step down and allow George Hays to run for President. However, failing to realize this fact I had previously mentioned to George that I thought that I might have done an excellent job for Confederates and as on his last legs so that I felt the least we could do is let him be President again. If he so desired. This opinion was rendered under the misconception that he was running for a second rather than a third term. I realize your point is well made and believe he is mature enough to make up his own mind based on the facts without any influence from me, as I do not believe that I will write him direct about the matter. I am, however, mentioning to Hays that I feel that he is well justified in accepting the nomination contrary to my original comments to him.

I appreciate very much your sending me a copy of your letter to Mr. Ganser on the 1st which you feel has a fraudulent cancel. I am, of course, quite surprised at your opinion on it since it was my opinion that the cancel was genuine and I so informed the National Stamp Company when they mentioned that one of their buyers had asked about this fact. Naturally, we both realize that it is very difficult to be positive about the cancel on this stamp, but I assure you that I would not have approved it as genuine myself if I had not honestly felt that such was the case. However, not being an expert like yourself my own opinion in a case of this nature is based only on the fact that it looks good to me from my experience with such items. I would, therefore, greatly appreciate a note from you indicating the basis for your rendering a definite adverse opinion on it so that I can see where I have erred in my opinion.

As far as selling a genuine used 10¢ for only 25¢, 50¢ goes, the stamp was significantly devalued and therefore I will be more than glad to sell it for slightly in excess of one-third of its face value since such terms in face change hands at nearer one-third value. If you know where I can secure more for such defective items I certainly would like to know about it. I have already written Mr. Ganser offering to pay him the 25.00 for your opinion but cannot agree that the copy should be destroyed any more than any other repaired or cleaned stamp should be destroyed. Rather, indelibly marking the stamp for what it is should be in my opinion quite sufficient, since it still has significant reference or space value to many collectors. You may be assured that it will be marked for what it is and offered as such if ever sold again.

Sincerely yours,

Jack E. Hoesworth

(over)

Aug. 1, 1955.

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

Dear Jack:

In yours of July 29th you wondered why I did not reply to yours of July 20th. The reason, I did not think a reply was necessary. I assumed you put that 90¢ stamp in a sale by the Belmont Stamp Co. because you thought the cancelation was a fake. By the widest stretch of my imagination I would hardly figure that you of all people would consider selling such a stamp with a genuine cancel at such a price as \$29.50 less a selling commission even if the stamp itself was badly damaged. Jack don't try to fool me, as I have been in philately before you were born.

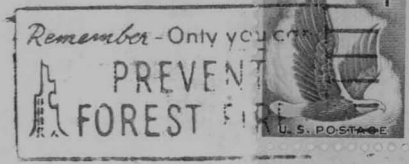
Does the above answer your query?

Sincerely yours,

P.S.—When your assistant receives the Confederate ballot I trust he will vote for Malpass and forward same to Crigler.

BELMONT STAMP CO.

5843 VICKERY BLVD.
DALLAS 6, TEXAS



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



FIRST CLASS MAIL

~~FORM 3547~~
~~REQUESTED~~
~~POSTAGE GUARANTEED~~

JUL 21 1955

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

You recently gave an adverse opinion (on the cancellation) on a copy of the first 90¢ blue brought by Mr. S. G. Gesner, as Lot # 104, from our 24th Mail Sale.

We have no quarrel with your opinion.

"For the record" we must advise you that we were handling this item for Mr. Jack Molesworth of Boston who supplied the (verbal) guarantee that was mentioned in the lot description. We were hesitant about accepting the item but succumbed to Mr. Molesworth's statement that he would guarantee the item.

NO REPLY NECESSARY

Yours very truly,

George E. Myers

Aug. 2, 1955.

Mr. George E. Meyer,
5843 Vickery Blvd.,
Dallas 6, Texas.

Dear Mr. Meyer:

Thanks for your card of recent date re -
the 90¢ 1860 with the fake cancel. I was aware
that Jack Molesworth had guaranteed the copy to be
genuine, hence I attached no blame to you.

I wrote Molesworth that it was my conviction
that if he had honestly believed this item to
be genuine he would never have parted with it for
\$29.50 less a commission.

You can draw your own conclusions from the
above.

Sincerely yours,


MERCHANT
CALCULATORS, INC.

MEMO FROM OFFICE OF GENERAL MANAGER

TO Dear Stanley DATE 7-16-55

You recall we discussed and
even looked at the 24¢ 69
cover of Sir Nicholas' -

Didn't we both think it OK?
Or did we question the cancel
Atlanta - I have two like it
one on an old stamp with
Recognized item with 34¢ 61 in
place of 34¢ 57 already on -

And also a 34¢ 67 grill
all over. It is a cut cross
in a circle something like
this  - poor drawing -

Now Stamp says every one
in the room was surprised
when Keffer paid £140 tho ~~the~~
^{Satchi} Frenchman paid £210 for 30¢

MARCHANT
CALCULATORS, INC.

MEMO FROM OFFICE OF GENERAL MANAGER

To _____ DATE _____

cover - next lot I guess.

What does that mean?

Did they all consider it a
fake & think that high?

Or did they think it cheap?

I don't want a sale to know
this except you - but I didn't
know Ezra was going so
gave Harry my few bids -
Therefore this is for me and
the one cover I need badly
as you know.

Without saying a word to
anyone will you tell me
what you think? I haven't
heard from Harry. When I
get it I'll send it to you for

MARCHANT
CALCULATORS, INC.

MEMO FROM OFFICE OF GENERAL MANAGER

TO _____ DATE _____

Your endorsement if you
feel you can. It may well
be Sereski's first work.

Your Crimson Rambler
long ago said they all
were - that is all the 'big
covers in butcherhouse.

I don't suppose he ever
changes his mind and he
would eternally & publicly
condemn it.

Hope you can let me know
what to do for soon as it
comes I must take a stand
with Harry. Please do not
say a word to any one. Royal
no doubt knows Sereski's work also.

In haste
Edgar

July 11, 1955.

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

Dear Edgar:

Here is an "Elisha H. Allen" cover from
Honolulu to Bangor, Maine, Dec. 11, 1854, (p.m. Dec. 17),
out of S.F. on Jan. 1, 1855. Original letter inside -
Franked in lower left "E.H.A." meaning, postage to be
charged to him. (This is my opinion).

This is Stark ~~348~~ 548
Price 42.50

Quite a nice item.

Regards.

Yours etc.,

STARK ~~348~~ 548 - \$ 42 ⁵⁰ —

SOLD PAID

JUL 18 1955

Mr. EDGAR B. JESSUP
% MARCHANT
1475 Powell Street
OAKLAND, CALIF

DO NOT MAKE ENVELOPE

DO NOT MAKE ENVELOPE

Dear Edgar

Here is an "Elisha H.

Allen" cover from Honolulu
to Bangor Maine Dec ~~11~~ 11 1854,
(p.m. Dec 17), ~~then~~ out of S.F.

on Jan 1 1855. Original
letter inside - Franked in
lower left "E. H. A." meaning

postage to be charged to him.
(This in my opinion.

This is Starck # 548

Price \$42⁵⁰

Love a nice item

Regards
Jewell E

July 15, 1955.

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

Dear Edgar:

Re - yours of the 16th and the 24¢ 1869 cover in the Waterhouse Sale, Lot 600, sold to Keffer at 140 pounds. In my opinion this cover is a fake, that is, the 24¢ stamp was not used on this cover originally. I have known about this cover for some years. Sir Nicholas was kind enough to send me a photograph of it in 1949 (as I recall), and I intimated at that time that I did not believe it was genuine. I did not wish to offend him by passing judgment on his "treasures" when not requested to do so. After the catalogue came out I wrote Dr. Bacher under date of April 20th last, quote:

"Regarding Lot 600. It seems to me that there is very little evidence that the 24 ¢ stamp was used originally on this cover. To assume that it did appears to me to be pure speculation. I think it should be offered "as is."
(unquote)

Under date of Apr. 29, he replied, quote:

"Nearer to the sale I shall suggest to the "powers-that- be to offer lot 600 with extension." (unquote)

Over in Britain "with extension" means subject to expert examination. Later I believe I wrote Cyril Harmer that in my opinion Lot 600 should be withdrawn, but I am not sure. I did write him that a number of lots should be withdrawn but he disregarded my advice in a number of lots, as for example, (among others), Lot 606, which went to Em Krug at 140 pounds and Lot 664 to Krug @ 63 pounds. Both are on their way back to London. If the Weill boys are smart they will send some of the things they bought to me, for example, Lot 88, for which they paid \$1,680.00. This I would not hesitate to condemn. However, some dealers would prefer not to know the truth. Phil Ward is the most outstanding example.

The 24¢ cover was from Savannah not Atlanta as you mentioned. Yes, I am quite sure that a number at the sale considered Lot 600 a fake. I probably told Rust it was a louse.

Edgar you have my word that I will not mention the above, to anyone, that is association with you, but I will not hesitate to criticise Harmer for offering the cover after I suggested it be withdrawn. Harry may decide to send the cover to the Philatelic Foundation and it is possible they might okay it, in which event Harry would not return it to London. You better warn him in advance that you will not accept an opinion by the P.F.:

As for Colson - I am not surprised if he said all the Waterhouse 1869 covers were bad, because all 1869 covers that he does not handle are bad in his opinion. He said all the Knapp 1869 covers were bad but he was wrong because Ned did have some that were genuine. The Waterhouse 30¢ 1869 cover is as good as gold and that is the reason it sold @ \$588. I suppose it got around that I was sure

#2. Mr. Edgar B. Jessup - July 15, 1955.

it is genuine.

A Royal certificate on any 19th U. S. cover wouldn't mean a thing to me. It would not be as good as a certificate by the Expert Committee of the S.P.A.

Sir Nicholas is the only one in England who passes on U. S. 19th for the Royal and though he thinks he knows a lot, he really does not. He was a "fall guy" for all the Paris "fixers."

Thanks for the check for \$42.50 for the Stark cover #548. I note that thru error I listed it in my letter as #348.

Mildred and I are driving up on Thursday to spend a week in Michigan, principally at the Stark place and at Ionia with the Fleckensteins.

Regards.

Cordially yours,

MARCHANT
CALCULATORS, INC.

MEMO FROM OFFICE OF GENERAL MANAGER

TO Stanley DATE Wed Eve

While waiting for HK to write
I've examined this 24 &
cover as thoroughly as I know
how - Light - strong glasses
etc and I'll swear I can
not see a thing about it
that does not seem OK to
me - Every detail -

Tell me what definite
proof you have it's bad,
will you? It's a different
hand stamp from my cover
you sold me with 3¢ guilled all
over but it's the same ink
and the same style, just
a bit larger - I think I'll
take it to this famous Criminalologist

MARCHANT
CALCULATORS, INC.

MEMO FROM OFFICE OF GENERAL MANAGER

TO _____ DATE _____

+ hand writing expert in
Berkeley - He can age ink
+ impressions best I've ever
seen =

The stamp has every indication
of being used right on the
cover & has two nice ties -

The killer + the circle -

If such a thing is bad
I'm sure I can never tell
when they are genuine -

My hunches have never been
bad - just an overall feeling
as I view the entire -

I write this additional note
as I develop this feeling - I
sent you a list of 40s to Calif. earlier
today - Hope they interested you
Best wishes - Edgar

MARCHANT
CALCULATORS, INC.

MEMO FROM OFFICE OF GENERAL MANAGER

TO Stanley DATE 7-19-53

Thanks for yours of 15th. just rec'd.
You and I went over last week
at your house - do you recall?
Upon looking at Catalog etc
you said you took it to be
OK - Only from a small
town for a 24¢ - I now
find that as a thriving
sea-port Savannah was then
so small.

Then it is ^{from} the Savannah
Branch of Albert Lamotte -
his letter head showing
H-Q at New Orleans Branches
at Mobile & Savannah. Such a
house easily could have a stock
of 24¢ & disburse them out to

MARCHANT
CALCULATORS, INC.

MEMO FROM OFFICE OF GENERAL MANAGER

To 11

DATE

branches having correspondence
abroad such as Savannah
could have -

So much for that -

I now have the cover.

Should I send it to you?

I want your OK rather than
any other - Its facts I want.

I have asked for Extension
paid for my other items at
once -

This is a beautiful thing
& possibly like your old 30¢ -
in sort of ill repute -

The one I wanted you recall?

I reached for it when you
had condemned it but you

MARCHANT
CALCULATORS, INC.

MEMO FROM OFFICE OF GENERAL MANAGER

To ///

DATE

Concerns very well sell if then
it went on to restored confidence
I would like really to know
about this free from ignorance
& prejudice - two bad influences.
and I think you are far above
either -

If you say send it I shall
& expect to pay regular fee.
I've written for permission
of Harry, whether I needed
it or not - telling him I
would only accept your
verdict. I'm not so sure
those in the room felt it bad,
but it was a silly editorial
for "Stamps" without explanation

MARCHANT
CALCULATORS, INC.

MEMO FROM OFFICE OF GENERAL MANAGER

To IV

DATE _____

The whole thing looks good to me - as an ensemble - but any thing factual could reverse me -

I'll hear from Harry very soon and if you say so I'll send in to you - if no one objects. If they do I'd be out entirely then -

All four handstamps are on the face - as should be -

whose packet was the Antwerp? if any?

More later & looking for some instructions soon

Sincerely

Edgar

July 26, 1955.

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

Dear Edgar:

We returned last night from Michigan and today I received several letters of yours of recent date.

Re - Lot #600 - Waterhouse sale last month - 24¢ '69 cover from Savannah, Ga. I do not know how you got the impression that I stated that this cover was from a small southern town. I have known of this cover for some years and have had a photo of it for some years. I surely never had any idea that Savannah was a small town or village.

I made a very careful examination of the cover early in May and I was convinced that the 24¢ stamp was not used on this cover originally. At that time I made color slides of it including the inside date line. I am enclosing them herewith as follows:

A50 - 9
A50 - 13

The rate to C.B. at that time (Oct. 1869) was 12¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.

In view of the above it would be of no advantage to send the cover to me. Ed, there is not one bit of evidence to indicate that this stamp originated on this cover. If all you require to convince you that a cover is genuine is to have a stamp merely tied to a cover then you are taking a lot of chances in investing real money in covers. The Paris crooks spend a lifetime in perfecting their work and nothing could be easier than to remove a 12¢ '69 from a cover such as this, and substitute a 24¢ stamp. I will not sign a cover such as this as genuine. If I did how could anyone have any faith in any opinion that I would render? I suggest that you have Harry send the cover to the Expert Committee of the P.F. and if they send the cover to me I will return it with a notation "opinion refused." I am convinced the cover is not genuine, but that is merely my opinion and I cannot prove I am right or wrong with what evidence that I have at present. I could explain why I think the killer is not right but Ed I would prefer not to get into any argument over this item. I wrote Dr. Bacher what I thought of the cover so I suppose my opinion was not any secret.

Why a double rate? Don't waste time trying to prove that the black ink on the stamp is the same as the black ink on the stamp. That is the bunk. It might be done by running stamp and cover but in my opinion, not otherwise. Does the letter mention any enclosures?

With regards -

Yours etc.,

Enclosed:

A50 - 9 @ \$1.50 Return these
A50 - 13 @ \$1.50 unless you prefer to keep them.

MARCHANT CALCULATORS, INC.

OAKLAND 8, CALIFORNIA

EDGAR B. JESSUP
PRESIDENT

July 29, 1955

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

Dear Stanley:

I was happy to get your letter of July 26th and a lot of very fine information in it as well as material enclosed all of which I wish to keep.

You certainly are of great service to every serious minded collector and you do a fine job in every instance that I recall but I was terribly disappointed when you said it would do no good for me to send this 24¢ cover to you for your inspection.

My interest was extraordinary in this very cover from the moment I saw it so I well remember when you and I were looking at the catalog that you said it undoubtedly was used from Savannah but to prove it would be difficult. There is no doubt about that but don't you think to prove that it wasn't would be equally as difficult?

I want such a cover and need it since it and the 90¢ '61 grill are the only ones I miss but would only accept one that did not have your unqualified condemnation. If there was any reasonable question, like the cover with the pair of 30¢ '69's you recall a number of years back which seems to be generally accepted today, or like the 30¢ from Gibson that eventually landed in Krug Collection which was condemned similarly to this but later believed to be good, though definitely tagged, I would be willing to accept such a questionable negative suspicion. However I have never seen a time that I could justify a philatelic decision contrary to your opinion.

Is that ^{this} case, as some have been, of having no way to prove that it was so used and at the same time not being able to prove that it wasn't so used? The wrong tag on philatelic pieces is a detriment to them forever, particularly when coming from an eminent authority so it would be out entirely if there was any definite proof to you that it is a fake.

You emphasize tying and I was not interested at all in the tie alone. It was everything else that leads toward genuineness like that 30¢ cover Dan Kelleher sent back to you at Cincinnati when I was there and upon looking at it I said I didn't believe it was good because, contrary to the

subject under discussion, everything there lead to deception. You will recall that three year dates were corrupted beyond legibility and a few other things. In this cover we are discussing I cannot see any point that fails to hook up unless of course it is just a painted job and I should think that with your binoculars you could very definitely determine that and make a positive statement that you knew it was wrong instead of not being able to prove that it was right and therefore it was wrong.

I know you have been looking at these long enough to smell them the instant you open the cover carrying them to you but sometimes the experience of so many being bad might have a sudden influence on such a decision. I suppose that of the group of 24¢ covers you have seen if there were thirty, twenty-eight of them undoubtedly were fakes. Isn't that about the ratio?

By this you can see I am not depending upon a tie to make it ~~anything~~ genuine and I am not in favor of sending it to the Philatelic Foundation as long as you entertain such an opinion of it that would cause you to report to them (should they refer it to you) "opinion refused". You understand when these are carried on an extension they are for authentication and the Royal of the Foundation might "authenticate" it in a manner that I would not be willing to accept wholly, but which might create a legal commitment for the amount of the bid. I might be obliged to pay for it and would not want it at all unless added to the other two opinions was a "doubtful reservation" in your mind but not a wholehearted approval or condemnation. I think you can see the distinction and you see that I need it but do not want it under such circumstances even though it is the best looking 24¢ cover I have ever had submitted to me.

On our very delicate scales the letter is light of course. It could have dried out but probably not so much. I did not know that the rate was 12¢ for a half ounce in October '69. I thought that went into effect January 1st, 1870. I should like you to clear me up on those dates with which I am not too familiar.

If the killer on the stamp is not right we would know that it had been painted on and probably that is all that was necessary to paint. Of course to me, unskilled as I am in such, the ink always has a different appearance over the engraving of a stamp from what it does over the cover alone. I used to think that this difference indicated a faked tie but I have found that I was wrong in so many instances. It could easily have been another stamp taken off and this one put on and the killer merely filled in but my black light does not show it to have been a larger stamp therefore it could have been the 12¢ if you say the rate was 12¢ at that time. It was those two inks that I was going to have compared but incidentally this scientist here in Berkeley, who enjoyed a national reputation, has passed away. I only learned that in calling his house in connection with this cover and his widow answered the phone and gave me that sad news.

I do not think there was anything enclosed in the letter although toward the end of the letter it infers that there might have been. It does not say "you will find enclosed" in plain words like that so it undoubtedly was a single weight and from the date you give the 24¢ would have been entirely unnecessary.

Enclosed is my check for the pictures which I was very happy to get and please give this any considered study you feel inclined to devote to it and let me know just what I should do as soon as you can. All that Harry had to say was to send it to the Foundation but I did not want that kind of an endorsement which could easily commit me. I consider you supreme on this '69 issue; on covers of this period; on foreign mail and on illegitimate paint jobs. So why should I send it anywhere else? If you do not want to see it upon receipt of your next letter and in accordance with the advice in it, I shall either retain it or send it back to Harry at once. Can I quote from your letter of July 26th or from the letter that you might send in reply to this if I do so in a confidential way and only to Harry Keffer? With many, many thanks and with every kind wish to you all, I am

Sincerely,

Edgar

Edgar B. Jessup
President and
General Manager

EBJ:hw

Sunday - July 31, 1955.

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

Dear Edgar:

Your Air Special arrived this morning and I have very carefully noted contents.

It is quite true that on certain occasions in the past I did misjudge some covers but the ones that you mentioned occurred over 15 years ago and believe me Ed I have come a long way since that time. I have been attending an advanced college of scientific philately every day, week and month, since that time and I would be an awful dumb cluck had I failed to learn a great deal about the work of the European fakers. I hardly think it was fair for you to mention such errors of judgement though I am quite sure I am not batting 1000% even today. I would not be human if I was perfect. I have as much horror of condemning a genuine cover as I have of okaying a fake, in fact, the former is more deplorable.

Several months ago I condemned a Confederate cover with a 20¢ Green bisect - It was a miserable looking thing. Then in recent weeks I discovered a similar cover that I was sure was genuine, so I promptly reversed my decision. The P.F. sends items to me and in cases where I do not feel sure I refuse an opinion and advise the Committee to do likewise. They have no obligation to furnish opinions on all items submitted to them and I am sure this applies to me. It is far better to refuse an opinion than it is to do any guessing.

Re - the 24¢ cover, if you think it would do any good for me to make another examination of the cover I will be glad to do so but I seriously doubt if it would do any good. This is a typical Zareski item and just the kind of an item I would expect to find in a collection formed by Waterhouse. He was the fall-guy for fake U. S. material made in Paris. He had no knowledge of rates or U. S. postal history. All he required was, "that a cover looked good." He was and is on a par with Ernie Jacobs, as Ernie goes on the same principle, viz., "If it looks good, it must be good, and if it is not good what the hell is the difference as long as it looks good."

If you keep this cover you will always be suspicious of it, and if you show it to anyone with a knowledge of 1869 covers you will have to apologize for it. If you tried to sell it you might have trouble in getting it authenticated. It is not the prettiest 24¢ 1869 cover that you have ever seen because you saw the Richey cover that I sold to Krug in 1943 @ \$500.00 and later when I sold his collection I put the cover in the collection of A. C. Hutchinson of Detroit @ \$1,000.00. It may have been \$1,250.00 - I forget. There is a 24¢ '69 cover that is as good as gold and one that no one would ever question. It is the finest 24¢ '69 cover that I have ever seen.

In future Service issues I intend to write about a number of items in the Waterhouse Sale and I had in mind to give space to this cover and to state that in my opinion it is bad. If you keep it I will have to forego any mention of it because I would not publish an opinion that would damage your property. This places me in a position I do not like.

#2. Mr. Edgar B. Jessup - Sunday - July 31, 1955.

I suggest that you return the cover to Keffer and inform him that you will not accept the cover unless I authenticate it. If he sends it to me I will charge him a fee of \$10.00. I will not give a written opinion on this cover for a less fee because I informed Backer before the sale that this cover should be withdrawn. In spite of this they went ahead and sold it so I think Harmer should pay the fee. I do not think you should, and I do not think Keffer should. You can tell Harry that it is my opinion the cover is a fake, a Zareski item, but I am not going to give a written opinion over my signature unless paid a fee of \$10.00. I do not want you to send this letter to Keffer or to quote from it, but you can give him a digest in your own words.

Cole, Weill and Keffer attended that sale and not one of them were willing to pay me a fee in advance for opinions on any lots in the sale. As a result, I think each one bought a lot of fakes, all of which is their business not mine. There are a number of people who would like to know what Ashbrook thinks of this or that cover but are not willing to pay to find out. They have been too used to getting such information free. Ezra is the most glaring example. Well Ed, I have shut down on him and he either does his own guessing or pays the same as anyone else. For example he bought Lot 606 for Krug and Ezra should have known better. He don't know much more about rates or U. S. postal history than Ernie Jacobs.

Sensible businessmen wouldn't think of buying a piece of real estate without having the title examined, yet they will pay \$500 or a \$1,000 for a cover and trust to their own judgment as to whether the item is good or bad. This class of "know it alls" are more responsible for the Eareski's and the Sperati's than anything. They make it possible for the criminals to thrive.

Sending an 1869 cover to the Royal is a joke, and it is also a joke to send such an item to the P.F. unless, of course, they send it to me. After all, what does anyone on the Committee know about such items? And what if they sent such items to Perry? Would he know? In some cases, his guess might be correct, but in the majority, his guess would be wrong.

Thanks Ed, for sending Harold's letter to me. I am returning it herewith. As you well know I love Harold as a brother. Our friendship goes way back and is deep-rooted. Never in all the years has anything clouded that friendship. On numerous occasions I have visited in their home and on all occasions was Gladys Brooks the most gracious hostess. One could readily sense the deep affection that existed between that husband and wife, and I know that Harold is almost beside himself with grief to see her in her present condition and he utterly helpless to do anything for her. In recent weeks I have been so busy I have neglected to write him but I will do so today. That was a very fine letter that you wrote him and I am sure his appreciation was great.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

B.S.—Thanks for your check for \$9.00 for the slides.

HARRY J. LEMLEY
DISTRICT JUDGE

UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE'S CHAMBERS
EASTERN AND WESTERN DISTRICTS OF ARKANSAS
TEXARKANA, ARKANSAS

July 10, 1954.

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

I enclose a Seaway, Ark. cover dated
"May 28" together with an invoice and
certain correspondence with Academy, Stamps,
Inc., of Miami, which is self-explanatory.

Your "Postal Legislation of the Confederate States of
America", p. 10, says that, for the reason therein
given, "covers bearing postmarks of May 28, 1861, from
any postoffice in the ten (seceded) states bear
special significance." Therefore, if you can
give me a certificate that this cover is
a May 28, 1861 cover, I desire to buy it
at the price asked; but otherwise not, since
I feel that the price there would be
altogether out of line.

Please examine the cover and return

it and the correspondence to me in
due course with your bill which you,
of course, will render regardless of any
conclusion, ^{or in the absence of a definite conclusion.} If you can not find
that the cover is an 1861, I, of course,
will return it to Academy with your
letter; otherwise I will send them
my check.

Referring to your letter of July 1 with
reference to my Little Rock cover, the
accompanying letter of one sheet did not
mention other enclosures.

With kindest regards, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Henry J. Lewis

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

No 511254

SENT TO

Judge Harry J. Lemley

STREET AND NO.

Federal Bldg

CITY AND STATE

TEXARKANA

ARK

*If you want a
return receipt,
check which*

☐

*7¢ shows
to whom
and when
delivered*

☐

*31¢ shows to whom,
when, and address
where delivered*

POSTMARK
OR DATE



POD Form 3800
Apr. 1955

1. Stick postage stamps to your letter to pay:
15-cent certified mail fee
First-class or airmail postage
Either return receipt fee (*optional*)
Special-delivery fee (*optional*)
2. If you want this receipt postmarked, stick the gummed stub on the address side of the letter, leaving the receipt attached, and present the letter to a postal employee.
3. If you do not want this receipt postmarked, stick the gummed stub on the address side of the letter, detach and retain the receipt, and mail the letter.
4. If you want a return receipt, write the certified-mail number and your name and address on a return receipt card and attach it to the back of the letter.
5. Save this receipt and present it if you make inquiry.

July 13, 1955.

Judge Harry J. Lemley,
Federal Bldg.,
Texarkana, Arkansas.

Dear Judge:

Herewith I am returning the 3¢ 1857 cover.
There is no evidence whatsoever that I can see that
this use was 1861, except a penciled 1861, and, of
course, that is no real evidence.

I have my own personal opinion of any
dealer or collector who would even attempt to sell
an item such as this, representing it as an actual
use.

My kindest regards.

Sincerely yours,

July 13, 1955.

Judge Harry J. Lenley,
Federal Bldg.,
Texarkana, Ark.

Dear Judge:

I note that this Miami outfit is a member of the "A.S.D.A." This is the "American Stamp Dealers Association." If I thought this organization would take any action against this Miami outfit I would report them, but I doubt if they would. In my opinion there are more crooks in the A.S.D.A. than honest members. If they ever expelled one of their tribe for crooked dealings I never heard of it.

Words fail me when I even attempt to discuss all the crooked stuff that goes on. I see so much of cases like this that it is disgusting. So I will not try.

You do not owe me any fee but if you wish you can refund the return postage.

With my kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE'S CHAMBERS
EASTERN AND WESTERN DISTRICTS OF ARKANSAS
TEXARKANA, ARKANSAS

HARRY J. LEMLY
DISTRICT JUDGE

July 15, 1955

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Thank you for your two letters of July 13 and for the return of the Searcy, Arkansas, 3¢ 1857 cover which cover I am, of course, returning to Academy Stamps, Inc.

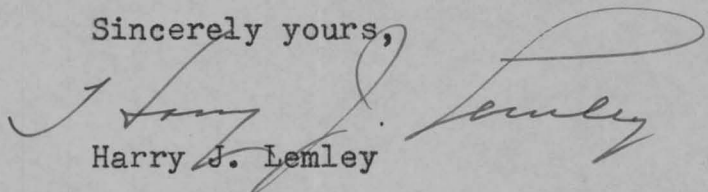
In this connection, I am telling them that you find no evidence whatsoever that this use was 1861 except the penciled "1861" on the cover, which is no real evidence.

I am certainly glad that I had the foresight to send this cover to you rather than relying upon the representation that it was a "Confederate War Cover."

I certainly feel that you should have charged me a fee for this service but since you do not wish to do so, I am refunding your return postage.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,


Harry J. Lemly

HJL:mc
Encl.

HARRY J. LEMLEY
DISTRICT JUDGE

UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE'S CHAMBERS
EASTERN AND WESTERN DISTRICTS OF ARKANSAS
TEXARKANA, ARKANSAS

Stoke, Ark.
July 16, 1955.

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

I enclose a cover just received on approval from Paul J. Nemon, 1328 Oak Drive Eugene, Oregon, franked with the Confederate 2¢ Green, No. 3. This cover has been sent me on approval in a lot of Confederate and Arkansas items and will have to be returned promptly unless I buy it. Will you please give me your opinion on it. I have never seen a "Paid 2" like the one by which the stamp is tied to the cover, but, as you know, my experience is very limited.

I will appreciate it if you will bill me for your services regardless of what your findings may be. Otherwise, I shall feel that through (over)

my frequent and continued calls upon
you I am grossly imposing upon
your generosity.

With kindest regards, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Harry J. Tenney

P.D.

Please return to me at
Tope, Ark. (my home).

H. J. L.

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

No 511259

SENT TO

Judge Harry J Lemley

STREET AND NO.

HOPE

CITY AND STATE

Arkansas

If you want a
return receipt,
check which

☐

7¢ shows
to whom
and when
delivered

☐

31¢ shows to whom,
when, and address
where delivered

POSTMARK
OR DATE



POD Form 3800
Apr. 1955

ANC

1. Stick postage stamps to your letter to pay:
 - 15-cent certified mail fee
 - First-class or airmail postage
 - Either return receipt fee (*optional*)
 - Special-delivery fee (*optional*)
2. If you want this receipt postmarked, stick the gummed stub on the address side of the letter, leaving the receipt attached, and present the letter to a postal employee.
3. If you do not want this receipt postmarked, stick the gummed stub on the address side of the letter, detach and retain the receipt, and mail the letter.
4. If you want a return receipt, write the certified-mail number and your name and address on a return receipt card and attach it to the back of the letter.
5. Save this receipt and present it if you make inquiry.



July 15, 1955.

Judge Harry J. Lanley,
Federal Bldg.,
Hope, Arkansas.

Dear Judge:

Herewith I am returning the cover contained in yours of the 16th, together with written opinion concerning same. I am charging you my usual fee of \$5.00 for an item in this classification.

It is too bad we cannot hang the crooks who make items such as this and rob collectors of thousands of dollars annually.

One of the greatest evils in the "mail auctions" or so-called "Mail Sales" that to outward appearance are "auction sales." It would be a miracle if any genuine items are ever included in such "sales." It is my belief they are the channel thru which unethical Eastern dealers get rid of material that has been returned to them as repaired, fraudulent, etc., etc.

Do you know anything about the party who sent this to you? It seems to me that I recall that a lot of fake material came out of Eugene, Oregon several years ago. I note the man in Oregon is not a member of the A.P.S. or S.P.A.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

(36-60)

To

Judge Harry J. Lemley
Hope, Ark.

Regarding cover, an envelope, submitted for my opinion, with a 2¢ Confederate, Green lithograph of 1862, S.U.S. No. 3, with Richmond postmark of Dec. 23, 1862 (latter retouched) - Addressed to ELIO (?) BARROT ESQ - NORFOLK VA - stamp with two pen strokes and to left of stamp "PAID 2" and at right bottom of stamp "PAID," and envelope apparently sent sealed. It is my opinion this cover is fraudulent, that is, that this 2¢ stamp was not used originally on this cover. Further, the two "PAID 2" and "PAID" were not handstamped but are "paintings," and of course the ink of these paintings is not the same as that of the Richmond postmark.

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK

JULY 18, 1955

HARRY J. LEMLEY
DISTRICT JUDGE

UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE'S CHAMBERS
EASTERN AND WESTERN DISTRICTS OF ARKANSAS
TEXARKANA, ARKANSAS

July 29, 1955

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

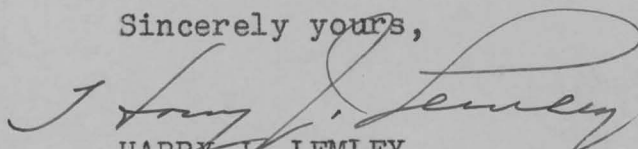
Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

You will be interested, I am sure, in reading the enclosed letters with reference to the 3¢ 1857 and 2¢ green Confederate fraudulent covers which you recently examined for me. I, of course, am not letting Mr. Newson repay me for my expense in this matter.

I am wondering if you know the Dr. Seron referred to in the notation on my letter to Academy Stamps, Inc.

With kind personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,


HARRY J. LEMLEY

HJL:mc
Encl.

521
OK

UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE'S CHAMBERS
EASTERN AND WESTERN DISTRICTS OF ARKANSAS
TEXARKANA, ARKANSAS

HARRY J. LEMLY
DISTRICT JUDGE

July 20, 1955

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

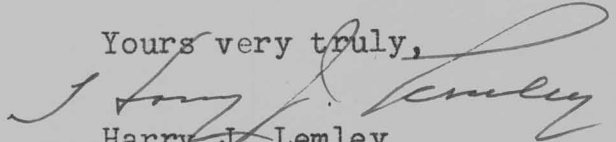
Please accept my thanks for your letter of July 15 returning the envelope with a 2¢ Confederate green lithograph of 1862, together with your certificate to the effect that, in your opinion, it is fraudulent. I herewith enclose my check for \$5.21, to cover your charge, plus return postage.

I do not know a thing about Mr. Newson of Eugene, Oregon, who sent me this cover other than that this is the third consignment, I believe, that I have received from him of Arkansas and Confederate material. I am of the ~~other~~ opinion that everything he has sent me, with possibly one exception, has been unquestionably genuine. In the lot with this cover, he sent me a front of an illustrated New Orleans cover franked with an unused Confederate No. 1. I, of course, did not buy it but did not consider it a fake because it appeared to me that the stamp would not have been pasted on a mere front of a cover and then not cancelled at all, if it had been fraudulent. The price was very low.

I collected Indian relics for twenty-odd years and have had a good deal of experience with frauds, but I believe the stamp business is worse than anything else I have ever run into.

With kind personal regards, I am

Yours very truly,


Harry J. Lemley

HJL:mc
Enclosure

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.



HONORARY LIFE PRESIDENT
AUGUST DIETZ, SR.
109 EAST CARY STREET
RICHMOND 19, VIRGINIA

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

SECRETARY-TREASURER
T. W. CRIGLER, JR.
MACON, MISSISSIPPI

MACON, Mississippi, 7-20-55.

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

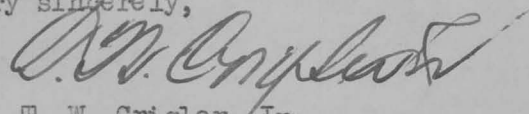
This is to acknowledge and to thank you for your two letters of the 19th, and copy of your letter to Mr. Hubbell.

I have never heard of Paul T. Newson of Eugene Oregon, but I am familiar with the Miami firm known as ACADEMY STAMPS. This firm is owned by H. A. Tuthill, a former member of the Confederate Stamp Alliance, but was suspended last year for non-payment of dues. Tuthill is a widower, and he recently married Mrs. Mary Gantz, who formerly owned and operate the CAMPTOWN STAMP COMPANY of East Orange, New Jersey, and specialized in first day covers, new issues, etc. I do not know Tuthill personally, but I have known his wife for a number of years, long before her husband died, and she married Tuthill. She is one of the finest women I have ever known, and is strictly honest and of the highest moral character. Her husband was a professor in the public school system of their city, and they have two fine boys in their teens; all of them fine folks.

When Tuthill and Mrs. Gantz married - they met at a stamp show - she closed out her business in New Jersey and merged it with his in Miami, and I am sure that if any phony covers were sent out by the firm it was not done with the wife's knowledge or consent, as she would never have consented to such a thing.

I have a letter from George Malpass in the mail this morning, and he is making a determined campaign for the presidency of the CSA, and I do not know of a finer fellow, or one that I would rather work with. I am writing him wishing him success.

Very sincerely,


T. W. Crigler, Jr.

July 18, 1955.

Mr. T. W. Crigler, Jr.,
Macon, Miss.

Dear Mr. Crigler:

I am wondering if you have ever had any complaints against a man by the name of

Paul T. Newson,
1328 Oak Drive,
Eugene, Ore.

This man recently submitted a fake Confederate cover to a good friend of mine. Of course, it is possible Newson might not have suspected the cover was bad.

This also applies to an outfit in Miami, Fla., known as "Academy Stamps, Inc." This outfit recently sent a cover that they claimed was a Confederate though there was absolutely no evidence that it was. A clear case of misrepresentation, in my opinion.

I think it would be advisable to watch the above two named.

* Sincerely yours,

Copy To
Shentfield
Mac Bride

C. CORWITH WAGNER . . .
Insurance Agency

SUITE 1834 BOATMEN'S BANK BUILDING

SAINT LOUIS (2)

ACCIDENT
HEALTH
LIFE
FIRE
BONDS
BURGLARY
& HOLDUP
AUTOMOBILE

ESTABLISHED
1914

MAIN
1-1640

JULY 19, 1955

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK, ESQ.
P.O. BOX 31
33 NORTH FT. THOMAS AVE.,
FORT THOMAS, KENTUCKY.

DEAR STAN:

ONCE AGAIN I COME TO YOUR FOR YOUR OPINION. I ACQUIRED THE ENCLOSED COVER IN DECEMBER 1953 - OUT OF A LOCAL AUCTION - AND WAS TOLD AT THE TIME THAT THE COVER WAS THE PROPERTY OF CHESTER FRANZ, OF THIS CITY - WHO HAD PURCHASED IT FROM YOU. AT THIS POINT I WANT TO SAY THAT AT THE TIME I DID NOT QUESTION THE STATEMENT - BUT NOW I AM VERY SURE IT COULD NOT BE TRUE. LET THERE BE NO DOUBT IN YOUR MIND ON THAT SCORE.

I BOUGHT THE COVER BECAUSE OF THE "OVERLAND" STRAIGHT LINE MARKING - AN EXAMPLE OF WHICH I DID NOT OWN - AND PUT THE ITEM ASIDE FOR LATER ATTENTION. I RECENTLY BEGAN MOUNTING SOME OF MY ACCUMULATION - AND WHEN I CAME TO THIS ITEM I FOUND INSIDE THE ENVELOPE THE MEMORANDUM THAT IS STILL THERE. I ALSO NOTED - TO MY CHAGRIN - THAT THE COVER HAD BEEN PLAYED WITH. YOU WILL NOTE THAT APPARENTLY THERE IS A STAMP MISSING BETWEEN THE PAIR AND THE SINGLE 10¢ STAMPS AS YOU WILL NOTE THE "KILLER" MARKINGS THAT TIED THE STAMP WHICH SHOW BELOW THE WELLS FARGO FRANK. I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT THE SINGLE 10¢ STAMP BELONGS ON THE ENVELOPE AS IT IS CANCELLED WITH A BAR GRID WHICH DOES NOT JIBE WITH THE KILLER USED ON THE ENVELOPE STAMP OR ON THE PAIR. IT SEEMS TO ME THAT THE SINGLE STAMP HAS BEEN ADDED TO COVER A HOLE IN THE ENVELOPE AND TO "ESTABLISH" THE PRUSSIAN CLOSED MAIL RATE - BUT I THOUGHT THE P.C.M. RATE WAS 30¢ - SO WHY THE 33¢ RATE? AND IF THE SINGLE IS "OK" THEN WHAT DENONINATION OF STAMP WAS IN THAT SPACE?

BE "KIND" TO ME STAN AND TELL ME JUST WHAT IS PHONY ON THIS COVER. I WANT TO WRITE IT UP AND PUT IT IN MY COLLECTION TO SHOW HOW A "LAD" CAN BE TAKEN - WHEN HE SHOULD KNOW BETTER.

I AM HAPPY TO HEAR THAT YOU AND MRS. ASHBROOK ENJOYED THE MANGOES AND IF THE PLEASURE DERIVED WAS IN PROPORTION TO THAT WHICH I EXPERIENCED IN SENDING THEM - THEN - IT WAS A "GOOD DEAL" FOR ALL CONCERNED. THE WAGNERS ARE VERY FOND OF MANGOES AND I MIGHT ADD THAT SALT INCREASES THE FLAVOR - IN MY OPINION.

MY THANKS IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR ANTICIPATED COURTESY - AND WITH VERY BEST WISHES,
I REMAIN

SINCERELY YOURS,

Wagner Personalized Insurance Service has acquired a reputation thru - - Promptitude and—Reliability

July 27, 1955.

Mr. C. Corwith Wagner,
1834 Boatman's Bank Bldg.,
314 North Broadway,
St. Louis 2, Mo.

Dear Corwith:

We have just returned from a little vacation and I found yours of the 19th.

Just as soon as I can get a bit caught up, I will write you about the cover.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

No. 511267

SENT TO

C. Corwith Wagner

STREET AND NO.

314 N. Broadway

CITY AND STATE

St Louis Mo

*If you want a
return receipt,
check which*

☐

*7¢ shows
to whom
and when
delivered*

☐

*31¢ shows to whom,
when, and address
where delivered*

POSTMARK
OR DATE



POD Form 3800
Apr. 1955

Handwritten signature or initials.

1. Stick postage stamps to your letter to pay:
 - 15-cent certified mail fee
 - First-class or airmail postage
 - Either return receipt fee (*optional*)
 - Special-delivery fee (*optional*)
2. If you want this receipt postmarked, stick the gummed stub on the address side of the letter, leaving the receipt attached, and present the letter to a postal employee.
3. If you do not want this receipt postmarked, stick the gummed stub on the address side of the letter, detach and retain the receipt, and mail the letter.
4. If you want a return receipt, write the certified-mail number and your name and address on a return receipt card and attach it to the back of the letter.
5. Save this receipt and present it if you make inquiry.

July 28, 1955.

Mr. C. Corwith Wagner,
1834 Boatmen's Bank Bldg.,
314 North Broadway,
St. Louis 2, Mo.

Dear Corwith:

Herewith the cover as per yours of the 19th. This cover probably did come from me as the notation partially describing it is mine. I do not recall selling anything to a Chester Franz of St. Louis but I note his name and address on a piece of one of his business envelopes in my files so no doubt I did sell him this cover. I seem to recall that Sam Richey had a few covers similar to this and this may have come from the Richey collection which I sold about ten or twelve years ago.

I cannot believe that the cover is in the same shape as it was when I sold it but the only way that I could prove that would be to have a photograph as it was when (and if) I sold it. I will make a thorough search to see if I have such a photo in my files.

For an up-to-date analysis, I believe the following are facts - From MOKELUMNE HILL Calif on Sep 6 1860. Overland was handstamped at San Francisco and indicated the letter was to be sent by the Butterfield Overland Stage Route rather than Via Panama (to New York). The Wells Fargo Frank would indicate that the letter originated at some outlying place and the Frank paid the fee to the Mokelumne Post Office.

The letter shows an address to Genoa - In 1860 this was in the Sardinian States. The Aachen marking indicates it was sent from New York via "Prussian Closed Mail." By this route the rate was 38¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. What bothers me is the red "19." Had the letter been sent by that Route, ("P.C.M.") our share would have been 23¢ and the credit 15¢ (23 plus 15 = 38¢). Of course, the single 10¢ stamp with round grid was not used on this cover, but the vertical pair seems to have the square dot cancel the same as the one on the envelope stamp. If the original rate was 38¢, I suppose the original stamps were three 10¢ plus a 5¢ 1857 plus the 3¢ envelope.

Corwith, I fear this is just about as far as I can go, except for one more point. Note the framed black "P.D." The "tie" on the pair looks like a paint job, and this makes me wonder if this messed-up pair was used on this cover. It is possible that back in the early forties that I was not as well educated on rates to the Italian states as I am today and that this cover may have been in such shape then, that I saw no reason to question it.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

Later - I have searched my photo files but was not able to find a photograph of this cover. I have a distinct recollection that there were several or more covers from this correspondence in the Richey collection and it is barely possible I may still have one. I will advise later. In the meantime I made a good color slide of the enclosed, front and back.

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Stage route rather than via
Panama ^(To New York)
X II The Wells Fargo Frank
would indicate - that the
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place and ~~that~~ the Frank paid
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Post office.

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S.

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in such shape then,
that I saw no reason
to question it.

With Every Good Wish
(OVER) Cordially yours

No. 511266

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

SENT TO

J. D. Baker

STREET AND NO.

P.O. Box 892

CITY AND STATE

Indianapolis Ind

*If you want a
return receipt,
check which*

☐

*7¢ shows
to whom
and when
delivered*

☐

*31¢ shows to whom,
when, and address
where delivered*

POSTMARK
OR DATE



POD Form 3800
Apr. 1955

744

1. Stick postage stamps to your letter to pay:
15-cent certified mail fee
First-class or airmail postage
Either return receipt fee (*optional*)
Special-delivery fee (*optional*)
2. If you want this receipt postmarked, stick the gummed stub on the address side of the letter, leaving the receipt attached, and present the letter to a postal employee.
3. If you do not want this receipt postmarked, stick the gummed stub on the address side of the letter, detach and retain the receipt, and mail the letter.
4. If you want a return receipt, write the certified-mail number and your name and address on a return receipt card and attach it to the back of the letter.
5. Save this receipt and present it if you make inquiry.



LOT 350 Waterhouse

JOHN DAVID BAKER
3909 NORTH DELAWARE STREET
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

July 20, 1955

Dear Stan:

Enclosed is a check for \$50 as part payment for your Service.

Also enclosed is a new acquisition of mine from the Waterhouse Sale. Will you please explain the "23" rate to me. In looking over the 1857 rate tables I do not find any such rate. What is it?

Sincerely,

P.S. What is the color of the
5¢ stamp?

July 28, 1955.

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

Dear Dave:

Herewith the Waterhouse cover as per yours of the 20th. I wrote Cyril Harmer when the catalogue came out that the cover was genuine but that Bacher's description was all wrong. Dave, this cover is much more than a mere rate, the fact is, it is a very fine -

"OLD STAMPS NOT RECOGNIZED."

This was an attempt to prepay a letter to Germany by "Prussian Closed Mail" 30¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz., with a 30¢ 1860, a stamp which had been demonetized and was no longer legal. No "old stamps" were legal in Ohio in October 1861. Lima recognized the 30¢ stamp, but when it reached the foreign division of the New York P.O., they refused recognition, and rated the letter as entirely unpaid, with a debit to Prussia of 23¢. Prepaid foreign mail had credits in red. Unpaid foreign mail had debits in black. Had this letter been rated as Paid, the New York postmark would have been in red with a 7 credit (7¢), rather than this debit of 23 (23¢). All the manuscript markings are Prussian and are of no concern to us. They indicate that the equivalent of 30¢ was due from the addressee.

I gave in a Service Issue some time ago a complete story on "Prussian Closed Mail." It entered Prussia thru "Aachen." Note receipt postmark on back date 26-k0 (Oct. 26).

I have endorsed the cover on the reverse. This is quite a cover and you did not pay too much.

Your 5¢ 1857 - Type I - is the Henna. Strange as it may seem, I have some remarks in my August Service Issue.

Thanks very much for your check for \$50.00 as half payment of your 1955-1956 subscription to my Service.

With regards to Hugh and you,

Cordially yours,

JOHN DAVID BAKER
3909 NORTH DELAWARE STREET
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

July 30th

Dear Stanley:

Thanks for your explanation of the
"Old Stamps Not Recognized" cover Lot 350
Waterhouse. I have one question.

In your explanation you mention
the 30¢ stamp was intended to prepay
the Prussian closed mail rate to Germany.
The stamp is 24¢ not 30¢! Does
this alter the explanation any?

Enclosed the 21¢ postage you
had to furnish

I bought 4 lots in the Waterhouse
Sale Lot 128, Lot 179 which you pictured
in your service, Lot 303, the strip of 3 of
10¢ Type I and Lot 350 mentioned above.
These seemed to me all to be nice items
and fine additions to my collection.

Sincerely
John

Aug. 1, 1955.

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

Dear Dave:

Thanks for yours of the 30th and calling my attention to a point that I failed to make in my letter of last week. Of course, the rate by "P.C.M." was 30¢ so your cover was not only "INSUFFICIENTLY PAID" but also "Old Stamps Not Recognized." Even had it had a pair of 3¢ 1861 in addition to the 24¢ stamp it would have been sent as "entirely unpaid."

In the mail with your letter, came Waterhouse cover No. 351 - from a buyer, for my opinion. I advised the Harmer London firm early in June that this cover was questionable and should only be sold "as is."

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,