

	Scrapbook No. 37 Aug 1, 1955 to Oct. 20, 1955
1.	Millard Mack Re Six Covers sent to him by Cole
2.	Jack Molesworth Waterhouse Lots 282 – 351
3.	Dr. W. S. Polland Re Paul Newsom of Eugene Re Col Waddell Smith – PONY
4.	Roger Weill – 2 covers
5.	Ed S. McConnell – Berkeley Ca. – Re Roanoke Island
6.	John D. Pope III Re Cover To Spain With 5¢ 1861 Buff
7.	Ezra D Cole Re Lot 86 in Waterhouse sale
8.	J.A. Farrington dr RE 1¢ 1851 Unused?
9.	Harold G Duckworth re 24¢ 1869 Ward Cover Blue Island
10.	Perry Sapperstein Re: Potomac Postal Cars
11.	Phil Ward Jr. Re Cover “Pioche Nev”
12.	Phil Ward Jr. Re 5¢ 1847 Orange Picher Copy
13.	C.C. Hart Re 5¢ 1847 Orange on cover
14.	James S. Hardman Re 3¢ Green early date 3/13 - 1870
15.	Harry B. Ketter Re 5¢ 47 Used at Buffalo with Phila PAID
16.	C.M. Philips Jr Re 10¢ 47 Cover Sheet Copy sold SBA
17.	C.M. Christian LaMirada California 1¢ 61 from Old Point
18.	Raymond Weill Re 80¢ 1869 cover to Nice France
19.	Millard Mack Re 22¢ cover to Ceylon Stark #1568
20.	E. Perry Re Blood’s Envelope
21.	E.D. Cole Re Phila PAID on Waterhouse Lot 86
22.	Jack R Dick Re Credit
23.	K.E. Keister Dr Re Confed Cover 2¢ Green Ex.E.A.W.
24.	Walter Senchuck 1¢ 1857 Type IV on cover
25.	Jack E. Molesworth re 90¢ 1860 off cover – New Rules
26.	Jas R. Hardman Re Stemplless with High rates
27.	Jeff Jones to C.C. Hart 1847 Territorial
28.	V. Nazar 1¢ 1851 Type III A Pl. 4
29.	Millard Mack FACE to France 1-¢ 1869 from SF
30.	Jack Molesworth 5¢ 1856 – Lot 162 N.E.W. 10¢ 47 “UNUSED”
31.	Jack Molesworth 90¢ 1860 Black Grid Also Reference to Belmont 90¢
32.	Geo. W.Linn Editorial Re Reprints
33.	M.C. Blake Re 1849 Ocean mail to Calif
34.	Billiq & Rich 1¢51-Off Type 1c
35.	Jack Molesworth 1¢ 51 “STEAM” 3¢ 1887 French
36.	H.R. Harmer Ltd Re 90¢ 1860 Cover to Spain Caspary
37.	C. C. Hart 5¢ 47 Used at Augusta Geo
38.	S.G. Gesner re 3¢ 1861 PINK
39.	C.C. Hart Re Items to Photo
40.	J.R. Hughes 5¢ 1847 Blue Cancel is this 5?
41.	H.R. Harmer re 3¢ 1861 PINK Block of 12
42.	Jack Molesworth 3 covers 10¢ 47 from Canada
43.	Dr. Scott Polland re 1869 INVERTS ex. Heart cotte Dr. O Baher re: 5c New York on envelope

44.	Belmont Stamp Co. Re Malpa SS 2¢ 1870 BISECT
45.	Lee Chadwick Oct. 13 1955 Re Items
46.	Geo W Brett re 2¢ 1894 die Proof
47.	Karl Jaegar re Blair Order
48.	Bernard Harmer re Caspary 3¢ 1851 BISECT
49.	E.C. Krug re Covers
50.	Raymond Weill re 5-10¢ 47 Cover Waterhouse
51.	Larry Shenfield Re 5¢ 47 Cover August Geo
52.	Confed Postal History By E.V. Connett in Mekeels
53.	Les Brookman re 12¢ 1851, printed on both sides
54.	Karl Jaegar re Covers
55.	H.R. Harmer Fake 12¢ 1851 D.T.
56.	H.R. Harmer 5¢ 1857 Mint Indian Red 5¢ 1857 Cover in Red
57.	Chas J. Affleck re Block C.S.A. – TEN-
58.	M. Jamet re 4 Covers
59.	Dr. O. Bacher Re 3¢ 1861 - Block Maricopa Wells A.T.
60.	C. Corwith Wagner 1¢ 1861 from Liverpool – Bootleg
61.	Nelson P. LaGanke Re Lost 3¢ 51 Cover
62.	Jack Dick Re: 84 to Swiss
63	482

3930 Red Bud Ave.
Cincinnati, Ohio

Saturday

Dear Mr. Ashbrook

I am enclosing the following covers for your authentication. These have been submitted to me and if for any reason you don't feel that they belong in my collection, I would appreciate your telling me so.

- ① 12¢ and 2¢ 1869 on cover with 5¢ to Italy (19¢ rate)
- ② 3¢ 1869 with 12¢ to make a 15¢ rate to Italy (Is this an underpayment or an odd rate?)
- ③ 10¢ and 2¢ 1869 on 3¢ envelope to make a 15¢ rate to France
(I thought this cover was especially attractive because of the color - also could you explain the red 8 to me)
- ④ 2¢ 1869 on price list to Mexico -
(This was submitted as a first day cover and is priced at \$50. Is it overpriced?)

page 2 -

- ⑤ 2¢ and 3¢ 1869 with 2 10¢ greens
to make up a 25¢ rate to Argentina.
(Is the 15 in red an evidence of transit
allowance to a foreign country?)
- ⑥ 6¢ 1869 - Boston to Nova Scotia
(I don't have a rate to Nova Scotia
and I thought that this was a nice
clean cover)

I hope that I am not imposing on
you but I would appreciate your comments
on the above covers. Please let me know
what your fee for the above is and I will
remit immediately.

Many thanks,
Sincerely

Willard H. Mack

No 511269

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

SENT TO

Millard H. Mack

STREET AND NO.

3930 Red Bud Ave

CITY AND STATE

Cincinnati O.

If you want a
return receipt,
check which

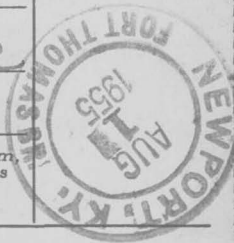
☐

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.

Aug. 1, 1955.

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

Dear Millard:

Yours of the 30th received with the six (6) covers.
I am returning three (3) of them and holding the other
three for further examination. Here are some comments:

2¢ 1869 to Mexico. I have a record of this cover.
There is no actual evidence that the stamp was used
originally on the cover. It is not a First Day but rather -
"If the stamp was used on this cover then it is the earliest
known use of the 2¢ 1869." I certainly do not think the
cover is worth \$50.00 and my reason is obvious. Even if it
is a genuine use, it would be the earliest known use only as
long as an earlier use was not discovered.

6¢ 1869 cover to Nova Scotia. In my opinion, the cover
is genuine but I think a price of \$20.00 is excessive.
The S.U.S. gives \$15.00 which I think would be about right
for an item such as this.

To Argentine - 25¢ rate. In my opinion, this cover is
genuine and I think it is well worth \$20.00.

I will return the other covers tomorrow or Wednesday.

My fee for the above is only \$5.00 plus postage as it
is mostly advice.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

Mr. Mollard A Mack
3930 Red Bud Ave
Cincinnati (29)
Ohio

New
BLUE

Dear Mollard,
Yours of the 30th
received with the SW (6)
covers. I am returning three
(3) of them and holding the
other three for further
examination. Here are
some comments.

~~There~~

24 1869 to Mexico. I have a
record of this cover. There is
no actual evidence that the
stamp ~~is~~ was used originally
on the cover. It is not a
First Day but rather — "If
the stamp was used on this
cover then it is the earliest

known use of the 24 1869"

I certainly do not think the
cover ~~is~~ is worth \$50⁰⁰
and my reason is obvious.

~~It is not~~ Even if it is a
genuine use it would
be the earliest known use
only as long as an earlier
use was not discovered.

64 1869 cover to Nova Scotia.

In my opinion the cover is
genuine but I think a
price of \$20⁰⁰ is
excessive. The S. U. S.
gives \$15⁰⁰ which I
think would be about
right for an item such as
this.

To Argentina - 254 Ralex In
my opinion this cover is

genuine and I think it is
well ~~the~~ worth \$20⁰⁰.

I will return the other
cans tomorrow or Wednesday.

The fee for the above
is only \$5⁰⁰ plus postage
as it is mostly advice

With regards—

Sincerely yours

No 96148

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

SENT TO

Millard H. Mack

STREET AND NO.

3930 Red Bud Ave

CITY AND STATE

Cin 29 - Ohio

If you want a
return receipt,
check which

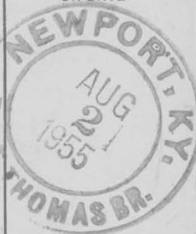
☐

7¢ shows
to whom
and when
delivered

☐

31¢ shows to whom,
when, and address
where delivered

POSTMARK
OR DATE



POD Form 3800
Apr. 1955

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.

Aug. 2, 1955.

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

Dear Millard:

Herewith the other three (3) covers as per yours of the 30th. I had to give these a bit more attention than the other three that I mailed you earlier today. Here are my comments on the enclosed:

19¢ Rate to Italy. From New Orleans on Oct. 20, 1869 - By ship from New York on Oct. 26, 1869. My records show that a ship of the Hamburg Line sailed on Oct. 26, '69 from New York. The rate at that time, "Via North German Union" to Italy was 19¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. Bear in mind that practically all foreign rates changed as of Jan. 1, 1870. In my opinion, this cover is genuine in all respects. I note that it was lot 468 in the Gibson Sale by Ward on June 14, 1944 and was purchased by Cole for \$23.00. It seems he still owns it, so evidently it has not proved a very ready sale. However, the cover is quite a nice combination, but I doubt if it is worth \$35.00. No doubt this is the reason he still owns it. The 12¢ is nice but the other two stamps are cut into. However, when one buys a "foreign rate cover" one is buying a "rate" and in my opinion, should not demand perfection in the stamps though such a feature adds value to the item. My only criticism of this cover is that I think it is over-priced.

15¢ Rate to France. Apparently the origin was New York City as no other is in evidence. The sailing was from New York on April 23, 1870. Our postal treaty with France expired as of Dec. 31, 1869, but it was possible to forward mail thru England under the U.S.-British treaty and thence to France under the Anglo-French treaty. In the first quarter of 1870 there was much confusion regarding rates to France due to the lapse of the treaty and as a result there exists covers which show various different payments. As stated above, this cover was a use in April 1870 and by that time letters of a certain weight required a U. S. payment of 12¢. This is an example, but it shows an over-pay of 3¢. The large red "8" was the U. S. credit of 8¢ to Britain, for the conveyance from England to French destination. Our rate at that time to England was 6¢, but to the frontier it was 4¢, thus on a rate of 12¢, the U.S. share was 4¢, the British share was 8¢. In my opinion, this cover is genuine in all respects and is a nice combination. I think the price is a bit high but on this cover that may be a matter of opinion.

15¢ Rate to Italy in May 1869. This rate is correct, and was "Closed Mail Via England." The 19¢ rate above was thru Hamburg and German mail and was 4¢ higher. This cover shows New Orleans May 1, 1869,

#2. Mr. Millard H. Mack - Aug. 2, 1955.

the sailing from New York on May 5, 1869. My records show such a sailing. In my opinion the cover is genuine. I judge the 12¢ 1867 is a 9 x 13 grill but I doubt if this stamp used in combination with a 3¢ 1869 is worth \$25.00. It seems to me this price is excessive.

If you purchase any of the six covers and wish me to sign them on the back for you I will be pleased to do so.

I am charging you an additional fee of \$5.00 on these three covers.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

3930 Red Bud Ave.
Cincinnati, Ohio

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Wednesday

Thank you very much for your letter containing your comments about the covers which I submitted to you. I am enclosing my check for \$10.42 to your order and am also enclosing three of the covers for your signature. I agree with you about the high price on the cover to Italy but I don't have one in my collection and I am willing to overpay to obtain this one. I haven't seen any rates to Italy (before this) and perhaps that is why I especially want this cover.

Many thanks for all your help
Sincerely

Millard H. Mack

P.S. Let me know what I owe for your authentication and I'll send a check over to you.

M H M.

No. 42183

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

SENT TO

Millard H Mack

STREET AND NO.

3930 Red Bud Ave

CITY AND STATE

Cincinnati (29) O.

If you want a
return receipt,
check which

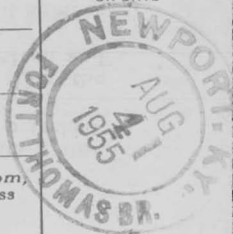
☐

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.



Aug. 4, 1955.

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

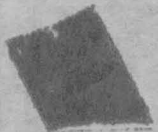
Dear Millard:

Herewith the three (3) covers as per yours
of the 3rd, duly signed on the back. Although the
prices were high these are indeed three nice and in-
teresting covers.

Thanks very much for your check which
covers everything.

With regards -

Cordially yours,



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

July 29, 1955

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

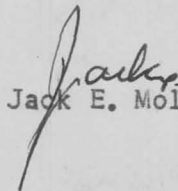
Dear Stan,

I presume that you have been out of town and therefore not home to answer my last letter. However, since I am leaving for a six week trip to Europe on Monday my own reply to yours will be delayed considerably. However, my office will be open during that time and my assistant will continue the business so please continue to write the same as if I were here with regard to any matters that may come up.

I have sold cover #613 at \$50 and enclose my check to cover it. I intended the others for a client who unfortunately has apparently been out of town and still has not replied on some material which I sent him last month. I shall send him your covers as soon as I hear unless you would like to have them returned in which case let us know and my assistant will send them back.

Enclosed are two items which I purchased in the Waterhouse sale that according to H.R. Harmer you declined to give an affirmative opinion on when they sent them to you originally, tho apparently you also did not condemn them. I am therefore sending them along for a formal opinion for which I shall of course pay you and shall appreciate your detailed comments as I see no strong reason to question them myself. They are lots #282 & 351.

With best regards,


Jack E. Molesworth

JEM/p

Lot 351

Aug. 1, 1955.

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

Dear Jack:

Herewith I am returning Lot 351 in the Waterhouse Sale of last June. I examined this cover several months ago and advised Mr. Cyril Harmer as follows, quote:

"Lot 351 - This is questionable but may be good. It is my opinion it should not be sold as genuine but 'as is.'" (unquote)

He did not offer to pay me a fee for a careful examination and the above was given to him free. I did not have the time to make a thorough examination because I was not being paid a fee. The above was more or less advice rather than an opinion whether the cover was good or bad.

There are certain points about this cover that indicate it could be good, and on the other hand there are some very bad points. I think the stamp should be carefully removed from the cover (without any water or dampness on the face of the stamp) and then a photograph made by ultra-violet. I believe I could then determine if the cover is genuine. However, I would not remove the stamp without permission of Cyril Harmer. Further, my fee would be \$10.00 for the work, photography and opinion.

Sincerely yours,

Waterhouse Cover - 24¢ 1860 - Lot 351
See color slides A47 - 26 - 27 - 28.
back of cover A47 - 29

S.B.A. reported to Cyril Harmer early in June, 1955.
Lot 351. This is questionable but may be good. It is my opinion it should not be sold as genuine but "as is."

AUG. 1, 1955. This cover was sent to S.B.A. by Jack Molesworth who stated that "according to H. R. Harmer (Cyril Harmer) you declined to give an affirmative opinion on it when they sent it to you originally, though apparently you did not condemn it." (unquote).

On Aug. 1, 1955, S.B.A. again made another and more thorough examination of this cover. The marking on the back (only one) is in a circle reading, "D1 - 7/4" (black). The blue Aachen on the 24¢ stamp reads, "Aachen 6 (?) 4 - FRANCO," so apparently the dates were April 6 and April 7. The Pittsburgh postmark is not legible but may be Mar 22 1861 (Friday). The New York red p.m. has "7 PAID" indicating "P.C.M." also apparently "A.M. PKT." (Bacher stated this was A.M. PKT) The date looks like 25 but it must have been Mar 23 as Saturday was the 23rd. The year had to be 1861 as March April of 1860 would have been too early for the 24¢ stamp. Was this 24¢ stamp used on this cover originally? The "Pittsburgh" p.m. is faint and likewise the black killer on the stamp. The letter was routed, "Via Prussia Closed Mail." Why was this rated as fully paid with 7¢ credit (Via P.C.M.) to Prussia? Why was it not rated as entirely unpaid with a black debit to Prussia of 23¢? Is the blue Aachen marking a fake? This seems highly improbable because, as stated above, the New York with "7" credit indicates the letter was sent by "P.C.M." and if so it surely would have an "Aachen" marking. Was this sent stampless - postage paid in cash and is that part of the AACHEN marking on the stamp a paint job? I wonder? Perhaps this could be determined if the stamp was lifted, and the cover photographed by ultra-violet. If this stamp was used originally as we see it and if the AACHEN marking is genuine, then the only explanation is that this is a letter that got by with 24¢ postage when the rate was 30¢.

Above
Was Not
Sent To
Molesworth

It Was For SBA Reference

Lot 282

Aug. 1, 1955.

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

Dear Jack:

As per yours of the 29th, I am herewith returning Lot #282 from the Waterhouse Sale of last June. A block of four of the 5¢ 1857.

I examined this block casually several months ago and reported to Mr. Cyril Harmer that the postal marking was highly questionable and that if the item would be submitted to me I would refuse to authenticate. This was information that was given free of any fee because he did not ask my opinion or offer to pay for same.

For your information I am very suspicious of this item and before I would give a positive opinion I would have to make an enlarged photograph by ultra-violet. This might show something and it might not, but for same and an opinion I would have to charge a fee of \$7.50.

I fail to see why buyers should be expected to pay such a fee. I think the fee should be borne by the Harmer firm regardless as to whether you keep the cover or not.

Sincerely yours,

Waterhouse cover Lot 351
24¢ 1860
S.B.A. Report as of
Aug. 14, 1955

Final conclusion - In my opinion, this 24¢ 1860 stamp was not used on this cover originally.

The use was from New York on Saturday, March 25, and it is my belief that the year was 1865. By American Packet and in all probability the cover had a 30¢ 1861, though the rate was 30¢ unpaid - 28¢ paid at that time, or the cover could have been a stampless - provided there is nothing under the stamp.

The 24¢ 1860 was not issued until June 1860 (?), hence March 1860 would have been too early and March 1862 too late for this stamp. In 1861, March 25 fell on Monday and there was no sailing on that date for mail for Europe. Further, in the early 1860's, the Aachen marking was not applied in blue but rather in red, whereas in 1865 it was applied in blue.

Copy of
Above Solely
For
SBA
Records

Waterhouse cover Lot 351

24¢ 1860

S.B.A. Report as of

Aug. 14, 1955

Final conclusion - In my opinion, this 24¢ 1860 stamp was not used on this cover originally.

The use was from New York on Saturday, March 25, and it is my belief that the year was 1865. By American Packet and in all probability the cover had a 30¢ 1861, though the rate was 30¢ unpaid - 28¢ paid at that time, or the cover could have been a stampless - provided there is nothing under the stamp.

The 24¢ 1860 was not issued until June 1860 (?), hence March 1860 would have been too early and March 1862 too late for this stamp. In 1861, March 25 fell on Monday and there was no sailing on that date for mail for Europe. Further, in the early 1860's, the Aachen marking was not applied in blue but rather in red, whereas in 1865 it was applied in blue.

Regarding the 24¢ 1860 cover in the Waterhouse Sale
of Tuesday, June 28, 1955, Lot 351.

In my opinion, this 24¢ stamp was not used originally
on this envelope. After a most thorough and careful
examination, the blue portion of the "Aachen" marking
on the stamp is fraudulent, not handstamped but painted.
Further, after a most careful examination of all the
features of this cover it is my conclusion that the
actual use of this cover was March 1865.

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK

August 15, 1955

Copy
of
Original
Sent
Malesworth

Aug. 1, 1955.

To
Mr. Jack E. Molesworth,
102 Beach St.,
Boston 16, Mass.

For postage
Registered Letter of
August 1, 1955\$.46

PAID

AUG 14 1955

PAID

AUG 14 1955

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

August 5, 1944

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

Thank you for your letters of August 1st recently received.

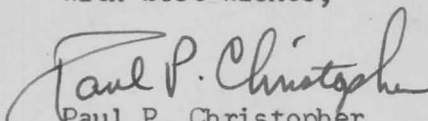
In regard to the two Waterhouse lots which you returned, it was Jack's intention when he sent them to you that you give them the "full treatment" and if possible render a formal opinion on both of them. Therefore I am returning them enclosed and request that you take whatever photos etc necessary in order to arrive at as definite opinion as possible - good or bad. Altho we agree that the selling firm of all such items should pay the necessary fee to have them expertized before sale, we are quite willing to pay the necessary fee in order to be sure that the items in our stock are as represented. If they should prove bad, Jack will probably request a refund of the fee when returning to Harmer. Even if a refund was not forthcoming, we would consider the fee well spent since it would prevent us from spending a much larger sum on items that were "no good". We are holding up payment on these two lots until we have them expertized, permission for which we received at the time of purchase from H. R. Harmer, Ltd.

Regarding the used #39 in the Belmont sale, we sent it to Mr. Ustick of Stanley Bibbons and I am enclosing his reply for perusal. Please return it at your convenience. We have since sent the Stamp to the Foundation and will let you know of the outcome.

I have been very closely associated with Jack for several years and from my own observations I am sure that he would never offer for sale or guarantee any item on which he had any doubts. We felt that the stamp showed a portion of the Blue Town and Grid of Cincinnati, Ohio. However, if we are wrong we would greatly appreciate your advising what you saw that made you feel that the cancel is bad so that we don't make the same mistake again.

P.S. I am returning enclosed
item #688 of your July 8th
sending.

With best wishes,


Paul P. Christopher
Assistant to JEM

August 14, 1955.

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

Attention: Mr. Paul P. Christopher

Dear Mr. Christopher:

Please pardon this tardy acknowledgement of yours of the 5th, with enclosures as stated.

I am making a very thorough examination of the two Waterhouse lots but up to this writing I have not concluded my investigation. It may interest you to know that I am convinced the cover is fraudulent, i.e., that the 24¢ stamp was not used originally on this envelope. I have made numerous photographs of the two items and also photographs of related items. I will give you a definite report later this week on both.

I return the Usticke letter, ~~any~~ opinion by that gentleman on 19th U.S. stamps or covers would not be of any interest to me. You inquired why I thought the cancel on the 90¢ 1860 is bad. The reason is obvious. The blue ink is modern and was not the kind of ink that was used in 1860.

Thanks for your enclosure of 46¢.

Sincerely yours,

August 14, 1955.

To the Public Library,
Pittsburg, Pa.

Gentlemen:

Will you be so kind as to furnish me with the following information, re - a firm that did business in Pittsburg during the Civil War. I would like to know for an important bit of research work in what year the name of this firm first appeared in the City Directory of Pittsburg. The firm name was,

KLEE, KAUFMAN & CO.
CLOTHIERS

Was this firm in business as early as 1860? Was this firm in business in March 1865?

I will gladly pay for the time involved in furnishing me with the above information. I enclose stamped return envelope.

Thanking you in advance, I am

Very truly yours,

Regarding the 5¢ 1857 block of four off cover in the Waterhouse Sale, London, of Tuesday, June 28th, 1955, same being Lot #282.

In my opinion, the red cancelation on this block is very questionable and I cannot authenticate it as genuine. I doubt if any faker would place a fraudulent postmark on an unused block of this stamp, hence if a postal marking was cleaned it was probably penmarks. I made an enlarged photograph by ultra-violet ray as per print accompanying this opinion. The photograph failed to show any traces of penmarks.

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK

AUGUST 16, 1955

August 16, 1955.

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

Attention: Mr. Paul P. Christopher

Dear Mr. Christopher:

Herewith I am returning the two Waterhouse lots 282 and 351, also my opinions regarding the two items. Also two color slides, and under separate cover, an enlarged photo that I made by ultra-violet of the block of the 5¢ 1857. I made other test photographs but I doubt if these would be of interest. I might add several facts which I trust you will treat as confidential.

On the cover the Aachen marking is in blue. This marking was not applied in blue when the 24¢ 1860 was in use. In the early years of the 1860 it was always applied in red. I did not remove the 24¢ stamp from the cover.

Re - the 5¢ block. Note the circle of the postmark on the large photograph. Is it a circle? Also note the vertical perfs between the stamps. One wonders if this was two pairs rejoined? If so, it would furnish the reason why a fake cancelation was applied to the block.

Sincerely yours,

Enclosed:

Color slides

A60 - 7)

A60 -10) no charge

August 16, 1955.

To

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

Opinion on Lot 351	
Waterhouse Sale, June 28, 1955	\$7.50
Opinion on Lot 282	
Waterhouse Sale, June 28, 1955	7.50
	<u>\$15.00</u>

PAID
AUG 29 1955

A.P.S.

S.P.A.

C.S.A.

B.P.A.

A.S.D.A.

C.C.N.Y.

Jack E. Molesworth - 102 Beacon Street - Boston 16, Massachusetts

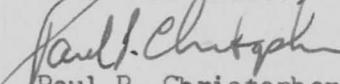
Aug 26, 1955

Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

Thank you for your opinions on the two Waterhouse lots. I am holding your letters and the lots for Jack's return.

Enclosed is our check in the amount of \$15 to cover your fee on these two lots.

With best wishes,


Paul P. Christopher

August 30, 1955.

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

Attention: Mr. Paul Christopher

Dear Mr. Christopher:

This will acknowledge receipt of your check
for \$15.00.

Again referring to the Waterhouse Lot #351.
This cover bore the corner card of Klee Kaufman & Co.,
Pittsburg, Pa., I found that this firm was listed in
the City Directories of Pittsburg from 1856 to 1865 in-
clusive. In 1866 the firm name was changed to J. Klee &
Bro.

Sincerely yours,

111



Via Prussia Closed mail



NEW.
Lot
351

Mr D. Anna Maas
Frankfurt
A. M.
(Europe)

B649

AUG 14 1955

THRU THE KINDNESS OF THE
OWNER OF THE WITHIN ITEM,
THIS PHOTOGRAPH WAS MADE
BY STANLEY B. ASHBROOK. IT
IS RESPECTFULLY REQUESTED
THAT NO USE BE MADE OF
THIS PRINT WITHOUT THE
CONSENT OF THE OWNER OF
THE ORIGINAL. Stanley B. Ashbrook.

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK
P. O. Box 31
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.,
FORT THOMAS, KY.

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK
P. O. BOX 31
33 NORTH FT. THOMAS AVENUE
FORT THOMAS, KY.

August 14, 1955.

Carnegie
To the Public Library,
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Gentlemen:

(13)

Will you be so kind as to furnish me with the following information, re - a firm that did business in Pittsburg during the Civil War. I would like to know for an important bit of research work in what year the name of this firm first appeared in the City Directory of Pittsburg. The firm name was,

KLEE, KAUFMAN & CO.
CLOTHIERS

Was this firm in business as early as 1860? Was this firm in business in March 1865?

I will gladly pay for the time involved in furnishing me with the above information. I enclose stamped return envelope.

Thanking you in advance, I am

Very truly yours,

Stanley B. Ashbrook

see over



Pittsburgh City Directory listing

1856 = Klee, Kaufman & Co. clothiers
80 Wood St

up to and including 1865.

1865-66 = J. Klee & Bro, wholesale
clothiers

This entry continues on into the
1870's.

from;

Pennsylvania Room

Carnegie Library

Pittsburgh (13)
Pa

D42

712



nm
J. H. Wilson
Red
Before 1861

D43

Russia Closed Mail



4

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

7-30-55

Dear Mr Ashbrook:-

I don't know Paul Newson;
in fact I have never heard of him. However,
anything coming out of Eugene, Oregon should
be viewed with suspicion. In fact, I will
give you the state of Oregon, philatelically.
Either our friends ^{up} there are innocent babes,
or think we are a lot of suckers, and that
goes for pretty nearly everybody, except
Dr Smith. I am amazed at what
our legitimate neighbors send me at
times - touched up, doctored, rank
fakes etc. Also, I understand, they
take great delight in outwitting each
other - seems to be perfectly legitimate.
I have been so busy, that I haven't
had a chance to call Edgar, but I
understand he is as good as ever,
and that means philatelically he is

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

so much better than the rest of us, that we
should be on our guard. On August 7
there will be a dinner over here at the
Pony Express Rutab, (see enclosed card) of
the Western Cover Society, and I hope to see
him at that time. Colonel Waddell Smith,
grandson of Waddell ^{of Pony Express} is a neighbor of mine,
and has purchased the old Main County
County Club buildings. Part of these buildings
have been converted into a museum, concerning
the history of the "Pony Express". He has
some odd and unusual ideas about
the "Pony Express"; particularly, as regards
the part Wells Fargo played in the
matter. As much as I disagree with
him about Wells Fargo, I still enjoy his
hospitality, and the setting, view etc are
delightful.

Sincerely,

W. Scott Polland

THE WESTERN COVER SOCIETY

will hold

A Buffet Dinner Meeting

Sunday, August 7th, at 4:30 PM.

at the

Pony Express Retreat
75 Margarita Drive
Country Club Heights,
San Rafael, California

This will be an open meeting and wives and guests are welcome.

The cost will be \$3.50 per person and will include cocktails. An appropriate exhibit of Covers will be shown.

As this affair will be catered please fill out the enclosed card at your earliest convenience as we must definitely know how many to prepare for. Enclosed is a map showing the location of the Pony Express Retreat.

Dr. Sheldon H. Goodman
Secretary

PONY EXPRESS RETREAT

75 MARGARITA DRIVE — THE GOLF TRACT

SAN RAFAEL, CALIFORNIA

PHONE GL. 3-4504

In San Rafael go to Greyhound Bus Depot on Third Street. Go on out East on Third Street for 1 and 7/10ths miles to Margarita Drive. Turn left at Margarita Drive sign and go 2 blocks to No. 75.

RAYMOND H. WEILL CO.
ROGER G. WEILL-RAYMOND H. WEILL

37-4

Philatelic Dealers

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

407 ROYAL STREET
NEW ORLEANS 16, LA.

August 3, 1955

Stanley B. Ashbrook
Ft. Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan:

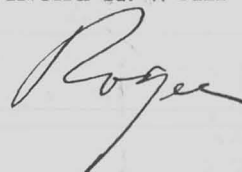
Here are a couple of little covers we thought you would like to see. We imagine the illuminated one represents one of the earliest ads of a stamp dealer.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Raymond H. Weill Co.

By



rgw:lc
enc.
reg & ins

Aug. 5, 1955.

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

Dear Roger:

Herewith the two covers as per yours of the 3rd. Thanks very much. I note one is addressed to "Plaisance Italio" and it could have been from an early stamp dealer to a stamp collecting count. I wonder how many would know why this letter required 63¢.

The other cover was over-paid a rate (15¢). I suppose the writer thought it was $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce so he paid 2 x 15¢, whereas New York rated as a single. The U.S. share on this letter should have been 3¢ but we got 18¢. Incidentally, there is no evidence of year use but it was 1862.

I suppose Raymond is back home.

Regards and thanks.

Cordially yours,

Triple Rate To ITALIAN STATE From Phila - June 26 -
From N.Y. By Cunard Wed June 27 1866 -
Rate By French Mail 21¢ per $\frac{1}{4}$ oz. The
 $\frac{4}{3}$ indicates Triple Rate. French Marking is
"8 JUL 66" - The Red Phila. P.M. is Faint -
The U.S. share was only 3¢ single - There
should have been credit of 3x 18 or 54¢
NONE SHOWN - EARLY Stamp Dealer.
By Roger Weill. Aug 5 1955.

By Bremen Line From Saint Joseph Mo(?) Feb 10
1862 (?) From N.Y. Feb 15-62 (?) - On 2/15 - 62
A Bremen Steamer Sailed - Not on This Date
In 63-64-65. No Evidence of Year From
Back. PAID AS A Double - Rated By New York
AS A Single. On Back "AERZGN ? 7/3" MARY

August 5, 1955.

Mr. Ed. S. McConnell,
2079 Allston Way,
Berkeley 4, Calif.

Dear Mr. McConnell:

I am in receipt of yours of the 1st.

Regarding the cover, sketch of which you enclosed. I note the N.Y. postmarked date is Apr. 1, 1863, which would be perfectly correct for a rate of this kind. I judge this is a "3¢ plus 1¢" Carrier rate, that is, it was dropped in a letter-box in New York City - thus the 1¢ by Carrier to the N.Y. P.O., and 3¢ by U. S. mail to destination. Here are some facts:

Roanoke Island, N.C. is an island off the coast of North Carolina forming part of Dare County and separated from the mainland by Croatan Sound. It is noted as the site selected by Sir Walter Raleigh in his attempt at colonization in 1585-87. On Feb. 8, 1862 a union force under General Burnside captured the Confederate garrison. It is my understanding that the island was not captured by the Confederates during the war.

At the present time there seem to be two small villages on the island by the names of Manteo and Wanchess but the 1859 list of post offices does not list either and neither does the 1863 list.

It is my guess that all mail in and out of Roanoke Island in 1863 was handled by the navy. Your cover is apparently addressed to a civilian care of "Wm. C. Hamilton & Co." I wonder if this was a Sutler firm supplying the garrison, and that the addressee was an employee?

I am a bit hazy on the history of Roanoke Island but I seem to recall that it played quite an important role in the war between the states.

May I thank you for your enclosure.

If you would care for me to look at the cover itself I will be glad to do so.

Sincerely yours,

Copy to
E.B. Jessup
Tracy Simpson

STAMPS FOR COLLECTORS

ED. S. MC CONNELL

2079 ALLSTON WAY

BERKELEY 4, CALIF.

THORNWALL 5-3021

August 1, 1955

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Edgar Jessup and Tracy Simpson both suggest that you are the one man best able to unravel the mystery of an interesting 1863 cover - sketch enclosed.

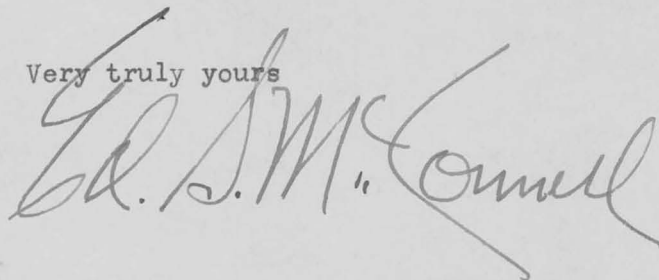
In essence the cover carries four copies of the 1¢ blue 1861 stamp #63 cancelled New York Apr ? 1863, and addressed to Roanoke Island, N. C. No other markings. Cover has been roughly opened at left end. No contents.

The fourth stamp undoubtedly paid the carrier fee to the New York postoffice. The obvious mystery is "if" and "how" it was delivered to Roanoke Island, N. C. during the height of the War between the States.

At first thought we guessed that coastal North Carolina may have been in control of Union forces. However, such references as we find thus far indicate that North Carolina was entirely under control of the Confederacy from Secession until 1865. The cancellation date 1863 is reasonably certain from three strikes, and there is no trace of grill as might be expected in 1868.

Your comments will be most welcome. If you wish to examine the cover itself, it will be sent to you. For the good of the cause a dollar bill is enclosed.

Very truly yours



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

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

Aug. 5, 1955

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Please let me know whether the enclosed cover, which has been offered to me for purchase, is genuine. I am particularly concerned about the 5¢ buff, of course, since otherwise the cover has only a fraction of the value it appears now to have.

I had assumed that the rate to Spain at this time was 21¢. While this letter apparently originated at Havana, from the notation as to receipt on one of the flaps, it seems to have been carried outside the mail to New York and put in the post office there.

But perhaps I'm overlooking something.

Please tell me what your fee is for this and I will send it promptly.

Sincerely,
John D. Pope III

No. 42185

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

SENT TO

John D. Pope III

STREET AND NO.

818 Olive St

CITY AND STATE

St. Louis (1) 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



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.

Aug. 8, 1955.

Mr. John D. Pope, III,
818 Olive St.,
St. Louis, Mo.

Dear Mr. Pope:

Herewith the 5¢ Buff cover as per yours of the 5th. Regarding the cover itself. The manuscript notation indicates this letter originated at Havana and apparently it was sent under separate cover to a correspondent in New York City - see handstamp in lower left. It was placed in the mail to go "By French Mail" Via the Bremen steamer, "U.S. Packet." The rate by French mail was 21¢ per $\frac{1}{4}$ ounce. The French marking shows that the letter was dropped off at Southampton and sent across channel to Calais. Our share of this 21¢ rate was 3¢ U.S. internal plus 6¢ sea to Southampton. The New York postmark shows a credit to France of 12¢. Out of this, France credited Britain 3¢ for conveyance to Calais. This left her 9¢, for which 3¢ was for her internal and 6¢ for conveyance to Spain. This 6¢ did not pay the rate to Spanish destination as "4R" was collected from the addressee (4 Reales). So much for the way the letter was transmitted.

If the 5¢ Buff was used originally then the letter was overpaid 4¢. Why? The New York forwarding firm was probably Spanish, and if so, they surely were well informed as to the correct rates to Spain. I assume that this firm put the stamps on the letter rather than the writer in Havana. If so, why should they put a 5¢ stamp on the letter when only a 1¢ was necessary? Four cents had some real value in May 1862. Even today people don't waste 4¢ in overpaying postage if they are informed. Some clever faker could have removed a 1¢ 1861 and substituted the 5¢ Buff. I am not stating that this was done but rather that it might have. I don't think the red grid on the buff is real convincing.

There is only a fee of \$3.50 for the above, however, if you would like for me to make ultra-violet photographs and to make a careful examination to see if I can definitely determine anything I would have to charge you an extra fee of \$5.00.

Incidentally, examine the tie of the blue "4" on the 5¢ buff. I think it looks a bit queer.

This will also acknowledge receipt of yours of the 2nd and I will get together the earlier sets of my Service as time will permit.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

Memo From
JOHN D. POPE III

Aug. 9, 1955

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Thank you very much for your prompt opinion on the cover with the 5¢ Buff to Spain. It bothered me, but I was afraid there was a postal rate requiring 25¢ that I didn't know of. If so I'd ~~have wanted~~ ^{have wanted} you to make a careful examination, but under the circumstances I'm just going to turn it down.

My check for \$3.50 is enclosed. Incidentally, it has always been my view that your charges are moderate in view of the work you do on a cover or stamp.

Sincerely,
John D. Pope III

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Aug. 17, 1955

The information as to lot #86 in the Waterhouse Sale is of deep interest to me. I had bid on this lot but of course did not get it. I imagine you will write this cover up in your Special Service — I surely hope you do, for that will be a very convenient place for me to have the information.

Just last night I realized that the cover to Spain bearing a 5c buff and 2 10c 1861s, which you examined for me a little over a week ago, was also in the Waterhouse Sale. It was lot #432.

Gradually I am coming to the conclusion that one of the outstanding characteristics of the Waterhouse Sale is the number of "clinkers" that were in it. Since Dr. Bacher wrote the catalogue (and probably had sold many of the items to Waterhouse) it seems to me that it reflects on him.

Sincerely,
John D. Pope III

EZRA D. COLE

Rare Postage Stamps

NYACK . NEW YORK

Commissions . Appraisals

TELEPHONE NYACK 7-0964

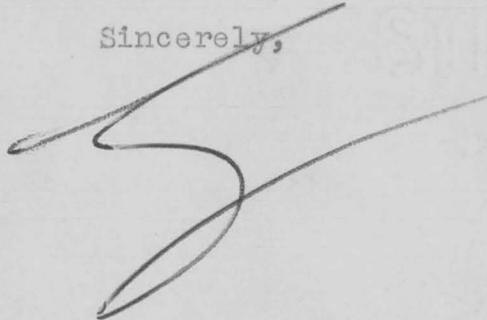
August 9, 1955

Dear Stan,

H. R. Harmer has the Caspary collection. First sale of U. S. Postmasters the middle of November.

Will you please pass on the enclosed cover. FOR YOUR FEE, I'll charge the man too. This has been questioned. I must have a letter to send along with it so please write a seperate letter with your opinion.

Sincerely,

A large, stylized handwritten signature, likely of Ezra D. Cole, written in dark ink. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

August 11, 1955.

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

Dear Ezra:

Herewith Lot 86 in the Waterhouse sale. I made a most thorough examination of this cover and I am quite positive that it is genuine in all respects. I made enlarged color slides of the 10¢ - and also enlarged color slides of the various postal markings. I could not detect any evidence of pen removed marks on the stamp but to be sure I made an enlarged exposure in black and white by ultra-violet. I have not developed the negative as yet but I do not believe it will show any pen removed marks. Even if it did it would not indicate that anything was wrong, because I am convinced that the blue paid that ties stamp to cover is genuine. If this marking is genuine what difference does it make if the stamp had any pen cancels? They could have been there and faded out, if any were ever there. I enclose a separate opinion.

Bacher advised me after the sale that you were the buyer of this cover and previously Em Krug advised me that he had give you a bid of 200 pounds. I thought, of course, that he got the cover, so I requested him to loan it to me as I wanted to make a black and white photo to use in my Service. Em advised me that he did not get it and seemed very much put out about it. I then assumed that you had purchased it for Gore as I know he likes a cover like this. He replied that he was not the buyer.

While it is none of my business, I do not understand how Em did not obtain the cover if he gave you a bid of 200 pounds and it sold @ 105 pounds. It seems to me that even if you had a higher bid than 200 pounds you should have made your first bid higher than that figure. Of course, this would have been to the advantage of Sir Nicholas, but as it stands, Em don't seem to understand what it is all about and I know I don't. I am sure Em is greatly worried over the incident and if I were in your place, I would lay all the cards face up on the table, inform Em who was the buyer, what bid he gave you. I know damn well if I was Em I would accept nothing less. I am sure that you can do this and that you will, in order to retain Em's confidence and friendship.

This is really a beautiful cover, and a very fine stamp. The use was in 1848, hence the stamp is an early print, a fine engraving.

I note that H.R.Harmer will hold the first Caspary sale. Does this mean that the whole Caspary collection will be sold thru H.P.H. & Co.?

Yours etc.,

P.S.--The ultra-violet print of the 10¢ will be sent later. My fee includes this.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Re - Lot 86 - Waterhouse Sale - London, June 27, 1955.

10¢ 1847 on cover from Philadelphia, Pa., May 12, 1848
Via England to Paris, France.

In my opinion this cover is genuine in all respects.

The Philadelphia postmark shows that the rate paid was 10¢. This was because the letter was mailed on Friday, May 12, 1848 for the sailing from Boston on Wednesday, May 17, 1848 of a British Cunard Mail steamship.

We had no postal treaty with France or Britain at that time, hence only the U.S. domestic postage was payable and it had to be paid. Thus the 10¢ single rate ($\frac{1}{2}$ oz.) from Philadelphia to Boston.

There is a British postmark on the back. On the face is a manuscript. This was French applied and was "15" decimes, or the U.S. equivalent of approximately 28 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢. This was the sum due from the addressee from the U.S. frontier to Paris destination.

I made a minute examination of the well-known Philadelphia "PAID" which ties the stamp to cover and am quite positive that it is genuine.

August 11, 1955.

Cancelled

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK
P. O. Box 31
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.,
FORT THOMAS, KY.

August 14, 1955.

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

Dear Ezra:

Here is the print by ultra-violet of the 10¢ '47 on Lot 86, Waterhouse Sale. This photo brought out some dark marks at the lower right corner. The blue lines of the "Paid" on the stamp look darker than the blue lines on the cover but this could be due to the difference in color of the stamp and white envelope. Or could it *possibly.*

Re - this PAID. Note the strikes on the face of the cover. In both strikes there is a break in the top line. This break is repeated in the strike on the stamp. This could mean clever work on the part of a painter. In this print the "D" of PAID measures about 12 MM whereas the "P" measures a bit more(?) - 13 MM or more(?), the "A" about "13." If this is a paint job on the stamp it is extremely clever. I made such measurements on the stamp when I examined it and I was convinced the "PAID" on the stamp matched up with the strikes on the cover.

Ez, I have searched my files for some good examples of the "Paid" but have not been able to locate any that are any good. Perhaps you have some good examples and have sent them to me for examination.

Yours etc.,

*8/14/55 using a P.O. Pen to
Answer this quickly*

*I. Your print shows more than
I could see - vertical line thru
middle of stamp especially -*

*II. Sent all pairs I had. - in use
a long time and Phila must have
had many of them
over.*

BETTER SEND ME ABOUT
3 ADDITIONAL PRINTS OF
YOUR PHOTO - I WILL PAY
FOR THEM - I WANT TO
SEND EM ONE - (PLEASE
LET ME DO THIS -) DON'T
SEND HIM ONE YOURSELF
WILL ALSO NEED PRINT
FOR BOYER AND ONE
FOR MYSELF - ONE TO
GO BACK (?) WITH COVER
AT THE END.

WE STILL HAVE SOME
WORK TO DO ON THIS FOR
IF REPEAT IF ITS BAD WE
SHOULD STUDY IT TO SEE HOW
THE FAUCH OPERATED. DO YOU
SUPPOSE IN 1848 SOMEONE TRIED TO
RE USE A CANCELLED STAMP TO SAVE THE POSTAGE

EZRA D. COLE

NYACK • NEW YORK



Special Delivery - Air Mail

419

MR STANLEY ASHBROOK
33 N. FONT THOMAS AVE
FONT THOMAS
KY.





EZRA D. COLE

Rare Postage Stamps

NYACK . NEW YORK

Commissions . Appraisals

TELEPHONE NYACK 7-0964

August 15th, 1955

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

Dear Stan:

Of course after I for your letter we talked on the phone and I am enclosing a batch of Philadelphia covers together with the 10¢ cover~~X~~.

I have again studied this cover, and Lord knows I looked it over enough as it is. Of course I saw the pen mark across Washington's nose on the stamp. What is the reddish mark that I can see with my glass to the right of Washington's eye? It is in the curl of his hair as well. This is on the right side of the stamp as it faces you. Is the postmark which shows very faintly below the stamp a Boston mark or what? I cannot make it out.

There also appears to be what may be a tiny tear or crease between the "o" and "f" of "Office". At the left bottom the stamp appears to be a trifle stained? (or is this a pen mark?) Look at this with a high powered glass. There are some scratches there. There is a vertical line to the right of the right "X".

The question in my mind is this: Would not this cover have gone through with the same markings with no stamp on it? This you will certainly know and can work out.

As to the Philadelphia "Paid" itself. I have covers from the 1830s sometime running up through 1850 any way and perhaps longer. Philadelphia was a big city - there must have been more than one of these "Paid" hand stamps made and used. All three of the "Paid" on the cover may be fakes ~~on~~ either one of them or two of them.

In any event I am going to hold up everything until we have had an opportunity to look at this again and try to puzzle it out. I will sort the affair out with Em. Even this can wait until we find out more about it.

I would also suggest your not using it in your service letter until we work it out and even then I would like to get permission from the owner - it is not my cover.

All of the Caspary collection is certainly going to Harmer. The first sale will be November 15th, the U. S. Postmasters. General issues sometime after the first of the year.

Sincerely,



Ezra D. Cole

EDC:mk1

EZRA D. COLE

Rare Postage Stamps

NYACK . NEW YORK

Commissions . Appraisals

TELEPHONE NYACK 7-0964

August 17th, 1955.

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

Dear Stan:

I wrote you the hurried scrawl from the postoffice yesterday about the 10¢ 1847 cover.

I am going to have my Secretary, Mrs Lent, mail this letter to you noontime without signing it myself. I am going to rush off to New York.

In my opinion the only way that this cover could be genuine is if the following circumstances are correct:

The writer of that letter in Philadelphia had a cancelled 10¢ 1847 pen marked stamp and he may at that time have removed the penmarks or tried to, or else these penmarks were so faint that possibly he, and no one else, saw them.

In other words what he did was to use a cancelled stamp knowingly or unknowingly. If he was a crook he was trying to cheat the Government and if he was not, he just used a stamp which had already been used before. If the above is true the cover could be genuine in spite of the fact that the stamp is penmarked and I think this is the only way that it could be genuine.

If the cover is a fake I think all the "Paid's" would be bad and it might be that the Philadelphia town postmark is bad Don't forget that other Waterhouse cover with the Philadelphia , and the alleged "15 cents" may have come from the same source and could have been made at the sametime by the same faker.

Some faker may have been working on these Philadelphia covers and in my opinion it is someone who knew something.

Because of all the people involved we have to come up with some definite solution if it is at all possible and something in writing so that I can return it or not to H. R. Harmer

Inc.

Rest assured that I will not do anything at all until I have checked with you, or you have told me what to do, and I will follow your suggestions.

Sincerely,

Ezra D. Cole
M.H.L.

Ezra D. Cole.

EDC:mk1

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK
P. O. Box 31
33 E. Thomas Ave.,
PORT THOMAS, KY.

August 19, 1955.

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

Dear Ezra:

Herewith the 10¢ 1847 cover, Waterhouse Lot 86. I am glad you returned it to me as I made new photographs, etc., today. This cover did fool me completely and I am glad of the opportunity to reverse my former decision.

You are quite right, the pen marks are still visible. I was not careful enough when I examined the cover last week. I did not think there were any pen marks and I made the ultra-violet photo just as a precautionary measure. I was sure no cleaning had been done so you can imagine my surprise when I looked at the negative after development.

This was unquestionably a stampless cover with the 10¢ postage paid by cash or charge. Some faker used a cleaned 10¢ and very cleverly tied it with a wonderful paint job. This explains why the stamp is where it is on the envelope. I am now convinced that the stamp was added (long after) the Philadelphia postmark was applied. The cover without the stamp would be perfectly regular in every way, just the same as any other stampless with a rate and a paid denoting the U.S. postage, foreign or domestic had been paid.

I have never run across a cover, that I can recall, with an 1847 stamp that had been cleaned and went thru the mail, but of course we do not look for such things.

Herewith as requested, I am sending you three photo prints. The photographs ^{shows} a black marking down the lower half of the right side. I don't know what this could have been but surely it was something on the stamp that was cleaned off. The chap who imitated the framed PAID surely was a real artist. Had the pen marks been entirely removed I feel sure that no one would have questioned this cover. Note the strike of the handstamped PAID under the French due. To the left is a small spot of blue ^{color} cover. The artist even imitated this on the stamp. I do not think this dot was on the handstamp but the artist evidently thought so, as he put a blue dot on the stamp in imitation.

I will return the batch of stampless covers later as I wish to look these over. What I would like to see would be a strike of that framed PAID on a cover with a broken frame line at top. Not a cover in your lot had that variety. Maybe it was a handstamp used in the foreign division of the Philadelphia Post Office. That could be the reason why we would not find it on domestic covers.

Thanks for your check - receipt herewith. If my latest photos show up anything new I will send you prints.

With regards -

Yours etc.,

To Whom it may concern

Re - Lot 86 - Waterhouse Sale - London, June 27, 1955.

10¢ 1847 on cover from Philadelphia, Pa. May 12, 1848, Via England to Paris, France.

In my opinion, the 10¢ 1847 stamp was not used on this cover. The stamp is a pen-canceled and cleaned copy.

In my opinion, this was a stampless cover, with 10¢ in postage paid by cash or charge account.

In my opinion, the blue framed PAID which ties the stamp to cover, is a painting - is not handstruck and is a very clever imitation of the genuine strikes of this marking on the cover.

At the period which this letter was mailed the U.S. did not have a postal treaty with either England or France. This letter was mailed from Philadelphia on Friday, May 12, 1849 to Boston (10¢ postage was required to be paid) for the sailing of a Cunard Mail Ship (British) from that port on Wednesday, May 17, 1848. The 10¢ payment was merely the domestic rate per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. from Philadelphia to Boston. There is a British postmark on back, (red orange) of May 31, 1848. On face is a pen marking. This was applied in France and was "15 decimes," or the U.S. equivalent of approximately 28¢. This was the sum due from the addressee for the carriage from the U. S. frontier (at Boston) to the Paris destination, and was rated in accord with the Anglo-French postal treaty in effect at that time. Accompanying this opinion is a photograph of the 10¢ stamp which I made by ultra-violet light and shows the removed pen marks very plain.

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK

AUGUST 18, 1955

Copy
Sent
Kruig

To Whom it may concern

Re - Lot 86 - Waterhouse Sale - London, June 27, 1955.

10¢ 1847 on cover from Philadelphia, Pa. May 12, 1848, Via England to Paris, France.

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STANLEY B. ASHBROOK

AUGUST 18, 1955

To Whom it May Concern

Re-Lot 86. Waterhouse Dale - London

June 27 1955.

10¢ 1847 on cover from Philadelphia
Pa. May 12 1848, via England
to Paris France.

In my opinion the 10¢ 184 stamp
was not used on this cover.

The stamp is a pen canceled
and cleaned. ~~no~~ Copy.

In my opinion, this was a
stampless cover, with 10¢
in postage paid by cash or
charge account.

In my opinion, the blue framed
PAID which ties the
stamp to cover is a painting

is not hand struck and is a
very clever imitation of
the genuine strokes of this
marking on the cover.

At the period which this
letter was mailed the U. S. ~~Co~~
did not have a postal
treaty with either England or
France. This letter was
mailed from Philadelphia on
Friday May 12 1849 to

Boston (10¢ postage was required
to be paid) for the sailing
of a "Bernard Mail Ship" ^(BRITISH) from
that port on Wednesday

May 17 1848. The 10¢ payment
was merely the domestic
rate per 1/2 oz from Philadelphia
to Boston.

There is a British post-
mark on back, (red orange)
of May 31 1848. On face

is a ~~an~~ ~~now~~ pen marking. This
was applied in France and
was "15 decimes", or the U.S.
equivalent of approximately
28½¢. This was the sum due
from the addressee for the
Carriage from the U.S. Frontier
(at Boston) to the Paris
destination, and was rated in
accord with the Anglo-French
Postal Treaty in effect at
that time. Accompanying
this opinion is a photograph
of the 10¢ stamp which I made
by ultra violet light and
shows the removed pen
marks very plain.

Stanley B. Hobbrook

August 18 1955

August 14, 1955.

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

Dear Ezra:

Here is the print by ultra-violet of the 10¢ '47 on Lot 86, Waterhouse Sale. This photo brought out some dark marks at the lower right corner. The blue lines of the "Paid" on the stamp look darker than the blue lines on the cover but this could be due to the difference in color of the stamp and white envelope. Or could it?

Re - this PAID. Note the strikes on the face of the cover. In both strikes there is a break in the top line. This break is repeated in the strike on the stamp. This could mean clever work on the part of a painter. In this print the "D" of PAID measures about 12 MM whereas the "P" measures a bit more(?) - 13 MM or more(?), the "A" about "13." If this is a paint job on the stamp it is extremely clever. I made such measurements on the stamp when I examined it and I was convinced the "PAID" on the stamp matched up with the strikes on the cover.

Ez, I have searched my files for some good examples of the "Paid" but have not been able to locate any that are any good. Perhaps you have some good examples and have sent them to me for examination.

Yours etc.,

August 14, 1955.

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

Dear Ezra:

Here is the print by ultra-violet of the 10¢ '47 on Lot 86, Waterhouse Sale. This photo brought out some dark marks at the lower right corner. The blue lines of the "Paid" on the stamp look darker than the blue lines on the cover but this could be due to the difference in color of the stamp and white envelope. Or could it?

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Ez, I have searched my files for some good examples of the "Paid" but have not been able to locate any that are any good. Perhaps you have some good examples and have sent them to me for examination.

Yours etc.,

No. 511411

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

SENT TO

EZRA D. COLE

STREET AND NO.

NYACK,
N. Y.

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



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.



CERTIFIED MAIL

August 24, 1955.

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

Dear Ezra:

Herewith the lot of stampless covers. Not one in the lot shows a break in one of the top frame lines of the PAID. I believe we can account for this (as I wrote you), that the strikes on #86 came from a stamper that was used on the "Foreign Desk" at the Phila. P.O. If we can locate a stampless cover from Phila. going to England, France, Belgium, Germany or Holland in 1848 or 1849, I believe it would show a "PAID" marking with a break in the top line.

Note what I stated above., viz., "a stampless" - because a cover that had a 5¢ or a 10¢ 1847 from Philadelphia would not have a PAID - No reason why a letter from Phila. with stamps required this PAID. I don't know why this point did not impress me when I first examined the cover. In other words, I do not believe the Phila. office used the framed "PAID" on mail prepaid by 1847 stamps.

Do you know why Harmer got all the Caspary collection? Is George Sloane solely responsible? Or was it not of his choosing? The way Walter handled the Green was fair to all dealers. If Sloane had the decision and gave it all to Harmer the dealers should love the little S.O.B.

Regards.

Yours etc.,

JEREMIAH A. FARRINGTON, JR.
NEW HOPE, PENNSYLVANIA

TELEPHONE, NEWTOWN 3775

JULY 20, 1955.

DEAR MR. ASHBROOK:

THE FOLLOWING MAY BE OF SOME INTEREST TO
YOU FOR YOUR NOTES:

I'VE LOCATED THE FOLLOWING 1857 IOC, PLATE 2 ITEMS:

POSITION 11L2, THREE PEARLS ON ~~LEFT~~ RIGHT

A COPY NOT 11L2 AND PERHAPS NOT 15R
WITH THREE PEARLS AT RIGHT.

AN OFF COVER COPY USED IN NEW ORLEANS
ON JUNE 2, 1859

ONE CENT '51 PLATE THREE (APPARENTLY), A BOTTOM SHEET MARGIN
PAIR.

IF SEEING ANY OF THE ABOVE WOULD BE HELPFULL I'D
BE GLAD TO LOAN THEM TO YOU FOR A SHORT PERIOD. I REALIZE,
OF COURSE, THAT SINCE YOUR FINE BOOKS WERE PUBLISHED YOU MAY
HAVE COMPLETED THE RECONSTRUCTION OF BOTH PLATES MENTIONED
ABOVE!

SINCERELY,



Aug. 2, 1955.

Mr. J. A. Farrington,
New Hope, Pa.

Dear Mr. Farrington:

On my return from vacation I found your kind letter of the 20th. This accounts for this tardy acknowledgement.

It was most kind of you to write me about the items mentioned and I want you to know that I appreciate your thoughtfulness.

At the present time I am not doing any work on the reconstruction of the 10¢ 1857 Plate No. 2. In fact, it has been about 18 years since I was at all active on that reconstruction. I am not as young as I was then and the chances are that I will never again resume the work.

Re - your off cover copy used from New Orleans on June 2, 1859. I believe in my book I listed the earliest use I had ever seen of the 10¢ Type V as "May 27, 1859." In all the passing years I have never located an earlier use. My second on the list was a single off cover used from New Orleans on June 1, 1859. This was in my collection. Where it is now I have no idea. How odd that you should have an off cover single from N.O. a day later. I will list it in my record.

Re - your One Cent 1851 - bottom row pair - sheet margin - from Plate 3. I would indeed like to see this and if you will forward it I will return it without any delay (naturally - all at my expense).

While I have continued my work, from time to time, on the One Cent Plate 3 and have made considerable progress, I have never completed the work and this in spite of the fact I have had assistance from three very capable and enthusiastic students of the One Cent. We make very little headway because of the scarcity of material.

Incidentally, I have for sale for an Estate, a cover with a 1¢ 1851 - TRIE - price \$1,500.00. Would you be interested?

Herewith I am enclosing part of my current "Service Issue." Perhaps the write-up on Plates 5 and 6 may be of interest to you.

Again many thanks.

Sincerely yours,

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

No. 42189

SENT TO

J. A. Farrington Jr

STREET AND NO.

New Hope

CITY AND STATE

Penna

POSTMARK
OR DATE

*If you want a
return receipt,
check which*

☐

*7¢ shows
to whom
and when
delivered*

☐

*31¢ shows to whom,
when, and address
where delivered*



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.

August 16, 1955.

Mr. J. A. Farrington, Jr.,
New Hope, Pa.

Dear Mr. Farrington:

I was out of town for a few days and on my return yesterday I found yours of the 5th.

Herewith I am returning with many thanks your bottom row pair. I regret to inform you that this is not from Plate 3 but is a typical Plate 1E color and impression. I believe that you will find that the plate positions are 9611E - 9711E. I believe it would be impossible to find a Plate 3 pair in this color of blue. Any unused stamp from Plate 1E is a rarity, by which I mean, stamps which have not had a cancelation removed. Whenever I run across an unused 1¢ 1851 from Plate One Early I assume that it is cleaned. Some cleaning chemicals that are used have a tendency to alter the color to some extent. Your pair does not appear to have been cleaned but nevertheless, it might be well to have it examined because if it is actually "unused" you have an exceptionally nice item.

Re - the measurements of Imprints as given in my book. At the moment I cannot locate my original notes that I used almost 20 years ago, so I cannot answer in a satisfactory manner, your query. My guess is that the measurements were made from copies that we were sure were correct at that time.

Thanks for advice on the early Pl. 7 stamp of Jan. 2, 1858. I have made a record of it. The earliest known from this plate at present are:

Dec. 1, 1857
Dec. 31, 1857)
Dec. 31, 1857) two different
Jan. 18, 1858 -(yours)
Jan. 16, 1858

Sincerely yours,

JEREMIAH A. FARRINGTON, JR.
NEW HOPE, PENNSYLVANIA

TELEPHONE, NEWTOWN 3775

AUGUST 23RD, 1955.

DEAR MR. ASHBROOK:

MANY THANKS FOR THE SAFE RETURN OF THE PLATE ONE EARLY PAIR. I'M DOUBLY EMBARRASSED, THOUGH. I HAD THOUGHT ~~KE~~ TO BE A VERY SMALL HELP TO YOU BY SENDING DOWN A PLATE THREE PAIR—AND I WASN'T. AND FURTHER DURING THE PAST FEW YEARS I'VE PLATED AT LEAST A DOZEN COPIES OF 97L I L BY THE SHIFT AND THE BIG DOT AT UPPER LEFT CORNER, AND I SHOULD MOST CERTAINLY HAVE RECOGNIZED THIS POSITION IN THE EARLY STATE BY THIS DOT. I FEEL RATHER STUPID!

I'D FEEL RATHER BETTER IF YOU WOULD LET ME KNOW WHAT YOUR USUAL CHARGE IS FOR CHECKING AN ITEM LIKE THIS, FOR I WOULD LIKE TO COMPENSATE ^{you} FOR THE TIME YOU SPENT. WILL YOU PLEASE BE KIND ENOUGH TO LET ME KNOW.

ANOTHER THING—I'VE NEVER OWNED A PLATE THREE STAMP IN THE 'TYPICAL' COLOR. ALL OF MY ONE EARLY STAMPS ARE IN THE CLEAR LIGHT BLUE SHADE, SO I CAN FORGIVE MYSELF FOR MISSING THE COLOR, PARTICULARLY AS I BOUGHT THIS PAIR IN THE WATERHOUSE SALE AND IT WAS DESCRIBED AS A PLATE THREE ITEM! DO YOU PERCHANCE HAVE A PLATE THREE ITEM IN THE TYPICAL COLOR WHICH YOU COULD SELL ME? CONDITION NOT IMPORTANT, OR PUTTING IT DIFFERENTLY, I WOULD LIKE TO BUY EITHER A TOP NOTCH ONE WHICH COULD BE INCLUDED IN MY COLLECTION, OR ELSE A 'DOG' TO USE ONLY AS A COLOR SAMPLE IN MY LOT OF REFERENCE MATERIAL. IF YOU CAN HELP, I'D BE VERY APPRECIATIVE.

I'D ALSO APPRECIATE INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR 'SERVICE' PUBLICATION. CAN IT BE OBTAINED BY SUBSCRIPTION?

MOST SINCERELY, — *and thanks*

JA Farrington

HAROLD G. DUCKWORTH
368 LONG HILL STREET
SPRINGFIELD 8, MASSACHUSETTS

Aug. 18/55

Dear Mr Ashbrook:

I am glad to support
Mr. Mayass, always enjoy meeting
him at St. Pete.

Will you please examine the
enclosed 24th 1849 cover.

Can you decipher the Town, and
why the 24th rate.

Do you remember the Trans-Miss
cover from Shreveport?

Mr. Fox made an awful fuss
about a refund, it was as
described, so he claimed.

Guess I must be careful about
buying from him

Sincerely
H. G. Duckworth

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

No 511401

SENT TO

Harold G Duckworth

STREET AND NO

368 Loughlin St

CITY AND STATE

Springfield 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

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.



August 20th, 1955.

Mr. Harold G. Duckworth,
368 Longhill St.,
Springfield 8, Mass.

CERTIFIED MAIL

Dear Mr. Duckworth:

Herewith the "24¢ 1869" cover as per yours of the 16th. In my opinion, this cover is fraudulent, that is, the 24¢ stamp was not used on this cover originally. I have know this fake for many years. In fact, as far back as April 1942 I examined it for a prominent dealer and explained why it was bad in my opinion. I have a photograph that I made at that time. I do not suppose you would care to have the details but I can furnish same if you desire.

The town was Blue Island, Ill. If the use was Mar. 31, 1869, that would be very very early for a 24¢ 1869. The single rate to England was 12¢ at that time, so why 24¢? If the use was Mar. 31, 1870, the single rate at that time was 6¢, so I doubt if this could have been a 4 x 6¢.

My fee for the above is \$3.50.

I note by the papers that your section of the country has suffered greatly from heavy rain in the past few days. We could use a lot out this way - no rain in several weeks.

Re - the item you mentioned. Dealers hate (and I mean hate) to have items returned. They are that way, so John Fox is no exception. That is why I am not overly popular with the fraternity.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

(37-9
6-28)

CERTIFIED MAIL

Mr. War

New
blue

Dear Mr. Luckworth
Here with the "24¢ 1869" cover
as per yours of the 16th. In
my opinion this cover is
fraudulent, that is, the 24¢
stamp was not used on
this cover originally. I have
known this ~~so~~ fake for
many years. In fact as
far back as April 1942

~~I~~ I examined it for
^{A Prominent Dealer}
~~(confidential)~~ and
explained why it was
bad in my opinion. I have
a photograph that I made
at that time. I do not
suppose you would care
to have the details but I
can furnish same if
you desire. The town

was Blue Island Ills.

If the use was then
31 1869, that would

be very very early for
a 24¢ 1869. The ^{single} rate to
England was 12¢ at that
time, so why 24¢. If

the use was then 31 1870
the ^{single} rate at that time was
6¢, so I doubt if there
could have been a
4 x 6¢.

The fee for the above
is \$ 3.50

In addition by the papers
that your section of
the Country has
suffered greatly from

heavy rain in the past
few days. We could
use a lot out this
way - no rain in
several weeks.

Re - the item you
mentioned. Dealers
hate (and I mean hate)
to see items returned.
They are all that way.
So John Tax is no
exception. That is why
I am not over-
popular with the
patronage.

With Regards -
Cordell

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

August 26, 1955

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

Dear Stan:

In reply to your of the 23rd, I would advise that the 5¢ orange brown 1847 from the Picher collection came from the collection put together by Henry C. Gibson. He had possibly the finest lot ever gotten together. This 5¢ orange was purchased by Gibson from Perry out of the Ackerman collection. It was certainly a true orange. It was sold by Picher as such and I certainly agree with him.

You were speaking of the lot of the 1847 issue being pen-cancelled and cleaned. I have seen a lot of them but I am frank in telling you that I have seen many that you have turned down as pen-cancelled and cleaned and I certainly did not agree with you. I especially recall a 10¢ 1847 which came from one of the big collections, which you felt was pen-cancelled. I just did not agree with you. We all make mistakes at some time and the best evidence of this is the 30¢ 1869 cover from Gibson's sale, which you sold me and which you later condemned. You will recall I had the original purchaser return it on your account and later on you wrote me that you considered it good but then valued it at a much higher figure.

Duckworth has just returned a 24¢ 1869 cover to me, without comment. He said he was going to send it to you and I was surprised to see that you must have turned it down. Would you mind telling me why? 24¢ was the proper rate to England, as I recall, and the stamp seemed to be nicely tied to a mourning cover. If a man wanted to make such an item, from my point of view, he certainly would have done a better job with a better envelope and a clearer marking.

Picher is still alive, but unfortunately has given up his stamps. He has turned over to me those that he had retained to the last, namely his 1869 blocks and singles. I have sold quite a few, but still have some nice things left, including proofs. If you have

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook

August 26, 1955

- 2 -

anyone especially interested, I will let you know in details some of the pieces I have. They are marked high, for when he went into the auction market and bought these, he paid good figures for them at a time when these 1869 pieces were bringing high prices ^{ex} then today. He has turned them over to me to sell for him at cost and I have simply added a 10% profit.

Don Steele has a pretty elaborate laboratory, including glasses for which he has paid as high as four and five hundred dollars.

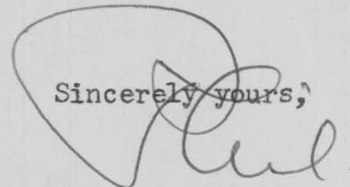
When we can go through these and find no traces of a pen-mark, I feel pretty confident of my position.

On the 5¢ red brown 1857, which Hollowbush had on the cover with a strip of 3 of the 10¢, you will recall that you believed the 5¢ stamp had been pen-cancelled and cleaned and then added to the cover and cancelled. Hollowbush had this checked with several people in New York and I know we put it through Steele's laboratory here and could find no traces whatsoever.

I have a new man in Philadelphia that wants attractive early Philadelphia pieces. I do not imagine you have in stock anything in this line at present, otherwise you would have possibly sent it on.

With best regards, I am,

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Philip H. Ward, Jr.", enclosed within a large, loopy oval shape.

PHILIP H. WARD, JR.

Aug 4 1868

or 1869

Richmond
Fredericksburg
and Potomac R.R.

Route 4402.

Game Ranch to
Richmond

75½ miles

14 trips per week

PER X SAPPERSTEIN
THE CROWN SHOP
101 East Main Avenue
GASTONIA, N. C.



REGISTERED
315

RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

M. STANLEY B. ASHBROOK
P.O. BOX 31
33 N. FT. THOMAS AVENUE
FORT THOMAS, KENTUCKY



PERRY SAPPERSTEIN
THE CROWN SHOP
GASTONIA, N.C.

CANCELLATION

INVERTED

POTOMAC POSTAL

CARS

GRAILED STAND

Dear MR. ASHBROOK

HERE I AM WRITING YOU AGAIN
BUT THIS TIME I WANT YOU TO
SEE THIS COVER AS I HAVE LOOKED
UP RECORDS OF CANCELLATIONS, IN ALL
THE IMPORTANT BOOKS AND CANNOT FIND
THIS CANCELLATION LISTED. I KNOW THIS
IS GOOD BECAUSE IT CAME OUT OF ORIGINAL
CORRESPONDENCE I HAVE MORE OF THE
CORRESPONDENCE BUT NONE LIKE THIS. I
HOPE YOU ARE ABLE TO USE THIS FOR YOUR
RECORDS AND CAN TELL ME SOMETHING
ABOUT THIS WHEN YOU RETURN IT. TOM. Sincerely
Perry Sapperstein

No 511402

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

SENT TO

Mr Perry Sapperstein

STREET AND NO.

40 The Crown Shop

CITY AND STATE

101 East Main Ave GASTONIA

*If you want a
return receipt,
check which*

☐

*7¢ shows
to whom
and when
delivered*

☐

*31¢ shows to whom,
when, and address
where delivered*

NC

POSTMARK
OR DATE

20
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.

August 20, 1955.

Mr. Perry Sapperstein
% The Crown Shop,
Gastonia, N.C.

Dear Mr. Sapperstein:

Herewith your cover with the 3¢ 1867 grill, post-
marked "POSTAL CARS."

I suppose the reason that you were unable to find
any mention of this marking in philatelic publications is be-
cause I know of no published list of R.R. markings as late as the
Sixties.

I will be glad to give you what data that I have on
this marking for a fee of \$2.00 but I doubt if it would be
worth that as the cover, in my opinion, is not worth much more
than that.

There is no question but what the cover is genuine.
This was merely a route agent's marking, a letter mailed direct
with the route agent.

If you wish, you can refund to me the return postage.

Very truly yours,

CERTIFIED MAIL

Mr Perry Sapperstein
c/o The Crown Shop
Gastonia ^{101 East} Main Ave
N.C.
GASTONIA

New
Blue

Dear Mr Sapperstein

Here with your ~~cover~~
cover with the 34 1867
year postmarked "POSTAL CARDS".

I suppose the reason
that you were unable to
find any mention of this
marking in philatelic
publications is because
I know of no ^{published} list of
R.R. markings as late
as the late Sixties.

I will be glad to give
you what data that
I have on this marking.

for a fee of \$2⁰⁰ but I
doubt if he ~~is~~ would
be worth that as the
power, in my opinion,
is not worth much
more than that.

There is no question
but what the power
is genuine. This was
merely a route agent's
mailing, a letter mailed
direct with the
route agent. If you
wish you can
refund to me the
return postage.

Very Truly yours

PERRY SAPPERSTEIN
THE CROWN SHOP

CLOTHING AND FURNISHINGS FOR MEN

PHONE 5-3561

CASTONIA, N.C.

101 EAST MAIN AVE.

Dear Mr. ASHBROOK

Please send me information
you have on this marking Enclosed
check for 2.00 + 18¢ POSTAGE +
3¢ RETURN MAIL. I UNDERSTAND
YOU HAVE THE FOLLOWING AS
REFERENCE PIECES - 3¢ 1861 ---
PINK - PIGEON BLOOD, DARK PIGEON
BLOOD & PALE PIGEON BLOOD -
COULD YOU SEND THESE TO ME
JUST TO LOOK OVER I WILL
BE GLAD TO PAY ALL POSTAGE
BOTH WAYS. AND RETURN THEM
IN THREE DAYS. MY REFERENCES
ARE THE FINEST - I COLLECT THE
3¢ 1861 & WOULD LIKE TO MAKE
NOTES ON THESE FOR ~~FUTURE~~
FUTURE WRITINGS I INTEND TO
DO. (OVER -)

REFERENCES

APS-29856

USCC. 349

ROBERT A. SIEGEL

JOHN A. FOX

IEZRA D. COLIE

SYLVESTER COLBY

E. N. SAMPSON

PERRY W. FULLER

EARL APFELBAUM

ASK
ANY OF

THESE
MEN
ABOUT
ME
IF IN
DOUBT.

SINCERELY

Perry Sapperstein

Sept. 1, 1955.

Mr. Perry Sapperstein,
% The Crown Shop,
101 East Main Ave.,
Gastonia, N.C.

Dear Mr. Sapperstein:

Thanks very much for yours of the 30th with check for \$2.21.
I am enclosing herewith a report on your 3¢ 1867 cover.

Regarding my reference copies of the 3¢ 1861, pink, Pigeon, etc., I regret that I never permit these to leave my possession. It is not because I fear that someone would not return them but because I might have occasion to have to refer to them at a time they would not be in my possession. Further, I cannot afford to run the risk of loss in the mail or any possible damage by handling. It is not often that I am forced to refuse a request such as yours. I might also add that I charge fees for passing on copies of the 3¢ and naturally in examining a submitted copy I do so by direct comparison with my reference copies.

For your information there are several other shades of the 3¢ 1861 which in my humble opinion, are even more rare than the Pigeon. I refer to shades that I classify as the "Indian Red" and the "Dark Brownish Carmine Lake."

I have done an immense amount of work on color photography, that is, the recording on color transparencies of the rare shades of our 19th Century stamps. Some colors can be recorded very true to the original, others are not so good. In the latter class is the 3¢ Pink and its related tints. I charge \$1.50 each for such reference slides. Perhaps I could send you, for a look, slides that I made of the 3¢ Brownish Carmine, etc., if you cared to see them.

Incidentally, I am breaking up a fine collection of 3¢ 1861 covers - principally covers with cancelations. Would you be interested in seeing a selection?

Sincerely yours,

Sept. 1, 1955.

Mr. Perry Sapperstein,
% The Crown Shop,
101 East Main Ave.,
Gastonia, N.C.

Dear Mr. Sapperstein:

Regarding your cover with the U.S. 3¢ 1867
grill and marking, "POTOMAC POSTAL CARS." There is
no question but what this cover is genuine. This was
a marking applied by the Route Agent traveling Route
#4402 between Game Point to Richmond, Va. - on the
"Richmond, Fredericksburg & Potomac R.". Distance 75½
miles with 14 trips per week. This letter was mailed
direct with the Route Agent.

Sincerely yours,

(37-10)

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

August 18, 1955

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

Dear Stan:

I am writing Forster today per attached copy. He saw my article on early Western mails, particularly mails in Nevada, and sent me two covers for inspection. There is a 24¢ National used on a 3¢ amber Reay envelope. The cover is cancelled in blue "Pioche, Nev." It is addressed to France and the cover contains a London and French postmark on the face with French postmarks on the back. In addition, there is a red "PD" in an oval and a New York Paid 12 in red. It is an 1872 cover. Offhand I would ask myself the question which I ask in Forster's letter, and that is why was the 24¢ added in New York? He has typewritten on a little piece of paper with the cover the following: "24¢ bank note on cover for France. This cover is genuine. However, it is a 2¢ underpay -- the rate was 26¢. Very few can explain this rate. Stanley B. Ashbrook". The name is in manuscript, but it is not your signature. Can you remember as to whether you passed upon this cover, for I would not want to mention it in my column if I did not know it was good.

Sincerely yours,

PHILIP H. WARD, JR.

August 12, 1955

Mr. B. D. Forster
326 West End Avenue
Ridgewood, N.J.

Dear Mr. Forster:

I appreciate your letter of the 3rd together with enclosure which is indeed most interesting. The 24¢ cover is certainly outstanding and I cannot exactly understand what the postage covered. I note you have a remark supposedly signed by Stanley Ashbrook, but which, by the way, is not his signature, stating that the cover is good. The letter was mailed in Nevada and I cannot understand how a 24¢ stamp could have been added when it reached New York. It is logical to assume that if the stamp was on the cover in Nevada it would have been cancelled at that point. However, if Stanley Ashbrook says it is good and you know that it was he and not someone else who said this, I would accept his word without question, for he is possibly the best posted man on early U.S. cancellations in the country.

The Washoe City cover is certainly most attractive, and the stamps would be of great interest even if not on the entire cover, but on the cover, you certainly have a grand piece.

I will mention the latter cover in my column, but would like to learn more about the bank note cover before writing it up. The two covers mentioned are returned herewith.

Thanks again for sending them.

Sincerely yours,

PHILIP H. WARD, JR.

enc.

August 22, 1955.

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

Dear Phil:

Re - the cover from "PIOCHE NEV TER." I remember it and I probably have a photo in my files somewhere - a 24¢ National on a 3¢ Reay envelope. It is quite obvious that I was misquoted as is often the case. If 27¢ was paid and the rate was 26¢, how could there be a 2¢ underpay? The fact is I surely stated it was a 1¢ overpay. I probably okayed the cover but I do not want to be quoted. I probably did state that very few could explain the rate which is a fact. The 24¢ stamp was not put on at New York but at origin. I doubt if any of the fakers have any knowledge of a 26¢ rate to France in 1872 and this coupled with the fact that the New York postmark has a "12" would indicate the cover is genuine. I wonder how many collectors have a Bank Note cover showing a 26¢ rate? I found a memo that Ezra Cole sent me a bunch of covers from the Forster collection last December and this PIOCHE was among them and that I made a photograph. I could probably locate it if you would like to see it.

Confidential. The latest report on the race - Mailpass 149 - Hubbell 102, so I guess the old screwball is out. I have an idea he can blame me. I doubt if MacBride will cut much of a figure in the next two years. There is one point I never mentioned but it is a fact. Mac used the C.S.A. to benefit Mac. He solicited items to be sent to him to examine. Then he tried to buy them for resale. This is something that I never do, unless the owner expresses a desire to sell.

I would like to know what you thought of the letter I wrote Earl Weatherly.

Regards.

Sincerely yours,

August 23, 1955.

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

Dear Phil:

In the Picher Sale of Oct. 23, 1946, Lot 55, was described and sold as an unused 5¢ 1847 Orange -o.g. This was Ex-Gibbons and you wrote me at one time that this copy was the finest unused Orange that you had ever seen. For your information, this stamp is a pen-cleaned copy, and of course the sum is not original. There is a possible chance that the color is not original but from the examination that I made within the past year it is my opinion that the stamp is an orange but that the color was damaged to some extent by the cleaning. If you wish you can convey this information to Mr. Gibson. I believe that you wrote me at one time that the stamp had been in the Gibson collection for many years and that you sold it to him.

Incidentally Fifield is aware of the above but whether Norcross knows about it I do not know. However, as the stamp is no longer his property I doubt if he would be interested.

Whatever became of Picher, is he still alive?

It is strange that this stamp would have fooled you and this makes me wonder how many more unused 1847's and other "o.g." 19th have fooled you.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

Reserve Plan Inc

TRADE MARK REG.

SUITE 1020 COMMERCE BLDG. 922 WALNUT ST.

KANSAS CITY 6, MISSOURI

August 5, 1955

Mr. Stanley Ashbrook
Box 31
33 North Ft. Thomas Avenue
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

Now that I have time again to give to my collection, I have been rereading articles of interest from my philatelic library which includes the set of Stamp Specialist printed in the late thirties. I've especially enjoyed your articles on United States, Confederates and Supplementary Mail.

In your article on the 5¢ 1847, you quote Dr. Chase on dates when certain colors were used. Scott's does not mention an orange but lists a ~~lc~~ red orange. Is this the same color Dr. Chase lists as the rare orange used late in 1850?

I have a 5¢ cover with Dr. Chase's notation on the back "Fair example of the rare orange." This cover is cancelled New York, Mary 5, 1851, a late use, and is from a plate that is very worn. Do you know whether or not there are any copies known of the orange that are early impressions i.e. from the No. 2 plate? I wonder if the No. 2 plate was put in use when the orange shade of ink was in use in late 1850. If orange copies are known both with a worn and also with a clear early impression it might be that during the short time that the orange was being used is when the No. 2 plate was first put to press.

On July 29th, I sent out 725 postal cards to members of the A. S. D. A. and I intended to send you a copy but I ran out so I had the questions mimeographed on a few letter heads to complete the list and I enclose one for you. I'm surprised to learn how few present day dealers have never seen a 1847 cover. The low estimate on total number so far is 500 and the high 25,000. The low on off cover is $4\frac{1}{2}$ times as many off cover as on and the high 500 times as many.

I hope to write an article on this subject for Stamp Magazine if Mr. Lindquist is interested. I will not quote anyone and hope you will return the enclosure with your guesses. I enclose one with mine.

I'm very interested in receiving any covers you have that you feel might interest me.

Sincerely, *Clifford Hawk*

P.S. I know you are not a member of the A.S.D.A. but are the authority on 1847's so your opinion will be most helpful. For your records I own the block of four of 5¢ with "D" Transfer (The Gerber block.) I'll be out of the city Aug. 10-18.

Oct. 9, 1955.

Mr. C. C. Hart,
1020 Commerce Bldg.,
Kansas City 6, Mo.

Dear Mr. Hart:

I note that you will be away from the 10th to 18th, so this letter will not reach you until after your return. I would like to give you an estimate as you requested but I would only be guessing and I do not like to put my signature to any guess-work. On many of your queries I simply have no idea of what would be even approximate. I note a number of queries in your letter, and I will try as time permits to answer them. I doubt if I could take time out at present to answer all in a single letter.

First, Chase published a very fine article on the 1847 Issue in the Philatelic Gazette in 1915-1916. In that article he listed the 5¢ colors by years. If you do not have that series of articles (and you should have) I believe you will find that Brookman copied the list in his book on the FORTY-SEVENS.

Orange - In early editions of the S.U.S. an orange was listed, as per Chase. Now the S.U.S. calls this a "Red Orange." Your orange cover. I suggest that you send this cover to me so that I can determine the color of the stamp. I note your cover is from New York on May 5, 1851. This date would be about right for the color but the impression should be worn.

Plates. We now are quite sure there was only one plate and that it had two panes of 100. I could write several pages on this subject but lack of time forbids.

Article for "STAMPS" - Be careful, and don't publish any article until you are much better posted than you appear to be at present. This is meant to be constructive.

Within the year two of the largest collections of the Forty-sevens changed hands privately, viz: the famous Sweet Collection and the famous Norcross collection. A very wealthy man acquired both. A large sum of money was involved. Please treat this in confidence.

Several years ago I published a series of articles in "Stamps" on the "Forty Sevens." This series contains data that you should have.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

ESTABLISHED 1928

Reserve Plan Inc

TRADE MARK REG.

SUITE 1020 COMMERCE BLDG. 922 WALNUT ST.
KANSAS CITY 6, MISSOURI

August 17, 1955

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
Box 31
33 North Ft. Thomas Avenue
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

Thanks for taking time to answer my letter and your offer to give your opinion on my 1847 "orange" cover. I've since heard some experts say that the only real orange was the one mint copy in the Ackerman collection. I wonder why Scott's changed the color from "orange" to "red orange." The stamp on my cover is obviously from a very worn plate about as worn as any I've ever seen.

I do have Brookman's book on the 1847s which quotes Mr. Chase and also all of your articles from "Stamps" since 1933 but I do not have nor have I been able to locate Mr. Chase's article in the Philatelic Gazette. I hope to acquire it someday.

I've heard from several sources that the Sweet and Norcross collections were acquired by a wealthy man who paid \$150,000 for the latter. It used to be that a collector had a chance of acquiring a few nice items when prominent collections were sold but lately it appears that one must be prepared to buy entire collections in order to acquire items that one has waited years for a chance to get.

I appreciate the friendly advice about going slow on any articles about the number of 1847 covers. I expected your answer to my guessing game to be what it was although I hoped it would be different. I understand your reason and respect you for it.

Whenever I mention the subject of '47 covers to interested collectors or dealers, I find a great deal of curiosity and interest as well as considerable difference of opinion. As well as being of passing interest to many collectors, I feel that some constructive good might come from it. Covers postmarked from certain states are very scarce. Scott lists covers from Panama but not from Arkansas, Minnesota Territory or California and these are rarer and from Iowa almost equally so. I also expect to find that there are so few 1847 covers that it might be financially practical for each one to be microfilmed, numbered and recorded.

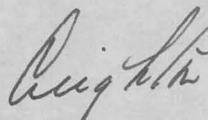
With prices for early covers increasing so rapidly the temptation for forging is great.

Personally, my first wish is that this enterprise were in more capable hands such as yours, second I wish it were in your hands with my help, third that it were in my hands with your help and as a last resort only that I do it alone. I have a letter from Mr. Lindquist saying he will be interested in publishing the article (no pay of course) and has offered to run an advance article asking for information from collectors and students.

I know you have your own research fields and your time is more than full, but is there any possibility that you will carry on with this survey? I know you can do it without any assistance, but I will help, if I am not more trouble than help.

at The First National Bank in Colorado Springs, I have an exhibit of Presidential franks associated with the respective president on the Presidential series of stamps and with Mr. Michaels a display of early Western covers. From reports, the display is attracting public interest.

My best regards--



C. C. Hart

August 23, 1955.

Mr. C. C. Hart,
Suite 1020,
922 Walnut St.,
Kansas City, Mo.

Dear Mr. Hart:

This will acknowledge yours of Aug. 19th enclosing your 5¢ 1847 cover. The stamp is an orange and I have known this cover for many years. I have the original Chase records made prior to 1914 and I find that Chase made a record at that time of this cover but he failed to state who owned it at the time that he made the record. I want to make a photo of the cover and stamp and I will return the cover to you in the next couple of days.

Herewith I am enclosing a memo that I sent to the subscribers to my "Special Service." Incidentally, issues such as this are generally mailed the first of each month with fine photographs of the items discussed. The subscription price is \$100.00 per year. The enclosed memo relates to my issue of April 1954 and under separate cover I am sending you a sample copy of that issue. Please note that I referred to two copies as the "Slater copy" (used) and the unused copy as the "Gibson" or "Picher copy." The latter was in the Henry C. Gibson collection for many years, was sold to Phil Ward who put it into the "Picher collection." Ward sold the Picher collection at auction in 1946 and the "mint" copy was purchased by Fifield for A.D. Norcross. It might be of interest to you to know that last spring I made an examination of this "mint" copy and I was not surprised to find that it is a pen-cleaned copy with fake gum. Prices at which this stamp sold in the past were rather high for a pen-cleaned stamp even though it was originally a real orange. I think that the cleaning did fade the original color to some extent. If you would like the three color slides mentioned in the enclosed memo I can supply them @ \$1.50 each. I will make a color slide of your stamp and you can then compare the colors of the three.

Re - your query as to why the S.U.S. changed the color from "Orange" to "Red Orange." I really do not know but I suppose it was done so as to include stamps that are what are called "commercial copies." I believe the change was sensible as very few collectors can own an "orange" but more can own a "red orange."

Re - the Chase article in the old "Philatelic Gazette." This article ran for almost a year, (monthly) so in order to acquire a copy you would have to acquire back numbers of the magazine. I imagine this would be rather hard.

My advice to go slow on an article on the Forty-Sevens was because much that is new in the study of the stamps and plates has never been published, hence an article repeating certain data of articles of past years is very apt to be way out of date. I will cite an example. In your letter you mentioned that your "orange" stamp was a worn plate copy. It took me a long time to realize that such copies are not a "worn plate" variety, so you can appreciate that if you mentioned in an article a 5¢ '47 "Plate 2" or a "worn plate copy" you would be writing about something that never existed.

#2. Mr. C. C. Hart - August 23, 1955.

You mentioned covers from California. I know of one from San Francisco with a strip of four of the 10¢, but I do not recall any cover with the 5¢, that is, used while the 1947's were current.

At the present time I am handling the rather large 19th Century collection of covers formed by the late Harold Stark of Ann Arbor, Mich., and this is occupying all my time. I sincerely regret that it would be impossible for me to take on any additional duties such as assisting you in the article you are preparing. As it is I have been working almost every night this hot summer. If I took on any more work I would have to be at it around the clock.

I note you have on display at Colorado Springs a collection of Presidential franks.

With kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

Aug. 22, 1955.

Mr. C. C. Hart,
Suite 1020,
922 Walnut St.,
Kansas City 6, Mo.

Dear Mr. Hart:

Herewith I am returning your 5¢ 1847
"Orange" on cover as per my letter of yesterday
the 23rd. Thanks very much for your kindness
in loaning this to me. I suppose you bought
this cover from Mr. Michaels but have you any
idea where he obtained it?

With kindest regards -

Sincerely yours,

August 24, 1955.

Mr. James M. Hardman,
234 Eleventh Ave.,
South Charleston, W.Va.

Dear Mr. Hardman:

I read with much interest yours of the 17th. Thanks very much for your kindness. I note that you sent a copy to Mr. Woods and I am sure that he will be much interested.

I must confess that I am not much of a student on U.S. postmarks that were used on domestic mail from the middle sixties thru the seventies and later, so I was pleased to learn that the type of postmark used on your 3¢ green was a type that was used even earlier than 1870. I am returning herewith your 3¢ 1861.

The mention of the finds that you have made are really remarkable. I can hardly imagine a used block of 100 of the 3¢ Green #207 - a full pane. I think it would be nice if you mentioned this in some notes for "Stamps." I think an unused block of 50 of the 2¢ 1869 is quite a nice item to find. I never knew that such items as you mentioned were in existence - stampless (wrappers) with such high rates. I would indeed be glad to see all that you mentioned as I would like to include a record of them for my files. If you will be kind enough to forward by registered mail at my expense I will be careful in the handling and will return promptly, and with many thanks.

Yes, I agree that we can expect many surprises in philately and no doubt that is one of the many features that make the avocation of continued interest. I suppose few weeks go by without bringing me something new - some additional bit of interesting data or some problem solved.

I note that you are a member of the U. S. Cancellation Club so no doubt you knew or knew of the late Harold W. Stark of Ann Arbor, Mich. Harold was a very close friend of mine and his sudden passing two years ago last March was a severe shock and loss. I am at present engaged in dispersing for his Estate his large collection of 19th Century covers. I will be glad to submit to you some nice things in 3¢ 1861 covers if you would like to see them. As you may know he had a very large specialized collection of the 3¢ Bank Note. I sold this intact. If there are any special items you would like to see you can advise me.

Again thanks for your interesting letter.

Sincerely yours,

August 24, 1955

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
33 No. Ft. Thomas Avenue
Port Thomas
Kentucky

Dear Sir:

I am enclosing herewith a cover which bears a cancellation of the same type as that on my 3¢-green cover of March 13, 1870.

About the only difference between this cancellation and the type found on my cover is the little asterik-like ornamentations between the town and state names.

~~In~~ About 95% of the time, I find that when this type cancellation is used, the stamp is cancelled with a pen-stroke.

Please return this cover at your earliest convenience inasmuch as it is not mine.

Thanking you for your interest,
I am

Sincerely yours,

James M. Hardman

James M. Hardman

P. S. This is proof that this type of cancellation was used prior to 1870.

J. M. H.

Form 3817
Rev. 8-53

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 **James M. Hardman**
234 Eleventh Ave
South Charleston West Va.

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

RECEIPT OF MAILING
WAS OBTAINED FOR THIS LETTER PER
POST OFFICE DEP'T FORM 3817

August 26, 1955.

Mr. James M. Hardman,
234 Eleventh Avenue,
South Charleston, W.Va.

Dear Mr. Hardman;

Thanks very much for your kindness in
sending me the 3¢ 1869 cover postmarked Oxford,
Conn. I have carefully noted the postmark.

It is returned herewith as requested.

Sincerely yours,

RECEIPT OF MAILING
WAS OBTAINED FOR THIS LETTER PER
POST OFFICE DEP'T FORM 3817

JAMES M. HARDMAN
234 ELEVENTH AVENUE
SOUTH CHARLESTON, W. VA.

234 Eleventh Avenue
South Charleston, West Virginia
August 17, 1955

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

Dear Sir:

I am indeed ashamed of my delay in replying to your interesting letter of July 20, in which you enclosed the letter of Basil G. Woods of Bangor, Maine, concerning my 3¢ green on cover cancelled Mar. 13, 1870. I have not been dilatory by choice, several factors entering in, for which I earnestly apologize.

First, I want to thank you for your article in the June 11, 1955, issue of Stamps magazine, which I thoroughly enjoyed. There is one point in the article, however, with which I disagree and that is that the particular type of cancel occurring on my cover did not come into use until sometime after 1870.

This type cancellation was used at least as early as 186__, and I am enclosing herewith a copy of a 3¢-1861 so cancelled to prove my point. Comparatively speaking, it is quite a scarce cancel, and is most often found on the 1867 and 1869 grills. I don't recall having ever seen it used except on the 3¢ values of both issues, being more common to the 3¢-1869. When found on 3¢ greens, it is almost a rarity in itself. I have made these observations in my study of cancellations and as a member of the U. S. Cancellation Club. This is the same size and style cancel which is very common on the revenue stamps of the period 1862 to 1872, inclusive, and which is seldom found on first class mail.

Now, back to Mr. Woods' letter, whose conclusions are very much the same as my own in the assumption that the date can't possibly be anything but March 13, 1870. I mentioned in one of my letters of a year or so ago to you that the date couldn't be 1876 since the general contour of the "0" is complete, whereas, it would not be so if a "6" were involved. Note that the figure "6" as it appears on the typewriter which I am using does not form an oval as does the "0" in the cancellation.

My mind is not closed to any possibility, but I am yet of the opinion that the town cancel is Seabeck, Me. I am unaware of why Mr. Woods finds it difficult to believe that the possibility of usage at Sebec is so remote. Of course, it is possible that the stamp was purchased elsewhere, and was mailed at Sebec.

Now, as to the spelling "SEABECK": First, permit me to say that it is possible that the letter which I have deciphered as "S" could be something else, but on the other hand I believe that the "S" appears a little more distinctly on the cover than it does on the photograph examined by Mr. Woods. As to the abbreviation of the name of the state, I note that Mr. Woods is in error in concluding that the S represents the first letter of the abbreviation. On the contrary, it represents the last letter, followed by a period which has been smudged so that it blends into the outer circle of the cancellation. This S is probably an "E" which would be a part of the abbreviation "Me.", although it is also possible that it could be a part of a "T" from the abbreviation "Vt."

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook

Page 2

August 17, 1955

I believe that we can discount the odd spelling of Sebec without too much trouble. Someone just plain "goofed" when the cancelling stamp was ordered -- and this is very common, for example, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, has been spelled with and without an "H" off and on for many years, as has Martinsburg(h), West Virginia. Cleveland, Ohio, formerly was Cleaveland, and I even have a postal card from there used in the 80's with the spelling Clevleand in the postmark.

About eighty or ninety years ago, here in West Virginia, a new postoffice was opened. So many people named Sizemore resided in the vicinity that it was decided to name the new postoffice "Sizemore," but the Post Office Department mistook the "S" to be an "L", and to this very day the postoffice is known as "Lizemore."

Hardly anything is beyond the realm of possibility in philately. New discoveries and finds are being made every day. Witness the wonderful sheets of Columbian and Omaha dollar values which came to light last year.

I, myself, have had some almost unbelievable philatelic experiences. In 1947 I found a full pane of 100 of the 3¢-1881 used on a large piece of cover, and with each stamp cancelled with a blue target. To my knowledge, this is the only full used pane known of any 19th century U. S. stamp. This came from a very small West Virginia town. At the same time, I also found a block of 50 of the 2¢-1869, unused, with sheet margins and plate number.

I have enormous stampless covers used during the 1830's and 1840's from places in West Virginia too small to even be called a crossroad, which bear postage up to \$22.50 --- not 22½¢, but \$22.50. I found these myself and removed them from the enormous property books around which they had served as wrappers....although I have been told that such high value stampless covers are impossible. I also have other stampless covers bearing various rates such as \$19.75, \$17.25, \$13.50, \$9.75, \$9.62, \$7.31¼, \$3.35, etc. If you should desire to see these covers or wrappers, I shall be glad to submit them to you.

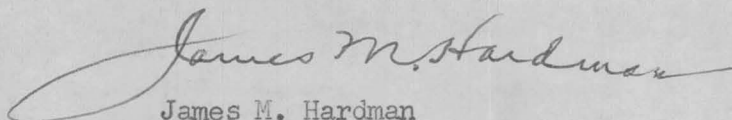
So you see, I'm an optimist, and nothing surprises me as far as philately is concerned, for it becomes more apparent every day that many finds are to be found and much, much more research is to be done. I am not financially able to carry on as I should like to so.

I shall be pleased to correspond with Mr. Woods, although I do not believe that a search of present day maps will help much, and I believe that the search should be confined to Maine and Vermont, although I haven't found anything on these maps that could fit as well as "SEABECK, ME."

I submitted my cover to Gordon Harmer of Scott Publications who listed the date of March 13, 1870, for the first time, in the 1955 edition of the Scott Specialized U. S. Catalogue.

Thanking you for past favors, I am

Very truly yours,


James M. Hardman

JMH:eps

cc: Basil G. Woods

The Earliest Known Use of U. S. 3c 1870 with Grill

By STANLEY B. ASHBROOK

MY GOOD friend and fellow student of 19th Century U.S., Lester G. Brookman, advised me, under date of May 17, 1954, as follows:

"I have before me a cover with the corner card of the 'Saratoga Star Spring Co.," bearing a 3c No. 136, (3c 1870 with grill), with a strong 'end-roller' grill. Postmarked Saratoga Springs, N. Y. 'MAR 24' and bearing the receiving mark of the St. Nicholas Hotel as 'Nicholas Hotel, Mar 31 1870'. Cover is 100% O.K."

The S.U.S. gives April 12, 1870 as the earliest use known of this stamp and also as the earliest known use of any of the 1870 stamps with grill. Thus the discovery of this cover establishes the fact that the 3c stamp with grill was used as early as March 24, 1870, a date over two weeks earlier than any other record.

In his book on *The Postage Stamps of the U.S.*, Mr. Luff stated

that the "proposed new issue" was announced as early as September 1869, but that, "The stamps were not placed on sale however until about April 15th, 1870." This statement was based on a circular issued to postmasters throughout the country by the Third Assistant Postmaster General and dated April 9, 1870, which stated, "At an early date . . . the Department will issue to postmasters, postage stamps for a new design, . . . You are required to exhaust all of the present style on hand before supplying the public with the new."

According to Mr. Luff, it appears that the *American Journal of Philately* got out an "Extra" dated March 25th, 1870, announcing the issuance of the new stamps, but Mr. Luff stated he had never seen a copy of the "Extra" and, quote, "it would seem doubtful if the stamps were actually in issue on March 25th. Possibly they were described from

proofs or from a set shown by some official."

The above is of special interest in view of the discovery of the cover with postmarked date of "March 24," (1870).

Again quoting Mr. Luff — "The stamps of this series were issued both with and without grill and both styles appear to have been in use at the same time."

In the listing of the issue without grill, the 1954 S.U.S. states, "Issued (except 7c) in April 1870."

Mr. Brookman in Vol. 2 of his 19th U.S. study, also stated that it is believed that both the grilled and those without grill except the 7c were issued in April 1870.

A possible earlier use of the 3c 1870, without grill

In the summer of 1953, J. M. Hardman of South Charleston, W. Va., sent me a cover with a 3c 1870 without grill tied by a double circle postmark reading, "SEA-BECK - ME - MAR 13 - 1870." I repeat that the stamp was a National without grill. Unfortunately the "O" of 1870 was not plain enough for me to be sure whether it was an "O" or a poorly struck "6." Further, the style of the postmark did not appear to me as a type that was used as early as March 1870, but that was just my opinion and not based on any positive evidence. The cover was addressed to MILLBRIDGE, Me., and as far as I could determine no one had tampered with this cover or attempted to make an "O" out of a "6." I advised Mr. Hardman that because of the lack of some definite evidence of some kind I could not list this as a use on "Mar 13, 1870."

In light of the above discovery of a 3c Green with grill, used on Mar. 24, 1870, it does seem possible that Mr. Hardman's cover might well be the earliest known use of a 3c Green of 1870—a stamp without the grill.

Perhaps one would wonder why this small post office in Maine had a



British Empire Sale July 13-14

THE collection of A. B. Otter of Montreal, which will be sold at auction on these days, covers both 19th and 20th centuries. The 20th century portion is practically complete, mostly unused and full of commemorative sets running up to the £5 value.

On July 12 an interesting group of UNITED STATES will be offered. Write today for a catalog of this attractive three-day sale.

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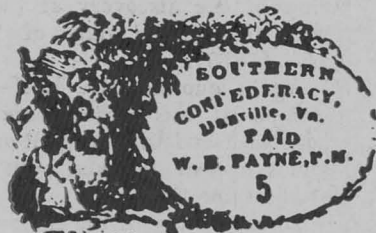
Danville, Va.

(Adhesive)



TYPE I

(Envelopes)



TYPE I

SOUTHERN

TYPE IA

Straight "SOUTHERN"



TYPE II



TYPE I

Position: Upper left corner.

SOUTHERN

TYPE IB

Curved "SOUTHERN"

PAID *W.B.P.*

TYPE III



TYPE II

Demopolis, Ala.

(Envelopes)

PAID

Jno. Y. Hall



TYPE I

Position: Upper left corner.

Signed: "Jno. Y. Hall" or "J. Y. Hall"

J. Y. Hall

Emory, Va.

(Adhesive)



TYPE I

Perforated on three sides.

(Envelopes)



TYPE I



TYPE I

Position: Upper right corner.

Eatonton, Ga.

(Envelope)

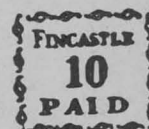


TYPE I

Position: Upper right corner.

Fincastle, Va.

(Envelope)

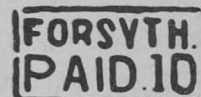


TYPE I

Position: Upper right corner.

Forsyth, Ga.

(Envelope)



TYPE I

Position: Upper right corner.

supply of this new stamp that early, and I wonder if the answer could be that the "Seabeck" post-office ran out of 3c stamps and rather than send any of the "old" 3c 1860, a consignment of the new 3c Green was shipped.

Incidentally, the postmark reads, "SEABECK" but all my postal guides from 1859 through 1881 list the office as "SEBEC, ME." This seems strange—and I wonder why.

This cover was submitted to Mr. Brookman and he agreed with me that there was much doubt that the actual use was "Mar. 13, 1870." Now I really do wonder!

In a sale by Robert A. Siegel, held in New York on Nov. 24, 1954, Lot 220 was described as follows: "Cover 3c Green, end roller grill (136). Tied on cover from Saratoga, early usage March 24, 1870."

The sale price of this earliest known National grill, issue of 1870 was \$52.50.

If any reader can show a cover with a Bank Note stamp used as early as March 1870 will he kindly advise me? Address: Stanley B. Ashbrook, P.O. Box 31, 33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave., Fort Thomas, Kentucky.

Greek Overprinted Stamps Explained

By P. J. DROSSOS

WITH reference to the photograph of a cover from Alexandroupolis, Thrace, Greece, which was shown in the March 12, 1955, issue of STAMPS, the following information will be enlightening.

After the evacuation of Greek Thrace and Macedonia by the Bulgarian and German troops of occupation at the end of 1944, and until the Greek re-occupation in the spring of 1945, there was a communist committee formed in these parts, backed by the Bulgarians, and dedicated to making all possible trouble for the Greeks and Allies. (At the end of 1944 there was a communist uprising in Athens, which, had it not been for British help, would have succeeded, and I would probably not have been writing this today.)

The communist committee in Thrace had some of the Greek stamps, surcharged as described and illustrated in STAMPS for March 12, and an attempt was made to have them passed through the post office outside this district into Greece so as to make this an official issue. Needless to say, there was no mail service in the Evros (Thrace) district at the time. Such mail was not accepted by the Greek Posts, and was only handed the receiver if taxed. (The postage due fee was paid for in cash or current Greek

stamps, Scott's Nos. 455-458, applied.) On the cover shown in STAMPS of the above date, the "T," standing for "Taxed" (international sign) is to be seen, Drachmas TEN were paid by the receiver.

For the reasons I have given here, the surcharged Greek stamps have not been listed in any catalog. It should be noted that the Greek Posts issued a circular at the time regarding these stamps and other similar issues of the same period, advising the International Bureau at Berne and philatelic circles that these surcharged stamps were not recognized by the Greek Posts.

New Silver Tax Surcharges Found by Mozian

FROM Vahan Mozian, Inc., we have information that two new types of the Silver Tax surcharge on U.S. Documentary stamps have been found recently by them.

SILVER SILVER

TAX TAX

Two newly discovered types of "Silver Tax" Surcharge

The type shown at the left on accompanying illustration was found on the 80c rose Documentary stamp, is in violet ink, and appears to be a handstamp. Use of this is placed about 1934 or 1935.

The type at the right in the illustration was found on the \$100 green Documentary, similar to RG21, with surcharge 11 mm. between words instead of 3 mm. Usage of this stamp is placed between 1935 to 1940.

Any further information that might be available as to these two varieties would be welcome by Vahan Mozian, Inc., 505 Fifth Avenue, New York 17, N. Y.

Royal Palace Sale of Egyptian Stamps Collection of King Farouk

ON page 192 of your magazine of April 30, under the heading "Philatelic Notes," by George van den Berg, it is stated that the 1944-50 and 1947-51 Egyptian imperforated stamps on thick paper with black Control marks on the back appear to have been distributed rather freely as gifts.

This information is inaccurate. The said sheets, a very limited quantity of each category, were sold at the Royal Palace auction and they realized high prices.

I was at the auction and I can furnish all data required regarding figures, number of sheets sold of each category, prices, dates and lots.

—Andrew G. Armenis,
Montreal, Canada

"SHORT ONE" IN "10c"

No collection of Venezuela States is complete without the "Short one."



Per mint block of 4 with selvage:
\$2.50 ea.: D. Amacuro, Falcon, Guarico, Merida, Portuguesa, Amazonas, Apure, Barinas, Cojedes, N. Esparta, Yaracuy.
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17 BROADWAY

NEW HAVEN 11, CONNECTICUT

Telephone 7-4495

Aug. 22, 1955

Stanley Ashbrooke, Esq.
Ft. Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan:-

I should have written you before and owe you an apology for not doing so. I keep hoping that things would clear up for me every day and that I would be able to take a trip to Kans, Mo. and Okla and then stop at your place. So far I have not been able to get away.

I enclose herewith check for \$600. In payment of the Valentine front which I told you before I went to Europe I would take. My customer has not had the opportunity to look at it yet but I know they will want it.

The color slides together with the picture of the Valentine were returned to you and I feel sure you got them because I believe you answered the letter which went with them. In any event I don't have them.

What about the Wells Fargo cover to Scotland. I thought I might take a crack at it sometime. I would also like to see in the flesh any other of those Wells Fargo's that you have especially that one with the multiples on it.

Will you kindly expertize the enclosed cover for me and return it to me together with your bill.

Sincerely



*Pardon typing but my
girl is away till after
Labor Day.*

August 28, 1955.

Mr. Harry B. Keffer,
17 Broadway,
New Haven, Conn.

Dear Harry:

Herewith the 5¢ 1847 cover from Buffalo, N.Y. on May 18, 1850. I suppose you sent this to me because of the framed PAID. This, as you are well aware, was the type that was used at Philadelphia but I have no record that it was ever used at Buffalo or elsewhere. If this is true, then how come it is on a stamp that appears to have been used from Buffalo, N.Y. to Lockport, N.Y. in May 1850? This could have been a stampless cover sent unpaid with 5¢ due at Lockport to which someone could have added the 5¢ 1847 stamp — a stamp that had been used at Philadelphia. The stamp is heavily canceled with a blue grid and the "Paid." I wondered if this had been a pen-cleaned copy so I made a photograph by ultra-violet, but nothing showed up in the way of pen-removed marks as you will note by the enclosed print of the stamp. I also made a photo of the cover to bring out the grid and framed PAID, as per print herewith.

Re - the shade and impression of the stamp. This color in my opinion, would be rather unusual for a use in May 1850. That date seems to me a bit too early but of course on this point I may be wrong.

I have no actual proof that such a PAID was never used at Buffalo, hence cannot condemn the cover. About the best that I can do is to state that I suspect that this was a stampless cover to which someone added a stamp that had actually been used at Philadelphia at a later date, for example, November or December of 1850 or during the first six months of 1851.

I am charging you a fee of \$5.00 for the examination and photographs.

Sincerely yours,

August 28, 1955.

Mr. Harry B. Keffer,
17 Broadway,
New Haven, Conn.

Dear Harry:

Re - the 5¢ '47 cover. I would like to borrow or buy this cover for the sole purpose of showing it to my friend Philip Rust whom you probably met at the Waterhouse sale. As you are aware, he is very much interested in the Forty-sevens. I would also like to make a thorough investigation as possible to try and learn if this PAID was ever used at Buffalo by consulting those who are well informed on Buffalo markings.

Yours etc.,

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17 BROADWAY

NEW HAVEN 11, CONNECTICUT

Telephone 7-4495

May 19, 1955

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

Dear Stan:-

Thanks very much for yours of the 16th.

It is quite possible that I could use the collection of Patriotic if the price of \$2183. allows a mark up for me. It strikes me that they should be pretty fair designs with that average so it might be possible for me to find some for my customer. Still when you put the Emerson, White, Townsend and Jeffreys collection together with fifteen years of auction buying you don't need toomuch.

It is also possible that I could do something with the Pony Express front to Scotland if it is presentable and attractive. The Central Overland frank is nice and as you say very rare. If it was a knock out for condition I could probably place it. If you have no immediate sale you might let me see it.

Will be pleased to hear from you.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature, likely of Harry B. Keffler, written in dark ink. The signature is stylized and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

May 23, 1955.

Mr. Harry B. Keffer,
17 Broadway,
New Haven 11, Conn.

Dear Harry:

I have yours of the 19th, and I am enclosing a photo print of the Stark 5¢ 1847 Valentine. I believe this is already sold, but if not, I can offer it to you @ \$600.00 subject to prior sale.

I am leaving Thursday for a little vacation down in Kentucky and will be away a week or ten days.

I also have a friend who thinks he might be interested in the volume of Patriotics. If he does not take the lot I will make you a special and attractive price after my return.

The Pony to Scotland is a very attractive item as you will note by the colored slide which I am enclosing. Here are some slides of Stark items which I can offer you subject to prior sale:

Slide A50 - 17 - H.S.W. No. 557 - Price	\$1,500.00 net
" A50 - 21 - " " 558 - "	800.00 "
" A50 - 25 - " " 559 - "	750.00 "
" A50 - 32 - " " 560 - "	750.00 net
" A50 - 35 - " " 566 - "	\$1,750.00 net

Please return the photo print and also the five (5) slides.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

RETURNED BY

THE COLLECTOR'S SHOP

POSTAGE STAMPS - COINS

BOOKS - PAINTINGS - PRINTS

Collections Purchased, Sold or Appraised

17 BROADWAY

NEW HAVEN 11, CONNECTICUT

Telephone 7-4495

June 9, 1955

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

Dear Stan:-

Thanks for yours of the 23rd with the pictures.

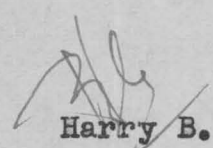
Regret to read in your letter that you believe the Valentine is sold. It is not two weeks ago that you said when I find it you will have the first opportunity to buy it.

I would be interested in #559 and #560 if they are subject to the usual dealer courtesy. I just could not mark them up any to my client.

Will be pleased to learn about the Patriotics.

Kind regards

Sincerely yours



Harry B. Keffer

ADOLPH STEEG

1048 Genesee Street
Buffalo 11, N. Y.

Sept. 2, 1955

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

Dear Stan:

I had made an extensive study of the postmarks, rate marks, etc. appearing on Buffalo stampless, having the opportunity to check over the holdings of Dunsmore and a few others interested in Buffalo stampless and my data shows that at no time was a PAID cancellation used similiar to that shown on the photographed cover.

The PAID marking used in the years 1848, 49 and 1850 was similiar to sketch, size 4x15 mm. and both postmark and PAID were always struck in blue.

PAID

Nice hearing from you again and hope that you plan to attend to A.P.S. convention in Norfolk where many of your old friends will attend.

With my kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,

Adolph

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK
P. O. BOX 31
33 NORTH FT. THOMAS AVENUE
FORT THOMAS, KY.

August 28, 1955.

Mr. Rollin E. Flower,
259 Wardman Rd.,
Kenmore 23, N.Y.

Dear Rollin:

Here is a photograph of a cover with a 5¢ 1847 used from Buffalo on May 18, 1850. You will note the stamp is canceled with a blue grid and also with a framed PAID. Can you inform me if such a PAID was ever used at the Buffalo Post Office to your knowledge? It is the type of blue PAID that was used at Philadelphia but I do not recall that this type was ever used at Buffalo, or for that matter, at any other U. S. post office.

With kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

P.S.--I am writing a similar letter to Adolph Steeg and Harry Dunsmoor.

*Sorry, do not
remember seeing
this Paid cancel.
Wish I could
help you.
Rollin Flower*

August 28, 1955.

Mr. Rollin E. Flower,
259 Wardman Rd.,
Kenmore 23, N.Y.

Dear Rollin:

Here is a photograph of a cover with a 5¢ 1847 used from Buffalo on May 18, 1850. You will note the stamp is canceled with a blue grid and also with a framed PAID. Can you inform me if such a PAID was ever used at the Buffalo Post Office to your knowledge? It is the type of blue PAID that was used at Philadelphia but I do not recall that this type was ever used at Buffalo, or for that matter, at any other U. S. post office.

With kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

P.S.—I am writing a similar letter to Adolph Steeg and Harry Dunsmoor.

August 28, 1955.

Mr. Adolph Steeg,
1048 Genesee St.,
Buffalo 11, N.Y.

Dear Adolph:

Here is a photograph of a cover with a 5¢ 1847 used from Buffalo on May 18, 1850. You will note the stamp is canceled with a blue grid and also with a framed PAID. Can you inform me if such a PAID was ever used at the Buffalo Post Office to your knowledge? It is the type of blue PAID that was used at Philadelphia but I do not recall that this type was ever used at Buffalo, or for that matter, at any other U. S. Post Office.

With kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

P.S.—I am writing a similar letter to Rollin Flower and Harry Dunsmoor.

Sept. 7, 1955.

Mr. Adolph Steeg,
1048 Genesee St.,
Buffalo 11, N.Y.

Dear Adolph:

Thanks very much for yours of the 2nd.
I was pleased to receive the information.

I regret to state that I will not be
able to attend the A.P.S. Convention at Norfolk
this year, much as I would like to do so.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

Print to return

August 30, 1955.

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

Dear Ezra:

Here is a photo of a cover submitted to me last week for an opinion by Harry Keffer. The \$64.00 question - How come the Phila. "PAID" on this stamp? Strange that this would show up at the same time we were working on this framed PAID.

Please return the photo print.

yours etc.,

RETURNED BY

Cole

RETURNED BY

HAMILTON BOND

AUG 29 1955

Charge

Harry Keffer

\$ 500

See 37 - 15

PAID
SEP 20 1955

PAID
SEP 20 1955

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

No 511417

SENT TO

PHILIP G. RUST

POSTMARK
OR DATE

STREET AND NO.

Route 5

THOMASVILLE, Georgia

CITY AND STATE

*If you want a
return receipt,
check which*

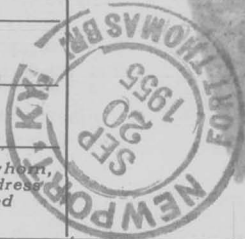
☐

*7¢ shows
to whom
and when
delivered*

☐

*31¢ shows to whom,
when, and address
where delivered*

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.

Sept. 20, 1955.

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

Dear Phil:

Recently I sent you a photo of a fake cover -- a 5¢ 1847 canceled at Philadelphia but put on a stampless cover from Buffalo. This cover belongs to Harry Keffer and he returned it to me at his cost. Here it is and I thought maybe you would like to buy it. It certainly looks genuine and would doubtless deceive a person that did not know that Buffalo never used this "PAID."

Up in the nineties here every day but the nights are cool. We note the hurricane is at Norfolk as I write this and believe Stan Jr. is in the hospital there.

With regards.

Cordially yours,

Sept. 20, 1955.

Mr. Harry B. Keffer,
17 Broadway,
New Haven 11, Conn.

Dear Harry:

I have yours of the 16th with the Buffalo cover, and the off 5¢ '47. Also check for \$5.00, for which please accept my thanks.

I would not care to own the Buffalo cover but I will offer it to a good friend who might want it for his fake collection. If not, I will return it to you.

Herewith I am returning the sheet 5¢ '47. I can't make heads or tails of the black postmark but I made a color exposure of it. Thanks.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

Returned to
Keffer
by Insured

OCT - 5 1955

CERTIFIED MAIL

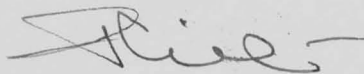
INSURED

I have looked at all my 5¢ '47's for the "Hart scratch" without finding another.

Unless you know to the contrary, I believe the 5¢ Buffalo cane, with the Phila "PAID" was original on the cover, but with a phonyⁿ paid^a added. The ultra violet light makes me think this. If Keffer will ^acharge a price more in keeping with a doctored cover I might want it. Someone is stuck; but it's not going to be me.

You very seldom comment on soiled, creased and torn covers. The Stark collec. is full of 'em. How much does this type of thing reduce the value?

With best wishes,



PHILIP G. RUST
Route 5
THOMASVILLE, Georgia

No 511430

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

SENT TO

Mr Harry Keffer

STREET AND NO

17 Broadway

CITY AND STATE

New Haven (11) Conn

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]

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.

Oct. 5, 1955.

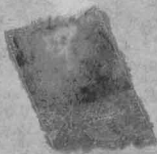
Mr. Harry Keffer,
17 Broadway,
New Haven 11, Conn.

Dear Harry:

Herewith I return the fake 5¢ 1847 cover
which has just come back from my friend who stated
he had been away on a vacation. I regret very much
the delay in returning it to you.

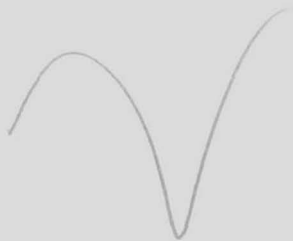
With best wishes -

Cordially yours,





QUARTZ-F64-15 MTH. BY KEEFER - C279



BY HARRY KEFFER

AUG 25 1935

F. Letter Inside
Dated Buffalo
May 16 1850



Blue

Blue

M. L. Burrill Esq
Lockport
N. Y.

Bx
H.B.K.

F128-RED-10SEC-TO SHOW BLUE MARKINGS

B657

PHILA. PAID: [B657] WHY AT BUFFALO

No fee

August 29, 1955

Mr. C. M. Phillips, Jr.,
West Lake Buckeye Drive,
Winter Haven, Florida.

Dear Clare:

Herewith the 10¢ 1847 cover as per yours of the 26th. This certainly is the variety "short transfer at top," so don't pay any attention to any such silly talk to the contrary. The S.U.S. is most assuredly correct. I suppose some people who do not know what they are talking about were unable to figure how there could be an intact top line and a "short transfer" below the line - the "short" occurred first, and after all positions were entered the top line was heavily recut because of the short. I did not check the position carefully but I would say off hand that this is position 711 in the first vertical row of the left pane. The top frame line, right frame line and bottom frame line were all recut on this position but the left frame line was not recut.

In the first vertical row of the left pane the following positions had a short transfer at top, 1111 - 2111 - 3111 - 6111 and 7111. There is no "erasure" in connection with this stamp.

I have endorsed it on the back for you.

Incidentally for an opinion such as the above and authentication on the back I charge collectors and dealers the same fee, viz., \$5.00, but in your case I have not been making any charge.

This letter is to you and is confidential but you may quote from it if you wish. When I fail to charge a fee, which is quite seldom, I do not wish my letters passed on to any stranger.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

P.S.--Are you charging \$160.00 for this cover? You should obtain \$175.00 to \$185.00.



C. M. PHILLIPS, JR.

*Stamps for Collectors*West Lake Buckeye Drive
WINTER HAVEN, FLORIDA

Aug 26th, 1955.

Dear Stanley:-

Your letter had come back to me
yesterday in this A.M. and thanks you so
much - I surely do appreciate you
doing that for me and feel ashamed
to shoot another right back to you
but I cannot stand to have collectors
send anything to Harmer Siegel, Fox etc
for information on the early classics

"If You Want It and I Don't Have It, I'll Get It"

And the Philatelic foundation - sheels -
they give an opinion that all - I'm
enclosing the Doctor's letter to you also
so you can see his comments in regard to
the stamp - Hope I'm not being a
nuisance Stanley - please always tell
me if I become annoying - I know
you're busy with your work. But I do
want you to examine this stamp - Could it
be a worn plate? eraser? - Could be -
I thought it for a short transfer - glad the
weather has eased up - remember me to
Mrs Ashbrook and my best to you
and thank a million for your looks -
Clare -

LUDWIG L. SIMON, M.D.

29 Hillside Avenue -

Newark 8, New Jersey

Bigelow 3-0687

August 24, 1955.

My dear Mr. Phillips:

Thank you so much for your recent communication. I have retained the #1 on cover and herewith enclose my remittance.

The #2, however, started a lot of controversy. The focal point there was about the short transfer on the left top. Some of my philatelic friends say there is no such thing of #2, despite Scott's contention otherwise. Others maintain this is an "erasure". Frankly, I am at sea. I like the cover and would like to own it, but, because of the differences in opinion, I have some misgivings. It seems to me that the only reasonable thing to do is to have same expertized by some one like R.H. Harmer, Bob Siegel or John Fox. I would be glad to do so without expense to you, but I do not wish to retain this cover for too long, else I may deprive you of a sale. Or, I can submit this piece to the Philatelic Foundation where I am a member. I shall await your advice.

Regarding the two other items you mention (#'s 27 & 144), the price seems a bit high, nevertheless please forward them on approval with rock bottom figure, and authentication as to trill.

You seem to be a "regular" fellow and I'd like to deal with you.

Most cordially yours,

Dr

Enc.

712

11-21-

31-

61-71

C. M. PHILLIPS, JR.

West Lake Buckeye Drive
WINTER HAVEN, FLORIDA

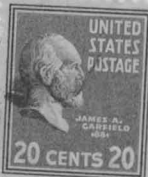
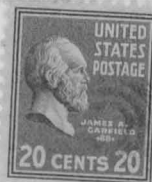
REGISTERED

573

Sheet Stanley B. Ashbrooks

4 1/2 AM C.O. Bot 31

Fort Thomas, Kentucky





Federated Philatelic Clubs
of Southern California

August 3, 1955

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

You were very kind and helpful in authenticating a Military District of Washington marking on a cover last year. If I may I would like to draw on your experience and advice again in regards the possible route of a new cover I am trying to write up for the same collection.

Cover bears three singles of the 1¢ 1861, tied by Old Point Comfort cancel and sent to Philadelphia. Manuscript in the lower left corner by the sender, - Hatteras Inlet, Jan. 16, '62, and his signature.

I realize that both points were actually southern territory but controlled by the northern armies. I am wondering if it could be assumed that the letter traveled from Hatteras Inlet to Old Point Comfort by boat where it was cancelled and thence overland to Philadelphia.

Will greatly appreciate anything you might know about this routeing and if I haven't made the usage clear in this letter will gladly forward the cover.

Sincerely,

C. W. Christian

New address

MR. C. W. CHRISTIAN
14364 E. Rosecrans Blvd.
LA MIRADA, CALIFORNIA

Aug. 8, 1955.

Mr. C.W.Christian,
14364 E. Rosecrans Blvd.,
La Mirada, Calif.

Dear Mr. Christian;

In reply to yours of the 3rd. If the cover has no other information on it other than the description in your letter, I doubt very much if I could throw any light on it. However, if you care to send it to me I will be glad to look it over.

Sincerely yours,

14364 C. Rosecrans
La Mirada, Calif.
Aug. 23, 1955

Stanley B. Ashbrook
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

I want to express my
thanks for your prompt answer to
my query regarding the "Old Paint
Comfort" cover. As there are no
other markings than those
mentioned there is probably no
point in sending the cover.

I thought there just might
be a need of the route taken by
mail from Katheras and O.P.C.
to get it safely out of southern
territory.

Sincerely,
C. W. Christian

RAYMOND H. WEILL CO.
ROGER G. WEILL - RAYMOND H. WEILL

Philatelic Dealers

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

407 ROYAL STREET
NEW ORLEANS 16, LA.

August 30, 1955

Stanley B. Ashbrook
Ft. Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan:

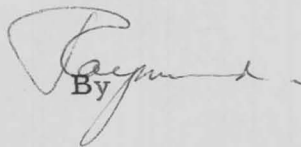
The enclosed group of covers came from a single source and as will be noted, they are all from the same correspondence. Of course, the only important item is the 30¢ 1869. We would be very grateful for your expert opinion as to its validity.

We hope you have, by now, fully recovered from your mysterious illness. No doubt, the Jack Daniels completely resurrected you. We wish it would have been possible to pay you a personal visit and we are looking forward to doing so in the near future.

Please include bill for expertization and postage when you return this material.

Yours sincerely,

Raymond H. Weill Co.

By 

rhw:lc
enc.
reg & ins

Sept. 1, 1955.

Raymond H. Weill Co.,
409 Royal St.,
New Orleans 16, La.

Dear Raymond:

Herewith the 30¢ 1869 cover and the other five (5) from the same correspondence. In my opinion, the 30¢ cover is genuine in every respect and I have authenticated it on the reverse. I made a very careful examination of this cover and listed some of the points on the back. There is no question but what this use was actually on Dec. 14, 1869 and my records show such a sailing. This was a double rate and surely only one stamp was used, and it must have been a 30¢ 1869. I also checked the other covers to see if by any chance there was any funny-business. I checked the sailing dates, rates and routes and all are in perfect order.

My fee on the 30¢ is \$5.00 including return postage. If you would like a regular photo of this cover I can supply a print @ \$2.00 or a color slide @ \$1.50.

With kindest 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.

September 6, 1955

Stanley B. Ashbrook
Ft. Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Stan:

Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$7.00. This is for the opinion on the 30¢ 1869 cover and for a regular photo of it. Will you please mail the photo to Em Krug and ask him to forward it to us after he has examined same.

We were much interested in the information you furnished regarding that party who put you in the hospital. We think his little scheme backfired. The great concern shown for your welfare when it was thought you were ill only emphasized how highly you are esteemed in philatelic circles.

Yours sincerely,

Raymond H. Weill Co.

Raymond
By

rhw:lc
enc.

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

No 511392

SENT TO

Millard H. Mock

STREET AND NO.

3930 Red Bud Ave

CITY AND STATE

Cincinnati, 29 OH

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.

Sept. 1, 1955.

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

Dear Millard:

Here is a Stark cover #1568 priced
@ \$25.00. It is a use in September of 1870,
a "combination" and an unusual use to Ceylon.
I have authenticated it on the back.

I thought perhaps you might like
this.

Sincerely yours,

SOLD

~~1568~~

1568

@ 25⁰⁰

3930 Red Bud Ave.
Cincinnati, Ohio

3 Sept 1955

Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

Thank you very much for your
letter of the first containing the
cover to Ceylon.

My check to your order for
twenty five dollars is enclosed.

Many thanks

With best wishes

Millard H. Mack

Sept. 3, 1955.

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

Dear Millard:

Re - our phone conversation. The rate to Ceylon in September 1870 was 22¢ "VIA Southsampton." This meant a British mail ship from Southampton around Gibraltar and the Mediterranean thru Suez, etc. When a letter was rated "Via Marseilles" it meant from England - across to Calais - thru France by rail to Marseilles to catch a mail steamer stopping there that had sailed from England at an earlier date. Had the cover that I sent you been routed "Via Marseilles," the rate at that time would have been 30¢. In other words, mail "Via Southampton" was slower and cheaper than Via Marseilles, the reason, because no part of the former rate had to be paid to the French.

I believe your cover originated at Milwaukee but had to go thru the foreign division of the Chicago P.O. If I am not mistaken, there is a credit of "18" (18¢) to the British because our share of the 22¢ rate was only 4¢.

If there are any otherpoints about the cover you do not understand do not hesitate to ask me.

When talking to you I just could not recall my examination of this cover a month ago but I did remember I had checked on the rates to Ceylon, because it is seldom we find a cover with that destination as early as 1870.

I found that I only made one slide of this cover but I will send it to you as I think I made a regular photo for my files.

Sincerely yours,

3930 Red Bud Ave.
Cincinnati, Ohio

Monday evening

Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

Thanks very much for your letter of Saturday explaining the rates to Ceylon. After I talked with you about noon time I went out and played 18 holes of golf and had dinner and your letter greeted me on my return home. I'd say that was fast service!

With best wishes,
Sincerely

Millard H. Mack

July 8, 1955.

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

Elliott:

Several weeks or more ago I sent you a cover - "TWICE CARRIED - NO PAY." I believe you had some correspondence with Maurice Blake about it. I am in no particular hurry for it's return but I would like to know if you received it.

I have a friend who has two Bloods envelopes, both are 15LU2 (used). This is not priced in the S.U.S. Is there any reason? Any information you can give me about this envelope will be welcome and I will gladly pay you a fee.

Yours etc.,

September 1, 1968



Stan:

I find your inquiry of July 8 regarding Blood's envelopes L5LU2 used has not been answered. I don't know why it is not priced. It is certainly a genuine variety, in fact the only example I seem to have now is a cut square with genuine cancellation. The paper is dark buff.

All three types of Blood's envelopes have been counterfieted but those known to me are not embossed and are on pieces of paper instead of entire envelopes. Some of Ferrari's L43 and L44 had gum and appeared to be adhesives.

I have done only what I had to on Blood's in recent years because Frank Hollowbush is working on a book. I have had 15LU10 and at one time or another have probably sold all the varieties of Blood's, but Frank should have more information than I have. You might try him.

Some progress has been made in making the Local Post section of the Scott catalog more reliable, but it is slow. Whenever any of the bunkum that agrees with Needham's history is eliminated the Collector's Club is made to look rather foolish for persisting in the attitude that the worst Needham ever did was to make a few honest mistakes. As of there could be anything honest about forgery for profit!

I printed the facts about Russell more than a dozen years ago, and they could have been verified within five minutes walk of the Scott Co. office, yet the Scott catalog still repeats the moonshine that Needham printed about Russell's Post Office. Naturally, nobody likes to admit he bet on the wrong horse.

As ever,

Elliott Perry

Sept. 9, 1955.

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

Dear Ez:

Herewith I am returning the 18 covers contained in yours of the 2nd. I have numbered these from 1 to 18 inclusive for future reference.

In my letter of the 6th I stated that none of the PAID strikes showed the broken top frame line, but I noted that I was wrong. Here are a few brief comments:

- #4 - superb color - must be Dec. 1847
- #5 - "Paid" - This must be an early type. It is 20 MM x 10.
- #7 - Sep. 5, 1848 - Broken line.
- #8 - Sep. 4, 1847 - superb color
- #9 - Nov. 12, 1874 - fine color (This was Lot 124 Brown sale to Ward @ \$25.00. It was described as Brown)
- #10 - Very fine color. The two must have been a V. Pair.
- #13 - Marked Nov. 1847 - fine color
- #15 - July 1848 - Broken top frame. Looks like this broken was in use May to September 1848.
- #16 - This is a cover of Dec. 1847, but this color don't look to me like a stamp used in 1847. This could have been an unpaid stampless to which this stamp was added.
- #17 - Sept. 11, 1847. This color is the same as #16 - so I suppose both were used as we see them.
- #18 - July 31, 1847 - fine color.

Thanks Em for your check for \$3.00 for the two slides as per mine of the 26th.

With regards.

Yours etc.,

EZRA D. COLE
NYACK,
N. Y.

DO NOT MAKE ENVELOPE
DO NOT MAKE ENVELOPE

Dear Ez

Here with I am returning
the 18 cover contained in
yours of the 2nd. ~~After a~~
I have numbered these from
1 to 18 inclusive for future
reference. In my letter of the
6th I stated that none of
the PAID strikes, showed
the broken top frame line, but
I note that I was wrong.

Here are a few brief comments

- # 4 - Superb color - must be Dec 1847
- # 5 - "Paid" - This must be an early
type. It is 20MM x 10.
- # 7 - Sep 5 1848 - Broken line
- # 8 - Sep 4 1847 - Superb Color
- # 9 - Nov 12 1847 - Fine Color
(This was lot 124 Brauer
Sale - To Ward @ 25⁰⁰

It was described as Brown.

#10 - Very fine color. The two
must have been a V. pair.

#13 - ~~A~~ Marked Nov 1847 -
fine color.

#15 - July 1848 - Broken top
frame. Looks like this
broken was in use May
to September 1848.

#16 - This is a cover of
Dec 1847, but this color
don't look to me like a
stamp used in 1847. This
could have been an
unpaid stampless & which
this stamp was added.
#17 - Sep 11 1847. This color
is the same as #16 - No I
suppose both were used,
BOTH

as we see them.

#18 - July 31 - 1847 - Fine color

x x x x x

Thanks Em for your
check for \$3⁰⁰ for the
two slides as per ~~memo~~
note of the 26th —

With Regards
Yours &c

EZRA D. COLE

Rare Postage Stamps

NYACK . NEW YORK

Commissions . Appraisals

TELEPHONE NYACK 7-0964

September 2nd, 1955

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

Dear Stan:

I am enclosing a batch of Philadelphia covers all with the "Paid" mark. The owner of these insured them for \$1000.00 and wants me to do the same thing. He wants us to insure them for that amount just to be safe.

Look these over and see if you can discover anything worth while.

This is for our own interests and to add to our knowledge so this man is just trying to help us in learning something.

I have not studied them and I am sending them on to you.

I do not have his permission to use these any way except to look at so if you want to use them in any form better write me first so that I can get his permission. I do not think there will be any objections but I just would like to ask first. There may be some that you would want to use in your Service Letter or something like that.

The 10^{to}/_Λ Holland certainly is nice and the single "Five" to London.

I am enclosing a check for \$3.00 for the slides.

Sincerely

Ezra D. Cole.

EDC:mkl

August 26, 1955.

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

Dear Ez:

I am sending you two slides in case your client would like to have them of Lot 86. Price \$1.50 each. Otherwise please return to me.

I am also enclosing a photo print greatly enlarged of the Phila. "PAID" on two covers I have. One is the broken line dated September 1848. The other is another stamper and a bit larger on a cover dated January 1849.

Yours etc.,

Enclosed:

A62-13

A62-32Price \$1.50 each

PAID
SEP 7 1955

Sept. 6, 1955.

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

Dear Ezra:

I have yours of the 2nd enclosing the batch of 1847 covers. All safe to hand and in good shape. I have only glanced at them but I note the majority are early uses 1847-1848, early prints and some are very fine orange-brown. I sure will make color slides of the best ones and you shall have a duplicate of each. A quick run thru fails to show a single item with the type with the broken frame line.

I had a letter today from Rollin Flower stating that to his knowledge, the Buffalo P.O. never used the Phila. type of framed "PAID."

Hastily yours,

BROOKMAN

121 LOEB
MINNEAPOLIS

REGISTERED

644

VIA AIR MAIL

ft.

Kentucky



I have just shown the cover to my only good local prospect but he did not buy it. I did succeed in selling him a copy of 3114a while he was here for \$525 so his visit wasn't a waste of time.

In strict confidence I want you to know that I sold a five-figure lot of Henry's material to Jack Dick. Neither buyer nor seller wants this information to get around so unless one or the other tells you about it just forget it. I felt it best, and fair, to tell you since you know both parties. Dick, who was previously unknown to me, phoned me a couple of weeks ago and asked me what I had that might interest him. Henry came in before I had finished and suggested that I take some of his material down to show Dick and I did and sold Henry's '47's, 51's and 57's except the 5¢ 51's and 57's. Your name on some of the items certainly helped make the sale. The lot included the "Knapp Shift" and of course Dick wants to find out all he can about it. I didn't, of course, claim it was a "Shift" in the normal sense of the term and I told him I didn't KNOW what it was. I did tell him that it would lend much INTEREST to any collection and that certainly is the truth.



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.

I did tell him^e that you had never told me exactly what you think it to be but that you wanted me to study it for myself. I also told him that you once told me that you could prove me wrong whichever position I took on it! In any event he should have fun with it and I think he will always be able to get as much out of it as he paid--and probably could make a profit should that ~~in~~nerest him--which it probably does not at the moment. I tell you all this as ~~it~~ is likely he will ask you about it. He has learned a great deal about stamps in the short time he has been in it and may eventually turn out to be a real top-flight collector. Quite an operator for a 32 year old.

It has cooled off nicely here but I guess it is expected to warm up again soon. I have two air-conditioners coming from New York and I will use them in two of my bedrooms which I think will cool things down nicely.

Thanks for giving me the opportunity to try to sell the cover. If you even think of sending me postage I'll skin you alive. Don't know how much your hide would bring on the market but I suspect that Colson and Zareski might put in bids! I think that my own hide might draw a couple of bids although I think yours might sell for more per square inch. On an over-all basis mine might bring as much as yours due to the difference in area.

Sincere regards,

September 6, 1955.

Mr. Jack R. Dick,
15 W. 81st St.,
New York 24, N.Y.

Dear Jack:

Will you please let me have a check for the Stark covers. In the future any items that I send you will be for cash by return mail. I do not extend credit to anyone.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

JACK R. DICK
15 WEST 81ST STREET
NEW YORK 24, N. Y.

September 8, 1955

My dear Mr. Ashbrook,

I received your letter of Sept. 6, 1955 and to say the least, I am almost shocked beyond words, but not so much so that I can not reply to you in kind.

Your damn check was mailed to you the very moment I returned from a two week summer vacation, and I do not feel that you are in any way entitled to the privilege of admonishing me for merely taking a two week extension of credit. Credit has been, and still is extended to me for far greater amounts of money and for certainly longer periods of time. I do not consider the length of time that your material was in my possession before it was paid for as anything resembling an extension of credit.

I suggest you chew your words a little better in the future. I am a proud man and can well afford to be proud of my reputation, not least of which is my reliability in all matters concerned either directly or indirectly with credit.

I prefer to dismiss your ill-chosen words as those of ill-advised haste, and I am returning herewith your letter (in its entirety) , but altered physically so that it better conforms with my opinion of it.

Yours very truly,



Jack R. Dick

Sept. 11, 1955.

Mr. Jack R. Dick,
15 W. 81st St.,
New York 24, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Dick:

Instead of tearing up my letter you should have torn up yours before you forwarded it to me. My letter was not intended to offend but was merely a statement of fact, viz., I do not extend credit to anybody. I suppose we should have had this understood in the beginning. However, I judge your letter was written in haste and I will file it away without any ill-feeling.

Sincerely yours,

Sept. 11, 1955.

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

Dear Les:

Re - our good friend Jack Dick. I was reliably informed that this chap owes a lot of dealers in New York so watch your step. I sold him three Stark covers which I sent to him on Aug. 10, amounting to \$425.00. No check came back so on Sep. 6th I wrote him as per copy. I got a check in full but note the sassy letter that he wrote me. I have never met him personally so I don't know whether he is a Jew or not. From his phone conversation I got the impression that he was a Yid. Let me know if your transaction with him was okay. I think he must be a smart-Aleck and as such will stick someone very badly in the end. You can bet it is not going to be me.

Kindly return this sassy correspondence.

With regards -

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.

9/13/55

Dear Stan:

Regarding Rich I can only say that my dealings with him have been pleasant. As a matter of fact I got a check from him yesterday for 3000⁰⁰.

He is young -- only 32 -- so he may feel his oats a little -- as did I at his age but I consider him a really nice fellow. In regard to your question as to whether he is a Jew I am a very poor judge of such things but I would imagine him to be 3rd or 4th generation American -- probably of English or Germanic origin.

I do not know of any other collector who is buying as many

stomp as he said it is possibly
true that he might temporarily
overextend himself a little but
he has met his obligation to me
earlier than agreed upon. I do
not believe my confidence in him
is mistaken. So much for that.

His been as busy as the very devil.
Have been working hard on my price list
and I expect the first form to go on the
press this week. Regular business has
been pretty good.

Did I tell you that I've moved
across the Hall to room 103. Nice
than the old place and air conditioned.
Would have come down with Henry
but that was just the time I had
to move.

Sincerely yours
Les

Mr Ashbrook
Fort Thomas Ky.

Aug 30 -

Dear Sir

Sent to you for your inspection
is a cover purchased from Hubbell &
Griffin Ga. and he claims this is from Weatherby
collection who bought it from Gibbons in 1941

Knowing Weatherby is holding his confederates
and running honors with them I wonder
about this cover - Mr Letman seemed to
wonder out loud over this cover and
suggested sending it to you.

I paid 225⁰⁰ for this
cover and it is the pride of my collect.
coll. it also represents half a months pay
so you can see that I wonder and
why.

5⁰⁰ plus return postage enclosed
for your services Thank you

yours truly
Kenneth E Keister

K. E. Keister
203 Belfield Ave.
Elyria, Ohio



Sept. 6, 1955.

Mr. K. E. Keister,
203 Belfield Ave.,
Elyria, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Keister:

Herewith I am returning your Confederate cover with the 2¢ Green of 1862. I am pleased to report that this cover is unquestionably genuine and I have little doubt that it came from Mr. Weatherly. I feel sure that the memo on the back was made by him though he states the use was from Alexandria, Va., whereas the use was from Alexandria, La. Incidentally, Alexandria, Va. was never in Confederate hands. It is very close to Washington as you are well aware.

I am enclosing a stampless cover from Alexandria, La. in September 1849. I do not seem to have a Confederate cover with this postmark but I do know that that office used red ink in 1861 and 1862 on Confederate mail. If I can later on locate among my collection a Confederate Alexandria, La. cover I will submit same to you.

Mr. Weatherly is a close personal friend of mine and in my next letter to him I will inquire if he sold this cover to Hubbell. He is constantly improving his condition and in this case he probably acquired a finer cover and sold this one. I know full well that he follows this line.

I removed the covering from the cover for two reasons. I will not examine a cover that is encased in any sort of a covering. Second - If you wish to preserve your covers do not enclose them in any kind of covering. Had you left this cover in the enclosure the red ink postmark would in time fade out completely and then your cover would not have near the value. This is not a theory on my part but something I learned from bitter experience. Take my advice and don't use any kind of covering for off cover stamps or more important - covers. When this red postmark was applied it was a very much brighter red.

May I thank you very kindly for your check for \$5.00 which is my fee for examination.

My kindest regards -

Sincerely yours,

4025 W. Donovan Street
Seattle 16, Wash.
Sept. 10, 1955

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

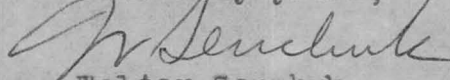
Once again I am asking you for your valued opinion
on a U.S. stamp.

Enclosed is a cover with a Type IV 1857-61 tied by
Springfield, Mass. cancel. Could this possibly be an
1851-57 'doctored' up ' to look like the perforated variety?
If the stamp and cover are up to snuff would you kindly
sign the reverse of the cover.

All charges and fees will be remitted to you by return
mail as soon as you let me know what they are.

Incidentally, my previous dealing with you was from
Chicago and Mr. Paul Rohloff gave me permission to use his
name as an introduction. I am now living in Seattle, a
rather dull place from a philatelic standpoint.

Sincerely yours,


Walter Senchuk

3.00 fee

Sept. 14, 1955.

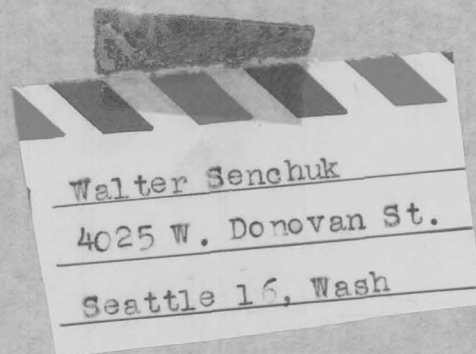
Mr. Walter Senchuk,
4025 W. Donovan St.,
Seattle 16, Wash.

Dear Mr. Senchuk:

Herewith the 1¢ 1857 cover as per yours of the 10th. I am pleased to advise that this is not a reperf but a genuine 1¢ 1857 Type IV and I have signed it as such on the back. I judge the use was May 1858. The perfs are okay, and the shade and impression are both correct for a perforated stamp. My fee is \$3.00 which includes return postage.

I note that you have recently located in Seattle. I have a very good philatelic friend who lives there and no doubt he could introduce you to some of his philatelic friends. I believe he travels quite a bit but is generally home on week-ends. I am sure his wife could advise you regarding when he will be home. Use my name if you wish - His name is D.N.McInroy, 16003 - 15th Ave., S.W., Seattle 66, Wash.

Sincerely yours,



Sep 14

Change
Traller Serchuk

fee

2.00

PAID

SEP 22 1955

PAID

SEP 22 1955

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)

L.L.SHENFIELD

40 Highland Circle
BRONXVILLE, N.Y.

C.M. PHILLIPS Jr.
Route No 1
WINTER HAVEN
Florida.

ELLIOTT PERRY
P.O. Box 333
WESTFIELD N.J.

E.R. JACOBS
1251 Asbury Ave
EVANSTON, Ills.

Mr Harry L. LINDQUIST
153 WAYERLY PLACE
NEW YORK (14) N.Y.

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1251 Asbury Ave
EVANSTON, Ills

MR HARRY L. LINDQUIST
153 WAYERLY PLACE
NEW YORK (14) N.Y.

4025 W. Donovan St.
Seattle 16, Wash.
Sept 18, 1955

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

Thank you for your valued authentication of the 1¢ 1857 Type IV cover I recently sent to you. A check for your fee is enclosed herewith..

I shall contact Mr. D. N. McDurray at the earliest opportunity. It was very kind of you to submit his name.

Sincerely yours
W. Senchuk

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

September 14, 1955.

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
P. O. Box 31
33 No. Fort Thomas Avenue
Fort Thomas, Kentucky.

Dear Stan,

I have just returned from my European travels which were quite interesting, though not particularly productive philatelically. However, the trip was designed primarily for pleasure so this is about as I had expected it to be.

I thank you for your examination and opinions on the two Waterhouse lots which were handled with my assistant. I am naturally returning lot #351, though based on your comments on lot #282 do not believe that I am justified in returning it. I have studied very carefully your comments on it and the ultra-violet photograph and can find no conclusive evidence that it is other than it appears to be, so feel that I am justified in offering it for sale. However, I shall doubtlessly point out to any prospect your own comments with regard to it so that he will be aware of all facts known to me when making a decision.

I am returning enclosed cover #652 of yours which I have not been able to sell which still leaves four covers outstanding that I hope will sell, but on which I have not received returns from the client for whom I retained them. He has been unduly slow lately, probably due to vacations, etc.

Also enclosed is another #39 just purchased which I consider to have a genuine cancel and hope you will agree. However, if not, I shall greatly appreciate your detailed comments with respect to it. Advise your fee and I shall remit promptly as usual.

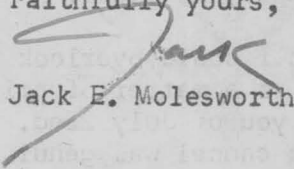
I wish that I could overlook the comments in your note of August 1st., but regret that as a matter of principle and personal integrity I cannot. In my letter to you of July 22nd. I categorically stated that it was my opinion that the cancel was genuine and I so guaranteed to the Belmont Stamp Company. This was at that time, and still is, an honest and truthful statement. I sell a great deal of material at auction and quite a bit of it may be questionable in one respect or another with regard to reperfs, regums, repairs, etc. I always leave it up to the auction house to describe it as they see fit since I have found in the past that they do not welcome my suggestions with regard to their description. However, as a matter of policy, I would never knowingly send a spurious item to any auction and I certainly would not guarantee an item to be good which I suspected or knew was bad. Also, I do not claim to be an expert as yourself with regard to authenticating items, **but I** do consider my knowledge of the market value of United States stamps to be

equal to or superior to that of any collector or dealer active today. This position is supported by my belief that I have during the past three years handled at private sale between \$150,000 and \$200,000 worth of better grade U. S. stamps per year. Based on this experience I would again reiterate on my personal opinion that a genuine used #39 that is defective and has probably been reperfed is worth no more than \$29.50.

I would greatly appreciate your reviewing the comments in your note of August 1st. based on my comments above and letting me know whether you still hold the position outlined in that note. I fully realize that you may disagree with me as to the value of a genuine used #39 which is certainly your privilege, but do not believe that you have any basis whatsoever for doubting the sincerity of my statement with regard to the value of such. I have great respect for the many years which you have been in philately and hope that you have sufficient respect for my own intelligence and integrity to realize that no effort has been made to "fool you".

I appreciate very much your indicating that the basis for your conclusion on this #39 was your feeling that the blue ink is modern and not the kind of ink used in 1860. I regret that such a fact was not at all obvious to me as you apparently felt it should have been. Also, it was not obvious to Mr. Usticke whose opinion you were shown but apparently took no stock in. In that regard, I am wondering if you may not have given undue weight to certain unjustified rumors concerning the actions of Mr. Usticke which I know some of his enemies have succeeded in putting into circulation the past few years. However, I judge the man by his actions and opinions as I see them at first hand and not by what other people say about him. Based on these first hand and rather extensive observations, I have a higher regard for his opinion on U. S. stamps in general than any other philatelic expert alive today with the sole exception of your opinions in the specialized fields which you concentrate on. Forgetting completely his opinion on this #39, what is your basis for not respecting his opinion? The #39 was sent to the Philatelic Foundation and I should have a report on it soon which I shall communicate to you upon receipt. If they should have sent it along to you for your opinion I would appreciate your mentioning it since such would make their opinion not an independent one as I hope it will be.

Faithfully yours,


Jack E. Molesworth

JEM/vf

Sept. 17, 1955.

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

Dear Jack:

I am in receipt of yours of the 14th returning the Stark cover #652, and enclosing a 90¢ 1860. You are quite correct about holding four covers from the lot sent you on July 8th last.

Re - Waterhouse #351. Did you ever see an Aachen marking struck in blue on any cover used with 1857 - 1860 stamps? What is a 24¢ stamp doing on this cover when the rate was 30¢? Why was this stamp canceled in Germany and not in the U. S.? In this connection, note Lot #162 - Why?

Re - Waterhouse #282. I suggest that you give this a very careful examination. Before I would pay for this item I would submit it to Cheavin of London and have an X-ray photo made. The Paris fixers can do wonders.

Re - the 90¢ 1860 - Belmont Sale. I think this argument hinges on whether a damaged but genuinely used 90¢ 1860 off cover is worth no more than \$29 less 20%. I think that such an item is worth a great deal more. I assumed that had you thought the stamp was genuine you would have placed it in a New York sale rather than in some obscure little sale down in Texas. You assure me that my assumption was wrong. What else can I do but accept your word?

I have no quarrel with Eusticke. You assure me he is a real expert. When a person attempts to cover every stamp in the catalogue from A to Z I would not consider him competent to judge whether a cancelation on a 90¢ 1860 is good or bad. That would indicate he was an expert on cancelations on every stamp in the catalogue. Maybe Usticke is in that class, I am sure I do not know. But when informed that Usticke stated the cancelation was genuine I thought the statement was rather funny. Maybe I was all wrong, maybe he is even greater than Colson and heavens knows that would be amazing.

Jack in the future to avoid any arguments I will refrain from casting any aspersions on friends of yours. In addition I will refrain from explaining why I think an item is good or why it is bad. In the future I will give one of three replies, viz:

- 1) In my opinion the item is genuine.
- 2) " " " " " " not genuine.
- 3) Opinion refused.

The Expert Committee follows the above to the letter and in this particular respect I agree with them 100%.

There is no sense in you and I getting into an argument on any item you submit to me. Further, henceforth I will not sign any cover or stamp on the back.

I note you sent the #39 to the Philatelic Foundation. I can assure you

#2. Mr. Jack E. Molesworth, Sept. 17, 1955.

that they have not sent it to me and inasmuch as I have no agreement with them to treat any such matters as confidential I will be glad to inform you if they send the stamp to me.

Herewith I am returning the 90¢ 1860, an opinion on same is refused.

Sincerely yours,

JAMES M. HARDMAN
234 ELEVENTH AVENUE
SOUTH CHARLESTON, W. VA.

September 7, 1955

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
Post Office Box 33
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Sir:

As requested in your letter of August 24th, I am enclosing herewith the stamps and wrappers mentioned in my letter of August 17th.

The year dates and other information shown on the enclosed list are 100% accurate and can be relied upon without question. I inscribed the year date on each wrapper at the time I found it. In addition, some of the wrappers also bear the original date.

Considering that it is a whole pane, I think that the pane of 3¢ greens is in remarkably good condition despite some clipping. The wrapper from which this pane came also bore a pair and a block of 18 of the 10¢ re-engraved and a pair of the 2¢ 1879. The 10¢ block was cut in two by the person who clipped the 3¢ greens at their point of arrival. I believe that the 3¢ pane is the only known used block of 100 of any 19th century U. S. stamp.

I am also enclosing an unused block of 50 of the 2¢ 1869, and a used block of 60 of the 2¢ 1895, type III. Although the latter stamp is quite common, I believe that a used block of sixty is unusual. One stamp has been replaced in the bottom row to conceal a damaged stamp.

If it hasn't been broken up, only one larger block of the 2¢ 1869 is known to exist. Incidentally, my block was found stuck together and folded up in an envelope, where it had apparently been put by mistake.

All of the blocks have some light reinforcement which is necessary due to their large size. If you desire to photograph any of the blocks you may remove them from their mountings.

The stampless wrappers are probably a unique lot, and it would be interesting to know whether or not any of higher value are in existence. Note that they were used from towns which were so small in that day that all of the wrappers bear manuscript markings with the exception of two, which are postmarked.

The large blocks were the subject of an article in LINN'S in 1948, a copy of which is enclosed. Nothing has ever been written concerning the large stampless wrappers. However, STAMPS might be interested in pictures of the blocks accompanied by a short article, as well as a separate article concerning the wrappers. Your comments and suggestions will be appreciated.

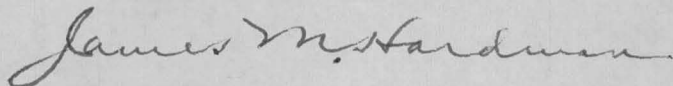
Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
Page 2
September 7, 1955

Off hand, I don't recall the size of the blocks of postage dues mentioned in LINN'S but they are quite large, particularly the values under the 30-cent.

Incidentally, all of this material had been consigned to a paper shredder from which I rescued it. Also, about 5,000 covers from about 1880 to 1898 -- nothing of great value, but many nice cancellations and illustrated advertising covers.

Thank you for your offer to send some of Admiral Stark's 3¢ 1861's on approval. They must be beautiful things, but regrettably I must confine my wants to low and medium priced cancellations and covers. To offset this deficiency I strive for beautiful strikes of the more common cancellations and unusually attractive covers of the less expensive types.

Very truly yours,



James M. Hardman

JMH:eps

Enclosures: Scott's # 113 block of 50, unused
" # 207 pane of 100, used
" # 209 block of 14 and pair # 211 used on piece
" # 209 block of 20, used
" # 209 pair and block of 18, plus pair # 183, used
" # 267 block of 60, used
Twenty-three stampless wrappers
Linn's Weekly Stamp News --- July 26, 1948

Mr. Ashbrook:

You may keep this list
if it is of any interest to you.
I have another copy.

M.H.

LIST OF STAMPLESS WRAPPERS

All of the following were posted in that part of Virginia which is NOW the State of West Virginia:

YEAR	TOWN AND COUNTY	WEIGHT	POSTAGE
1841	Beverly, Randolph County	17½ oz.	\$13.12½
1842	Beverly, Randolph County	17 oz.	12.75
1820	Cabell C. H., Cabell County (now Barboursville)	14½ oz.	10.73
1825	same	15 oz.	11.25
1826	same	16 oz. minus 1-3/4 oz. (\$12 minus \$1.31¼ equal---	10.68-3/4
1814	Guyandotte, Cabell County (now Huntington)	28 sheets (P. M. probably computed incorrect postage, since this was first class mail.)	.56
1815	Kanawha C. H., Kanawha County (now Charleston)	(This cover included merely ----- to show rate.)	.30
1833	Kingwood, Preston County	1 lb., 2 oz.	13.50
1834	(Kingwood), Preston County	1 lb., 1 oz.	12.75
1841	Kingwood, Preston County	12 oz.	9.00
1842	same	13 oz.	9.75
1821	Martinsburgh, Berkeley County	13 oz.	9.62
1844	Martinsburg, Berkeley County	23 oz.	17.25
1838	Morgantown, Monongalia County	18 oz.	13.50
1841	same	30 oz.	22.50
1844	same	12 oz @ 56¼¢	6.75
1851	same	-----	3.35
1827	Pocahontas C. H., Pocahontas Co. (now Huntersville)	9-3/4 oz.	7.31¼
1820	Point Pleasant, Mason County	1 lb., 4 oz. (?)	??
1844	Solus, Ritchie County (Unable to identify this town.)	6½ oz. (Looks like 8½ oz., but must be 6½.)	4.87½
1846	(Wayne), Wayne County	-----	3.50
1823	Weston, Lewis County	26 sheets @ 2¢ (P. M. probably computed incorrect postage, since this was first class mail.)	.52
1812	Wheeling, Ohio County	9¼ oz.	7.40

Sept. 9, 1955.

Mr. James M. Hardman,
234 Eleventh Ave.,
South Charleston, W.Va.

Dear Mr. Hardman:

Just a line to advise you that your package arrived safe and sound this afternoon, but as yet I have not had time to examine the contents. I will advise you later.

Many thanks.

Cordially yours,

Form 3813-P (4-54)

RECEIPT FOR INSURED PARCEL

No. _____

Addressed for delivery at

So Charleston W Va

(Post office of address)

WRITE PLAINLY

(State)

Postage 39 cts.

Special handling _____ cts.

Insurance fee 30 cts.

Return receipt _____ cts.

Special delivery _____ cts.

Restricted delivery _____ cts.

Fragile _____

Perishable _____

Other endorsement _____

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

(Postmark of

SEP
16
1955

Mailing Office)

POSTMASTER,

By *[Signature]*

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 serial number may be submitted for consideration as evidence of insurance if receipt is not available.

Unless specifically noted on receipt by postal employee, it is understood the parcel contains nothing of a fragile or perishable nature. In the 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

Sept. 16, 1955.

Mr. James M. Hardman,
234 Eleventh Ave.,
South Charleston, W.Va.

Dear Mr. Hardman:

I am today returning to you by registered mail, the various items that you sent me recently. I made 8 x 10 photographs of the,

3¢ Green pane
2¢ 1869 block
and 2 covers with the highest rates.

I removed the covering to photograph the 3¢ Green pane. I believe it is dangerous to seal up any philatelic item, especially covers that have red markings. I feel sure that such material will in time fade out a red marking altogether. If a collector desires to cover an item it should be done in such a way as to permit air to circulate freely. It has been stated that all such material is harmless. I doubt that statement very much.

I put a new covering over your 3¢ pane. This is a product of the Eastman Kodak Co. and is said to be safe. It might be for some items but whether that includes old 19th Century stamps and postal markings on covers I do not know. In case you would like to know the name of this sheet it is -

KODAPAK
CLEAR
THICKNESS 003

If you will advise me of the expense of the forwarding postage I will be only too glad to forward you a check. I assure you that I enjoyed a look at all the material and it certainly was most kind of you to forward it to me. If I can return the favor at any time I trust you will not hesitate to call upon me.

Sincerely yours,

JAMES M. HARDMAN
234 ELEVENTH AVENUE
SOUTH CHARLESTON, WEST VIRGINIA

September 29, 1955

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
Post Office Box 31
Fort Thomas
Kentucky

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

I was most pleasantly surprised with the beautiful photographs which you sent to me of my large blocks and stampless wrappers. The photos are, indeed, excellent and I intend to mount them with some of my other material.

The package of blocks and wrappers was received a few days ago. Everything was in good order.

I wish to thank you for the information concerning the hazards of keeping stamps and covers in airtight mountings. Thanks, also, for remounting the 3¢ green block and for the information concerning KODAPAK.

Our correspondence has been very pleasant to me and I am deeply appreciative of your interest and courtesy.

Again thanking you for the beautiful photographs,
I am

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "James M. Hardman". The signature is fluid and elegant, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

JMH:eps

JEFFERSON JONES
P. O. Box 506
Bozeman, Montana

September 1, 1955

C
O
P
Y

Mr. C. C. Hart
922 Walnut Street
Kansas City, Missouri

Dear Mr. Hart:

In thirty years of collecting Minnesota territorial covers I have seen only one cover with a M.T. marking tying a 1847 stamp. That was in 1928 when William Mannheimer of St. Paul showed me a folded letter sheet written in 1850 by a Methodist missionary to the Indians named William Peete which bore a 5-cent '47 tied by a "St. Paul Min. Ter" postmark, similar to No. 301 shown in the Chase-Cabeen book on territorial postmarks, Page 197.

I asked Mannheimer how he explained the use of a '47 stamp on a Minnesota territorial and he told me the following story. The Rev. Peete had been called East to a missionary conference in New York City and while there had seen his first postage stamp. He evidently bought a few copies as souvenirs, transported them back to Minnesota territory to show his friends and then used one to the letter that later came into the possession of Mannheimer. The letter Peete wrote was addressed to a minister friend at Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin.

At the time I saw the cover in 1928 Mannheimer would not sell it to me. After Mannheimer's death I tried to trace the cover but was never able to catch up with it.

As to a '47 use on a Wisconsin territorial I have never seen or heard of one.

Just one more thing bearing on the '47's-when I couldn't catch up with the Mannheimer cover I decided to try and find covers addressed to Minnesota territory bearing the '47 issue. The late Spencer Anderson of New York helped in the search and in twenty years we turned up just one cover. It was a folded letter sheet bearing a 10-cent '47 postmarked "Goshen, N.Y." and addressed to St. Paul, Minn. Terr.

I hope the above answers your questions. As a subscriber to Stamps I shall look forward to your article on the '47's.

Sincerely,

Jefferson Jones

COMPLIMENT
CENTENARY INTER
PHILATELIC EXHIBIT

INTERNATIONAL
EXHIBITION

V. NAZAR

45 BROMFIELD STREET
BOSTON 8, MASS.

Sept. 15, 1955

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Will you kindly
identify the enclosed 1¢ 1851 and
bill me for your service charge?

Postage is enclosed for return
air mail.

Very truly yours,


V. Nazar

Sept. 18, 1955.

Mr. V. Nazar,
45 Bromfield St.,
Boston 8, Mass.

Dear Mr. Nazar:

Herewith the 1¢ 1851 as per yours of the
15th. This stamp is a Type IIIA from Plate 4 - viz -

Top Line Broken
Bottom Line not Broken
Side Ornaments Complete

The stamps you enclosed will cover my fee,
return postage and insurance.

Sincerely yours,

Mailed
Cante P.O.
Sunday
Sep 18
1955

INSURED

AIR MAIL

No. 511415

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

SENT TO

Millard H Mack

POSTMARK
OR DATE

STREET AND NO.

3930 Red Bud Ave

CITY AND STATE

Cincinnati, (29) Ohio

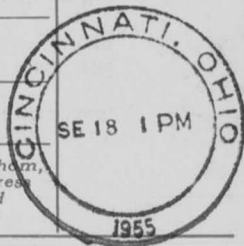
If you want a
return receipt,
check which

☐

7¢ shows
to whom
and when
delivered

☐

31¢ shows to whom,
when, and address
where delivered



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.



3930 Red Bud Ave.
Cincinnati, Ohio

Wednesday evening

Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

Enclosed is the front of a cover
(San Francisco to Bordeaux). This was
purchased in Europe this summer by a
friend of mine and he thought that I
might want it. If it is genuine in
all respects I would appreciate your
signing it as such (although there is
no space on the back - perhaps you could
attach a little card to it or OK it on
the front). Could you explain the 16
to me, too?

Many thanks and please let me
what I owe you and I'll remit
immediately - Sincerely
Willard Mack

Sept. 18, 1955.

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

Dear Millard:

Please pardon the delay in replying to your recent letters.

This will acknowledge receipt of yours of the 14th with check for \$26.50 for the three Stark covers and return of the balance of the lot. Thanks very much. I have authenticated the three covers on the back and I am enclosing them herewith.

I note that I failed to acknowledge receipt of your check for the color slide - also thanks.

I am also enclosing the cover (a face) to France from San Francisco. This is genuine in my opinion in every respect. The 10¢ payment was the rate to France "after Dec. 31, 1869" "Direct" by either U.S. or French packets. It paid the postage to the French frontier if by a U.S. mail ship or if by a French mail ship - to that ship. Note the Routing "Per Pacific Railroad." You will recall that the railroad - coast to coast was opened in 1869 - Note the dates - San Francisco June 3 - New York June 11. This does not mean arrival at New York on June 11th but rather departure date from New York. In this case, the date it was put aboard the French mail ship in New York Harbor. You will note the French mail ship marking is also "11 JUIN '70," so I assume this was the date the ship sailed for France. The large "16" was the French Due marking of 16 decimes or approximately 30¢ in our money at that time.

There is no fee for the above. I signed it on the back.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

PE - Millard, there are other nice covers in the Stark collection besides 1869's - Would you like to see some? For example the 1870 Bank Notes.

A.P.S.
S.P.A.
U.C.N.U.



U.S.A.
A.R.A.
W.N.A.P.S.

Jack E. Molesworth

Philatelic Dealer and Broker

102 Beacon Street

Boston 15, Massachusetts

Sept 16, 1955

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

Dear Stan,

I have just heard from the client to whom I sent your covers and unfortunately he did not take a single one of yours tho he did take a few of mine from the same selection. I am sincerely sorry for holding them up so long without making a sale. They are returned enclosed.

In re-reading my letter of Sept 14th to you I believe the last paragraph on the first page was not as clear as it might have been so would like to re-state what was intended in it in order to prevent any mis-understanding of my position on the matter of the #39. I fear you might interpret that original paragraph as indicating that I have doubts as to the validity of your opinion on the #39 which is definitely not the case. Rather, based on your opinion, I no longer hold to mine that the cancel was genuine, but before coming to the conclusion that it is definitely bad I would like to see what the P.F. has to say about it. Naturally, I have great respect for the opinion of Mr. Usticke and were it not for his opinion in that the cancel is genuine I would accept yours and investigate no further. However, I intended to emphasize in the last paragraph of My Sept 14th letter that at the time I sent the stamp to Belmont for Auction I considered the cancel to be genuine and when they asked if I would guarantee it my reply to them that I would was a truthful statement based on my honest conviction at the time that the cancel was genuine. It was your suggestion that I felt the cancel was bad but still guaranteed it to be good which disturbed me.

Also enclosed is a rather interesting 5¢ 1847 which I picked up abroad. It is as you can see a deep dark brown shade and appears to be unused. I have checked it under my ultra-violet lamp and find no evidence whatsoever of a cancel. Is it an issued color, or a color changeling? Is it unused? I shall look forward with interest to your opinion. Advise your fee and I shall remit promptly as usual.

Faithfully yours,

Jack E. Molesworth

JEM/p

P.S. Your note of the 14th just arrived. Enclosed is lot #162 from the Waterhouse sale which I had no cause to suspicion until receiving your note. I checked it myself under ultra violet and found no evidence of cleaning, but naturally if you should conclude it is definitely bad will be grateful for your advise and attempt to return to Harmer's. Re MacBride, He filed complaint with ASDA with regard to my offsetting practice in auction bidding, but after my lawyer ripped apart the opinion which Graham rendered the ASDA, I heard nothing more from them and still continue the same practice. I have no respect for MacBride whatsoever and consider him a big Blow-hard. What were the circumstances of your run in?

Sept. 19, 1955.

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

Dear Jack:

Herewith the 5¢ 1856 from the Waterhouse sale and the "unused" 5¢ 1847. In my opinion, the 5¢ 1856 is a cleaned copy to which has been added the fake blue Aachen marking. For your information, I wrote Bacher that this was a fake so it will be no surprise to him. I have made quite a study of the Aachen marking and in my record of covers with this marking I have never found a single cover before 1862 which had this marking applied in blue. All have been in red.

The Paris fakers work under ultra-violet lamps so that their removed cancels leave practically no trace. I made a number of ultra-violet photographs of these two stamps and what traces there are of removed cancels is very slight on both stamps.

Re - the 5¢ 1847. The color of this stamp, in my opinion, indicates that it was affected by some chemical that was used to clean the cancelation. I bathed the stamp in peroxide but without effect.

Jack, I am charging you \$3.50 each for the examination of these two stamps which will include photo prints and return postage. It is my opinion that both have had cancels removed and that the blue Aachen on the 5¢ '56 is fraudulent.

Re - your further reference to the 90¢ 1860 in the Belmont Sale. What makes you think the P.F. Expert Committee is competent to pass on the validity of this stamp? We seem to differ on one important point, viz., I think any copy of a 90¢ 1860 is worth more than \$29 less 20%, regardless of condition. You do not. You certainly laid yourself open to severe criticism when you put this stamp into an obscure sale down in Texas. I think most any fair-minded person would assume that you thought the cancel was bad and had put it in some obscure sale to get what you could out of it.

Re - MacBride. We fell out over the "Malpass Vs Hubbell for President" of the C.S.A. I note your opinion of Mac. Yours is mild in comparison to mine. I want no part of him in the future.

Yours etc.,

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This Photograph
Was Made By
ULTRA - VIOLET
RAY

By Stanley B. Ashbrook

13665

U S
POST OFFICE

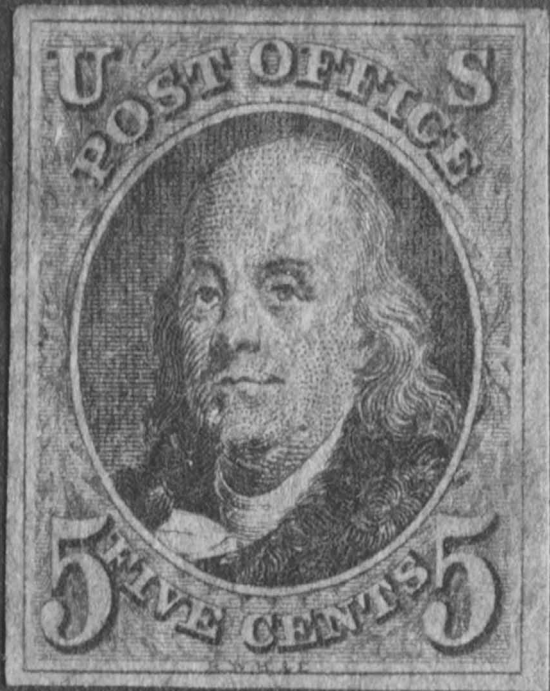


FIVE CENTS 5

R. W. H. & D.

13666
Green

QUARTZ - 13-F64-15 MIN



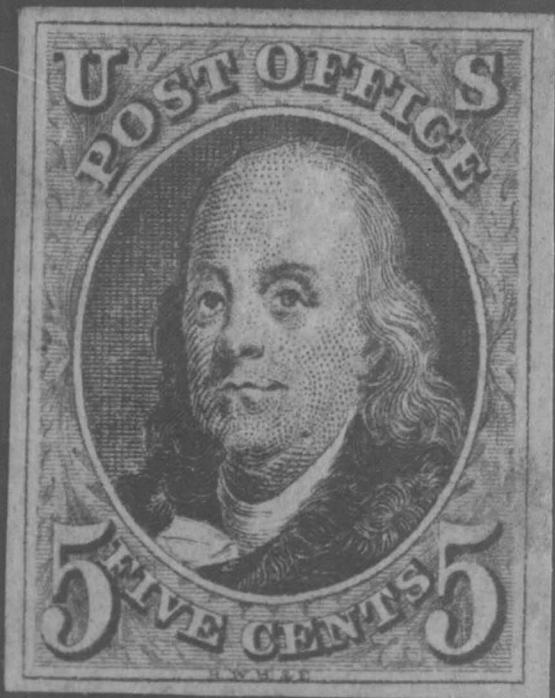
BY MOLESWORTH SEP 18-35

C286

This Photograph
Was Made By
ULTRA - VIOLET
RAY
By Stanley B. Ashbrook

C 286

BY MOLESWORTH - SEP 18 - 1955



WATERHOUSE LOT 162



BY MOLESWORTH SEP 18-1935

BY QUARTZ - 13-F64 - 15 MIN C285

C 285

This Photograph
Was Made By
ULTRA - VIOLET
RAY

By Stanley B. Ashbrook

U.S. POSTAGE

FIVE CENTS



This Photograph
Was Made By
ULTRA - VIOLET
RAY
By Stanley B. Ashbrook

B665

U.S. POSTAGE

FIVE CENTS



B666

Green

U.S. POSTAGE

ONE HALF
CENT

FIVE CENTS

B667

Red

Waterhouse

Lot 162

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

Enclosed In This
Letter The 90¢
1860 Belmont

Also

September 22, 1955.

Another
90¢ with
Black
GRID

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

Dear Stan,

My thanks for your opinion on the 5¢ 1856 and the 5¢ 1847 for which I enclose my check for \$7.00 to cover. I shall look forward to receiving the photo prints which I hope will reveal the cleaned cancel on the 5¢ 1856 which was not obvious under my lamp. I presume that the unusual color of the 1847 is your primary basis for concluding that it has been cleaned rather than any evidence of a cancellation showing up under the ultra-violet. All of the other copies of this stamp which I have seen that were cleaned ~~up~~ showed up ~~in~~ in an entirely different manner to this one. Would you have any suggestion as to the explanation for that? If a bleaching compound had been used it should have bleached the paper white, but it is on the contrary, browned with age. Did any true black-brown shade that you have ever seen approach this? Your additional comments will be appreciated for my own education.

It will be quite all right with me for you to write up Waterhouse lots #162 and #351, but please do not mention my name as the buyer, merely attribute them to a subscriber to your service or something of that nature.

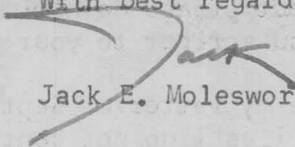
As I believe my letter of September 20th. which crossed yours of the 19th. in the mails implies I do not consider the P. F. expert committee competent to pass on the validity of the cancel on any 90¢ 1860. Rather, I am primarily curious as to what they will say, though I still would not consider their opinion to be entirely worthless under their present policy of consulting the dealers' advisory committee on all items passed and therefore if they should okay it, I would consider it a point in favor of the copy.* I would still much prefer your opinion to theirs, especially since you are generally quite willing to explain the reason for and support your conclusion with specific evidence. When I get the stamp back and have a chance to re-examine it, I shall probably conclude as you did that the ink is of a recent nature even though such was not obvious to me originally or even after it had been expertized by you as a fake cancel, this basis for your opinion having been communicated after the item had been dispatched to the P.F. However, I am quite interested to know if your conclusion on the ink was based on your own visual observation of it or whether other factors or chemical tests dictated the conclusion you drew. In my opinion these are very difficult items to expertize and therefore I am especially eager to add to my own knowledge with regard to detecting the good from the bad.

* They just returned and declined to render an opinion!
I've reexamined closely & it looks like an excellent reproduction of the Blue Cincinnati Town & Grid. Wherein is the modern nature of the ink apparent?

I gather that you are not too familiar with the Belmont Auction Sales, the manner in which they are conducted and the broad coverage which their catalogues have. I sell between \$15,000.00 and \$25,000.00 worth of stamps a year at auction, using about four different ones and having tried many more and frankly consider the results secured in the last Belmont sale, considering the quality of the material offered, to be superior to any of the others. The ability to put a printed reserve in every lot offered is a great advantage and assures no lot will be slaughtered. Therefore, every lot sold represented a profit (his commission is not 20% as you suggested, but nearer an average of 15%) while the few lots that did not sell were charged at a very modest rate. I would venture to suggest that ^{he} gets more bid sheets for his auctions than most of the New York sales. Likewise, though far from being an expert himself, he is far more cautious as to what is entered in his sales than any other auction I have submitted material to. Therefore, I consider this to be anything but an obscure sale down in Texas. My lots in his last sale realized over \$3,000.00. Do these facts alter your conclusion? I would probably agree with you that any copy of a 90¢ 1860 with a genuine cancel is worth more than \$29.00 less 20% regardless of condition, but do not believe that the average buyer is aware of its scarcity and therefore would be willing to wager that a thinned, re-perfed copy with genuine cancel placed in any New York auction you might choose would realize no more than \$29.00! The price which the scarcity of an item merits and that which it actually sells for are often considerably apart from my experience.

I am quite curious as to how you and MacBride fell out over the "Malpass vs Hubbell for President" situation as I always considered MacBride to be very anti Hubbell and therefore should have been in favor of your plug for Malpass. Or is he more anti Malpass than he is anti Hubbell?

With best regards,


Jack E. Molesworth

JEM/vf

*P.S. Enclosed is another 90¢ 1860
on which I would appreciate
your opinion.*

PAID

SEP 24 1955

Charge

PAID

SEP 24 1955

Molesworth

7⁰⁰

For

5447 'unused'

5456

Lot 162

There Are Various Kinds Of Reprints

The recent marketing of so called reprints of the 5c Confederate stamp (Scotts Type A4), and now the offering of what are said to be reprints, a 2c stamp in green, leads to the statement at the head of this article. Whether the production of this material is justified or not is



GEORGE W. LINN

something we will not argue about, but we will admit that we see no wrong in it, otherwise we believe that specialists in these stamps should be glad to have specimen prints from such plates, but only if the material is distributed at a nominal price and not at high prices.

We do not consider the items that are offered as legitimate reprints. If we are going to accept these as reprints without any other qualification then there are other items which in our estimation might come as close to being reprints as are these.

I believe there should be some distinction as to what kind of reprints are being offered. It is my personal belief that when any government issues stamps and at some later date reprints those stamps as was done with several of our United States in the 70's also with the Farley sheets, that these should be classed as Government reprints and that they are the only legitimate form.

Obviously, when plates for stamps issued by any government fall into the hands of other parties as was the case with many foreign issues in the early days, and as was true about the various Seebecks, then further printings from such plates are by no means Government reprints. In this latter case where printings are made from plates by anyone other than the issuing government, such printings could be made in various colors and if so done it would appear that such other than as originally issued should not rate better than counterfeit, or fakes.

In the case of the 5c of these Confederate stamps, the one issued in color to match the original issue is an entirely different thing than the one printed in black. The latter is by no means a reprint of the original stamp whether it be a Government reprint or a reprint by other parties. If we accept it printed in black, why not in a dozen other colors and thus the holders of the plates can continue to cash in. When it gets to this point, the stamps become about equal to the recent South Moluccas that were flooding the market.

As for the 2c green, this stamp was never printed and issued by the Confederacy. Thus it can not legitimately be called a reprint for a reprint must be a printing from a plate from which stamps have previously been printed and issued. This is therefore at the best, just a print from a plate and a nice souvenir.

Years ago the Mekeel interests in St. Louis had possession of a plate for a TEN CENT stamp of the same type as the 5c now being offered. Printings from this plate which consisted of but 70 subjects were made in various colors and are perhaps rather rare today, especially in sheets of 70. We have such a sheet in red. From this plate there was a piece, 9" x 9", which was in the Relic Room of the State Capitol at Columbus, Ohio. It has since been placed in the museum of the Ohio Archaeological Society on the Campus of Ohio State University.

Where the remainder of the plate may be, is, I believe, unknown. This remaining piece would consist of three horizontal rows of seven stamps each.

When this plate of nine was in the Relic Room at the Capitol in Columbus I was able to borrow it from the State of Ohio. It was with some defects as is evident from the prints made from it by Mr. August Dietz, who evidently was also able to borrow the plate at one time.

When I had the plate in my possession I had an electrotype made from it and in the making, had the defects eliminated so that it appeared as a perfect plate of nine. This plate was used for printing a souvenir piece that was a part of a menu for an annual meeting of the Columbus Philatelic Society. I do not remember the date and do not remember whether I still have a copy of this menu.

At a later date this plate was used to make up a farcical souvenir sheet ridiculing Mr. James Farley, then Postmaster General. It was dated January 12, 1933. After it was circulated it was displayed in a stamp show in Brooklyn. The local postmaster objected to its display and the promoters of the exhibition ordered the sheet removed from the exhibition. Newspaper clippings telling about this incident are in my possession.

At another time, our printing plant in Columbus had made for a stamp dealer, two plates of 25 stamps each, from this electro of nine stamps. These were printed in several different colors and on several different colors of paper. The dealer who catered to the kid trade gave these away as souvenirs and many thousands of them were so distributed.

If we are going to call anything a reprint that is printed from any plates that can not be told from original plates, then what are all these things that came from this plate of nine of the TEN CENT stamps. None of these were ever sold except I believe the Farley Souvenir sheet was sold at 10c each and a large number were sold. I do not have a single copy of any of them today.

It would seem that there should be a distinction in the Reprint classifications. A Government reprint is one thing, Reprints made by others are something else.

It is nice to have these souvenirs, but they should not be sold at too high a price as business in them is questionable at its best. Eventually some of such material will perhaps bring a price, because its origin may be overlooked.

amps are sound collectible copies,
days after receipt.

and prompt refund will be made.

A409	30 thin	1.25
A410	31	20.00
A411	32 thin	5.00
A412	42-6	2.80
A413	43 close	1.00
A414	44 unused closed tear	40.00
A415	45 close	25.00
A416	46 close	15.00
A417	47 space filler	2.00
A418	49 thin	3.50
A419	50 unused space filler	25.00
A420	50	3.25
A421	51 close	7.50
A422	52 closed tear	22.50
A423	56 pair	2.50
A424	59	1.50

NORTH GERMAN CONFEDERATION

A425	7	1.50
A426	8	3.50
A427	10	1.25
A428	11	4.50
A429	12	4.50
A430	13 gum stains	1.50
A431	20 thin	9.00
A432	20	3.50
A433	23 thin	20.00
A434	01	3.00
A435	06	3.00
A436	07	6.00
A437	08	3.00
A438	09	3.00

GERMAN EMPIRE

A439	1 PHOTO	5.00
A440	2 dated cancel '72	1.25
A441	3	1.25
A442	5 unused	35.00
A443	6	2.50
A444	7	3.00
A445	8 Blk	6.00
A446	8	6.00
A447	8a	35.00
A448	10	6.00
A449	11	17.50
A450	19	3.50
A451	21	1.25
A452	24	2.00
A453	25 PHOTO	13.50
A454	26	4.00
A455	26 OC	35.00
A456	28	6.00
A457	29-35	1.18
A458	62-3	1.25
A459	64	4.50
A460	65 PHOTO	30.00
A461	65A PHOTO	25.00
A462	80-95	2.39
A463	82g Booklet pane	7.50
A464	115-17	1.45
A465	210	12.50
A466	242A	1.50
A467	337-9	4.25
A468	340-3	2.05
A469	345-6	1.50
A470	347-9	.70
A471	351-60	4.75
A472	361	2.00
A473	362	2.00
A474	363-5	5.25
A475	366-86	11.44
A476	387	3.00
A477	391-7	4.75
A478	398-400	3.80
A479	401-14	6.40
A480	415-31	1.96
A481	432-5	2.15
A482	436-41	1.11
A483	442-5 (2 sets)	1.35
A484	446-51 (2 sets)	1.60
A485	452-8 (3 sets)	1.85
A486	465-76 (6 sets)	1.93
A487	477-8; 481-3; 486-9	1.62
A488	490-1	1.25
A489	492-505 (4 sets)	2.18
A490	530-585; 685-9 (9 sets)	2.86
A491	585A	1.50
A492	585B	2.00
A493	586 & 586A	2.20
A494	586B	3.50
A495	586C	2.00
A496	587 & 587A	3.60
A497	587B	3.50
A498	587C	2.00
A499	588-9; 589A	3.95
A500	590-3	1.30
A501	593A	1.25
A502	593B	2.50
A503	593C	2.50
A504	593D	1.25
A505	593E	2.50
A506	593F	1.25
A507	594 & 594A	1.90
A508	594B	2.50
A509	594C	1.50
A510	594D	2.50
A511	595 & 595A	2.65
A512	596-9	1.20
A513	600-633	1.50
A514	634-58	4.83
A515	659	1.00
A516	680	1.50
A517	661	2.50

GERMAN SEMI-POSTALS

A518	B8-11	6.10
A519	B15-17	3.10
A520	B18	5.00
A521	B19-22	4.45
A522	B23-6	3.55
A523	B27	4.00
A524	B28-31	3.35
A525	B32	5.00
A526	B33 SHEET	15.00
A527	B33a	3.75
A528	B33b	3.75
A529	B33c	3.75
A530	B33d	3.75
A532	B38-41	7.60
A533	B42-3	2.00
A534	B44-8	5.90
A535	B49-54	2.95
A526	B55	4.00
A527	B56	4.00
A528	B57	7.50
A529	B58 SHEET	40.00
A530	B59-67	6.27
A531	B68 SHEET	6.00
A532	B69-78	2.31
A533	B79-89	2.52
A534	B91-2 Olympic Sheets	1.60
A535	B93-101	1.26
A536	B102-4 SHEETS	2.05
A537	B107-15	1.94

GERMAN AIRMAILS

A561	C1-23	2.78
A562	C24	2.00
A563	C25	6.50
A564	C26	6.50
A565	C27-32	1.75
A566	C33	1.75
A567	C34	3.00
A568	C36	2.00
A569	C38 PHOTO	15.00
A570	C39	13.00
A571	C40	12.50
A572	C41	15.00
A573	C42 PHOTO	30.00
A574	C46-54	1.73
A575	C55	1.25
A576	C56	2.50
A577	C56-60 (2 sets)	1.10
A578	1N23	2.50
A579	1N24	2.00
A580	1N38	1.50
A581	4N1-13	1.78
A582	5N1-27 (2 sets)	5.04
A583	5N41-2	1.70
A584	5N43-4	1.50
A585	5N45-6	1.10
A586	5N89-11	1.85
A587	5N812-14	1.85
A588	6N1-29 (3 sets)	4.23
A589	6N30-38	5.10

Here follow more occupation, official offices, etc., of Germany and other Countries of Europe in the Catalogue which will be sent airmail on request.

SAAR

A590	58	1.50
A591	80-1	2.00
A592	82	2.25
A593	83	7.50
A594	98	5.00
A595	116	5.00
A596	119	2.50
A597	151	2.00
A598	152	1.50
A599	154	10.00
A600	154 PHOTO	11.00
A601	B2-4	3.25
A602	B5	1.00
A603	B6	1.00
A604	B8	2.00
A605	B9	2.00
A606	B10	2.00
A607	B11	2.00
A608	B12	2.00
A609	B13	2.00
A610	B14	2.00
A611	B24-6	2.50
A612	B28	3.50
A613	B33	4.00
A614	B34	6.00
A615	B57	2.00
A616	B58	4.00
A617	C3-4	5.10
A617a	C6-7	2.00
A618	C8	3.00
A619	C9-11	1.70
A620	CB1	1.50

LATIN AMERICA

There are 260 lots of Latin America in the Catalogue which will be sent you airmail on request.

WHOLESALE LOTS

Condition of wholesale lots is guaranteed to be average wholesale condition for the stamps offered. No damaged stamps are included intentionally. Do not expect miracles in older issues where off-center and heavy cancels are the rule rather than the exception as in modern days.

WHOLESALE UNITED STATES

A621	215 (6) Pair copies	2.40
A622	377 (60)	4.80
A623	378 (50)	4.00
A624	414 (25)	3.75
A625	417 (10)	3.50
A626	427 (70)	4.20
A627	428 (45)	2.70
A628	429 (15)	2.25
A629	430 (15)	5.25
A630	431 (15)	2.70
A631	432 (6) All SE	6.00
A632	432 (9) 3 hvy cancel	9.00
A633	434 (5)	3.50
A634	435 (10) some hvy cls	5.00
A635	435 (10) incl 4 SE & 1 reinforced blk	5.00
A636	437 (10) 1 SE	8.50
A637	438 (5) 1 SE	1.75
A638	439 (8) 1 SE	10.00
A639	465 (20)	5.00
A640	465 (26) 3 SE	6.50
A641	466 (20) some hvy cls	5.00
A642	466 (24) some hvy cls 2 SE	6.00
A643	468 (18) 5 SE some heavy cls	13.50
A644	469 (10)	9.00
A645	470 (10)	7.50
A646	470 (20) 3 SE some hvy cancels	15.00
A647	471 (9) 1 SE	15.75
A648	472 (15) some hvy cls	4.50
A649	473 (10) incl 1 blk all off-center	17.50
A650	474 (10) 2 SE	7.50
A651	475 (5)	10.00
A652	475 (5) 1 SE	10.00
A653	476 (5) hvy cls	8.75
A654	478 (10) 2 SE	15.00
A655	478 (10)	15.00
A656	478 (5)	7.50
A657	537 (10) half OC	6.00
A658	878 (8)	2.00
A659	C24 (20) average	4.00
A660	F1 (20)	8.00
A661	Q5 (100)	10.00
A662	Q6 (20)	3.60
A663	Q6 (50)	9.00
A664	Q7 (25)	30.00
A664	Q9 (25)	12.50
A665	Q9 (100)	50.00
A666	US REVENUES 10 ea of 15 diff.	7.90

WHOLESALE PUERTO RICA

A667	95 (90)	4.50
A668	98 (90)	3.60
A669	100 (90)	27.00
A670	104 (90)	13.50
A671	105 (90)	3.60
A672	110 (90)	9.00
A673	112 (90)	18.00
A674	113 (90)	5.40
A675	142 (90)	3.60

WHOLESALE BRITISH

A676	CA 251A (10)	5.00
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Sep 16 - 55

U. S. Notes

BY PHILIP H. WARD, JR.

Architects Building, 17th & Sansom Streets, Philadelphia 3, Pa.

The 2c Confederate Reprint

The 69th Annual Convention and Exhibition of the American Philatelic Society will be held in Norfolk on September 21 to 24 inclusive. Judging from reports, it will be an unusually interesting affair. Under the able chairmanship of Admiral Jesse Johnson those in attendance are assured of a good time. We understand that the first day sale will take place on an Aircraft Carrier. As the Admiral is a seasoned Naval Aviator we look for air activities among the events.

It was because of this convention that the special 2c Confederate impressions in yellow green were made from the Calhoun plate found by August Dietz some years ago. This plate was manufactured by De La Rue in London in behalf of the Confederate government when the postal rates were doubled, but was never used to manufacture stamps for postal purposes. Like the 5c stamp, which was issued and used for some time, the plate consists of 400 subjects in four groups of 100 subjects. There are large margins between these groups so that the sheets can be cut into post office panes of 100 stamps with margins on all four sides. There are no imprints, plate numbers, arrows or other marking in the margins. Due to the age of the plate there are certain imperfections which will enable one to reconstruct the plate from smaller pieces.

The 5c "Lost Plate" recently found was in excellent condition. After it was captured on its way from London to the South, it was sold as a prize of war in Philadelphia and the purchaser evidently wrapped it carefully and put it away. Its whereabouts was unknown until its recent finding. A few reprints were run off for the benefit of collectors and the plate is now on exhibition at the Franklin Institute.

As a detail of interest to philately we might mention that one or two sheets of the 2c stamp in black on a surfaced white paper were made at the time of the recent prints in yellow green. There were made for illustrating purposes and publicity, when the stamps first appeared.

These are varieties that belong in all Confederate collections especially in those specialized collections supposed to have a complete coverage of everything pertaining to Confederate philately.

S B ASHBROOK
33 N FT THOMA
FT THOMAS KY
P O BOX 31

'S WEEKLY STAMP

SEPTEMBER 16, 1955



From And For The Official Cachets And

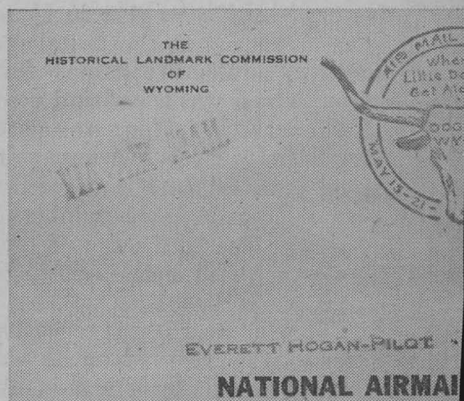
BY ALBERT HA

Philippines Honors Famous Air Heroes

One of the two sets of the Famous Aviation Heroes airmail stamps honoring the Filipino air heroes, that of Lieutenant Jose Gozar, will be placed on sale to the public on Oct. 20, 1955, incidentally the eleventh anniversary of the Landing of General Douglas MacArthur and his liberation forces in Leyte.

The stamp bears the bust portrait of Lieutenant Gozar on the right foreground, a replica of a fighter plane on the left and, on both sides at the bottom, the insignia of the Philippine Air Force.

Lieutenant Gozar is a hero of World War II. He engaged in combat three Japanese Zeros which strafed the military in-



Distinctive 1938 Air Mail Cover

Quite often we meet the philatelically uninitiated or the stamp collector, who has allowed himself to grow a little stale on his hobby, to ask "what can I do, to make it more interesting". To such a person, who has failed to explore the many branches of philately, I could give a score

MAURICE C. BLAKE

11 MASON STREET

BROOKLINE 46, MASSACHUSETTS

August 31, 1955

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

Dear Stanley:

In spite of a rather hot and hectic summer I have tried to draft another article for STAMPS on the New York Ocean Mail postmarks, not including either rate figure or PAID in the circle, used on covers to California or via California to Oregon or Hawaii.

Regarding the postmark on my cover of May 26, 1849, I note that you marked the photo of this cover 26mm., which it does measure about through N - K, but the rim is irregular there. I find the original and the photo measured through the shaft of Y and down just left of 6 is about 27mm. I have seven covers with this postmark on covers to California, all of which measure over 26mm. and up to 27mm.

It seems to me that it would be desirable to illustrate the earliest and latest recorded uses of the four types of these Ocean Mail circle postmarks, in case you are willing to allow me to use some of your photos with proper credit and also in case it is not asking too much of a favor for you to check my dates with your records:-

Type	Size	Style	Color	Earliest	Latest
I. Earliest	26 $\frac{3}{4}$ -27mm.	low date	red;black	MAY/26 1849 ^a (blk)	JAN/7 1850 ^b (red)
II. Early	30mm.	low date	red;black	MAY/13 1850 ^c (blk)	FEB/5 1853 ^d (blk)
III. Intermediate	30mm.	rim 2mm. above NEW-YORK	black	APR/9 1852 ^e	FEB/20 1854 ^f
IV. Grid (in pmk.)	29 $\frac{1}{2}$ - 30 $\frac{1}{4}$ mm.	Grid 7 on 8 bars	black	MAR/6 1854 ^g	NOV/1 1861 ^h

Notes.

- I.a. encircled 40 blk; curved PAID red; "pr Falcon"; to San F.; M.C. Blake
- b. folded letter dated St. Louis Dec. 26, 1849; pmk Type I. in advance of departure of California mail by SS "Ohio" Jan. 12, 1850 when this letter was struck with 34mm. NEW-YORK/JAN 12/40 blk; unpd. to San F.; ex-M.C. Blake, now E.B. Jessup (I have no photo of this item)
- II.c. stampless to San F.; S.B. Ashbrook, STAMPS, June 8, 1940, p. 344; E.A. Wiltsee
- d. ties two 3¢'51 on folded letter to San F.; ex-M.C. Blake, S.C. Paige Sale, June 10, 1955, Lot 207.
- III.e. two 3¢'51 cane. blk grids; "Empire City"; to San F.; S.B. Ashbrook Photo, Dr. W.S. Pollard.
- f. two 3¢'51 cane. regular N.Y. pmk FEB/9; to Sacramento; M.C. Blake, STAMPS, June 8, 1940, p. 342, Figs. 4, 4A.
- IV.g. 3¢ env. '53 (U2) and 3¢'51; to Sacramento; S.B. Ashbrook Photo; E.B. Jessup.
- h. block four 5¢'61; to San F.; S.B. Ashbrook Photo, E.B. Jessup.

Remarks.

- I. This omits my cover of MAR/27. I suspect it was 1849. Do your sailing records show any extra mail steamer from N.Y. then, perhaps via Charleston, Savannah, Havana, or New Orleans, thence to Chagres, such as "Crescent City", "Cherokee", "Southerner" or "Northerner" to Charleston, thence to Havana and to Chagres, not listed among the regular U.S. Mail SS in H. of R. and Senate Documents? My guess of 1849 based on recipient's notation at San F. "Answrd Aug. 30th". If letter had gone by "Ohio" Mar. 28, 1850 it would have reached San F.

(2) August 31, 1955

by the "Panama" May 21, 1850, but if it left N.Y. late in March 1849 it would have been held in the San F. P.O. until Hale arrived on the Ship "Pacific" at San F. on August 5, 1849 and his answer would have left San F. by the next outbound eastern mail on the "Panama" Sept. 1, 1849.

In my files I find a letter from you of June 25, 1940 in which you state in regard to the rare type "Ocean Mail" (my Type II above), quote: "What we need to do is to adopt a proper term for this marking. I think your "Early" is better than my "First Type", because it surely wasn't the First Type by any means." (Unquote). I had entirely forgotten that so long ago you agreed that there was an earlier or "Earliest Type" (Type I).

II. In this same letter you mention that L.B. Mason had shown you a cover with the earliest use of the rare type (30mm. low date) that you had seen of March 18, 1850, but as you did not state whether this cover went to California or elsewhere, I have not given the date March 18, 1850 as earliest record. Perhaps you can check this so that I can change May 13, 1850 in case the Mason cover did go to California. I have no photo of either of these, but have photos of all the others except Type I of Jan. 7, 1850.

I trust this series of questions will not be imposing too much on your generous co-operation. Certainly I shall much appreciate your comments, corrections or additions to the foregoing data.

With best regards and wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Maurice C. Blake

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrooke
Fort Thomas, Ky.

MAURICE C. BLAKE
11 MASON STREET
BROOKLINE 46, MASSACHUSETTS

Sept. 1, 1955

Dear Stanley:

In my typed letter to you of yesterday I omitted my cover with "Ocean Mail" Type I of MAY/28 red, with curved red PAID, black ms. 80, to Lloyd Minturn, Esq. San Francisco, because of uncertainty whether it was MAY/28 (1850) by the "Ohio", or possibly May 28, 1849 by "Falcon".

Although the "Falcon" was advertised to sail afternoon of Sat. May 26/49 and is so listed in H. of R. Doc. 91, Schedule B, yet the N.Y. Tribune for Monday morning May 28, 1849 lists under "Port of New York, Monday, January 28": "SAILED Steamship FALCON, Chagris", and also "CLERED SS Falcon, Hartslein, Chagris, etc." However, I conclude that as the Tribune was a morning paper it could not include a Sat. P.M. sailing in its Marine Journal until its next following issue which was Monday A.M., none on Sunday issued. This view is conclusively supported by H. of R. Doc. 91, Sched. B, date of arrival and departure of SS Falcon, at and from Charleston, May 29, which would have been impossible had its sailing from N.Y. been delayed until early Mon. A.M. MAY/28. Hence my latest date for Type I is changed from JAN/7 (1850) to MAY/28 (1850). Sincerely, Maurice C. Blake

MAURICE C. BLAKE
11 MASON STREET
BROOKLINE 46, MASSACHUSETTS

September 13, 1955

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

Dear Stanley:

Although this letter may cross one from you in the mail, I am sending it because I have felt that mine of August 31st contained rather too many inquiries and requests.

Instead of attempting to include so many illustrated covers in an article for STAMPS, as earliest and latest known uses of the four types of New York Ocean Mail postmarks would involve, probably it would be better just to offer two Forty-niners, and possibly either only one cover or a tracing of each of the other three types which are well known. However, I should like to include a list of the earliest and latest dates which have been reported in philatelic publications or by collectors, viz.:

I. Forty-nine Type.	May ^{E.} 26, 1849	May ^{L.} 28, 1850
II. Early Type.	May 13, 1850	Feb. 5, 1853
(L.B.Mason)(Mar.18, 1850?)		
III. Intermediate Type.	Apr. 9, 1852	Feb.20, 1854
IV. Grid Type.	Mar. 6, 1854	Nov. 1, 1861

Last week I had the pleasure of meeting Mr. "Jack" Fleckenstein, who happened to come into Sam Paige's office one afternoon when I chanced to be there. We looked at an off cover 1857 imprint copy, which some years ago you plated as 51L6, but which "Jack",-as he asked me to call him, having heard of me as "Maurice" when visiting you,- said is now considered to be 51L5.

This was all news and Greek to me, so he asked me whether I received your Special Service Bulletins, to which I had to reply that I did not, although I had long felt that I would like to do so and that I had missed much valuable philatelic information. To this he heartily agreed, so I wonder whether you would be willing to add my name to your list of subscribers. If so, I should be glad to send my check for the regular current subscription amount.

I am glad to receive the recent CSA NEWSLETTER, showing that you are Northern Vice-President, together with a splendid group of other Officers elected for the coming year.

With best regards,

Sincerely yours,

Maurice C. Blake

Sept. 14, 1955.

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

Dear Maurice:

I have been so busy for several months this is the first opportunity I have had to check the data as per yours of August 31st.

It appears that covers from New York to California in the years 1849 and 1850 are much rarer than those from San Francisco, and especially is this the case for the year 1849. While I made an effort to make a record of every cover I could locate from S.F. to the East in 1849 (see my One Cent book, Vol. 2), I never attempted a complete record of covers from New York in 1849, month by month. As a result I have a small record. I wonder if Ed Jessup has more data on this subject than I have? I think it would be advisable for you to check with him.

Regarding your,

Type I - A - I am enclosing a card and photo from my files. This seems to be the only record I have of this cover of Sep. 20, 1849. I suppose at that period they did not use any special type of postmark on mail to California. See Exhibit A. Is it your opinion that this "Sep 20" postmark is the same type as on your cover of "May 26"?

Since writing the above, I located a card filed under my N.Y. encircled "40" with a tracing of the "Sep 20" postmark - See Exhibit "B". Note the measurement of this 26MM or 27MM?

Exhibit "C" - This is the earliest I have of record of the encircled "40." I have no photo of this cover.

Exhibit "D" This is Aug. 27, 1849.

Exhibit "E" - I believe this is the earliest "80" that I have.

Exhibit "F" This is my earliest record of this type. I have other records as follows:

Jan. 3, 1850
Jan. 12, 1850 (3 different)
Feb. 11, 1850
Aug. 26, 1850
Oct. 11, 1850
Nov. 26, 1850
Nov. 11, 1850
Dec. 11, 1850
Feb. 11, 1851
Feb. 26, 1851
May 26, 1851 (two)
June 11, 1851
June 26, 1851.

#2. Mr. Maurice C. Blake, Sept. 14, 1955.

Does the above answer your query on your Type I? If not be sure to advise.

Exhibit "G." This is what I formerly called the "First Type Ocean Mail" and this May 13, 1850 is the earliest record I have of it on a cover to California. My earliest records of it are as follows:

March 18, 1850 - stampless to Troy, N.Y.

Marchh 20, 1850 - 10¢ '47 to New Orleans

I also have,

May 21, 1850 to France

Aug.13, 1850 H.S. of 4 to S.F.

Also some later uses.

Your Type III - The "Intermediate" - I am sure you have a much better record than I have. In fact, what data I have came from you.

Type IV - Your record is correct. I have never discovered an earlier use to California than "Mar 6" (1854).

Re - your query about the L. B. Mason cover - (Type II), of March 18, 1850. You will note as above that this cover was a stampless from New York to Troy, N.Y.

Re - your cover of "Mar 27." I find that I do not have any record of a mail advertised to depart on March 27, 1849. The Falcon was advertised to sail on March 8, 1849. The "S.S. Crescent City" on March 15, 1849.

I have carefully noted yours of September 1st.

If I have not furnished you with all the data you wish, please advise.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

MAURICE C. BLAKE
11 MASON STREET
BROOKLINE 46, MASSACHUSETTS

September 22, 1955

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

Dear Stanley:

Many thanks for your letters of the 14th and 15th
with valuable Exhibits "A" to "G", which I return herewith after
making notes regarding each for further reference.

Balance of
this letter in
file N.Y. Ocean Mail
Type I

MAURICE C. BLAKE
11 MASON STREET
BROOKLINE 46, MASSACHUSETTS

October 3, 1955

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

Dear Stanley:

Thank you for the data on the two items herewith returned. The EMPIRE/CITY cover from N.Y. Sept.15,1849 bears the S.F. boxed 40 and has a ms. "Paid", which might have been applied at the S.F.P.O. or if written on the cover before arriving at S.F. was not crossed out there, so I assume that the 40¢ was paid in cash at the S.F.P.O., either by the U.S. Mail Agent who came on the Pacific Mail Steamer from Panama to S.F. or else by the Adams Express Agent, Mr. D.H. Hackell. If the "Paid" was put on by the sender, perhaps he took the letter to dockside in N.Y., hence no N.Y. postmark, and paid 40¢ either to the U.S. Mail Agent on the "Empire City", or to Mr. Hackell, but if to the latter, would there have been some indication of the Express Co. or of an extra fee for Mr. Hackell's service?

I gave no Type number for the NEW-YORK/m d/40 of DEC 13 (1849), because the four types of New York Ocean Mail postmarks (Types I, II, III, IV) included only those without any rate numeral and/or PAID in the postmark circle. However, these with rate numeral and/or PAID certainly were also New York Ocean Mail postmarks used on covers via Panama to California from this earliest of Dec.13,1849 through latest use of the NEW PAID/10 YORK/m/d shown in your Vol. II, p.125, Fig.44K and p.245, Fig.50D of JUN/20 (1855) of which I have a later example in red of SEP/5 (1855). To do a thorough job would seem to require including the rated and/or PAID Ocean Mail postmarks, but perhaps for STAMPS it would be better just to introduce the new "Forty-nine Type I" (?).

There would seem no need, nor would I think it appropriate for me, to present an article attempting to revise or bring up to date the material so ably provided in your Volume II in Chapters XXXIV and I. Although you did include some markings which were not used after July 1, 1851, as the NEW-YORK/d/m/40cts.) PAID in Fig.44L(A), in general your book dealt with the 1851-1861 period during which the "Forty-nine Type I" did not occur, whereas the "Early Type II" carried over from 1850 and was the "First Type" Ocean Mail postmark used both on stampless covers and on covers bearing 1851 stamps after July 1, 1851 until as late as FEB/5 (1853). The only two rated and/or PAID postmarks which I do not find in your Volume II are: NEW PAID/6 YORK/m/d in red for which I have earliest APR/9 (1852) and latest MAR/5 (1855); and NEW 20 YORK/m/d 32mm. (like the 10 of your Fig.44J, but double rate unpaid) in black JAN/20 (185- no year, might be 52,54, or 55, not 53 as Jan.20,1853 was Sunday).

Edgar Jessup reports Type I red of APR/11 (1850) ms."80" and curved PAID red; also Type I of July 7, 1849 (rate not stated). Did the "Empire City" or "Crescent City" or "Cherokee" sail July 7, 1849?

We now have a tentative listing of these N.Y. markings for our own further study and revision.

Sincerely yours,

Maurice C. Blake

MAURICE C. BLAKE
11 MASON STREET
BROOKLINE 46, MASSACHUSETTS

October 10, 1955

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

Dear Stanley:

Your interesting photo enclosed provides a latest date of use of the Type I New York Ocean Mail postmark on NOV/6 1850, but also a use not on cover to California but "p Asia" via England to France and November 6, 1850 was a Wednesday.

Now we have instances of use of this Type I, O. M., as well as the "Early Type" of 1850-1853 and the grids of 1854-1861 on covers to other destinations than California, but thus far I have not discovered the Intermediate Type O. M. except on mail to the Pacific Coast from April 9, 1852 to February 20, 1854.

I thought I might have an exception when I first saw the enclosed cover to Charleston, S. C., but half expected that it had the regular NEW-YORK postmark of 1853, that somewhat resembles the Intermediate Type O. M., as is shown to be so by comparing it with enclosed cover to California of the same date MAR/21 (1853) twice struck by the Intermediate Type. Kindly return these two covers at your convenience.

In regard to the 5¢ plus 10¢ 1847 Waterhouse cover I might have added in my recent letter that since publication of BOSTON POSTAL MARKINGS TO 1890 at least two covers with 5¢ 1847 stamps, single stamp on each, have turned up bearing manuscript "Due 5" in lead pencil and "due 5" in typical Boston reddish crayon, one under 300 miles over $\frac{1}{2}$ oz., the other over 300 miles single to $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.

Sincerely yours,

Maurice C. Blake

Oct. 15, 1955.

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

Dear Maurice:

Just a line to acknowledge your two letters and to advise that both will have my attention in the next few days. I was called out of town toward last weekend and am a bit behind as a result.

I do appreciate your valued comments on the Waterhouse 5¢-10¢ 1847 cover.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

No. 511437

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

SENT TO

Mr. M. C. BLAKE

STREET AND NO.

11 Mason Street

CITY AND STATE

BROOKLINE (46) MASS.

*If you want a
return receipt,
check which*

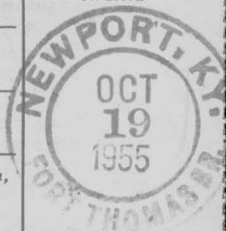
☐

*7¢ shows
to whom
and when
delivered*

☐

*31¢ shows to whom,
when, and address
where delivered*

POSTMARK
OR DATE



POD Form 3800
Apr. 1955

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.

Oct. 19, 1955.

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

Dear Maurice:

As I mentioned in mine of the 5th, I greatly appreciated the information and comment on the 5¢-10¢ 1847 cover. I should have referred to my copy of the Boston 1850 Almanac that you presented to me. You also gave me an 1848 edition and if you ever run across any other editions in old book stores will you please obtain them for me? I do not mean as a gift but please purchase for me. Also anything you run across in the way of copies of the P.L. & R., tables of rates of postage to foreign countries, etc.

Please refer to your letter of the 3rd, first paragraph. The boxed "40" on the Empire State cover is a well-known S.F. P.O. marking. I suppose the writer paid the 40¢, that the letter was carried privately and handed in at S.F. with the 40¢. This framed marking was generally applied to unpaid mail - perhaps the writer paid 40¢ but maybe no one paid the 40¢ at the S.F. P.O. so 40¢ was collected.

Re - the second paragraph of your letter. I agree with your comment.

Re - the fourth paragraph. I do not have a record of a sailing on July 7, 1849. The Crescent City was advertised to sail on June 20th, 1849. Then the next advertised sailing was July 17, 1849. I have no record of an advertised sailing for June 28, 1849.

Re - yours of the 10th. I return your two 3¢ '51 covers herewith. I note both are dated Mar 21 1853. The mail steamers stopped at Charleston, S.C., so I believe it possible that both of these left New York on the same ship. In 1853, March 20th fell on Sunday. The letter to S.F. was apparently mailed on Saturday, the 19th. The Charleston letter is date-lined the 20th. I have a copy of the advertisement for the sailing of the "Illinois" on March 21, 1853. Connecting at Panama with the Pacific Steamship "Golden Gate" for San Francisco.

I have carefully noted the contents of your letter.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

Oct. 7, 1955.

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

Dear Maurice:

Please note photo print herewith which please return. This cover belongs to Paul Rohloff and I have requested him to send it to me so that I can make a new photograph. No doubt he will and I will send you a print.

How very unusual to see this postmark on an 1847 stamp.

Regards.

Cordially yours,

BILLIG & RICH, Inc.

PHILATELISTS *and* AUCTIONEERS

Fifty-five West Forty-second Street

NEW YORK 36, N. Y.

FRITZ BILLIG
FRED RICH

9.27.55

Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

About a year ago we sent you the enclosed stamp to be classified. We sold the stamp and it just came back without your statement.

Could you kindly send another certificate and let us know the charge

Sincerely yours

Fritz Billig
Billig & Rich Inc

No 511424

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

SENT TO

Billig & Rich Inc

STREET AND NO.

55 West 42nd St Room 630

CITY AND STATE

New York (36) N.Y.

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.

Sept. 30, 1955.

Billig & Rich, Inc.,
Room 630,
55 West 42nd St.,
New York 36, N.Y.

Gentlemen:

Herewith the U. S. One Cent 1851 as per yours of the 27th. This stamp is the rare uncatalogued type, Type IC from Plate 4, a sub-type of Type IA. I have signed it as such on the back. I am enclosing a diagram showing this type.

I regret that I have been unable to find a record that I received this stamp from you within the past two years time but if I did, there is no further fee, except the return postage. If you can give me the approximate date that I examined it, I will appreciate the favor.

Sincerely yours,

BILLIG & RICH, Inc.

PHILATELISTS *and* AUCTIONEERS

Fifty-five West Forty-second Street

NEW YORK 36, N.Y.

October 6th 1955

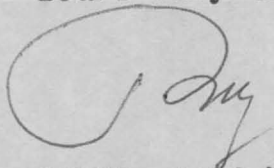
FRITZ BILLIG
FRED RICH

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook,
many thanks for your
letter in regard to the one cent 1851.
This matter dates back to 1952, but we
can not find our files right now.

In case there is any
charge please let us know.

Yours very truly



Billig & Rich

A.P.S.
S.P.A.
C.C.N.H.



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

Jack E. Molexworth

Philatelic Dealer and Broker

102 Beacon Street

Boston 16, Massachusetts

September 28, 1955.

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

Dear Stan,

My thanks for your letter and note of the 24th. I shall hold the fancy cancelled covers until you have a chance to send along another lot to go with them.

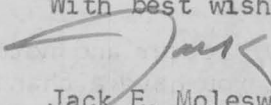
I certainly do agree with your comment regarding "mail auctions" based on my observation that practically all of them advertise "unreserved sale" though I have yet to find one that was not strictly reserved when it came to selling the lots. However, the Belmont auction is an outstanding exception to this rule since they print a reserve on each lot in their catalogue and make no effort to deceive anyone into thinking it is an unreserved sale. Therefore, everything is on the up-and-up and I heartily approve of this type of sale. Also, George Myers, the man who runs them, bends over backwards to be fair and accurate in the material which he includes even to the extreme ~~extent~~ of returning some items to me for extremely foolish reasons. However, these returns serve to emphasize the extreme care he takes with his sales even though they ^{also} evidence his own lack of expert philatelic knowledge. Send for their catalogue sometime and you will see what I mean, though I seriously doubt that the auction will contain anything that would be of interest to you, since it is mostly average material.

My respect for the Paris crooks continues to increase based on the recent experience of the Waterhouse sale. I have always had great respect for them and also been aware of the fact that they work under an ultra violet lamp when executing their work. The clean cancel on the 5¢ 1856 from the Waterhouse sale certainly did show up in your photographs where I found no evidence of it myself under my lamp. In that regard you will no doubt be interested to know that I had an occasion to meet and talk with Mr. Zareski when I was in Paris. His appearance is deceiving as he looks like a kindly old gentleman with a hearing aid who would not harm a fly. However, in our conversation through an interpreter which ~~was~~ necessary partly due to his deafness and partly due to his inability to understand completely my English, I gathered that the disrespect you have for him is a mutual feeling. Apparently your actions in detecting his fakes continues to get under his skin. He evidenced an excellent if not expert knowledge of U.S. stamps in general, but as we both know he still has a lot to learn on rates, etc. He specifically referred to the 1869 cover with pair of 30¢ values which you exposed last year as an example of a perfectly genuine cover which you had turned down. As I recall this was condemned based on the rate markings which made it an obvious fake. Apparently the expose of that item caused him considerable discomfort even though the cover was apparently

later sold by Miro to a Continental buyer at a high price. From his physical appearance I would guess that he may not be around too much longer.

Enclosed are two items I purchased from Bacher in London on which I would appreciate your opinion. I have never seen a cancel like this "steam" on a 1¢ 1851 and suspicion it may be a cleaned copy with fake cancel. Also, I can find nothing wrong with the 3¢ Bank Note, but it is almost too beautiful to be true and I would wonder how it could have been cancelled by a French cancel, etc. I shall look forward with interest to your comments.

With best wishes,


Jack E. Molesworth

JEM/vf

No 511429

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

SENT TO

Mr. Jack E. Molesworth

STREET AND NO.

102 Beacon Street
BOSTON (16) Mass.

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

OCT 3

HOK 1955

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.

Oct. 1, 1955.

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

Dear Jack:

Herewith the two stamps as per yours of the 28th. In my opinion, the "Steam" on the 1¢ is a fake. I suppose the French postmark on the 3¢ is genuine as it could be possible that some collector put it on a letter to this country or some such monkey-business. I think such items are freaks and have no meaning as they do not display any legitimate postal use.

I note your further remarks re - George Myers of the Belmont and I will have him send me one of his catalogues

I note that you met Zareski in Paris and that he has little use for me. He was in New York in 1947 for the Show and made application to join the A.P.S. but I had something to do with the withdrawal. It is sometimes rather easy for a crook to become a member of a philatelic society but it is a difficult matter to have them thrown out. I cite the case of Scruggs recently elected a V.P. of the S.P.A. and C.S.A. I note from your letter that Zareski is not apt to be around very much longer. Too bad we can't give him something to hasten the event.

I never could understand how Herst or Konwiser could associate their names with such a louse.

With regards -

Yours etc.,

TELEPHONE
PLAZA 7-4460

APPRAISALS FOR SALE,
PROBATE & INSURANCE

DIRECTORS
H. R. HARMER B. D. HARMER
F. T. BUCK MARGARET MAHONEY

H. R. HARMER, Inc.
INTERNATIONAL STAMP AUCTIONEERS

6 WEST 48TH STREET
NEW YORK 36, N.Y.

ALSO AT 41 NEW BOND STREET, LONDON, W.I.
AND 25 CASTLEREAGH STREET, SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA
ESTABLISHED OVER 50 YEARS

CABLES
HARMERSALE, NEW YORK

LEADING AUCTIONEERS OF
RARE POSTAGE STAMPS

AUCTIONEERS OF THE
"PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT" COLLECTION

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

28th
September
1955

Dear Stan:

I am enclosing two items from the Caspary collection on which
I would appreciate your report and account in due course.

An envelope is enclosed for the return of the items and we have
covered the insurance on it.

Sincerely yours,

H. R. HARMER, INC.

Bernard
Director

BDH:E
Enclosure

Oct. 4, 1955.

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

Dear Bernard:

Herewith the two items as per yours of the 28th. I am pleased to report that the 90¢ 1860 cover is genuine in every respect and one of the finest known with this stamp, if not the finest. I had no previous record of this cover. I enclose a complete analysis of it.

Re - the "piece." There is no evidence whatsoever that I can see that the stamp was actually used on this piece. I do not see how any recognized authority could state with any certainty that this stamp was actually used on this piece or that the red grid cancelation is genuine.

With kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

Oct. 4, 1955.

To
H. R. HARMER, INC.,
New York, N.Y.

For opinion on
90¢ 1860 cover to Spain
\$1.05 rate \$5.00

90¢ 1860 COVER
CASPARY COLLECTION

Submitted September 30, 1955 by Bernard Harmer of H. R. Harmer, Inc., New York City.

This cover has from left to right -

5¢ 1857, Type II - Brown - right pane imprint copy.
90¢ 1860 - Superb copy - correct color - correct shade of paper for stamp used in 1860.
10¢ 1859 - Type V.

All three stamps canceled by the red ringless grid of the New York Post Office, in use at that time on foreign mail - correct red color of in.

Total postage - \$1.05.

Cover addressed to Barcelona, Spain.

Rate - This was a five times rate as follows: By French Mail @ 21¢ per $\frac{1}{4}$ ounce - ($5 \times 21¢ = \$1.05$).

Route - By American Packet to England, thence across channel to France and by French mail to Spain.

Division of 21¢ single rate.			
U.S. share	...	9¢	(5 X 9 = .45)
French share	...	12¢	(5 x 12 = .60)
		21¢	Total 1.05

The U.S. share per $\frac{1}{4}$ oz. was -

3¢ U. S. internal
6¢ sea (to England)

On the face of this cover is a magenta pen "60." This was applied at New York and was the U.S. P.O.D. credit to the French P.O.D. of $5 \times 12¢$, the French share of the rate.

In my opinion, this cover is genuine in every respect.

The cover is routed by the "Illinois." This was a famous steamer of the Vanderbilt Line. My records show that this mail ship sailed for Southampton, England on November 3, 1860, (Saturday). Incidentally, the regular sailing date of American Packet Mail Ships for England at that period was on Saturday.

The S.S. Illinois. A wooden paddler built by Messrs Smith & Demon as the Louisiana in 1851 and purchased before she was finished by George Law, (The Law Line), who completed her according to his own ideas and put her onto the route that he had established between New York and Chagres, Panama, in connection with the mail service to California and Oregon. She was the third ship of the "Law Line" and by far the finest, having a tonnage of 2,100 and dimensions, 268 feet length, 40.3 feet breadth, and 31 feet depth of hold, with an average speed of $13\frac{1}{2}$ knots. Her record passage

#2. 90¢ 1860 cover - Caspary collection (continued)

was six days, sixteen hours from Chagres to New York, a record which stood for many years. In 1860, she was owned by Commodore Cornelius Vanderbilt and made a few irregular passages on the service that he was proposing to maintain between New York and Southampton, England, at the period being brig-rigged. In 1861 she was chartered by the U.S. Navy to carry troops to the Civil War, and in 1864 she was employed in carrying exchanged Confederate prisoners of war down to Savannah. Soon after she was dismantled.

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK

September 30, 1955

90¢ 1860 cover
Caspary Collection

Submitted Sept. 30, 1955 by Bernard Harmer of H.R. Harmer, Inc., New York City.
This cover has from left to right -

5¢ 1857, Type II - Brown - right pane imprint copy.
90¢ 1860, superb copy - correct color - correct shade of paper for
stamp used in 1860.
10¢ 1859, Type V.

All three stamps canceled by the red ringless grid of the New York Post Office, in
use at that time on foreign mail - Correct red color of ink.

Total postage \$1.05.

Cover addressed to Barcelona, Spain.

Rate - This was a five times rate as follows:

By French Mail @ 21¢ per $\frac{1}{4}$ ounce - ($5 \times 21¢ = \$1.05$).

Route - By American Packet to England, thence across channel to France and by
French Mail to Spain.

Division of 21¢ single rate:

U. S. share	9¢	($5 \times 9 = 45$)
French share	<u>12¢</u>	($5 \times 12 = 60$)
	21¢	Total \$1.05

The U.S. share per $\frac{1}{4}$ oz. was: 3¢ U.S. internal
6¢ sea (to England)

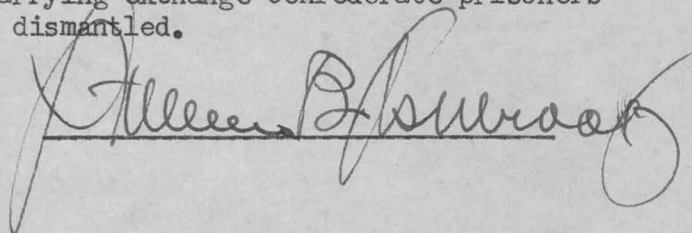
On the face of this cover is a magenta pen "60." This was applied at New York and
was the U.S. P.O.D. credit to the French P.O.D. of $5 \times 12¢$, the French share of the
rate.

In my opinion this cover is genuine in every respect.

The cover is routed by the "Illinois." This was a famous steamer of the Vanderbilt
Line. My records show that this ship sailed for Southampton, England on November 3,
1860. (Saturday). Incidentally, the regular sailing date of American Packet Mail
ships for England at that period was on Saturday.

The S.S. Illinois. A wooden paddler built by Messrs Smith & Demon as the Louisiana
in 1851 and purchased before she was finished by George Law, (The Law Line) who com-
pleted her according to his own ideas that he had established between New York and
Chagres, Panama, in connection with the mail service to California and Oregon. She
was the third ship of the "Law Line" and by far the finest, having a tonnage of 2100
and dimensions, 268 feet length, 40.3 feet breadth, and 31 feet depth of hold, with
an average speed of $13\frac{1}{2}$ knots. Her record passage was six days sixteen hours from
Chagres to New York, a record which stood for many years. In 1860, she was owned by
Commodore Vanderbilt and made a few irregular passages on the service that he was
proposing to maintain between New York, and Southampton, England, at the period being
brig-rigged. In 1861 she was chartered by the U.S. Navy to carry troops to the
Civil War, and in 1864 she was employed in carrying exchange Confederate prisoners
of war down to Savannah. Soon after she was dismantled.

September 30, 1955.



904 1860 Bauer

Caspary Collection

Submitted Sept 30 1955 by
Bernard Harmer of ~~the~~
H. R. Harmer, Inc., New York City.

This cover has from left to
right

5d 1857, Type II - Brown - right pane
imprint only -

904 1860 - Superb Copy - Correct
Color - Correct shade of paper
for stamp used in 1860.

10d 1859 - Type V -

All three stamps canceled by the
red ringless grid of the New
York Post Office, in use at
that time on foreign mail -
Correct Red color of ink

Total postage \$1.05.

Cover addressed to Barcelona,

Spain.

Rate - this was a Five times

Rate. as follows:

~~British Mail by American Packet,~~
~~21¢ per 1/2 ounce, which meant,~~
~~by American Packet to England,~~
~~thence by British Mail to Spain~~

By French Mail @ 21¢ per 1/4
ounce - $(5 \times 21¢ = \$1.05)$

Route. By American Packet to
England thence across channel
to France and by French Mail
to Spain.

Division of 21¢ single rate.

U. S. Share	45¢ 9¢	$(5 \times 9 = 45)$
French share	60¢ 12¢	$(5 \times 12 = 60)$
	21¢	Total <u>105</u>

The U. S. Share per 1/4 oz was

3¢ U. S. Internal
6¢ Sea (to England)

On the face of this cover is
a magenta pen "60". This
was applied at New York and
was the U. S. P. O. D. Credit
to ~~France~~ the French P. O. D.
of 5x124, the French share
of the rate.

In my opinion this cover is
genuine in every respect. x

The cover is mailed by the
"Illinois". This was a famous
steamer of the Vanderbilt Line.
~~The record~~ My records show that
this ~~ship~~ mail ship sailed
for Southampton England on
November 3 1860. (Saturday)
Incidentally the regular sailing
date of American Packet
Mail Ship for England at

that period was on Saturday.

The S. S. Illinois, A wooden ~~Saddler~~
PADDLER

built by Messrs Smith & Stemon
as the Louisiana in 1851
and purchased before she
was finished by George Law,
(The Law Line) who completed
her according to his own ideas
and put her on to the route
that he had established between
New York and Chagres, Panama,
~~The Ocean Mail route to California~~
in connection with the
mail service to California and
Oregon. She was the third
ship of the "Law Line" and
by far the finest, having a
tonnage of 2100 and
dimensions, 268 feet length,
40.3 feet breadth, and
31 feet depth of hold. 9

with an average speed of $13\frac{1}{2}$
knots. Her record passage
was six days sixteen hours
from Shanghai to New York, a
record which stood for
many years. In 1860 she
was owned & by ^{Commander} Cornelius
Tanderbell
and made a few irregular
passages on the service that
he was proposing to
maintain between New York
and Southampton England.
at the period being bug-rigged.
In 1861 she was chartered
by the U.S. Navy to carry troops
to the Civil War, and in
1864 she was employed in
carrying exchanged
Confederate prisoners of
war down to Savannah.

Soon after she was dismantled.

September 30 1955

Sept. 16, 1955.

Mr. C. C. Hart,
Suite 1020,
922 Walnut St.,
Kansas City 6, Mo.

Dear Mr. Hart:

Re - the 5¢ 1847. In my opinion, covers showing use of fine copies in the last six months of 1847 are worth a great deal more than ordinary 5¢ 1847 covers. I refer to copies of the stamp that have not been subject to dampness causing a deterioration in color and impression. As you are aware the iron in the brown ink "oxidizes" which means, I suppose, that it "rusts" and turns black but in doing so, the impression (engraving) becomes damaged and the finely engraved lines of the design become ragged or feathery. Further, the orange brown color of the 1847 is very beautiful.

I am enclosing two color slides that I made this past week of two stamps used on covers in 1847. While the color of both is very fine, not superb, the "lines" of the engraving are a bit feathery, which means, in my opinion, that both copies had been subject to some dampness.

I am sending these to you because I thought you would like to see the kind of records that I am making. There is, of course, no obligation on your part to purchase these or any other such items that I may send you but you can if you so desire.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

Enclosed:

A66-6 - price \$1.50

A66-15 - price \$1.50

PAID

OCT - 6 1955

Reserve Plan Inc

TRADE MARK REG.

SUITE 1020 COMMERCE BLDG. 922 WALNUT ST.
KANSAS CITY 6, MISSOURI

September 27, 1955

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

I have the 10¢ 1847 cover back and of course you may write it up and any mention you care to make of my project will be appreciated. I'm sending my article to "Stamps" about October 10th with the photo of the 10¢ cover for illustration along with the article. I do not recall that it has ever been photographed before.

I hope you will continue to send me voluntarily any photos or other information you choose to as you did with the last two '47 photos. To keep our accounts straight I owe you \$3.00 for two photos, \$2.00 for photograph of '47 cover, and \$5.00 for expertizing the enclosed or \$10.00 If incorrect advise me. I'll try to get the several other items I want photographed ready and send to you this week.

Re enclosed. It has been submitted to the Philatelic Foundation and their opinion is in the sealed envelope for you to see if you care to either before or after, I asked them (1) if it was used on this cover, (2) the year of use, (3) if it might have been used during the Confederacy, possibly during the provisional period. I bought this from Elliott Perry recently and he said he had had it at least twenty-five years. The Philatelic Foundation thinks the dating is January 8th.

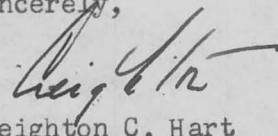
The information in your letter about '47 stamps to Wisconsin Territory on October 4, 1847 does not agree with Perry's Pat Paragraphs. That statement is from memory but I'll check. One of these days this fall I'm going to Washington to see for myself what the records show. I've written the Post Office Department but can get no helpful information.

You'd be surprised how great a variance there is among the informed dealers about the number of 1847 covers in existence. I have not written all the men you mention in your letter but some of them. One on your list guessed 25,000 another 10,000 and a third 3,000. I haven't written Dr. Chase yet. I've never corresponded with him but I think I will.

This first report is on A. S. D. A. members only. The next will be on the collector's survey. I have in mind several other articles which I think will be of interest. A report on the known covers from Wisconsin Territory, Minnesota Territory, Iowa, Missouri and several of the other states that received very few '47s. Each state would justify an article.

Also the issuance of the '47 stamps differed from the later issues in that they were sent to various states for the first time not only during '47 but also in '48-'49 and '50. I have a hunch that the Post Office records show the dates supplies were sent from Washington to the various states and the date received would of course be later. It would be fun to list the earliest known cover from each of the thirty states. During this survey I have heard from several collectors who collect covers from only one state and there is considerable interest as to the number of '47 covers from some states. I believe these collectors will be interested in knowing the earliest '47 cover from each state and how closely it coincides with the Post Office record.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Creighton C. Hart", written in a cursive style.

Creighton C. Hart

No. 511440

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

SENT TO

Mr C. C. Hart

STREET AND NO.

Suite 1020 - 922 Walnut St

CITY AND STATE

Kansas City (6) Mo

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OCT
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1955

THOMAS DR.

1. Stick postage stamps to your letter to pay:
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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.

Oct. 26, 1955.

Mr. C. C. Hart,
Suite 1020, 922 Walnut St.,
Kansas City 6, Mo.

Dear Mr. Hart:

Herewith I am returning your 5¢ 1847 "Augusta, Ga." cover together with the P.F. certificate, the 3¢ 1857 cover, photos, etc.

I took this up with Shenfield, a member of the Committee and he informed me that he had referred the matter to the committee for reconsideration.

Unfortunately that Committee is composed of people who have very little philatelic knowledge. They have a habit of condemning genuine items and okaying fakes. Let us hope they reconsider their opinion regarding your cover.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

Lawrence C. Sheffield

Dear Stan-

I left yours of Oct. 24 alone to see whether it would burst into flame. It surely was smoldering in the worst Ashbrook style when I received it. Such letters are unworthy of you and unwelcome to an old friend. However I suppose I must overlook its misdeeds as so many are forced to do. I believe you have already made your views on the P.F. Expert Committee known to all.

The 5+47 coin, I see, is back. We will look again. I wrote your remarks to the owner. I have no record of the double-ink Augusta canal used before Jul 1, 1862. How you? Look at the State abbreviation again. Do you see "LA" or "GA."?

I sent your letter to the P.F. because it seemed to demand a reply "of the record." I have always tried to keep things in channels and always will, whether or not I saw the item.

Write me sometime when your pen is less acid-

Garry

Dec. 11, 1955

Dec. 23, 1955.

Mr. C. C. Hart,
Suite 1020, 922 Walnut St.,
Kansas City 6, Mo.

Dear Mr. Hart:

Referring to your 5¢ 1847 cover now in the hands of the Expert Committee. It is my guess that Larry Shenfield was responsible for the certificate they issued to you. I have today written Larry a letter from which I quote as follows:

"I enclose an Augusta, Ga. (not La) 3¢ 1857 cover of April 1861. I have a number of covers from this same correspondence. It was outrageous for the P.F. to condemn the Hart 5¢ 1847 cover as it is as good as gold, and the decent thing to do would be to issue a certificate in line with the facts and not guesswork. You never saw an Augusta, La. with this double circle postmark and I don't believe anyone can show such a thing." (unquote)

I am at odds with the Committee because I think they are going serious philately a lot of harm in their guess-work. What can be expected when decisions are based on pure guess-work rather than on knowledge of the subject. It is serious business to condemn a genuine item such as your 1847 cover and it is a mockery to issue a certificate validating an amateurish bit of faking such as the notorious Armitage 90¢ 1860 cover. If anyone on that Committee had any knowledge of the markings on that cover they would have known the cover was bad beyond a question of a doubt.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

Cover enclosed

Dec. 23, 1955.

Mr Lawrence L. Shenfield,
40 Highland Circle,
Bronxville 8, N.Y.

Darry:

You do not like the tone of my letters - I do not like yours, so the feeling is mutual. It could be that you are the one who has changed, not me.

For any Committee to condemn genuine items and authenticate fakes makes a mockery of serious philatelic research work. I regret my inability to pour in sufficient poison in my pen in expressing my utter disgust.

I enclose an Augusta Ga (not La) of April 1861. I have a number of covers from this same correspondence.

It was outrageous for the P.F. to condemn the Hart 5¢ 1847 cover as it is as good as gold, and the decent thing to do would be to issue a certificate in line with the facts and not guess-work. You never saw an Augusta, La. with this double circle postmark and I don't believe anyone can show such a thing.

Yours etc.,

Insured

\$10⁰⁰

Coupon

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK
P. O. BOX 31
33 NORTH FT. THOMAS AVENUE
FORT THOMAS, KY.

Dec. 23, 1955.

Mr Lawrence L. Shenfield,
40 Highland Circle,
Bronxville 8, N.Y.

Larry:

You do not like the tone of my letters - I do not like yours, so the feeling is mutual. It could be that you are the one who has changed, not me.

For any Committee to condemn genuine items and authenticate fakes makes a mockery of serious philatelic research work. I regret my inability to pour in sufficient poison in my pen in expressing my utter disgust.

I enclose an Augusta Ga (not La) of April 1861. I have a number of covers from this same correspondence.

It was outrageous for the P.F. to condemn the Hart 5¢ 1847 cover as it is as good as gold, and the decent thing to do would be to issue a certificate in line with the facts and not guess-work. You never saw an Augusta, La. with this double circle postmark and I don't believe anyone can show such a thing.

Yours etc.,

J. Thank you for your
constructive letter.

L.

Photo 3

Feb. 13, 1956.

were returned

Mr. Van Dyk MadBride,
744 Broad St.,
Newark 2, N.J.

Dear Mac:

Re - the 5¢ Augusta, Ga. cover that I mentioned in a previous letter, here are a batch of photo prints that I made. This cover belongs to my friend Creighton Hart of Kansas City. Before I ever saw this cover he submitted it to the Expert Committee of the P.F. and they issued the certificate as per photo print herewith. Hart then sent the cover to me and I expressed my opinion that the Committee was wrong and that the cover is genuine. I signed it as such on the back as per photo. I advised him to re-submit it with a request that they reverse their decision. They still have it under consideration. Here are some points to bear in mind.

This type of double circle postmark was not placed in use until late 1859 or early 1860. It was in general use at Augusta, Ga. in the spring of 1861, and no doubt as long as a year earlier.

Note my photos of the 5¢ '47 by ultra-violet do not show any cleaned cancels, hence when the stamp was used in the 1860's it must have been unused. Of course, no fool would put a fake postmark on an unused 5¢ o847. My solution was that the use was Feb. 1862 when the Confed rate was 5¢. That the writer had an unused 5¢ '47 stamp and decided to use it, and it went thru OK. Of course, the use could have been Feb. 1861 when the U.S. rate was 3¢ and the writer decided to get rid of his old stamp.

Note the opinion by the P.F., viz., that "The stamp was not used on this cover." How absurd!!! What do you suppose they meant? One would infer that they meant the postmark on the stamp was genuine but that the stamp was not used on this cover. Or did they mean that the postmark is fraudulent and that this cover is a fake and never went thru the U.S. or Confederate mail? Or they could have meant that this cover originally had a 3¢ 1857 which was removed and this 5¢ '47 substituted, with the postmark painted on the 5¢ stamp. In such a case the stamp would have been an unused copy or one that had been cleaned. My ultra-violet photos failed to register any trace of a former cancelation.

I think it is equally as bad for the P.F. to condemn a genuine cover as it is to authenticate a fake. When a Committee has to resort to pure guesswork then they are bound to be wrong more times than right.

Please return the prints at your convenience. No hurry.

With regards -

Yours etc.,

MacBride

744 BROAD STREET

NEWARK 2, NEW JERSEY

February 21st, 1956.

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

Dear Stan:

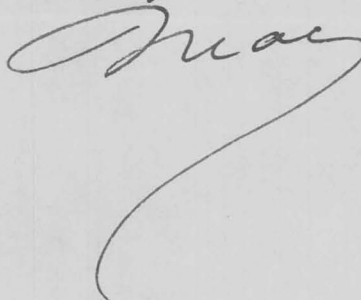
I found the enclosed photos of that 5¢ 1847 canceled Augusta, Ga., most interesting. Somehow, I had never heard of the cover before.

It is indeed both difficult and awkward to contest an official opinion by the Philatelic Foundation. However, I frankly must agree with you that their simple statement that "the stamp was not used on this cover" does seem insufficient. As that opinion is exactly opposite to the one which you gave to the owner of the cover, and as you are a noted and recognized authority on the subject, I do think that the owner is entitled to go back and ask for evidence supporting it.

Going solely by the photos and not having seen the cover itself, I would say that the usage appears genuine to me. Your theory that the original sender of the cover "had an unused 5¢ '47 stamp and decided to use it, and it went through O.K.", is of course a possibly correct explanation. Especially as your ultra-violet photos failed to register any trace of a former cancelation or other fraudulent indications.

I'll be interested to know what if anything develops further in this. I am returning all of your photos herewith, but I would greatly like to have a plain print of the one showing the entire cover for my files.

As Ever,



MacB/HK

March 4, 1956.

Mr. Van Dyk MacBride,
744 Broad St.,
Newark 2, N.J.

Dear Mac:

Upon my return yesterday from a little vacation of two weeks I found yours of recent date, which accounts for this tardy acknowledgement.

Your letter will have my careful attention in the very near future.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

March 8, 1956.

Mr. Van Dyk MacBride,
744 Broad St.,
Newark 2, N.J.

Dear Mac:

Further referring to mine of the 4th, and your two favors of recent date with return of the photos of the 5¢ 1847 Augusta, Ga. cover. I believe that the owner of the cover demanded a reconsideration of the cover by the P.F. Expert Committee but so far he has not advised me whether they have taken any action. Larry is thoroughly familiar with the case so perhaps he can give you some first-hand information. As requested, I am sending you a photo of the cover. I regret that this is not very good but if you would like to see a color slide which shows up all the details I will be glad to loan one to you. I think this is ~~x~~ very interesting and if my opinion regarding it is correct, it is a very valuable and unique item. I think it is darn serious, and may I add, very deplorable for some incompetent "Expert Committee" to carelessly condemn such an item.

The very idea of issuing such a silly - yes positively silly - certificate reading, "The stamp was not used on this cover." What in the devil did they mean? I will wager that there is no one on that Committee who has any real knowledge of Confederates or for that matter, the U. S. 1847 issue. They make a mockery of serious philatelic research work with their damn guess-work. When such a committee resorts to guessing - then they are bound to be wrong more times than right.

I will wager that the most scientific tests would prove that the 5¢ stamp was not canceled when it was postmarked on this cover and I'll wager that the Augusta postmark is genuine. I have half a dozen genuine strikes of this marking on 3¢ '57 in the spring of 1861. Perhaps you also have some.

Re - yours of the 28th and the valentine cover. Up to this writing I have nothing further to report but I believe the owner intends to send it to me and if he does I will photograph it and request his permission to send you a print.

Do not fail to read the editorial in Linn's Weekly, issue of March 5th, by George Linn re - the forged letter sent out in January over my name, also his excellent and fearless comments on international exhibition juries and amateur judges.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

37-37

Sam Dyk MacBride

744 BROAD STREET

NEWARK 2, NEW JERSEY

March 20th, 1956.

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

Dear Stan:

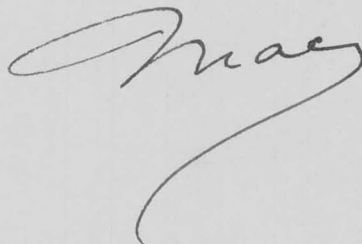
Thanks for telling me about the color shots you made of that Augusta cover, - I shall remember that you have them if I should need to see them in the future.

I would like to have a copy of the story in your "Service" for my files, if you can spare me one. But, - I consider the cover a matter of outstanding interest to Confederate philately, and I greatly hope you will write up an article on it for general publication. I have another letter from Mr. Hart on the subject, in which he says that while he is willing to write a story about it for some publication, that he prefers that you do it as you can do it much better. I hope to see such an article in STAMPS, the GOSSIP, or possibly the AP, before long!

Incidentally, Mr. Hart tells me that he did ask the Foundation to reconsider its opinion, and that they did so and asked him to surrender the unfavorable Certificate. That is of course only partial recognition of an error, and their present position of "respectfully declining" to approve or disapprove it seems like just avoiding the issue to me. If the Foundation is to be the leader ~~and~~ expects to be in its field, it should definitely have the courage to state its convictions one way or the other!

Hope you do get a photo of the 10¢ 1847 Valentine cover, - I would greatly like to see it. Also I hope that the Post Office Department work on the matter of that forged letter will produce something soon.

As Ever,



MacB/HK

c.c.: C.C.Hart
L.L.Shenfield

March 23, 1956.

Mr. Van Dyk MacBride,
744 Broad St.,
Newark 2, N.J.

Dear Mac:

Re - yours of the 20th. I am enclosing herewith a copy for your files of my November 1955 Service Issue which contains a write-up on the Hart 5¢ 1847 Augusta, Ga. cover. I could revise this and publish it in "Stamps". If you have any suggestions as to how I could improve same they will be welcome.

Mac, I disagree with you that the P.F. Expert Committee should refuse an opinion if they are not reasonably sure they are correct. When they are not, then they are guessing and when an Expert Committee has to resort to guess-work then they are bound to be wrong more times than right.

In the case of this cover it is my guess that they depended entirely on Larry's opinion and he was wrong - When the cover was again submitted by Hart, had they had any desire to render a correct opinion they should have consulted you and they should have consulted me. But instead they refused to express an opinion. Was this in deference to Larry? If so, then of course their action was wrong. If they are afraid to hurt someone's feelings then they are a hell of a Committee and to be frank, that is what I think they are at best.

I have repeatedly advised them to refuse an opinion in cases where they were unable to obtain some definite evidence one way or the other. I think I know the 1847 Issue as well as any living person and I know something about Confederate postal markings. Yet I was not consulted and neither was you, and neither was any other student of Confeds, as far as I am aware. May I inquire, is this the way an efficient Expert committee should function? Here is a very valuable and interesting cover - one that is probably unique - first this Committee condemns it, and then when they find their opinion was wrong, they don't even make any effort to rectify the wrong they committed.

My advice to refuse opinions where they are unable to obtain some definite proof refers to such items as - for example - canceled copies of the U. S. 90¢ 1860. I am positive I have made a more profound study of such items than any other living person, - I have quite a large photo record compiled over 37 years. There are a lot of canceled copies which are fakes. Occasionally I have a copy submitted to me which I am not sure is good or bad and if I don't know, who would know? In such a case I am not ashamed to state - I do not know. That is certainly no disgrace. It is much better than to do any guessing. And it is this sort of advice I have consistently given the Committee.

Re - the valentine cover with two 10¢ 1847. The owner sent me a photo print of the cover and a print of the valentine. They arrived yesterday and he requested me not to show the prints to anyone or to make any copies of them. The reason was - he was preparing an article for publication in the A.P. which would feature his cover. I am sorry Mac, but I will have to abide by his request. Under the circumstances I judge I do not have his permission to give anyone a description of the cover. It is

#2. Mr. Van Dyk MacBride - March 23, 1956.

hardly fair to judge the authenticity of any cover by a photograph but in this case I see no reason to question this cover. I did not realize it at the time but apparently I should not have advised you that such a cover was in existence but when he wrote me that he owned such a cover he did not request me to keep it a secret although he may have intended it that way.

Re - the forged letter. Did you read the editorial by Linn in Linn's Weekly? The P.O. officials assure me they are working on the case but will divulge nothing until the case is closed.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

Ben Dyk Mac Bride

744 BROAD STREET

NEWARK 2, NEW JERSEY

March 26th, 1956.

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

Dear Stan:

Thanks a lot for your good letter of March 23rd. It is probably true that the Philatelic Foundation Expert Committee "should refuse an opinion if they are not reasonably sure they are correct". After all, and as you say, cases do exist where a definite opinion one way or the other just cannot be honestly given. It certainly is no disgrace to simply say "I do not know". I am sorry that I stated differently on this in my last letter to you.

Thanks also for the sample copy of your Special Service #56 which I read through and found much of interest. However, now I have become a little doubtful about the soundness of your theory as to the Confederate usage of that 5¢ 1847 canceled Augusta, Ga. The point is simply this. If as you think the usage was January 8, 1862 rather than 1861 or 1860, it would mean that the stamp was used after the Confederacy took over its postal system (June 1, 1861) and the 5¢ - 10¢ rates went into effect. BUT at the same time the Reagan Proclamation forbade the usage of any U.S. stamps after that date, and that is of course the reason for the use of Confederate Handstamped Paid markings, the Provisionals, etc. In October of 1861 the first Confederate Government adhesive stamps were issued.

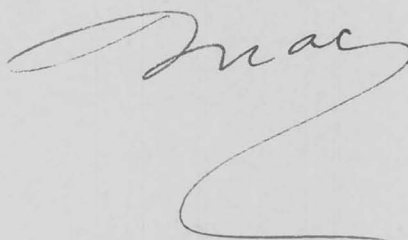
Thus, if your present theory is correct, it means that a United States 5¢ stamp was used on January 8, 1862, - long after the use of U.S. stamps had been forbidden in the Confederacy! If this was true it is amazing that the cover was passed through the Confederate mails and that stamp accepted as paying the 5¢ Confederate rate of postage. We have all seen many cases where the effort to use U.S. stamps of the 1857 issue, for instance, was caught, the postage was considered unpaid, and "Due" markings added calling for the payment of Confederate postage.

Therefore, I am reluctantly tending towards the opinion that this may have been a January 8, 1861 usage, (or even possibly 1860). Georgia had not seceded by that time, and the use of this old 5¢ 1847 stamp could have merely represented an over-payment of the then U.S. 3¢ rate. Is it possible that something like this may have been the basis for the unfavorable opinion of the Philatelic Foundation, which as you say might have been based on what Larry Shenfield decided? I have read through your story in your "Service" carefully, and unless I have missed some feature therein, my opinion is forced to be as set forth above. As you well say you don't suppose that "we will ever be able to prove" that your theory is correct, but whether or not this cover does represent true Confederate usage I agree that it is "certainly a most unusual item". However, I think I would hold up publishing any article on the subject until and unless we can come to some more definite conclusion.

As for that Valentine cover with the two 10¢ 1847 stamps, - I had heard of it before you wrote me about it. I think it was John Fox who told me he handled the item and sold it to its present owner but of that I cannot be sure. If the owner is now going to write an article and illustrate this piece in the AP, that will be sufficient for me for the present. If later you could ask the owner to let me have a print of the cover and enclosure, I'll be quite content.

Finally, in the Scruggs matter, - I'll certainly be interested to hear what the outcome of your letter is to Ben Reeves of the SPA! And yes, - I did read the Linn editorial of which of course I wholly approved.

My best!

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "MacB", with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

MacB/HK

March 31, 1956.

Mr. Van Dyk MacBride,
744 Broad St.,
Newark 2, N.J.

Dear Mac:

I have carefully noted yours of the 26th.

Re - the probable year of use of the Augusta, Ga. 5¢ 1847 cover. I gave careful consideration to three years, viz., 1860 - 1861 - 1862. I note you remind me of certain happenings during these years, which surely you must be aware are quite well known to me, viz., the date the C.S.A. P.O.D. took over the postal system thruout the seceded states - Regan's proclamation - etc. etc. etc. Naturally I am well aware of the fact that in January of 1862 a U. S. stamp was of course not legal in the C.S.A., nor for that matter, in the U.S.A. I never had any intention of suggesting that it was. I based my theory as stated on three possible years of use and I selected 1862 as the year that seemed the one that best fitted the picture, for example, the use was January. I seriously doubt if Augusta, Ga. had a double circle postmark as early as January 1860. If so, I have never seen one - Further, in January I doubt if there was real fear that Georgia would secede from the Union, hence it seemed to me that an owner of an old 5¢ 1847 unused stamp would not have occasion to use it.

With these thoughts in mind I discarded a possible use in January 1860. Further, the owner might have thought it possible that the old demonetized stamp might not be recognized. What about a possible use in January 1861? Georgia seceded on Jan. 18th - this was a use before that time. I think the use could have been in 1861 - Secession was then almost assured so the owner may have decided he would use his U. S. stamp. After all, it was a U. S. stamp and the postal system was still run by the U.S. P.O.D. I did not rule out an 1861 usage. What about Jan. 1862? Here was a citizen of the C.S.A., no longer a citizen of the U.S.A. - He had a 5¢ U.S. stamp - why keep it? He was writing a letter to Eatonton, Georgia, - maybe he didn't have a 5¢ Confederate stamp - the rate was 5¢ - so why not try and use his old 5¢ 1847 stamp - maybe it would get by - why not try?

No Mac, you know full well that I never had any idea that a 5¢ 1847 was "legal" postage in the Confederacy in January 1862. Maybe the use was later - maybe it was 1863 or 1864 or 1865. Who knows? My analysis was a theory to account for this use and I think the cover is unquestionably genuine.

I note your statement - "Now I have become a little doubtful about the soundness of your theory." I fail to see why you went to the trouble to remind me about Confed handstamp PAIDS when Confederate stamps were issued, etc. etc. May I inquire if you were writing a letter to me or to the gallery?

What makes you think it was so amazing that this letter went thru the Confederate mails without being held up? Perhaps the postal clerk knew the person who mailed the letter and permitted the letter to go thru. Perhaps he thought - why bother - I'll admit it is odd to see a use of a 5¢ 1847 in 1861 or 1862 but probably no more "amazing" than to see covers showing uses of 1847 stamps in 1852 - 1853 - 1854 and even in 1857. Also rather amazing to see covers showing uses of the 1857

#2 Mr. Van Dyk MacBride - March 31, 1956.

at New York after "demonetization" in October, November and December of 1861. What is the difference whether the use was January 1861 or 1862. I will not seriously consider 1860 unless someone could show me a use as early as January 1860 of a double circle postmark at Augusta, Ga.

I don't think that Mr. Hart gives a damn whether the use was 1861 or 1862 - what concerns him - I imagine - is the genuineness of the cover, and after all, that is what concerns me. I thought it was outrageous that a committee of ill-informed "Experts" would take it upon themselves to condemn an item that is undoubtedly genuine in every way.

I have quite a few 3¢ 1857 covers used at Augusta, Ga. in the spring of 1861 - All have the "double circle" postmark. I believe Larry seemed to think the postmark was Augusta, La. It is true that there was an "Augusta" in Caldwell Co., La. in 1859 but it was surely a cross-roads post office and would hardly have had a new type stamper such as the double circle, much less any old 1847 stamps. No such an office was listed in 1855, so you can well appreciate that there was little chance that "Augusta, La." had a double circle postmark in 1860 - 1861 - when only a comparatively few towns had been supplied prior to June 1, 1861, which date you informed me was when the C.S.A. P.O.D. took over. Mac, I have an idea I was well posted on this point way back in the days when Ned Knapp and I collected Confeds together.

I will abandon altogether any idea to write an article on this cover. After all, it is bad to write an article based on nothing more than a theory. However, in suggesting a "theory" I had to offer some solution to account for why I think this cover is genuine. I do hope I will not be shot at dawn for being so bold.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

Copy to
C.C. Hart
L.L. Shenfield

MacBride

744 BROAD STREET

NEWARK 2, NEW JERSEY

April 4th, 1956.

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

Dear Stan:

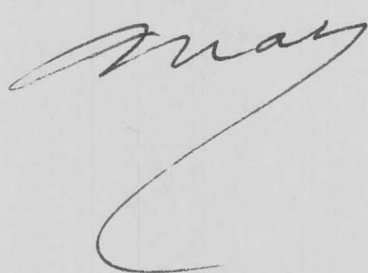
First, in answer to yours of March 31st, please let me insist that my references to dates of secession, when the C.S.A. took over its postal system, use of Handstamped Pairs, Provisionals, etc., - were made in my last letter to you solely to present a background for the doubt I had registered as to the Confederate use of that 5¢ 1847 cover. In other words, I was writing to you, and not "to the gallery"!

So far as I am concerned I am entirely willing to concede that all the possibilities in the theory you so ably present, might have actually happened. Also let me say that I believe that the stamp and the cancelation and the cover represent genuine usage, and, based on your photographs and the results of your detailed examination, I do not believe there was any "doctoring" in this case.

Nevertheless the question as to in what year this cover was used, remains unanswered, at least to thus far. Therefore, I guess we'll have to put this whole matter in the "maybe" class and until and unless we turn up something more definite in the future. Under the circumstances I think that you and Mr. Hart are right in not writing it up at this time.

As I said before the cover is a pretty one, certainly unusual, and a most desirable item for anyone's collection. Thanks for letting me know all about it, I always enjoy trying to study out such things.

As Ever



MacB/HK

c.c.; C.C.Hart
L.L.Shenfield

April 7, 1956.

Mr. Van Dyk MacBride,
744 Broad St.,
Newark 2, N.J.

Dear Mac:

I have yours of the 4th.

You stated that your former letter was to me and not to the gallery, but Mac if it was a personal letter to me why send a copy to Mr. Hart? It impressed me as an effort to educate Mr. Hart on some C.S.A. postal history. However, forget it.

Here are some points to consider. Have you any record of uses of the double circle postmark at Augusta in 1860? Or in January or February of 1860? If so, did the postmark have an 1860 logo? Have you any record of this double circle postmark used at Augusta in the first three months of 1861? Was an 1861 logo used? Was an 1861 logo used at any time in 1861? See Dietz page 316. This double circle stamper was generally supplied by the manufacturer with a year logo. Did you ever see this postmark with an 1862 logo?

Re - use of ~~1847~~ stamps after June 30th of 1861. How many such covers have you seen? Did you ever see any where the stamps were recognized? Do you ever see any where the stamps were not recognized? What is the latest use you can recall of the use of an 1847 stamp? Do you not think that a person who is not qualified to answer the above questions is qualified to express a worth while opinion on Mr. Hart's cover? How many "Experts" on the P.F. Committee do you think is capable of answering even a few of the above queries? If that Committee was not reasonably sure about that cover they should not have resorted to guess-work, because that is exactly what they did. And that is my complaint and why I stated that they are making a perfect mockery of serious philatelic research work. Not only in this case but in a number of others that I have observed in recent months.

Yours etc.,

Van Dyk Mac Bride

744 BROAD STREET

NEWARK 2, NEW JERSEY

April 9th, 1956.

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

Dear Stan:

Thank you for yours of April 7th.

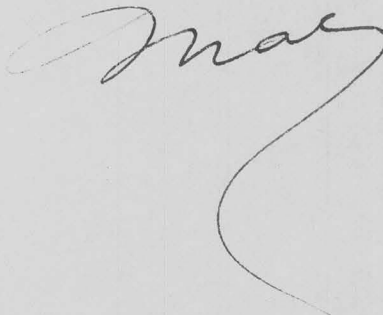
The reason I have sent copies of my letters to you regarding the Augusta 5¢ use of the 1847 stamp, to Mr. Hart, is chiefly because he wrote me concerning it and I thought it only proper that he be advised of my opinions thereon. Also, you had sent copies of your letters both to him and to Larry Shenfield, - so I went and did likewise!

In reply to your questions let me say that I do not have any records of the Confederate uses of the double-circle Augusta postmark, with or without year date logos. As I have said, I have every reason to believe that the one on the 1847 stamped cover is genuine, but it is my theory that its use was in 1861, before Georgia seceded. That seems to check out with your statement that you have covers with this postmark on 3¢ 1857 stamps, used in "the spring of 1861".

Also, I am afraid I know little as to any late uses of the 1847 stamps, or where they were or were not recognized. I assume that the Foundation owns substantial reference files on all such matters. Whether or not they were able to find therein any substantiation for their first and unfavorable opinion on the cover in question, - I certainly do not know.

Do count me out on going any further on this particular matter, and unless and until something new develops! I repeat that the cover and the usage appears perfectly genuine to me, and while I cannot go along with the theory that it is Confederate, I think it a mighty nice and valuable item.

As Ever,



MacB/HK

(no copies)

Sept 28, 1955

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

Dear Sir

Enclosed herein is a copy of the
three cent 1861 that is supposed to be
#64 - pink.

It was purchased on approval and is
guaranteed to be genuine. However, if should
like to have it authenticated and will
appreciate your comments.

Please send me your bill when you
return the stamp and I will forward you
my check by return mail.

Sincerely yours
Stanford G. Gesner

Oct. 7, 1955.

Mr. Stanford G. Gesner,
% Creole Petroleum Corp.,
Las Piedras, Edo, Falcon,
Venezuela, South America.

Dear Mr. Gesner:

Herewith the 3¢ 1861 as per yours of the 28th. I am pleased to report that your stamp is #64 the "PINK" and quite a good example of that color. I signed it on the back. My fee is \$2.50.

Knowing your interest in the 90¢ 1860, I am enclosing herewith a color slide of a gorgeous cover in the Caspary collection, a cover that is genuine in all respects. If you wish to keep this slide, the price is \$1.50.

With kindest regards -

Sincerely yours,

Reserve Plan Inc

TRADE MARK REG.

SUITE 1020 COMMERCE BLDG. 922 WALNUT ST.

KANSAS CITY 6, MISSOURI

September 28, 1955

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Enclosed find 10 items for photographing and I'd like two prints of each. I also enclose a 5¢ wheeling grid off cover on which I want your opinion but no photo. I'd also like your opinion on the 5¢ orange brown cover as to its color. I also enclose a mint block of 4 of the 5¢ which is supposed to be orange brown. I'd like your opinion on this also-no photo. The Panama cover is not tied but I believe is ok, but I'd like an Ashbrook opinion to confirm this.

The enclosures are:

10¢ #7 to Can ✓
Strip's 3-10¢ Panama cover ✓
5¢ N. Y. Aug. 2 cover ✓
10¢ Little Rock, Ark. cover ✓
Coolidge frank cover
Crockett frank cover
Jefferson frank cover

Washington franked cover
Johnson franked cover
Eisanhower on 1947 Cipex
MacArthur on 1947 Cipex
5¢ wheeling grid stamp
Bl. 4 5¢ 1847

I leave to be gone a week and return Oct. 9th for a week, to be gone again on Oct. 16 until Oct. 31. Please try to return these items so that they will arrive in K. C. when I'm here.

You say you cannot filter out a color when using color film. This last summer my son studied zoology at U. of Wisconsin and in their lab they had a phase microscope that would filter out any color of the spectrum. This might be applied to color photography if it is worth it as far as stamps are concerned.

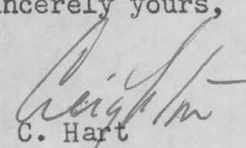
Mr. Brookman in his book on the '47s says the earliest postmark carrying a year date is July 15, 1847. I have never seen a year date in a cancellation on a '47 cover and have just about given up hope of ever finding one. Have you ever seen a year date in the cancelling postmark?

I'm considering having an ad prepared by our advertising agency offering a reward for a '47 cover from Minnesota Territory and inserting it in a Sunday edition of a St. Paul newspaper. St. Paul according to Perry received the entire supply of the '47 issue. If I decide to do this I'll send you a proof of the copy for comment before running it.

An added enclosure, that I want photographed and an opinion, is a U. S. to Canada. This is the only '47 I've ever seen that was cancelled with a red 7 bar circular grid in New York City. Perhaps all "Paid to the Lines" covers have the circular grid rather than the customary red square grid. You will know about that. I have seen very few from N. Y. to Canada.

I hope this letter finds the pressure of your work easing considerably.

Sincerely yours,


C. C. Hart

Oct. 7, 1955.

Mr. C. C. Hart,
Suite 1020, 922 Walnut St.,
Kansas City 6, Mo.

Dear Mr. Hart:

As per yours of the 28th, I am herewith returning the following items:

- 1) 10¢ 1847 cover - N.Y. to Canada.
- 2) 10¢ 1847 " - H.S. of 3 - Panama to Mexico.
- 3) 5¢ 1847 " - N.Y. to Boston Aug. 2.
- 4) 10¢ 1847 " - Little Rock, Ark. to Cincinnati.
- 5) Coolidge " - Frank
- 6) Crockett " - "
- 7) Jefferson " - "
- 8) Washington " - "
- 9) Johnson Frank
- 10) Eisenhower - MacArthur Cipex
- 11) 5¢ 1847 block of four.
- 12) 5¢ 1847 Wheeling Precancel.

I made photographs of the above material as you requested and prints will follow very shortly.

Re No. 12 - Wheeling grid - In my opinion this stamp is genuine and it could be that this is a stamp that was described in the 1916 Chase article. Chase stated that covers are known with the pre-cancel in red and canceled with a blue grid. He also mentioned an off cover 5¢ with the red precancel and a blue PAID. I believe these precancels were very early, that is, used in 1847. Your copy is certainly an Orange Brown, the 1847 color and it is a very early impression. I signed it on the back.

Re - No. 3 - 5¢ 1847 from New York Aug. 2 to Boston. This, in my opinion, is the 1847 color, Orange Brown and the use could have been 1847 or 1848. I think it is possible that this stamp had become a bit oxidized and was given a peroxide treatment to restore the color.

Re - No. 11 - 5¢ 1847 - block of four. In my opinion, this is not Orange Brown or Brownish Orange, but rather the Chase 1849 color "Reddish Brown." Incidentally, I took this out of the glassine envelope as I think it is dangerous to enclose stamps or covers in any sort of covering, especially where such items are sealed up tight and the air prevented from circulating. I am convinced that such coverings will fade cancelations on covers in time, especially red postmarks or markings.

Re - No. 2 - Panama to Mexico. I have known this cover for years. It is unquestionably genuine and I have signed it on the back. I have a photo of it that I made years ago, when it belonged to Karl Burroughs (deceased).

I note your remarks re - filtering out colors. I will write a good friend at the Eastman Co. in Rochester. I do not believe such microscope work as

#2. Mr. O. C. Hart - Oct. 7, 1955.

you mentioned could be applied to color photography.

Re - 1847 - year dated postmark. I was not aware that Brookman mentioned such a thing but as far as I can recall I never heard of any circular postmark with a year date that was used while the 1847 stamps were current.

Re - your contemplated advertisement for an 1847 cover used in Minnesota Territory. The data Perry gave you is correct. The only 1847 stamps sent to that Territory was as follows:

<u>Received at St. Paul</u>
<u>1850 - Oct. 17</u>
10¢ - 300
5¢ - none
<u>1851 - Feb. 4</u>
10¢ - 900
5¢ - 200

I believe your chances in locating such a cover are very very slim. Stamps used from there would probably be found elsewhere.

Re - your No. 1 - 10¢ 1847 cover used to Canada. The question is, "Did New York use a round grid on the 1847 stamps?" Chase stated in his 1916 article, quote: "New York also used though rarely - the ordinary round grid" (on the 1847 stamps) and stated that the common square grid was generally used.

I have been interested in this feature for some years and four or five years ago I wrote to perhaps half a dozen collectors of the forty-sevens inquiring what sort of covers did they have with an 1847 stamp used from New York with a round grid in red. One replied that he knew of perhaps half a dozen covers that were genuine.

I do not think its use was confined to Canada, Europe or California, as I have a record of covers to France, Canada and California. However, mail to such places did not always have the round grid (from New York City).

In my opinion, your cover No. 1 is genuine in every respect and I have signed it on the back.

I enclose a photo print of a cover to California in 1850 (Oct. 10). I offered this cover to you in 1948 @ \$750.00. It is now buried in a large 1847 collection.

I am also enclosing a photo print of a Wheeling, Va. cover with a 10¢ precancel.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

Oct. 7, 1955.

Mr. C. C. Hart,
Suite 1020, 922 Walnut St.,
Kansas City 6, Mo.

Dear Mr. Hart:

I have yours of the 27th with enclosures including check for \$10.00 for which please accept my thanks. Memo of this is enclosed herewith.

I am also enclosing two prints of your 10¢ 1847 cover. These are from a different negative that I made for the photo used in my current Service Issue.

Herewith I am returning your 5¢ 1847 cover addressed to Eatonton, Georgia, together with the Foundation report, also a photograph that I made of the stamp by ultra-violet light. Also a cover used from Augusta, Ga. on May 21, 1861. This is a cover known as "A U.S. stamp used in a seceded state" before the Confederacy took over control of the P.O.D. in the states comprising the Confederacy." Incidentally, this is quite a late use, May 21, 1861. The C.S.A. took over as of June 1st, 1861. On and after that date no U. S. stamps were good for postage. Price of this cover if you wish to retain is \$5.00.

Regarding your cover. I feel sure that the postmark is "AUGUSTA, GA" and that the cover went to Eatonton, Ga. Of course this type of postmark was never used during the life of the 1847 stamps, in fact, this type was not adopted until late in 1859 or in 1860. The date does look like "Jan 8." In my opinion, this could not have been Jan. 8, 1859, and I doubt if the use was 1860, and more likely Jan. 8, 1861, or perhaps later.

Note the photograph made by ultra-violet light. While this print shows some strange marks I do not believe any former cancelations were removed.

Regarding the postmark, it appears to be genuine to me. It does not appear to be a paint job, but an impression from a stamper. I do not think that someone had a fake imitation of this postmark made and applied it to a 5¢ 1847 stamp that had been cleaned.

The envelope appears to be a homemade affair, hence the question arises - was this cover used at Augusta, Ga. at sometime in the Confederacy. The rate for distances in the C.S.A. up to 500 miles was 5¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce between June 1, 1861 and July 1, 1862, after which it was 10¢. So if this was a Confederate use it must have been January 1862. One can speculate that the writer had an old 5¢ 1847 stamp and decided to use it and that it got by a postal clerk. This could have happened Jan. 1861 or 1862, I doubt if earlier or later. A homemade envelope might indicate 1862 rather than 1861.

I note that the Foundation certificate reads: "the stamp was not used on this cover." That statement is very indefinite and one can wonder what they meant. Did they mean that the part of the postmark on the stamp is not genuine but the part

#2. Mr. C. C. Hart - Oct. 7, 1955.

on the envelope is genuine? In other words, did someone remove a 3¢ 1857 and substitute a cleaned 5¢ 1847 and paint that part of the postmark that is on the stamp? I dislike to disagree with opinions given by the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Foundation but it is my opinion the cover is genuine and could have been genuinely used as outlined above.

Sometime in the near future I would like to have you return this cover to me with permission to send it to my friend Larry Shenfield who is an authority on Confederate stamps and covers and is a consulting member of the Foundation Expert Committee.

My kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

P.S.--Examination Fee of \$5.00 has been paid.

(S.B.37-37)

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

No 511435

SENT TO

Mr Lawrence L. Shenfield

STREET AND NO.

40 Highland Circle

CITY AND STATE

Bronxville N.Y.

POSTMARK
OR DATE

*If you want a
return receipt,
check which*

☐

*7¢ shows
to whom
and when
delivered*

☐

*31¢ shows to whom,
when, and address
where delivered*

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.



Oct. 17, 1955.

Mr. Lawrence L. Shenfield,
40 Highland Circle,
Bronxville 8, N.Y.

Dear Larry:

I am enclosing herewith P.F. certificate #5997 re - a 5¢ 1847 cover, also a photograph that I made of this cover - approximately natural size. I wish that you would find out for me why the P.F. issued this certificate, that is, why they stated: "The stamp was not used on this cover."

It is my personal opinion that the Committee should either operate with some degree of efficiency or quit posing as an "Expert Committee."

I am enclosing a copy of a report that I made to Cyril Harmer of London on the Waterhouse block of 12 - 3¢ 1861 PINK. The P.F. Committee issued a certificate stating the block was not a PINK. That is absolutely absurd. If it is not a PINK then what in the name of common sense is it? This block was discovered out in California along about 1890 and it was acquired by John Luff who pronounced it a fine PINK. In 1905 he sold it to George Worthington as a PINK and when old J. C. Morgenthau sold the Worthington collection he sold it as a PINK. Does anyone mean to tell me that J. C. Morgenthau didn't know a PINK? That is too silly for words. The block went to Duveen and Duveen regarded it as Pink, then Charley Phillips sold it for Duveen to Hind as PINK. And when Phillips sold the Hind collection he sold it as PINK. Elliott Perry bought it for something like \$1,100 in the Hind Sale. I suppose someone is going to tell me that Perry - "himself" don't know a PINK when he sees one. It passed into the Sir Nicholas Waterhouse collection at a big price as a PINK and it was offered in the recent Waterhouse sale and described by Dr. Bacher as a PINK. I wrote an article about it years ago in "Stamps" and I described it as PINK. With all that background, the P.F. Expert Committee comes up with the statement - "It is not PINK."

I am convinced that the Committee is making a laughing stock of serious philatelic research work and I intend to withdraw all free advice to them. Hereafter when they want an opinion from me they will pay me the same as anybody else.

Why did they state that this 5¢ 1847 stamp was not used on this cover? Can you find out for me? Please take good care of the enclosures and return them to me.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

Oct. 7, 1955.

Mr. C. C. Hart,
Suite 1020, 922 Walnut St.,
Kansas City 6, Mo.

Dear Mr. Hart:

I have yours of the 27th with enclosures including check for \$10.00 for which please accept my thanks. Memo of this is enclosed herewith.

I am also enclosing two prints of your 10¢ 1847 cover. These are from a different negative that I made for the photo used in my current Service Issue.

Herewith I am returning your 5¢ 1847 cover addressed to Eatonton, Georgia, together with the Foundation report, also a photograph that I made of the stamp by ultra-violet light. Also a cover used from Augusta, Ga. on May 21, 1861. This is a cover known as "A U.S. stamp used in a seceded state" before the Confederacy took over control of the P.O.D. in the states comprising the Confederacy." Incidentally, this is quite a late use, May 21, 1861. The C.S.A. took over as of June 1st, 1861. On and after that date no U. S. stamps were good for postage. ~~Price of this cover if you wish to retain is \$5.00.~~

Regarding your cover. I feel sure that the postmark is "AUGUSTA, GA" and that the cover went to Eatonton, Ga. Of course this type of postmark was never used during the life of the 1847 stamps, in fact, this type was not adopted until late in 1859 or in 1860. The date does look like "Jan 8." In my opinion, this could not have been Jan. 8, 1859, and I doubt if the use was 1860, and more likely Jan. 8, 1861, or perhaps later.

Note the photograph made by ultra-violet light. While this print shows some strange marks I do not believe any former cancellations were removed.

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I note that the Foundation certificate reads: "the stamp was not used on this cover." That statement is very indefinite and one can wonder what they meant. Did they mean that the part of the postmark on the stamp is not genuine but the part

#2. Mr. C. C. Hart - Oct. 7, 1955.

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Sometime in the near future I would like to have you return this cover to me with permission to send it to my friend Larry Shenfield who is an authority on Confederate stamps and covers and is a consulting member of the Foundation Expert Committee.

My kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

P.S.—Examination Fee of \$5.00 has been paid.

(S.B.37-37)

J. R. HUGHES
Philatelic Broker—Stamp Auctions
68 POST STREET, SAN FRANCISCO 4, CALIFORNIA

October 5, 1955

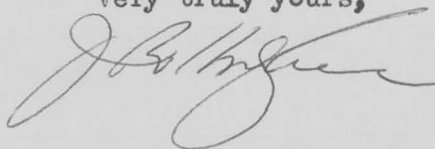
Mr. Stanley Ashbrook
33 N. Fort Thomas Avenue
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

I am forwarding a copy of U.S. #1 with what purports to be a blue 5 within circle cancellation.

Would you be kind enough to examine this item and to give me your opinion as to the authenticity of the cancellation. When returning the stamp please advise your charges for this service.

Very truly yours,



JRH:lmn
Enclosure

The Leading Stamp Auctions of the West

J. R. HUGHES

68 POST STREET
SAN FRANCISCO 4, CALIF.



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

CERTIFIED MAIL

No. 60559

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

No 511432

SENT TO

J. R. Hughes

STREET AND NO.

68 POST ST

CITY AND STATE

San Francisco (4) 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

OCT
11 /
1955

THOMAS

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.

Oct. 11, 1955.

Mr. J. R. Hughes,
68 Post St.,
San Francisco 4, Calif.

Dear Mr. Hughes:

Herewith the 5¢ 1847 as per yours of the 5th. Baltimore used an encircled "5" and a "5" and a "10" in an oval but I must confess that I failed to make out any actual "5" in this marking, though the blue ink is much the same as the blue ink that was used at that office. Philadelphia also used such a blue ink. I suppose it is possible that this stamp might have been used at either office or elsewhere. I would prefer to class this copy as a very fine early impression canceled in blue. I do not think that much value is added to a stamp by a cancelation that is claimed to be of a certain variety but is not plain enough to be recognized at a glance.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

TELEPHONE
PLAZA 7-4460

APPRAISALS FOR SALE,
PROBATE & INSURANCE

DIRECTORS
H. R. HARMER B. D. HARMER
F. T. BUCK MARGARET MAHONEY

H · R · HARMER, Inc.

INTERNATIONAL STAMP AUCTIONEERS

6 WEST 48TH STREET
NEW YORK 36, N.Y.

ALSO AT 41 NEW BOND STREET, LONDON, W. I.
AND 25 CASTLEREAGH STREET, SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

ESTABLISHED OVER 50 YEARS

CABLES
HARMERSALE, NEW YORK

LEADING AUCTIONEERS OF
RARE POSTAGE STAMPS

AUCTIONEERS OF THE
"PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT" COLLECTION

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

11th
October
1955

Dear Stan:

Many thanks for your letter of October 4th and the return of the two items from the Caspary Collection.

Naturally we are very happy over the report on the 90c cover which is a pretty fabulous item. In this direction, when describing it, do you have any objection to our quoting from your letter, namely that in your opinion the cover is "one of the finest known with this stamp if not the finest"? I am enclosing our check for \$5 covering the expert fee.

At the same time I am sending to you the "pink" block from the Waterhouse sale on which I would like a formal opinion on the basis of it being submitted by H. R. Harmer, Ltd. and not ourselves. No doubt you have already heard that the Foundation has turned this item down as not being the true pink, they apparently working on the basis that only the "pigeon's blood" can be certified as the pink, whereas Gordon Harmer is of the opinion that the Scott catalogue when it listed the pink shade was referring to the shade that is shown by the enclosed block and in fact he believes the listing was based on this actual block in a slightly larger form when originally in the Worthington Collection.

I would point out that I am sending this at the request of my London office and this is not merely an attempt to create any discordance by reason of a difference of opinion between the Foundation and yourself should you confirm that it is the pink. After obtaining one more opinion I believe our London office will request that the item is returned to London.

With thanks in advance.

Sincerely yours,
H. R. HARMER, INC.

Bernard,
Director

BDH:E
Enclosures

Oct. 13, 1955.

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

Dear Bernard:

Thanks very much for yours of the 11th with check for \$5.00.

Re - the Caspary 90¢ 1860 cover to Spain. I have always considered my old 90¢ 1860 cover, now in the Newbury collection, as the finest one known. I sold it to Judge Emerson in 1926 @ \$2,000.00. However, I believe I would much prefer to own the Caspary cover, so I believe that would mean that I consider the Caspary as the finest in my long recording of such items. As far as this cover is concerned you are privileged to quote anything that I have stated regarding it.

Herewith I am returning the 3¢ 1861 Pink Waterhouse block. For anyone to state that this block is not the S.U.S. No. 64 PINK is perfectly absurd and is a perfect demonstration of the incompetency of the Expert Committee of the Foundation. They seem to have a habit of condemning genuine items and authenticating fakes. I am sure this affords Zareski, Sperati and other crooks with a great deal of pleasure.

I am enclosing a copy of my opinion on this block herewith and I am sending the original, with charges, to your London office, also copies to the Expert Committee of the P.F. and to Sir Nicholas, Dr. Bacher, Gordon Harmer, Elliott Perry, Ezra Cole and the Weill Brothers.

It is obvious that they made a mistake in not sending the block to me rather than to the P.F.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

Regarding the

3¢ 1861 BLOCK OF TWELVE

Waterhouse Sale -

London - June 27-30, 1955.

Lot 409 - described as PINK.

The famous Worthington block - Ex-John Luff.

The Scott U.S. Catalogue lists as #64 - 3¢ PINK and 64A as 3¢ ROSE PINK, also #65 as ROSE and 65A as DULL RED.

There is a very rare color which is not catalogued which students of long experience in study of the 3¢ 1861, classify as the PIGEON BLOOD. In my reference collection I classify two examples of the rare PIGEON BLOOD as, (1) DEEP PIGEON BLOOD, and (2) PALE PIGEON BLOOD. Both copies are on a very white paper, which has not deteriorated by age, (the paper yellowed).

My No. 3 reference copy is the PINK and it also is on very white paper. This is the stamp that I consider as the S.U.S. No. 64. This #64 PINK is also found on the white paper which has turned yellowish with age.

I have made a very careful examination of the Waterhouse block of 12 in excellent daylight, and it is my unqualified opinion that this block is the S.U.S. No. 64 - the PINK. It is quite true that it is not a Pigeon Blood, and it certainly is not the No. 65 Rose. The paper of this block is not white but a bit yellowed with age, however, this block is not the 64A which the S.U.S. classifies as a Rose Pink, as the catalogued ROSE PINK in my opinion covers every stamp that has any pinkish tint, as for example, the stamps we call "Pinkish Rose," "Rosy Pink," "Near Pink," etc. etc. In my opinion, the color of the Waterhouse block is far superior to any such classifications.

To sum up, this block is unquestionably the S.U.S. No. 64, the PINK and it has been so regarded by all the leading authorities for the past 65 years.

STANLEY B. ASHERCOK

October 13, 1955
FORT THOMAS, KY.

Regarding the

34 1861 Block of twelve -

Waterhouse Sale - London

June 27-30 1955.

Loh 409 - described as PINK

The famous Northington Block -
Ex John Luff.

The Scott U.S. Catalogue lists
as # 64 - ~~34~~ 34 PINK and 64A

as 34 Rose PINK, also # 65 as

Rose and 65A as Dull Red.

There is a very rare color

which is not catalogued

which ~~qualified~~ students ^{OF LONG EXPERIENCE} ~~of~~ ^{IN}

~~the~~ Study of the 34 1861

classified as the PIGEON BLOOD.

In my reference collection

I classify two examples of the
rare PIGEON BLOOD, as (1)
deep Pigeon blood, and (2) pale
pigeon blood. Both copies are
on a very white paper,
which has not deteriorated
by age. (The paper yellowed).

My No. 3 reference copy is
the PINK and it also is
on very white paper. This
is the stamp that ~~is tested~~
I consider is the S. H. S.
No 64. This #64 PINK is also
found on ~~paper~~ ^{the} white
paper which has turned
yellowish with age.
I have made a very

Careful examination of the
Hatchhouse block of 12 in
excellent daylight, and it is
my unqualified opinion that
this block is the S. H. S.

Nº 64 - the PINK. It is quite
true that it is not a
Pigeon Blood, ~~but but~~ and
it certainly is not ~~&~~ the
Nº 65 Rose. ~~This block is~~
The ~~white~~ paper of this
block is not white but
~~in my opinion~~ a bit
yellowed with age,
~~however~~ however this ~~is~~
block is ~~certainly~~ ~~in~~
~~my opinion~~
not the 64A which

the S. U. S. classifies as
a Rose Pink, as the
Catalogued Rose Pink, ^{IN MY OPINION} covers
every stamp ~~that has any~~
~~tint that resembles in~~
~~the slightest degree~~
that has ~~that is has~~
any pinkish tint, as for
example, the stamps
we call "Pinkish Rose,"
"Rasy. Pink" "Near Pink"
Etc Etc. In my opinion,
the color of the
Waterhouse Block is far
superior to any such
classifications.

To sum up, this block

is ^{UNQUESTIONABLY} the S. U. S. No. 64, the PINK
and it has been ^{so} recognized
~~the~~ ~~since~~ by all the
leading authorities for
the past 65 years. ~~It~~
~~disseminates~~ ~~it~~ ~~other~~ ~~than~~
a No. 64 is

Stanley B. Hightbrook

October 13
1955

Fort Thomas
Kentucky

COPY

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK
A. P. S. 2497
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.
FT. THOMAS, KY.

Regarding the

3¢ 1861 BLOCK OF TWELVE
Waterhouse Sale -
London - June 27-30, 1955.

Lot 409 - described as PINK.
The famous Worthington block - Ex-John Luff.
The Scott U.S. Catalogue lists as #64 - 3¢ PINK and 64A as 3¢ ROSE PINK, also
#65 as ROSE and 65A as DULL RED.

There is a very rare color which is not catalogued which students of long experience in study of the 3¢ 1861, classify as the PIGEON BLOOD. In my reference collection I classify two examples of the rare PIGEON BLOOD as, (1) DEEP PIGEON BLOOD, and (2) PALE PIGEON BLOOD. Both copies are on a very white paper, which has not deteriorated by age, (the paper yellowed).

My No. 3 reference copy is the PINK and it also is on very white paper. This is the stamp that I consider as the S.U.S. No. 64. This #64 PINK is also found on the white paper which has turned yellowish with age.

I have made a very careful examination of the Waterhouse block of 12 in excellent daylight, and it is my unqualified opinion that this block is the S.U.S. No. 64 - the PINK. It is quite true that it is not a Pigeon Blood, and it certainly is not the No. 65 Rose. The paper of this block is not white but a bit yellowed with age, however, this block is not the 64A which the S.U.S. classifies as a Rose Pink, as the catalogued ROSE PINK in my opinion covers every stamp that has any pinkish tint, as for example, the stamps we call "Pinkish Rose," "Rosy Pink," "Near Pink," etc. etc. In my opinion, the color of the Waterhouse block is far superior to any such classifications.

To sum up, this block is unquestionably the S.U.S. No. 64, the PINK and it has been so regarded by all the leading authorities for the past 65 years.

October 13, 1955
FORT THOMAS,
KENTUCKY.

Stanley B. Ashbrook

Oct. 13, 1955.

H.R.Harmer, Ltd.,
41 New Bond St.,
London W. 1, England.

Attention: Mr. Cyril Harmer

Dear Mr. Harmer:

Mr. Bernard Harmer submitted to me for examination, the Waterhouse 3¢ 1861 block of twelve. I am today returning it to him, and enclose herewith my report on same, together with invoice for my fee, as instructed by him.

For any Committee or individual to assert that this block is not the PINK, S.U.S. No. 64, is absolutely absurd. This block should never have been submitted to that Committee.

I am sending copies of my report to a number of interested parties, including the P.F. Expert Committee.

Sincerely yours,

Oct. 13, 1955.

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

Dear Harry:

I am enclosing a copy of the opinion that I gave Cyril Harmer on the famous 3¢ 1861 PINK block. You are probably aware the Weill boys bought this block in the Waterhouse sale last June. They submitted it to the Expert Committee of the P.F. and the Committee issued a certificate stating the block was not PINK. Such an opinion is absolutely absurd. There is absolutely no question but what the block is the S.U.S. No. 64 and a very good color.

Doubtless you will recall that I published an article in "Stamps" about this block, issue of March 23, 1946. Quite an interesting account. I suggest you refer to it.

Harry would you mind publishing the enclosed for me?

In the current issue of "Stamps" (Oct. 15th), the Weills illustrate a cover they bought in the Waterhouse Sale for \$1,650.00. They submitted it to the P.F. Committee and they issued a certificate stating it was genuine.

Confidential. The cover, in my opinion, is not genuine and I think I have sufficient evidence to prove my assertion. However, keep this confidential as I have no desire to damage their investment.

With all good wishes -

Cordially yours,

Stanley B Ashbrook

October
18
1955

Regarding The ~~Report~~

Oct. 17, 1955.

Mr. Lawrence L. Shenfield,
40 Highland Circle,
Bronxville 8, N.Y.

Dear Larry:

I am enclosing herewith P.F. certificate #5997 re - a 5¢ 1847 cover, also a photograph that I made of this cover - approximately natural size. I wish that you would find out for me why the P.F. issued this certificate, that is, why they stated: "The stamp was not used on this cover."

It is my personal opinion that the Committee should either operate with some degree of efficiency or quit posing as an "Expert Committee."

~~I am enclosing a copy of a report that I made to Cyril Harmer of London on the Waterhouse block of 12 - 3¢ 1861 PINK. The P.F. Committee issued a certificate stating the block was not a PINK. That is absolutely absurd. If it is not a PINK then what in the name of common sense is it? This block was discovered out in California along about 1890 and it was acquired by John Luff who pronounced it a fine PINK. In 1905 he sold it to George Worthington as a PINK and when old J. C. Morgenthau sold the Worthington collection he sold it as a PINK. Does anyone mean to tell me that J. C. Morgenthau didn't know a PINK? That is too silly for words. The block went to Duveen and Duveen regarded it as Pink, then Charley Phillips sold it for Duveen to Hind as PINK. And when Phillips sold the Hind collection he sold it as PINK. Elliott Perry bought it for something like \$1,100 in the Hind Sale. I suppose someone is going to tell me that Perry - "himself" don't know a PINK when he sees one. It passed into the Sir Nicholas Waterhouse collection at a big price as a PINK and it was offered in the recent Waterhouse sale and described by Dr. Bacher as a PINK. I wrote an article about it The Block years ago in "Stamps" and I described it as PINK. With all that background, the P.F. Expert Committee comes up with the statement - "It is not PINK."~~

I am convinced that the Committee is making a laughing stock of serious philatelic research work and I intend to withdraw all free advice to them. Hereafter when they want an opinion from me they will pay me the same as anybody else.

Why did they state that this 5¢ 1847 stamp was not used on this cover? Can you find out for me? Please take good care of the enclosures and return them to me.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

who knew

Believe That He

Such
A
Thought

Suggest

The Block

TELEPHONE
PLAZA 7-4460

APPRAISALS FOR SALE,
PROBATE & INSURANCE

DIRECTORS
H. R. HARMER B. D. HARMER
F. T. BUCK MARGARET MAHONEY

H · R · HARMER, Inc.

INTERNATIONAL STAMP AUCTIONEERS

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NEW YORK 36, N.Y.

ALSO AT 41 NEW BOND STREET, LONDON, W.I.
AND 26 CASTLEREAGH STREET, SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

ESTABLISHED OVER 50 YEARS

CABLES
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LEADING AUCTIONEERS OF
RARE POSTAGE STAMPS

AUCTIONEERS OF THE
"PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT" COLLECTION

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

21st
October
1955

Dear Stan:

I don't believe I acknowledged the return of the pink block from the Waterhouse sale. We have safely received it and we appreciate your opinion.

We will be paying the charges and have asked London to return the bill to us so that there may be some slight delay until this is to hand.

With kind regards.

Sincerely yours,

H. R. HARMER, INC.

Bernard.

Director

BDH:E

Oct. 26, 1955.

Mr. Cyril Harmer,
41 New Bond St.,
London W. 1, England.

Dear Mr. Harmer:

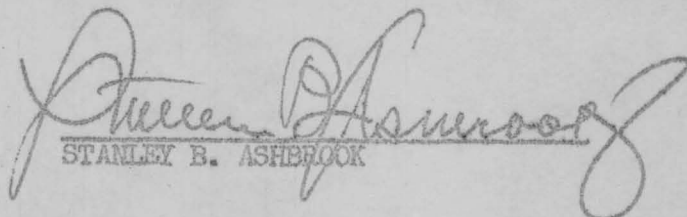
I enclose a memo that I sent to the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Foundation, also a copy which you can hand to Sir Nicholas. Copies of this memo have been sent to a number of our leading collectors and students of 19th U.S.

I regret to state that in my opinion, the P.F. Expert Committee seems to make more errors than correct decisions. I think it ceases to be a laughing matter when a small group, kidding themselves that they are philatelic "Experts," issues such a certificate.

Sincerely yours,

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK
P. O. Box 31
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.,
FORT THOMAS, KY.

Regarding the report that I made to Cyril Harmer of London on the Waterhouse block of 12 - 34 1861 PINK. The P. F. Committee issued a certificate stating the block was not a PINK. That is absolutely absurd. If it is not a PINK then what in the name of common sense is it? This block was discovered out in California along about 1890 and it was acquired by John Luff who pronounced it a fine PINK. In 1905 he sold it to George Worthington as a PINK and when old J. C. Morgenthau sold the Worthington collection he sold it as a PINK. Does anyone who knew J. C. Morgenthau believe that he didn't know a PINK? Such a thought is too silly for words. The block went to Duveen and Duveen regarded it as Pink, then Charley Phillips sold it for Duveen to Hind as PINK. And when Phillips sold the Hind collection he sold it as PINK. Elliott Perry bought it for something like \$1,100 in the Hind Sale. I suppose someone is going to suggest that Perry - "himself" don't know a PINK when he sees one. It passed into the Sir Nicholas Waterhouse collection at a big price as a PINK and it was offered in the recent Waterhouse Sale and described by Dr. Bacher as a PINK. I wrote an article about the block years ago in "STAMPS" and I described it as PINK. With all that background, the P. F. Expert Committee comes up with the statement - "It is not PINK."


STANLEY B. ASHBROOK

OCTOBER
18
1955

Elliott Perry to Bernard Harmer,
November 22, 1955.

Dear Bernard Harmer,

The following is being included in a letter to Stan Ashbrook today:

That the Waterhouse block of 3c 1861 & other 3c 1861 material was examined & tested with the violet ray, yesterday by you, Herbert Block & myself.

That the conclusion arrived at was that fluorescence by the violet ray did not render conclusive proof that a stamp was or was not a true pink-either Scott No. 64, or a "pigeon blood."

I agreed to a statement to the effect that although the Waterhouse block would not be considered as representative of the most desirable pink colour, it was within reasonable limits of tolerance for No. 64 pink.

As a matter of fact the evidence by the violet ray agreed with conclusions arrived at by Wm. H. Beck & myself years ago, & I believe the 500 or more 3c 1861 which were tested yesterday are many more than Beck & myself tested under the violet ray.

I believe we three agreed that what is needed is a standard for the 3c 1861 pink, & limits of tolerance, which are so reasonable (i.e., workable), that they will be generally accepted.

If an owner has confidence that the limits of tolerance are reasonable, I believe he should be satisfied, & probably will be satisfied, that his stamp is or is not pink, according to whether it does or does not come within such limits of tolerance.

In my opinion, his decision will always be from what he sees by comparing himself, or by a comparison by someone in whom he has confidence, & not with the kind of fluorescence which the violet ray happens to produce on his stamp.

The "premiere gravures" of 1861 were printed from plates numbered 1 to 8. They were followed by regular issue 1c plates 9 & 10, & four 3c plates-No. 11, 12, 13 & 14. A thousand impressions per day for 13 days would total 10,400,000 stamps from four plates, which is almost exactly the quantity of 3c stamps issued to post offices from August 16 to August 31, 1861. (May be coincidence).

The issue on August 16 & 17 totalled 5,007,000 3c stamps, which had to be printed, gummed, dried & perforated before that date. The pink colour is too rare for a large proportion of these to have been pink stamps. The Waterhouse block shows that some pink stamps were printed from plate No. 12- but not when they were printed.

"Colour trouble" is definitely indicated in four of the eight denominations. The 1c & 3c were too pale for several months, the 5c was buff instead of brown, & the first 24c was far from the violet which was intended & announced. Who can say whether the pink came off the press first, or resulted from an attempt to darken one of the other "early birds?"

And prove it?

Sincerely

(signed) Elliott Perry.

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



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

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

October 8, 1955.

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

Dear Stan,

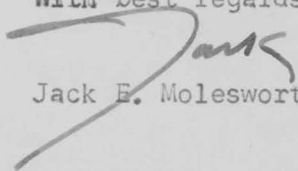
My thanks for your letter of October 1st. Your opinion on the 1¢ 1851 was as I had anticipated. Is it possible on the 3¢ Bank Note that it could have come through and not been cancelled in this country while the French Post Office seeing it uncanceled cancelled it with the Blue French Post Mark which it now has? I have, of course, frequently seen parts of foreign cancels on stamps used abroad, though in practically every case they also had the U.S. cancel.

Enclosed are three rather interesting items on which I would appreciate your examination, opinion, and signature on the reverse. One is a 10¢ 47 Used from Canada which I believe is quite rare and genuine as it appears to be. The next is a pair of 3¢ 1869's apparently also used from Canada which I would assume to be quite scarce if not rare also. The third is a 3¢ 1857 tied with (due 6¢) and dead letter office markings. It appears to me to be a usage after demonitization where the stamp was not recognized. I shall look forward with interest to your comments.

I was sorry that you did not care to give an opinion on the 90¢ 1860 with Black ringless grid. As it now stands I have no basis for returning it to Harmer since you have not authenticated it as bad, but am quite reluctant to offer it for sale since you have indicated that you don't like it. This is quite a dilemma for me. Any suggestions?

10¢47
Cover 5x7
See BB 664

With best regards,


Jack E. Molesworth

JEM/vf

Oct. 12, 1955.

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

Dear Jack:

We have been down in Kentucky and on my return I found your Air letter of the 7th. I note it was delivered at 4:15 P.M. last Saturday, but no one was here to receive it. Thus the delay.

I have the three items you enclosed and will return them to you tomorrow.

Re - the 10¢ 1847 cover to New York. I examined this cover before the Fox sale. If I advise you I do not like it and you advise Fox of my opinion then John is apt to get sore at me. At any rate, more by tomorrow's mail with return of the three covers.

Regards.

Yours etc.,

Oct. 13, 1955.

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

Dear Jack:

Herewith the three covers as per yours of the 8th.

On second thought I have no objection if you mentioned to John Fox my opinion of the 10¢ 1847 cover from Canada. In its present condition, the cover does not make sense.

Re - the 3¢ 1887 with the French postmark. I have no doubt the postmark is genuine though I am no judge. How it got on the stamp is anybody's guess. I suppose if someone took the stamp to a French P.O. and requested a clerk to cancel it, he might have obliged. Why not?

Re @ the 90¢ 1860. You inquired if I had any suggestions. The best that I can suggest is to offer the stamp "as is." You cannot guarantee the cancel is genuine and I do not believe any real student of this stamp could, hence "as is" is the most ethical way to dispose of it.

With regards -

Yours etc.,

P.S.--I would like to buy the 3¢ '69 cover? What is your price?

Re - cover from Hamilton, Ont. Canada, July 3, 1851, addressed to D.S.Kennedy, Esq., New York, with a 10¢ 1847, sheet margin (at left) canceled with a round grid and pen marks in black.

There is no actual evidence that the 10¢ 1847 stamp was used originally on this cover. The cover itself is genuine in every respect and there is no evidence that it was not a stampless cover.

This letter did not reach the New York Post Office until the 5th or 6th of July 1851 at a time when the Postmaster General had declared the 1847 no longer good for postal use. One wonders if the N.Y. Post Office would have recognized the obsolete stamp as paying the rate.

Further, this use was after the U.S.-Canadian postal treaty went into effect, and the rate from Canada was 6 pence prepaid or unpaid, thus how could a U. S. stamp pay 6 pence in Canada? The Canadian Office stamped the letter "Paid 6d." but how could a U. S. 10¢ stamp pay Canada her 6 pence? All the markings are okay for a stampless cover but they are not correct for a cover with a 10¢ 1847 that is represented here as paying a rate from Canada. Further, the stamp has black pen marks. Where applied? On genuine covers of this character used before the treaty went into effect, 1847 stamps were canceled upon arrival at New York and the typical blue ink of the New York Post Office was used. Further, this 10¢ 1847 has a round grid in red. While the New York P.O. occasionally used a round seven bar grid on the 1847 stamps, it was far more customary to use the square grid. In fact, covers with 1847 stamps genuinely used from the N.Y. P.O. with the round grid are quite scarce.

To sum up, it is my opinion that the 10¢ 1847 stamp was not used originally on this cover.

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK

October 12, 1955.

This cover was Lot 34 in the sale by John A. Fox, held September 23, 1955.

Re - Cover from Hamilton, Ont Canada
July 3 1851 addressed to
A. S. Kennedy Esq, New York,
with a 10¢ 1847, sheet margin
(at left) cancelled with a round
grid and pen marks in black.x

There is no actual evidence
that ~~this cover is genuine, in~~
~~other words, there is no~~
~~actual evidence~~

The 10¢ 1847 Stamp was used
originally on this cover. The
cover itself is genuine in
every respect and there is
no evidence that it was
not a stumpless cover.

This letter did not reach
the New York post office until
the 5th or 6th of July 1851

at a time when the Postmaster
General had declared the
1847 no longer good for
postal use. One ~~a~~ readers of
the N. Y. Post Office would
have recognized the ^{OBsolete} stamp as
paying the rate. ~~It~~

Further, this use was
after the U. S. - Canadian
Postal treaty went into effect,
and the rate from Canada
was 6 pence prepaid or
unpaid, ~~thus~~ thus how could
a U. S. stamp pay 6 pence
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Canadian Office stamped
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Cover but they are not correct for
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typical blue ink of the
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Further, this ~~10¢~~ 10¢ 1847 has
a round grid in red. While
~~to~~ the New York P.O.
occasionally used a
round seven bar grid
on the 1847 stamps, ~~at~~

it was far more customary to
use the square grid. In
fact covers with 1847 stamps
genuinely used from the
N.Y. P.O. with the round
grid are quite scarce.

To sum up, it is my
opinion that the 10¢ 1847
stamp ~~on this cover~~ was
not used originally on this
cover.

Stanley B Ashbrook

October 12 - 1955.

This cover was Lot 34 in the
Sale by John A Fox, held
September 23 1955

Re - cover with vertical pair of the 3¢ 1869 on cover,
postmarked "NIAGARA MR 7 70" (Canada) and addressed
to "Mrs. Amy Exton, Clinton - Hunterdon Co - New Jersey
U.S."

Stamps tied and canceled by Canadian postal marking.

The rate in 1870 was 6¢ Paid, (Canadian) 10¢ unpaid.
The letter was first rated as unpaid with a handstamped
"10" (black) as the sum due in the U.S. - Later this
was canceled out and the letter permitted to go thru.

In my opinion, this cover is genuine in all respects.

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK

October 12, 1955.

Re - Cover with vertical pair of
the 3¢ 1869 on cover, postmarked
"NIAGARA Nov 7 70" (Canada)
and addressed to "Mrs Amy Exton
Clinton - Hunterdon Co -
New Jersey U. S."

Stamps tied and canceled by
Canadian postal marking.

The rate in 1870 was 6¢
Paid, (Canadian) 10¢ unpaid.

The letter was first rated as
unpaid with a handstamped
"10" (black) as the sum due in
the U. S. - Later this was

~~blocked~~ canceled out and
the letter permitted to go thru

In my opinion this cover
is genuine in all respects

Oct 12 1955.

Stanley B. Ashbrook

Re - cover with 3¢ 1857 tied to a small buff envelope with "Due 6 CTS" and an oval "Dead Letter Office" marking.

The cover is addressed to Mrs. Kate Newhall - Sterling, Mass. On the back is a pencil memorandum, "From Newbern, N.C. March 29, 1863," This town was occupied by Federal troops in March 1862.

In my opinion, this use was after demonetization of the "old stamps." In all probability the letter was sent to the Dead Letter Office (D.L.O.) because of the use of an obsolete stamp.

The Act of Jan. 21, 1862, Sec. 1, provided that dead letters were to be returned to writers and double rates of postage collected from them. Because of this, double rate, I base my opinion that the use was after demonetization.

It is my opinion that this cover is genuine and I have signed it on the back as follows: "In my opinion this cover is genuine."

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK

Oct. 12, 1955

Re - Cover with 3¢ 1857 tied to a
small buff envelope with "Due 6 cts"
and an oval "Dead Letter Office"
marking. ~~On the back~~ The
cover is addressed to
Mrs Kate Newhall - Sterling
Mass. On the back is a
pencil memorandum, "From
Newbern N.C. March 29 1863,"

This cover was occupied by
Federal troops in March 1862.

In my opinion, this use was
after demonetization of the "old
~~1857-1860~~ Stamps". In all
probability the letter was sent
to the Dead Letter Office (D.L.O.)
because of the use of an
obsolete stamp.

The Act of July 21, 1862, Sec 1
provided that dead letters were

to be returned to writers ~~and~~ and double
rates of postage collected from
them. Because of this
double rate I base my opinion
that the use was after
demonitization.

It is my opinion that
this cover is genuine and I

Stanley B Ashbrook

Oct 12 1955

Have signed it
on the back as follows.
"In my opinion this cover is
genuine"

Sept. 11, 1955.

Mr. John D. Pope, III,
818 Olive St.,
St. Louis 1, Mo.

Dear Mr. Pope:

Re - yours of the 8th and the 10¢ 1847 cover in the Fox Sale, scheduled for Nov. 23rd. I am sure that I have seen this cover in the past but I have been unable to lay my hands on my notes regarding it. Personally I would not buy this cover because as near as I can remember and as near as I can judge from the illustration in the catalogue, there is no indication the stamp was actually used on the cover. This could have been a prepaid stampless to which someone attached a pencanceled 10¢ 1847 stamp.

This was a cover from the well-known "Kennedy" (D.S. Kennedy) correspondence and it is a well-known fact that a lot of stampless covers from this "find" had stamps added.

I am enclosing herewith a sample copy of my April (1955) Service Issue. The photo #200 shows a cover in the Stark collection, Lot #25, and I have it for sale "as is" @ \$150.00. Will you please return the "sample" and "photo" at your convenience.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

Sept. 16, 1955.

Mr. John D. Pope, III,
818 Olive St.,
St. Louis 1, Mo.

Dear Mr. Pope:

Re - the 10¢ 1847 cover, Lot 34, (from Canada) in the Fox sale of Sept. 23rd. I sent for a number of lots in the sale and included this cover and I am today returning it.

I do not wish to influence you regarding the cover but I can advise you that it is a cover that I could not sign on the back as "in my opinion it is genuine." The stamp is canceled with black pen marks and there appears to be a faint red grid. I may be wrong of course but I wondered if the latter was faintly applied to tie the stamp to cover.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

Sept. 16, 1955.

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

Dear Em:

Early this morning I sent you by Air Mail - Registered - Special Delivery - some covers for John Fox. Included in the lot was a 10¢ '47 that I had requested John to send to me because I had been asked to examine it for my friend Popel. Perhaps you will wonder what I thought about it. Here is the answer - It is not a cover that I would sign on the back.

This morning I had a most cordial and friendly letter from Dr. Dabney. He advised that he had retired from practice and had taken a place in the Country where he was raising a few flowers and vegetables. Do you ever see him?

Thanks for the recent Kiplingers. Nice talking to you yesterday.

With regards -

Yours etc.,

Sept. 11, 1955.

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

Dear John:

Your sale - Norfolk - Sep. 23rd, will you please send me the following lots at my expense - Special Delivery. I will return them without any delay.

Lots 4, 5, 7, 8, 34, 48, 762, 800, 819, 820 and 822.

If any are out will you send them later if it is possible to do so.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

Oct. 13, 1955.

Mr. John D. Pope, III,
818 Olive St.,
St. Louis 1, Mo.

Dear Mr. Pope:

The buyer of the 10¢ 1847 cover that was Lot 34 in the recent Fox Sale at the A.P.S., Norfolk, sent the cover to me for my opinion. Knowing your interest in this item, I am enclosing a copy of my report. I suppose it would be better if you kept this confidential.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

Oct. 13, 1955.

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

For
opinion on 10¢ 1847 cover
Fox Sale - Sept. 23, 1955 \$ 5.00

For
opinion on 3¢ 1857 cover
Due 6CTS
(signed on back) 3.50

For
opinion on 3¢ 1869 cover
from Niagara, Canada
(signed on back) 3.50
\$12.00

PAID

PAID

OCT 25 1955

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

October 18, 1955.

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

PAID
12.00
OCT 25 1955

Dear Stan,

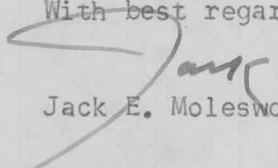
My thanks for your letters of the 13th. and your opinions on the three items submitted for which I enclose my check for \$12.00. I was sorry that the 10¢ 1847 cover was not good, but frankly suspected the opinion you rendered which of course is the reason I sent it along to you.

Your suggestion of offering the 90¢ 1860 on an "as is" basis is, I believe, a valid suggestion as I realize it is extremely difficult for anyone to authenticate a grid cancel on such a stamp. I shall offer it as you have suggested.

The 3¢ 1869 cover is a rather difficult one to price. However, based on my experience I would consider it to be a rare usage which should be of extreme interest to any 1869 cover specialist. I recall having sold a 2¢ 1869 on cover with similar usage from across the Maine border awhile back for about \$35.00 and believe this is a much nicer cover so would tentatively price it at \$50.00 retail. If you be interested in it at this price, I shall be glad to send it along to you. If you would prefer to have me try it on several of my clients, I shall be glad to do so and then allow you a 20% discount if they do not keep it, making the net price to you \$40.00. I have shown it to no one yet.

I acknowledge receipt of the additional lot of covers from the Stark collection which I have not as yet had a chance to go through thoroughly. However, from a hasty examination I doubt that many of them will be of interest. As previously mentioned, about the only thing in that line of cover that I can move are those with very fancy cancels and I was holding the other lot which you sent to have more of that type to submit to the clients I have in mind. However, very few if any of the covers in this last lot are of that type. I shall return to you in a day or two those which I feel I can do nothing with.

With best regards,


Jack E. Molesworth

JEM/vf

GREEN F128 9 SEC SEP 1955 B664



Red

paid

Red

Red
PAID

Black
Pen

John Kennedy Quinn

Blue

New-York

Blue

Letter
Headed
Hamilton
Agency
Bank of
Montreal

3rd July 1851

For Sale
9/20-55

Lot 34

~~B5~~

B664

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:-

10-12-55

A friend of mine just
bought these unnumbered 1869 insects
for \$15,000. They are said to come from
the Heathcote collection. Do you happen
to have any additional data about them?
They look good to me, but they are
so far outside my class of material and
price; I just wonder if he was taken
to the cleaners.

Kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,

W. Scott Polland

Oct. 16, 1955.

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

Dear Doctor:

Replying to yours of the 12th, last March Dan Kelleher sent me photographs of the three '69 inverts and stated that he had them for sale and would I be interested. I made photographs of his prints and returned them to him. I return yours and a set of mine so that you can see that they are the same.

Dan did not name a price as I had no one in mind whom I thought might be interested. I have no idea where Dan obtained them but now that you mentioned the Heathcotte collection I judge that was their source. I recall that the Weill boys bought that collection and sold quite a lot from it to Bruce Daniels of Boston. No doubt Daniels offered them to Kelleher. They do a lot of that kind of trading down there.

If you wish, I could write Perry Fuller and inquire where Miss Heathcotte obtained the three stamps. I assume that Kelleher would not have offered them unless he was sure they were okay but if your friend would like to be sure I will be glad to make photographs by ultra-violet to see if the exposures would show any traces of cancelations removed. I charge \$5.00 each for such exposures.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

P.S. Later - I note that Miss Heathcotte exhibited at the 1947 Cipex the three 1869 Inverts in unused condition.



BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION



Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook

33 N. Fort Thomas Ave.

Fort Thomas



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

MEMORANDUM FROM

Dr. O. Bacher



Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

Oct.12,1955

I thought the enclosed photo of a 5¢ New York on envelope might interest you in view of an article of yours in STAMPS of Nov.15,1947. Please return the Cert. as soon as possible.

I bought the cover here recently, but there is a pencil comment of Mr.Kelleher's on the back which I quote on the Cert.

The envelope is plain, without any imprint, but obviously not home-made. Have you NOW records of more 5¢ New York stamps on manufactured envelopes? Because of the rarity of this use, I had it checked up by the Foundation.

Thanking you and with best wishes
yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'O. Bacher', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke at the end.

THE WESTMINSTER STAMP CO. LTD.

The Specialists in U.S.A. Stamps

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

Telephone: GERrard 4900

Established 1921



BELMONT STAMP COMPANY

5843 VICKERY BOULEVARD
DALLAS 6, TEXAS

GEORGE E. MYERS, *Proprietor*

October 7th, 1955.

A.P.S.	11114
S.P.A.	9806
B.I.A.	1688
A.A.M.S.	3551
P.S.S.	1214
C.S.A.	137
T.M.P.S.	1143
T.P.A.	623
O.P.S.	292

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

We have received from Mr. George N. Malpass of St. Petersburg, Florida, a cover bearing a copy of US # 146 together with a lower left diagonal bisect of the same stamp, apparently used to make the three cent rate. The bisect is tied across the cut side by a blue double lined circular town cancel of White House, N.J., September 19th, 1871.

A photo of this cover was also submitted which bears your name rubber-stamped on the back. Also, an affidavit from Mrs. Ada L. Brokaw, wife (or rather, widow) of the original addressee, dated January 31st, 1936, is also submitted which merely states that the cover is as it was originally received by her husband.

From this it would appear that you have in your files some record of this cover and it is reasonable to presume that you probably rendered an opinion with respect to it. The fact that nothing from you was submitted in support of this item is the reason for this letter.

The cover appears to be genuine, more so in view of the affidavit. However there is to be considered the matter of whether the cancel is genuine or whether it is spurious, with the cover being perhaps a "planted" item. Could you give us some information on this item?

Mr. Malpass also mentions that Scott no longer places a price on any of the bisects of this # 146 but is under the impression that these bisects were priced in the SUS catalogue around 1937-38 at \$ 300.00, suggesting that the item is no less valuable today than it was almost 20 years ago.

Yours very truly,

George E. Myers

MEMBER OF: American Philatelic Society
Society of Philatelic Americans
Bureau Issues Association

American Air Mail Society
Precancel Stamp Society
Confederate Stamp Alliance

Trans-Mississippi Philatelic Society
Texas Philatelic Association
Oklahoma Philatelic Society

COMMERCIAL REFERENCE: First National Bank in Dallas.

Oct. 13, 1955.

Mr. George E. Myers,
Belmont Stamp Co.,
5843 Vickery Blvd.,
Dallas 6, Texas.

Dear Mr. Myers:

In reply to yours of the 7th, it would require some time to search my records regarding the cover referred to. I suggest that you send it to me and I will be glad to give you an up-to-date opinion without any fee.

If Mr. George Malpass sent the cover to you I am sure it must be as represented. Mr. Malpass is a man of the highest integrity and a very good friend of mine. On numerous occasions I have passed on items submitted by him.

I have never received any of your auction catalogues that I can recall. Jack Molesworth informed me that he obtains very satisfactory results on lots placed with you for sale. I may be able to send you some inexpensive material that you could sell to better advantage than I could

You seem to be very careful regarding items which you offer for sale which is indeed something that is most commendable.

Sincerely yours,

Return post. 6

Registry 40

ENCLOSED

DELIVERED BY COMPANY

5050 VICKERY BOULEVARD

DALLAS 6, TEXAS

P.S.

If you care to make any comments regarding the submitted cover it might be well to incorporate them on the back side of the photo of the cover -- in condensed form perhaps -- with you signature.

George E. Myers

BELMONT STAMP COMPANY

5843 VICKERY BOULEVARD

DALLAS 6, TEXAS



BELMONT STAMP COMPANY

5843 VICKERY BOULEVARD
DALLAS 6, TEXAS

GEORGE E. MYERS, *Proprietor*

October 15th, 1955.

A.P.S.	11114
S.P.A.	9806
B.I.A.	1688
A.A.M.S.	3551
P.S.S.	1214
C.S.A.	137
T.M.P.S.	1143
T.P.A.	623
O.P.S.	292

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

In line with your suggestion of October 13th we are submitting herewith the cover bearing a pair (one of which is bisected) of US # 146 used to make up the three-cent rate. The photo of this cover bearing your rubber stamp imprint on the reverse side is also enclosed.

I have had a reply to an inquiry made of Scott Publications, Inc. in regard to the date when this item, or one of similar nature was last priced. They advise that this item was last priced at \$ 300.00 in the 1944 Edition of the Specialized U.S. Catalogue. Since that was quite some time ago we are planning to offer this item with an "estimated" valuation of \$ 350.00 which should be a reasonable estimate of current value.

We have instituted a policy of being cautious about offering supposedly rare items without first conducting our own investigation in cases where the owner supplies no information, or very little. We feel that we must do this for the protection of all concerned, including especially ourselves. We have had several narrow escapes in the past when we were a bit too enthusiastic about offering material that looked O.K. but wasn't. The last instance concerned some spurious Canal Zone overprint rarities. Had we not had a lot of material on hand subject to offering at a later date from the owner of these fakes we would undoubtedly have had to make the half dozen or so refunds out of our own pocket. Since that time we have turned down a good many items that have been submitted without certificates or on which the owners declined to provide certificates, or permit us to attempt to secure certificates at their expense.

We have arranged to send you copies of our sales catalogues and will continue to send them whether you bid or not. In the matter of sending us something to handle for your account we shall be happy to handle such. We are sending you, by separate mail, a booklet which we believe will explain our modus operandi to your complete satisfaction.

Yours very truly,

George E. Myers

MEMBER OF: American Philatelic Society
Society of Philatelic Americans
Bureau Issues Association

American Air Mail Society
Precancel Stamp Society
Confederate Stamp Alliance

Trans-Mississippi Philatelic Society
Texas Philatelic Association
Oklahoma Philatelic Society

COMMERCIAL REFERENCE: First National Bank in Dallas.

Oct. 18, 1955.

Mr. George E. Meyer,
% Belmont Stamp Co.,
5843 Vickery Blvd.,
Dallas 6, Texas.

Dear Mr. Meyer:

Herewith I am returning the 2¢ Bank Note bisect cover. I have searched my records and I regret to state that I was not able to find any report that I made to Mr. Malpass on this cover, however, the photograph was made by me and thus there is no question but what he submitted the cover to me. I suggest that you write Mr. Malpass and inform him that if I authenticated the cover, will he please send you my report. I trust that you can understand my position. I charge a fee of \$5.00 for authenticating and signing a cover on the reverse side, and it is possible that my signature on the back of a cover adds more value than the fee that I charge. It could be that I expressed an opinion on this cover and did not charge Mr. Malpass a fee. I believe if I had charged him I would have signed it on the back which I invariably do.

On all items that I send you for sale I will guarantee them to be genuine by signing them.

With kindest regards -

Sincerely yours,

Oct. 19, 1955.

Mr. George E. Meyers,
% Belmont Stamp Co.,
5843 Vickery Blvd.,
Dallas 6, Texas.

Dear Mr. Meyers:

Referring to the Malpass 2¢ 1870 Bisect cover, I found copy of the letter in which I returned the cover to him. Under date of May 26, 1953, I find that I wrote Mr. Malpass as follows:

"Regarding your 2¢ Bank Note Bisect cover. I examined this very carefully but I would not care to express a definite opinion on it. Personally I do not care for such freaks and I try to avoid them. There were a lot of stamp collectors by 1870 and we had many busy-bodies in those early days who made 'new' varieties. I will state this - the chances are the cover is genuine - the postmark is, WHITE HOUSE, New Jersey, the use Sept. 1871. I think it could be good." (unquote)

I call such items "freaks" because no postmaster should have recognized the use of "pieces" of stamps. As far back as the fall of 1853, the Postmaster General issued an order that pieces of stamps should not be recognized, hence such a use is something that "got by" an uninformed postmaster. Inasmuch as the half of stamp should not have been recognized as paying a 1¢ rate, it did not legally serve the purpose for which it was used. We have enough legitimate items to collect without paying high prices for freaks. I do not think such items should be listed in our catalogues.

I find that I did not charge Mr. Malpass for the above comment on his cover.

Sincerely yours,

Oct. 31, 1955.

Mr. George E. Myers,
Dallas 6, Texas.

Dear Mr. Myers:

Our mutual friend George Malpass sent the enclosed correspondence to me and requested me to forward the same to you.

Re - the cover in question. I think you would be perfectly justified in offering it for sale. If any buyer wished an explanation of its background you could furnish him with the correspondence.

I would not advise you to submit the item to the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Foundation for the simple reason that any certificate they would issue on the cover would not be worth the paper used to express same.

Sincerely yours,

Copy to
George N. Malpass.

C135

201

RED

F128

13 SEC

WHITE HOUSE
NEW JERSEY
Sep 1871

By G.N. Malpass

Blue



146a

Mr. J. T. Barber
Lairbrook
Mo. Leavenworth
Illinois

C135

Special Memo

from

MINT SHEET BROKERAGE
8470 Blue Ash Road
Rossmoyne, Ohio

ORIGINATORS of
STAMP MARKET



The BID and ASK
Established 1936

PHONE -
CINCINNATI EXCHANGE
SYCAMORE 5763

October 24, 1955

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

PAID 17 18

Dear Stanley:

Many thanks for the recent returns and the book also arrived and we are happy to have it.

Enclosed is check in amount of \$17.18 and we certainly appreciate your checking this for us.

Too bad you and Mr. Krug didn't drive over last week-- we would have been mighty happy to see you again.

Kind regards

Lee Chadwick

LC:ta

No. 511438

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

SENT TO

Mr Lee Chadwick

STREET AND NO.

Co M.S.B. 8470 Blue Ash Rd

CITY AND STATE

ROSSMOYNE

Ohio

*If you want a
return receipt,
check which*

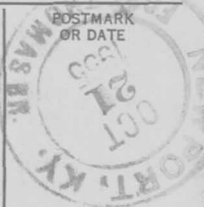
☐

*7¢ shows
to whom
and when
delivered*

☐

*31¢ shows to whom,
when, and address
where delivered*

POSTMARK
OR DATE



POD Form 3800
Apr. 1955

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.

Oct. 21, 1955.

To
M. S. B.

For examination of items
submitted - yours Oct. 12 -
87 copies
The Lot \$15.00

Special Memo

from

MINT SHEET BROKERAGE
8470 Blue Ash Road
Rossmoyne, Ohio

ORIGINATORS of
STAMP MARKET



The BID and ASK
Established 1936

PHONE -
CINCINNATI EXCHANGE
SYCAMORE 5763

Oct. 12, 1955

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

Dear Stanley:

Enclosing a few cards of 19th Century from a collection which we are breaking down. Would appreciate your simply noting the Scott number of each, and should you run across one of greater value than the major variety because of distinguishing features please extract and make special note as you always have done for us. No rush on this, but please send bill with the return. Some, of course, are in perfectly horrible condition but we will separate the sheets from the goats after you return them to us.

Re that lot of covers--we still haven't been able to get together with the party because of illness in his family. He has promised to contact us as soon as this condition has been cleared up.

Kind regards both from Warren and myself,


Lee Chadwick

LC:ta



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS



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

Est. 1936. Publishers of the Original Quotation Bulletin.

10/19/55

Dear Stanley:

Thanks for return of the items and will be glad to have the book when it arrives.

Re the 5¢ 1847 Wheeling, we have to suggest a price to the owner, so if you will be good enough to let me know what you wish to pay for it I will just send along that figure to him and if agreeable to him will forward the item back to you.

Regards,

MINT
SHEET
BROKERAGE!

8470 Blue Ash Rd.

ROSSMOYNE, OHIO

President
PETER A. BRANNON
Box 404
Montgomery, Alabama

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

Southern Vice-President
LAURA VIRGINIA HALE
Box 406
Front Royal, Virginia



Honorary Life President
AUGUST DIETZ, SR.
109 East Cary Street
Richmond 19, Virginia

Trans-Mississippi Vice-President
EDWARD E. CARVER
7827 East 8th Street
Downey, California

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

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

Oct. 21, 1955.

Mr. Lee Chadwick,
§ M.S.B.,
8470 Blue Ash Road,
Rossmyrne, Ohio.

Dear Lee:

Herewith the items as per yours of the
12th.

Re - the Wheeling cover. Have the owner
put his price on it. I am not sufficiently inter-
ested to make a bid.

I am enclosing memo of fee for the
examination.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

Special Memo

from

MINT SHEET BROKERAGE
8470 Blue Ash Road
Rossmoyne, Ohio

ORIGINATORS of
STAMP MARKET



The BID and ASK
Established 1936

PHONE -
CINCINNATI EXCHANGE
SYCAMORE 5763

October 13, 1955

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

Dear Stanley:

Enclosed are a few more items from the same collection which I overlooked sending you with the others yesterday. I know the 5¢ 1847 pair is pretty horrible, but am simply personally curious about the "Wheeling, Va.," cancel since I notice Scott lists "Wheeling, West Va." on cover at a high price--or if not on cover at least the cancel. I assume this had something to do with the boundary change and probably the enclosed is the common one, but this is simply guessing. Anyhow, would be glad to hear about it.

Kind regards,

Lee Chadwick

LC:ta

No 511434

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

SENT TO

Mr Lee Chadwick

STREET AND NO.

40 M. S. B. 8470 Blue Ash Rd

CITY AND STATE

Rossmyrne 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

OCT 18 1955
NEWPORT, KY.

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.

200
18

218

Postage

Oct. 17, 1955.

Mr. Lee Chadwick,
% M.S.B.,
8470 Blue Ash Road,
Rossmoynne, Ohio.

Dear Lee:

Herewith the items contained in yours of the 13th. I have not had time as yet to go over the other items.

Re - the "Essays of 1869." I am not aware that Scott lists such items. I am sending you a copy of my book which describes a number of them and gives their history. This book is now out of print and brings \$3.00 at auction (I believe). If you wish the copy I am sending you the price is \$2.00.

Re - the Wheeling listed in the catalogue - How silly to list it as Wheeling, W.Va. - when it was Wheeling, Va. I never noticed that error before. I will have it corrected but it is too late for the 1956 edition of the S.U.S. The listing refers to the Wheeling, Va. precancel. If you have a copy of the Brookman book on 19th U.S. you will find a full description in Vol. 1, pages 64-65 including illustrations. Also on page 66.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

No fee
Charge \$2.00 for book (return if you do not wish)
.18 Return postage

Bureau Issues Association

INCORPORATED

VICE PRESIDENT and
WASHINGTON REPRESENTATIVE

GEORGE W. BRETT
1900 "F" Street, N.W.
Washington 6, D.C.

*An association of collectors to promote the study of the philatelic output of
the Bureau of Engraving and Printing of the United States of America*

"KNOW YOUR COUNTRY'S STAMPS"



Sept. 27, 1955.

Dear Stan,

Don't know if you can do anything for me on this or not--but if you can, would like a nice detailed photo of the enclosed die proof. Make your negative as large as you'd like but I want 8x10 prints as well. In other words the negative and three 8x10 prints if you can do. If not return. I had a commercial photographer try it here in Washington and I was a bit disgusted. You have done the best work that I know of, next to the Bureau here in Washington.

Of course I'll pay for the job.

Best wishes,

P.S. If not equipped for the prints ^{GWB} just make the negative -

Oct. 1, 1955.

Mr. George W. Brett,
1900 "F" Street, N.W.,
Washington 6, D.C.

Dear George:

I have yours of the 27th.

I cannot enlarge direct to cover an 8 x 10 negative - only direct from subject to cover a 4 x 5. If you have to have the proof cover an 8 x 10, I can make a 4 x 5 exposure, then make a print and photo the 4 x 5 print to cover an 8 x 10. This would cost you \$5.00. To cover a 4 x 5 - \$2.00. You can advise.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

Bureau Issues Association

INCORPORATED

VICE PRESIDENT and
WASHINGTON REPRESENTATIVE

GEORGE W. BRETT
1900 "F" Street, N.W.
Washington 6, D.C.

*An association of collectors to promote the study of the philatelic output of
the Bureau of Engraving and Printing of the United States of America*

"KNOW YOUR COUNTRY'S STAMPS"

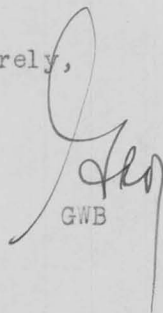


October 5, 1955.

Dear Stan,

Your letter of the 1st rec'd today. The previous negatives that you made for me were 4x5's with the long dimension of the stamp with the long dimension of the negative. The image size of the stamp was $3 \frac{3}{16}$ " by almost $3 \frac{3}{4}$ ". This is the 4x5 that you mention in your letter and that is perfectly satisfactory and I said you could make the negative to whatever size was suitable or something like that because I can always have enlarged prints made from that with no trouble at all. So you go ahead and make a 4x5 negative, but you don't say about prints. I do want 3 8x10 prints from the 4x5 negative and still not sure whether you can handle or not I am sending money order of \$5 and you can adjust to suit the circumstances. You say \$2 for the 4x5 negative so the rest is an estimate to cover the 3 larger prints that I want.

Sincerely,


GWB

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

No. 511433

SENT TO

George W. Brett

STREET AND NO.

1900 "F" St N.W.

CITY AND STATE

Washington (6) D.C.

*If you want a
return receipt,
check which*

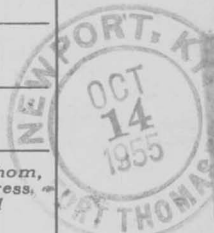
☐

*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.

Oct. 14, 1955.

Mr. George W. Brett,
1900 "F" St. N.W.,
Washington 6, D.C.

Dear George:

I have been out of town for a week, hence the delay in replying to yours of the 5th enclosing money order for \$5.00. Thanks very much. I made two negatives of your die proof in order to obtain a properly exposed and sharp negative. Now I have to make a fine print and then photograph it. Prints will follow in the next few days. If you would like to have the negatives I will be glad to send them to you with the prints. If the prints that I send you are not okay in every way you shall have a refund.

With my best wishes -

Cordially yours,

October 6, 1955
Columbus, Ohio

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:-

I recently read your article of 1946 entitled
'Confederate States of America' in the Emerald
Book of the Stamp Specialist series.

Reading your article caused me to think of two items
in my collection. The first item which I am enclosing,
I discovered in a dealers accumulation that I had the
privilege to peruse shortly after he purchased the lot.
He sold it to me for \$5.00. Just how authentic the
item is, I do not know. Naturally a comparison of the
handwriting on my document with others in Washington
that were written by Blair would be helpful. Of course
the possibility exists that, altho the handwriting
didnt match, it might be because my document was written
by an assistant of the postmaster for the purpose of
notifying district postmasters. For if the document
was written on May 27th to go into effect on the 31st
of May, there might have been no time to have the doc-
ument printed and distributed. If this document of
mine is authentic it would seem to conflict with some
of the points in your article, namely as to whether
the North discontinued their service in the South on
May 28th or May 31st. My document would seem to bear
out Mr. Reagans' belief that Blair discontinued ser-
vice as of the end of the month. On page 8 at the top,
your sentence "It appears - - etc", is the key con-
tradiction between your article and my document. I
assume that perhaps you got the date May 28th from
Mr. Blair's statement to Congress that you repro-
duced on Page 9 of your article. However this does
not explain your source for the date May 24 1861(?).
But perhaps that is the reason for the question mark.

Frankly, at this point, I am lost. Blairs' report to
Congress as reported by you is presumably correct
(frwd)

and could be substantiated. On the other hand there is my document and Mr. Reagans' statement. Furthermore, assuming that Mr. Reagans proclamation of May 13th (your page 6) was known about by Mr. Blair, and assuming that as Mr. Blair stated (page 9) that he did not discontinue this service to the South so long as he (Blair) thought that it would go through. It seems logical that Blair would have discontinued at the end of the month also rather than create a three day period of confusion.

I hope you are still sufficiently interested in this phase of Philately to shed more light on the problem if possible.

The second item I mentioned in the beginning, is a cover identical with the Victorian cover on P.10. This ofcourse also bears out the May 28thth date. I wonder if you could give me some idea as to the value of such a cover.

Sincerely,

KARL JAEGER
2106 Ellington Road
Columbus 12, Ohio

P.S.

I do not have a copy of the Dietz Handbook that you referred to at the bottom of P7 in the Emerald Book. Does Dietz say anything on his P.16 about the accuracy of Mr. Reagans' statement?

Oct. 16, 1955.

Mr. Karl Jaeger,
2106 Ellington Road,
Columbus 12, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Jaeger:

Thanks very much for your interesting letter and the enclosure which I am returning herewith.

There is no question but what the P.O. Notice is genuine but it was undoubtedly written and signed by a clerk in the General P.O. Department in Washington. The Blair signature is different from the one on this document. I enclose herewith a tracing of a signature by M. Blair when he was the P.M.G. I doubt if copies such as yours was sent to all post offices but rather to important offices, newspapers, etc.

Re - my source of the May 24th date, see page 8 of my article (Emerald book) - the fourth paragraph. I quoted from an article by Dr. Peters, and he quoted from a news item in a Lynchburg paper of May 28, 1861. Incidentally Dr. Peters was born and reared in Lynchburg.

Re - the Blair report on page 9. I have a copy of an official P.O. publication that gives this Blair report. It was a monthly of four pages which was published for postmasters thruout the country. This Blair report to Congress gives May 28th and I believe this was the actual date fixed in his original order, which was probably dated May 24th or perhaps a day or two earlier. Those were very hectic days and it is possible that the date in his original order may have been changed later to May 31st in order to match the date of June 1st fixed by the C.S.A. P.M.G.

Incidentally, I have a copy of the rare Reagan book which contains the proclamation quoted on pages 6 and 7 in the Emerald book. I believe I paid \$20 for the book and was a long time locating a copy.

Re - your second item. I suppose it is the same cover that I illustrated on page 10. If yours is different in any way, would you be so kind as to send it to me? I would like to make a record of it for my files. As to the value of such a cover, I doubt if I could answer that query. Such items are exceedingly rare and most any price within reason would be fair. I might state this - if anybody offered me such a cover at \$500.00 or more I would not purchase it.

Re - the Dietz book. I referred to the magnificent study entitled, "The Postal Service of the Confederate States of America." This is the Bible of Confederate philately. You should be able to obtain a copy around \$15.00. As near as I can recall, it was published about 1929.

I am also enclosing with my compliments, a reprint of my Confederate article.

#2. Mr. Karl Jaeger - Oct. 16, 1955.

If I can assist you further please advise.

Sincerely yours,

TELEPHONE
PLAZA 7-4460

APPRAISALS FOR SALE,
PROBATE & INSURANCE

DIRECTORS
H. R. HARMER B. D. HARMER
F. T. BUCK MARGARET MAHONEY

H · R · HARMER, INC.
INTERNATIONAL STAMP AUCTIONEERS

6 WEST 48TH STREET
NEW YORK 36, N.Y.

ALSO AT 41 NEW BOND STREET, LONDON, W.I.
AND 26 CASTLEREAGH STREET, SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA
ESTABLISHED OVER 50 YEARS

CABLES
HARMERSALE, NEW YORK

LEADING AUCTIONEERS OF
RARE POSTAGE STAMPS

AUCTIONEERS OF THE
"PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT" COLLECTION

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

14th
October
1955

Dear Stan:

I enclose one further item from the Caspary Collection on which I
will make no comments whatsoever!

I would appreciate your observations in due course.

Please do not bother to register this on the way back as we have
arranged insurance on it.

Sincerely yours,

H. R. HARMER, INC.

Bernard.
Director

BDH:E
Enclosure

No. 511436

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

SENT TO

Mr Bernard Harmer

STREET AND NO.

90 H. R. Harmer Inc - 6 W 48th St

CITY AND STATE

New York 36 N.Y.

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.

Oct. 19, 1955.

Mr. Bernard Harmer,
6 West 48th St.,
New York 36, N.Y.

Dear Bernard:

Herewith the 3¢ 1851 bisect as per yours
of the 14th.

I will write you later about this as I
want to make a further study of the St. Louis
postmark and the photographs that I made.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

Oct. 2, 1955.

H.R. Harmer, Inc.,
6 West 48th St.,
New York 36, N.Y.

Attention Mr. F.T. Buck

Dear Mr. Buck:

Herewith the 3¢ 1851 "bisect" cover from St. Louis, Mo. to New York. It is my opinion that this item is genuine and I have signed it on the back. I made a photo of the cover without the stamp by ultra-violet light and the negative did not show any evidence of any markings on the portion of the F.L. under the stamp. I will forward prints later.

Sincerely yours,

Oct. 22, 1955.

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

Dear Corwith:

I am taking the liberty of sending you a photograph of a 3¢ 1851 "Bisect" supposed to have been used from St. Louis on JUL 20, 1856. This item is in the Caspary collection. It was apparently an unsealed circular rate to New York City. I made this enlarged photo to show up very plain the entire postmark. Have you a cover used from St. Louis in 1856 with this same type of postmark? If so, will you be so kind as to loan it to me?

It looks to me like someone removed this half of a stamp to see if anything was underneath (trace of the postmark). Otherwise the cover seems like it might be genuine. The piece of the 3¢ would be okay for 1856 (shade and impression).

I enclose envelope for return.

Have you seen Mrs. Yeckel lately? No doubt she has returned from her world trip. Will you please remember the Ashbrooks to her.

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

October 25th 1955

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

Dear Stan:

Your letter of the 22nd inst. with its enclosure came to hand yesterday.

Saint Louis Mo. used such a postmark - with a 1856 year date. Dr. Chase, I believe reports its use first as June 1st. I have never seen it used prior to June 4th 1856. I might add that the year date was not in constant use - some June and July pm of 1856 do not have the 1856 year date. I have some 8 or 10 St. L pm with the 1856 year date - I enclose 4 that are the most distinct.

Undoubtedly the "bisect" has been removed from the cover as the outer line of the circle is out of line - top and bottom - also the L of Louis and the I as well as the L of JUL.

I see no "real reason" for the use of a "bisect" from St. Louis in July of 1856 - as there were plenty of stamps available here at that time - I have several examples of the use of the 1¢ 1851 on cover as late as 1857 - so "why" a 2/3 of a 3; stamp for a 2¢ rate. I would be more inclined to believe that the scissors slipped when stamps were be cut apart. Even today the P.O.D. will accept 2/3rds of a stamp as payment in full for the value of the stamp.

I am refunding the actual return postage - that is the way you treat me - so turn about is fair play.

I called Mrs. Yeckel and gave her your message. She asked that I tell you she sends her very best regards to yourself and wife.

It is always nice to hear from you and to know that now and then I can be of some help.

Sincerely,

C. Corwith Wagner.

Wagner Personalized Insurance Service has acquired a reputation thru - - - Promptitude and—Reliability

No. 511443

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

SENT TO

C. Corwith Wagner

STREET AND NO.

Suite 1834 Postmen's Bk Bldg

CITY AND STATE

St Louis (2) Mo

If you want a
return receipt,
check which

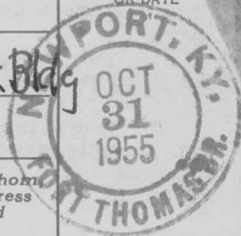
☐

7¢ shows
to whom
and when
delivered

☐

31¢ shows to whom
when, and address
where delivered

POSTMARK
OR DATE



POD Form 3800
Apr. 1955

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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.

Oct. 31, 1955.

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

Dear Corwith:

Thanks so much for your kindness in the loan
of the four covers which I am returning herewith.
There is no reason why you should pay the return postage.
Later I will send you a photo of the 3¢ '51 "BISECT"
cover. I do appreciate your assistance.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

Oct. 28, 1955.

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

Dear Bernard:

Re - the 3¢ 1851 "Bisect" cover that you sent me under date of Oct. 14th and which I returned to you on the 19th. I have four covers with the 1856 year-dated St. Louis postmark, one of which is quite early, viz., "JUN 4, 1856." Thus I have some excellent reference material.

Before giving a definite opinion on the Caspary cover I think the following should be done - The piece of stamp should be very carefully removed from the cover, by moisture from the inside - no moisture on face of stamp. After removal, the cover should be photographed by ultra-violet light to see if there is any trace of the postmark under the piece of stamp. After which the stamp should be very carefully replaced on the cover so that the markings on the "stamp" match those on the cover. You can have this done down East but in case you would like for me to do it I will charge a fee of \$15.00 which will include photographs, and if I conclude the item is genuine I will sign it on the back.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

(S.B.37-48)

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

Nov. 9 '55

Dear Stan:-

St was very kind to give
send the slides which I return herewith.
I suppose that 3d serial is O.K. inasmuch as
the letter was not sealed but I always
suspect a mutilated stamp. That 12 &
"D.T." is quite a piece. Had they sent it
to you.

I note your letter to Maurice Blake.
I have no way of judging it ^{i.e. the ^{over}} Set me
know the final outcome, please. I am
sure you will finally ~~it~~ ^{it} out to
the satisfaction of everyone. Have you
seen the cover itself?

Much to my surprise Bernard
Harmon asked me to write the
proposal for second Castany sale!

Sorry you couldn't have been here
when the "gang" was up for lunch last
week.

Best

as ever

CC.

SLIDE

Nov. 7, 1955.

Mr. Tracy W. Simpson,
66 Alvarado Rd.,
Berkeley 5, Calif.

Dear Tracy:

Herewith I am sending you a copy of a letter to Doc, and with it a color slide of the 3¢ cover. I am also enclosing a photo print of the Jamaica Vt "Paid in Grid." Incidentally, this was sent to me for a look by a dealer in Paris, France - M. Janet, along with other covers for my examination. After you are thru with copy of letter, slide and photo print will you please forward to Lester Downing for a look. If you think Doc Gerald Smith would like to see these then request Lester to send them to him to be returned to me.

My kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

Enclosed:

A75 - 10

A760

P.S. Any comment you care to make on the "bisect" cover will be most welcome.

TRACY W. SIMPSON
66 ALVARADO ROAD
BERKELEY 5, CALIFORNIA

Nov. 14, 1955

Dear Stanley,

Thanks for the slide of the 3c 2/3-cent in cover
+ copy of your letter to Dr. Chase about it. Your explanation
seems 100% okay to me, though why the post office okayed it is
beyond me.

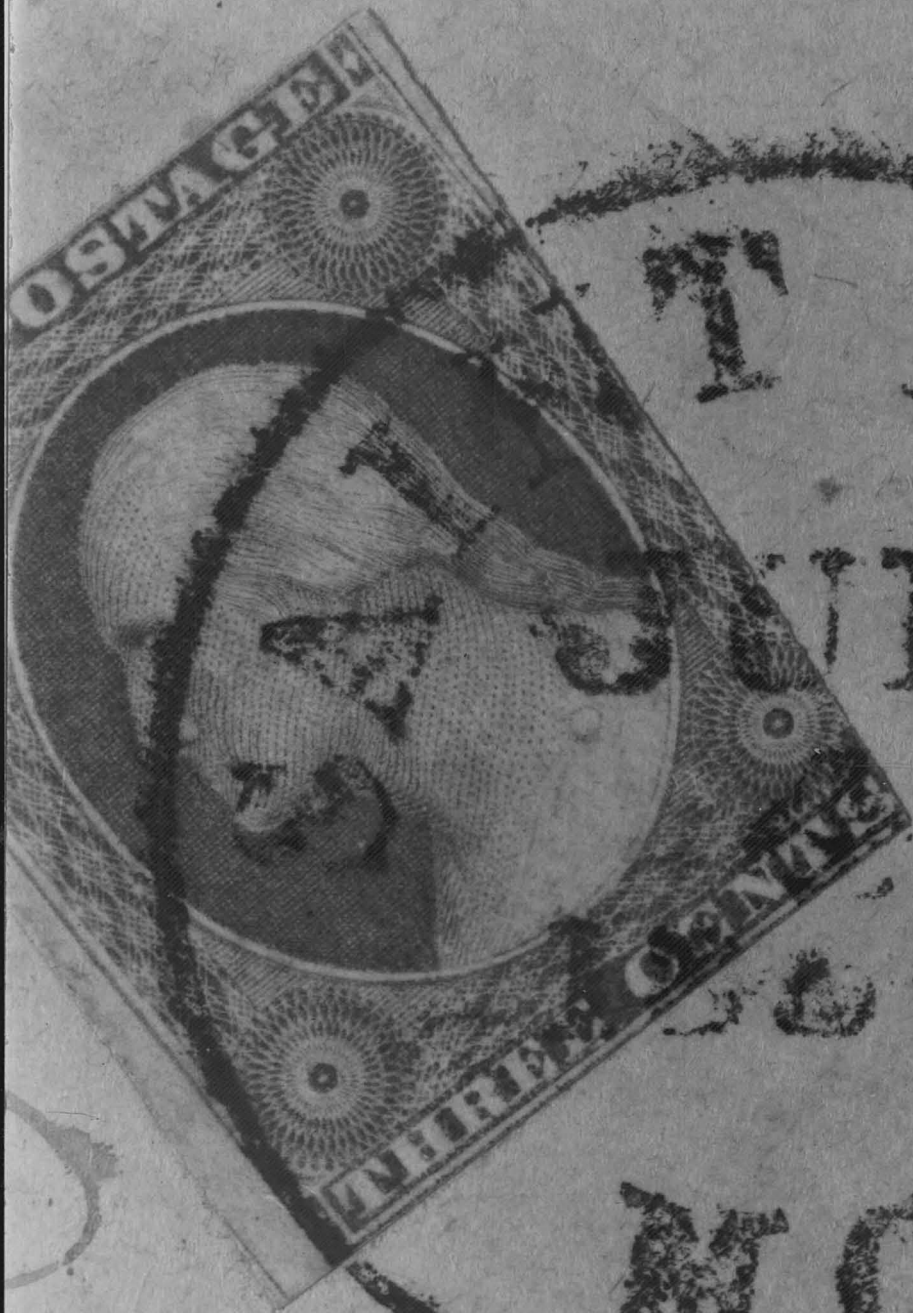
The Jamaica Vt imitation Boston PAID is pretty
well known in both red and ⁱⁿ black. I have it black.
Al. Rowell has it in red

Per your request I'm sending your letter +
enclosures to Lester and he will doubtless send to Dr. Smith.

With best wishes + thanks.

Very sincerely yours

Tracy



124-FC4-2 SEC

A758 F



Handwritten scribbles and a signature.

QUARTZ - 124 - FG4 - 25 MIN

A759





This Photograph
Was Made By
ULTRA - VIOLET
RAY
By Stanley B. Ashbrook





Handwritten: m...
RECEIVED
NOV 4 1953
MO.



9/



From
H. L. LINDQUIST
2 West 46th Street
New York, N. Y.

RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED

New Address - 153 Waverly Place, N. Y. 14, N. Y.

STAMPS Magazine
2nd Class Matter

Stanley B. Ashbrook
P. O. Box 31

TS—MERCHANDISE
ER: This parcel may
for postal inspection if

MORRISON CAFETERIA COMPANY
INCORPORATED

Birmingham, 5, Alabama.
Friday- Oct. 14, 1955.

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

Dear Stan,

After I wrote you and sent the Laurence covers I find I did not include the remarks of Bob Laurence about the Wood's Ferry cover. He marked on the letter he sent previously, and when I had a look at the lot, "I consider this cover as could be unique- 5¢ buff used in California 10¢ rate. I never saw before."

Also I knew there was a defect in one stamp. But I bought it for the rate. If by any chance it is N.G. please write me air special so I will not pay for it. I am holding up the check.

Sincerely,



MORRISON CAFETERIA COMPANY
INCORPORATED

Birmingham, 5, Alabama.
Oct. 14, 1955.

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

Dear Stan,

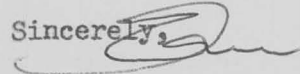
I finally recieved my lots from Laurence sale, altho I had decided I did not hit. Will you look these over and if the pair of buff cover is O.K. sign it for me. The others are not needed. Cost me \$110.00.

I bought the 30¢ 1860 to the Cape because it was such a good color. I bid \$25 and see Bob gave me the limit on it, \$25. I guess it is worth that much.

I bid \$20 on the pair of 5¢ browns to Germany. Bob described it as just brown and the strip of three as dark brown. I think both are dark brown and, if there is any question, to my eyes the pair is a darker shade than the strip of three. The pair was \$16.00 and the strip \$11.00. I intend to take the strip off cover. Wouldn't you?

Please register back valued at \$165 and I will include that cost in my check for signing the pair of buffs from Wood's Ferry, Cal.

Sincerely,



Enclosed from L. & S. sale 10/6/55.

Lot 534-	\$25.00
" 564-	110.00
" 576-	16.00
" 578-	11.00
	<hr/> 162.00

Sunday -
Oct. 10, 1955.

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

Dear Em:

I did not receive your Air - Special - Registered - until late yesterday afternoon, though your Air letter - written later - arrived on the first mail Saturday morning. Inasmuch as you are leaving home Tuesday night I will hold the covers until you arrive.

I am quite sure that the 5¢ Buff cover is okay. As I previously advised there was a P.O. listed as such in the 1859 P.L. & P. Bob is wrong about 5¢ Buff covers from California. I have a record of four and have seen others I did not record. Bill West had a cover from S.F. with a vertical pair. Look up his sale.

All four covers are okay so you can pay Bob. Yes, I would remove the V.S. strip of three from the cover. The cover does not mean anything.

Em, please don't misunderstand me. There is quite a difference between a unique item and covers that are rare. Uses of the Buff to or from California are rare.

Both of your 5¢ are Dark Brown but the V.S. of 3 is a bit darker than the H.P. - Remember there is a dark brown and also that the black brown comes much darker than either of these two covers.

Regards -

Yours etc.,

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK

P. O. Box 31

FORT THOMAS, KY.

Oct. 4, 1955.

COPY

Mr. Raymond Weill,
407 Royal St.,
New Orleans 16, La.

Dear Raymond:

I would like to correct a statement that I made in my letter of yesterday regarding lot 88 in the Waterhouse sale, the 5¢-10¢ 1847 cover. I had forgotten that the catalogue description stated, "small pen marks have been removed from the stamps." I remarked in my letter that this was news to me. After I mailed my letter I looked up all the data that I had on this Waterhouse cover.

In my article in "Stamps" of July 19, 1947, in which I illustrated the cover, I made no mention of the pen marks. In fact, my remarks re - the cover were quite brief. I find that I had quite a bit of correspondence with the late Frank Coes after my "Stamps" article appeared, and in a letter to him I mentioned that the stamps had faint pen marks, so I judge that I was informed of this fact by Sir Nicholas when he sent me the photograph, a copy of which I used for my "Stamps" article.

Bear in mind that I never had this cover in hand for a careful examination, and the only time I ever saw it was at Cipex in 1947 behind glass in the Waterhouse Exhibit. According to the memorandum furnished me by Sir Nicholas (1947), there were no markings of any kind on the back. There was no indication on face of the actual year use, hence the cover does not disclose the year it was used. This is a most important point as I will explain. When I wrote the article in 1947, I was not aware that the U.S. P.M.G. had made a ruling that there was no such a thing as a legal triple rate after March 15, 1849. You will find that I gave the story of this discovery which was made by Maurice C. Blake, quite a write-up in my Service Issue of March 1, 1954 - pages 264 - 265. You can look it up.

The use of the Waterhouse cover was "Apr 10" so a triple rate of domestic postage could only have applied in April 1848. In other words, had this letter been mailed in Apr. 1849 - 1850 or 1851, it should have been rated "Due 5," provided it weighed over one ounce and not over two ounces. Between March 15, 1849 and July 1, 1851, there was no legal triple rate, if a letter weighed over one ounce and not over two ounces, 20¢ was charged for distances up to 300 miles. This letter did not travel anything like 300 miles.

You will note that the cover is addressed to "A.S.Lincoln, Esq - Bank of Commerce Boston." Back in July 1947 I was informed by Mr. Coes that a Boston directory had been consulted and that the "Bank of Commerce" was not listed in the 1850 edition or previously, but the Bank was listed in the 1851 edition with "A.S.Lincoln" as paying teller. I do not know if this report is true or not but if it is, it would indicate that the use was Apr 10 1851, at a time when there was no triple rate.

The Vermont & Mass. R.R. terminated at Fitchburg, Mass. (Brattleboro to Fitchburg), that is, it ran from Fitchburg to Brattleboro, Vermont, a total distance of 69 miles. By rail from Fitchburg to Worcester was 27 miles and from Worcester to Boston was 44 miles, so you see this letter did not travel much distance.

In a letter that I wrote Frank Coes dated July 24, 1947, I stated that "Sir Nicholas sent me a photograph of the cover last spring" and he noted on the back that the "R.R. marking was in orange" and also quote, "I noted at the Cipex that the

#2. Mr. Raymond Weill - Oct. 4, 1955.

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 quote an extent. They don't show in the photograph that I have. Waterhouse never advised me of the year of use but if this Boston bank was not listed in the 1850 Boston Directory, then perhaps the use was "Apr 10 1851" (unquote).

I also added that I would write Sir Nicholas and give him the data about the Boston Directory.

This cover was a "Way" letter, that is, a letter mailed direct to the U.S. Mail Agent traveling the railroad route of the Vermont & Mass. R.R.

In the P.M.G. Report dated Nov. 1851, R.R. contract mail route No. 472 was listed from Fitchburg, Mass. to Brattleboro, Vermont. The same route was listed in the 1850 Report.

I am not sure whether a route agent had the authority to rate mail that was handed him enroute, but I judge that the letter would have been properly rated when it reached the Boston P.O.

If the use was April 1851, and the letter weighed over one ounce (as the writer assumed?) then I would think that Boston would have rated it "Due 5¢."

Frank Coes died April 20, 1954.

I had a letter from Dr. Bacher today regarding the block of 3¢ 1861 Pink and he stated that they would probably wind up by sending the block to me for my opinion. I will keep you advised.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,



THE PHILATELIC FOUNDATION

22 EAST 35TH STREET

NEW YORK 16, N.Y.

MURRAY HILL 3-5667

Oct 14, 1955 -

Dear Stan:-

TRUSTEES

RICHARD S. BOHN
JOHN R. BOKER, JR.
GEO. E. BURGHARD
ALFRED H. CASPARY
HUGH M. CLARK
ELLIOT G. CORIN
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WILLIAM A. EDGAR
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SOL GLASS
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ROBT. L. GRAHAM, JR.
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MALCOLM JOHNSON
OSCAR R. LICHTENSTEIN
LAWRENCE L. SHENFIELD
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HONORARY TREASURER
JOHN R. BOKER, JR.
TREASURER
ELLIOT G. CORIN
ASSISTANT TREASURER
WINTHROP S. BOGGS
DIRECTOR
ETHEL HARPER
ASS'T TO THE CHAIRMAN

I return herewith the copy of the letter you sent to Weill. Many thanks for letting me see it. In so far as the V. & Mass. cover with the 5c + 10c 1847 is concerned - all the evidence we have is in its favor. There is also ample evidence that covers were frequently misrated or the instructions not understood or generally known.

In so far as the pink blocks is concerned - I will agree it is a nice color - but it hasn't got the "bluish bloom" that a fine pink has.

This is just between you & me - no one has seen the letter you sent me -

Regards
Hue

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

Oct. 4, 1955.

COPY

Mr. Raymond Weill,
407 Royal St.,
New Orleans 16, La.

Dear Raymond:

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With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK

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.

October 13, 1955

Stanley B. Ashbrook
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan:

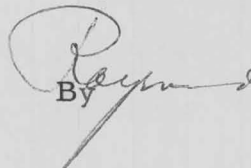
The information in your latest favor regarding the Waterhouse 5¢-10¢ 1847 cover, was of special interest to us. You have surely dug into this subject deeply. It hardly seems possible you would be able to come up with a complete dossier on Mr. A. S. Lincoln who has probably been dead for a hundred years.

We have passed along all of this information to the present owner of the cover. He feels that while there is somewhat of a cloud darkening the sunlight of his cover, since it might still be good, he is content to own this striking piece. You have probably seen it illustrated in the current issue of Stamps. We have already had several inquiries from interested buyers. Of course, the cover cannot now be bought.

With kind regards.

Yours sincerely,

Raymond H. Weill Co.

By 

rhw:lc
airmail

Oct. 16, 1955.

Mr. Raymond Weill,
407 Royal St.,
New Orleans 16, La.

Dear Raymond:

Thanks for yours of the 13th.

I think it could be definitely established whether the 1847 cover is good or bad. What I think should be done is to very carefully remove the 10¢ stamp and then make a photograph by ultra-violet of the cover to determine if only the 5¢ was used originally on the cover - this is what I suspect and will always believe unless it can be shown that there was never any postmark under the 10¢ stamp.

I suppose you received a copy of my report on the 3¢ 1861 block. It was an outrage for the P.F. to declare that this block is not PINK. Anyone with even fair eyesight can see it is PINK and not rose. One thing is sure, if that block is not Pink then I have endorsed a lot of stamps as PINK that must be ROSE and such a possibility is silly to consider.

That bunch down there at the P.F. don't know a damn thing about 19th U.S. You had a bargain in that block because it is a very great rarity and you permitted it to go back to England. Oh me - Oh my!!!

I would like to write up the 5¢-10¢ cover in my Service but my hands are tied and I will have to forget it. However, I will have a follow-up on the PINK block.

My best to Roger and you.

Cordially yours,

Letter to be
Returned

Oct. 5, 1955.

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

Dear Maurice:

I am taking the liberty of enclosing a letter that I wrote to Raymond Weill and I wish that you would keep the contents strictly confidential.

The letter refers to Lot 88 in the Waterhouse sale, a 5¢ plus 10¢ 1847 cover. This was purchased by Weill at the sale and submitted to the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Foundation for authentication. Last week they issued a certificate stating the cover was genuine in all respects.

I believe my letter speaks for itself. What I would like to know is are the Boston directory listings correct as reported to me by the late Frank Coes. I wish to keep this confidential because the Weills paid quite a sum for the cover and I would not care to damage their property or to get into any argument with the Foundation Committee.

I know that a triple rate such as this is of special interest to you.

With kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

MAURICE C. BLAKE
11 MASON STREET
BROOKLINE 46, MASSACHUSETTS

October 7, 1955

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

Dear Stanley:

Yours of the 4th, postmarked OCT 5/1230 PM, came to-day. I return the Copy of your interesting letter to R.W., which I shall consider strictly confidential.

I do not have the Boston Directories of 1850 and 1851, but shall try to consult them in a Library soon.

Meanwhile, you will note in the Boston Almanac for 1850, of which I once sent you a duplicate copy with my compliments, that in the list of Boston Banks on page 160 there is no Bank of Commerce. However, in the Almanac for 1851, also page 160, in a long table of all the banks in the six New England States (pp.160-164), starting with Boston we find: "BOSTON-83 State St.-B.of Commerce-President Edw. C. Bates-Cashier Wm.H.Foster-Capital \$750,000".

As the Almanacs were compiled during the last quarter of the year preceding the year for which issued, it is evident that the Bank of Commerce after October 1849 and before December 1850 came into existence. The name Edw.C.Bates does not appear in the Bank list of the Almanac for 1850, but in that issue you will see that W.H.Foster was Cashier of the GROCERS' BANK at 70 State St., with no bank at 83 State St. In the Almanac for 1852 the Bank of Commerce is listed (p.136) at 83 State St., Pres.Edw.C.Bates, Cashier Wm.H.Foster as in the Almanac for 1851, but the Capital has now risen to \$1,500,000. Names of Paying Tellers are not given in the Almanacs, and the name A.S.Lincoln does not seem to appear.

In the Almanac for 1850 in the list of Railroads(pp.145-6) "Vermont & Massachusetts Railroad--From Fitchburg to Brattleboro'." is given(p.146), just as you described it.

The Boston Directories were regularly published each year on July 1st. (See advertisement in Boston Almanac for 1850, p.213). It is barely possible that the Bank of Commerce had come into existence by the date of the cover APR/10 in 1850, but didn't get listed in the 1850 Directory published July 1, 1850. No such Bank exists to-day, but perhaps I can discover when it opened. In any case whether the cover is APR/10 in 1850 or as is far more probable in 1851, the illegality of a triple rate holds.

Now looking carefully at the photo of Lot 88 in the Waterhouse Sale Catalogue I fancy I detect erasure above the name Lincoln with remnants of a capital D above "L" and lower curve of 5 above "ol". Did someone want to clean up the cover?

With best regards,

Sincerely yours,

Maurice

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK
P. O. Box 31
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.,
FORT THOMAS, KY.

Regarding Lot #88 in the Waterhouse Sale - London - June 27-28, 1955.

This is a white envelope with a 5¢ 1847 (above) a 10¢ 1847 and tied by a strike in orange reading, "VERM. & MASS. R.R.," "Apr 10." No evidence of actual year use front or back. The address is -

A. S. LINCOLN, ESQ.
BANK OF COMMERCE
BOSTON

The catalogue description of this cover stated in part, quote: "This famous and unique entire is described by Stanley B. Ashbrook in "STAMPS" Magazine 19 July 1947." (unquote)

In this respect I wish to call attention to the fact that when I wrote the above article in "STAMPS" in 1947 I was writing about the 1847 Issue and not about this particular cover, however, I mentioned it and illustrated it in the article. Further, when I wrote the article I had never seen or examined the cover itself, all I had was a photo print that was supplied to me by Sir Nicholas Waterhouse. He considered the cover genuine beyond any doubt and I assumed that there was no question but what he was right.

This cover was purchased in the Waterhouse sale by Raymond Weill & Co. of New Orleans for approximately \$1,680.00. They submitted it to the "Expert Committee" of the Philatelic Foundation of New York and the Committee issued a certificate to the effect the cover is genuine in all respects. Under date of Oct. 4, 1955, I wrote Raymond Weill regarding the cover and I quote herewith extracts from that letter, quote:

"In my article in "STAMPS" of July 19, 1947, in which I illustrated the cover, I made no mention of the pen marks. In fact, my remarks re - the cover were quite brief. I find that I had quite a bit of correspondence with the late Frank Coes after my "STAMPS" article appeared, and in a letter to him I mentioned that the stamps had faint pen marks, so I judge that I was informed of this fact by Sir Nicholas when he sent me the photograph, a copy of which I used for my "STAMPS" article.

Bear in mind that I never had this cover in hand for a careful examination, and the only time I ever saw it was at Cipex in 1947 behind glass in the Waterhouse Exhibit. According to the memorandum furnished me by Sir Nicholas (1947), there were no markings of any kind on the back. There was no indication on face of the actual year use, hence the cover does not disclose the year it was used. This is a most important point as I will explain. When I wrote the article in 1947, I was not aware that the U.S. P.M.G. had made a ruling that there was no such a thing as a legal triple rate after March 15, 1849. You will find that I gave the story of this discovery which was made by Maurice C. Blake, quite a write-up in my Service Issue of March 1, 1954 - pages 264 - 265. You can look it up.

The use of the Waterhouse cover was "Apr 10" so a triple rate of domestic postage could only have applied in April 1848. In other words, had this letter been mailed in Apr. 1849 - 1850 or 1851, it should have been rated "Due 5," provided it weighed over one ounce and not over two ounces. Between March 15, 1849 and July 1, 1851, there was no legal triple rate, if a letter weighed over one ounce and not over two ounces, 20¢ was charged for distances up to 300 miles. This letter did not travel anything like 300 miles.

You will note that the cover is addressed to "A. S. Lincoln, Esq - Bank of

#2.

Commerce Boston." Back in July 1947 I was informed by Mr. Coes that a Boston Directory had been consulted and that the "Bank of Commerce" was not listed in the 1850 edition or previously, but the Bank was listed in the 1851 edition with "A.S. Lincoln" as paying teller. I do not know if this report is true or not but if it is, it would indicate that the use was Apr 10 1851, at a time when there was no triple rate.

The Vermont & Mass. R.R. terminated at Fitchburg, Mass. (Brattleboro to Fitchburg), that is, it ran from Fitchburg to Brattleboro, Vermont, a total distance of 69 miles. By rail from Fitchburg to Worcester was 27 miles and from Worcester to Boston was 44 miles, so you see this letter did not travel much distance.

In a letter that I wrote Frank Coes dated July 24, 1947, I stated that Sir Nicholas "sent me a photograph of the cover last spring" and he noted on the back that the "R.R. marking was in orange" and also quote, "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 show in the photograph that I have. Waterhouse never advised me of the year of use but if this Boston bank was not listed in the 1850 Boston Directory, then perhaps the use was "Apr 10 1851". (unquote)

I also added that I would write Sir Nicholas and give him the data about the Boston Directory.

This cover was a "Way" letter, that is, a letter mailed direct to the U.S. Mail Agent traveling the railroad route of the Vermont & Mass. R.R.

In the P.M.C. Report dated Nov. 1851, R.R. contract mail route No. 472 was listed from Fitchburg, Mass. to Brattleboro, Vermont. The same route was listed in the 1850 Report.

I am not sure whether a route agent had the authority to rate mail that was handed him enroute, but I judge that the letter would have been properly rated when it reached the Boston P.O.

If the use was April 1851, and the letter weighed over one ounce (as the writer assumed?) then I would think that Boston would have rated it "Due 5¢."

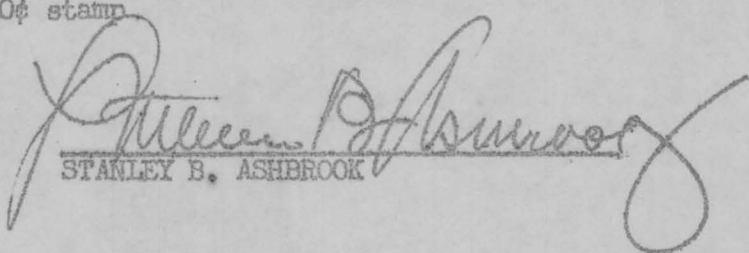
Frank Coes died April 20, 1954." (unquote)

Further regarding the date of use of the cover. At this writing I have not had advice regarding the listing of the "Bank of Commerce" in the Boston Directory, however, I do have a little book titled, "Boston 1850 Almanac." In the list of Boston banks there is no such a bank as the "Bank of Commerce" but such a bank was listed in the 1851 edition of this book, with officers as follows: Edw. C. Bates, President and Wm. H. Foster, Cashier. In the 1850 Edition W.H. Foster is listed as the cashier of "Grocer's Bank" at "70 State St."

In any case whether the cover is Apr 10 in 1850 or as is far more probable in 1851, the illegality of a triple rate holds. The 5¢ stamp is typical of a 5¢ that was used in April 1850 or 1851, both in impression (poor) and color, (typical of 1850 or later).

#3.

I am very suspicious of this cover as I believe that originally there was only the 5¢ which was tied to the envelope by the railroad postmark and that some faker added the 10¢ and painted the marking on the stamp. This might be proved if the 10¢ was removed and a photograph made by ultraviolet to learn if there is any trace of the postmark on the envelope below the 5¢ stamp and under the present 10¢ stamp.


STANLEY B. ASHBROOK

October 18
1955

To Be Returned

Oct. 17, 1955.

Mr. Lawrence L. Shenfield,
40 Highland Circle,
Bronxville 8, N.Y.

Dear Larry:

I am enclosing herewith P.F. certificate #5997 re - a 5¢ 1847 cover, also a photograph that I made of this cover - approximately natural size. I wish that you would find out for me why the P.F. issued this certificate, that is, why they stated: "The stamp was not used on this cover."

It is my personal opinion that the Committee should either operate with some degree of efficiency or quit posing as an "Expert Committee."

I am enclosing a copy of a report that I made to Cyril Harmer of London on the Waterhouse block of 12 - 3¢ 1861 PINK. The P.F. Committee issued a certificate stating the block was not a PINK. That is absolutely absurd. If it is not a PINK then what in the name of common sense is it? This block was discovered out in California along about 1890 and it was acquired by John Luff who pronounced it a fine PINK. In 1905 he sold it to George Worthington as a PINK and when old J. C. Morgenthau sold the Worthington collection he sold it as a PINK. Does anyone mean to tell me that J. C. Morgenthau didn't know a PINK? That is too silly for words. The block went to Duveen and Duveen regarded it as Pink, then Charley Phillips sold it for Duveen to Hind as PINK. And when Phillips sold the Hind collection he sold it as PINK. Elliott Perry bought it for something like \$1,100 in the Hind Sale. I suppose someone is going to tell me that Perry - "himself" don't know a PINK when he sees one. It passed into the Sir Nicholas Waterhouse collection at a big price as a PINK and it was offered in the recent Waterhouse sale and described by Dr. Bacher as a PINK. I wrote an article about it years ago in "Stamps" and I described it as PINK. With all that background, the P.F. Expert Committee comes up with the statement - "It is not PINK."

I am convinced that the Committee is making a laughing stock of serious philatelic research work and I intend to withdraw all free advice to them. Hereafter when they want an opinion from me they will pay me the same as anybody else.

Why did they state that this 5¢ 1847 stamp was not used on this cover? Can you find out for me? Please take good care of the enclosures and return them tome.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

Oct. 17, 1955.

Mr. Lawrence L. Shenfield,
40 Highland Circle,
Bronxville 8, N.Y.

Dear Larry:

Regarding the 5¢ 1847 cover from Augusta, Ga., which the P.F. Expert Committee turned down. Under date of Oct. 7, 1955, I wrote the owner of this cover as follows, quote:

"Herewith I am returning your 5¢ 1847 cover addressed to Eatonton, Georgia, together with the Foundation report, also a photograph that I made of the stamp by ultra-violet light. Also a cover used from Augusta, Ga. on May 21, 1861. This is a cover known as 'A U.S. stamp used in a seceded state' before the Confederacy took over control of the P.O.D. in the states comprising the Confederacy.' Incidentally, this is quite a late use, May 21, 1861. The C.S.A. took over as of June 1st, 1861. On and after that date no U.S. stamps were good for postage.

Regarding your cover. I feel sure that the postmark is "AUGUSTA, GA." and that the cover went to Eatonton, Ga. Of course this type of postmark was never used during the life of the 1847 stamps, in fact, this type was not adopted until late in 1859 or in 1860. The date does look like "Jan 8". In my opinion, this could not have been Jan. 8, 1859, and I doubt if the use was 1860, and more likely Jan. 8, 1861, or perhaps later.

Note the photograph made by ultra-violet light. While this print shows some strange marks I do not believe any former cancelations were removed.

Regarding the postmark, it appears to be genuine to me. It does not appear to be a paint job, but an impression from a stamper. I do not think that someone had a fake imitation of this postmark made and applied it to a 5¢ 1847 stamp that had been cleaned.

The envelope appears to be a homemade affair, hence the question arises - was this cover used at Augusta, Ga. at sometime in the Confederacy. The rate for distances in the C.S.A. up to 500 miles was 5¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce between June 1, 1861 and July 1, 1862, after which it was 10¢. So if this was a Confederate use it must have been January 1862. One can speculate that the writer had an old 5¢ 1847 stamp and decided to use it and that it got by a postal clerk. This could have happened Jan. 1861 or 1862, I doubt if earlier or later. A homemade envelope might indicate 1862 rather than 1861.

I note that the Foundation certificate reads: 'the stamp was not used on this cover.' That statement is very indefinite and one can wonder what they meant. Did they mean that the part of the postmark on the stamp is not genuine but the part on the envelope is genuine? In other words, did someone remove a 3¢ 1857 and substitute a cleaned 5¢ 1847 and paint that part of the postmark that is on the stamp?

#2. Mr. Lawrence L. Shenfield, Oct. 17, 1955

I dislike to disagree with opinions given by the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Foundation but it is my opinion the cover is genuine and could have been genuinely used as outlined above." (unquote)

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

LAWRENCE L. SHENFIELD

Advertising & Merchandising
Consultant

40 Highland Circle, Bronxville 8, N.Y.
BRonxville 2-4206

Dear Stan-

Your visit to Dietz was a fine tribute and was much at the dinner. In view of all the conflict of the past between you two, I believe it was a gracious and fine thing for you to do. It seemed more like the Ashbrook I used to know than the Ashbrook I am hearing from to-day. Dietz replied to my remarks with brevity and grace. He seems in excellent health for 87 years - tho his eyes are failing. Good turn-out for the affair - about 80.

I have yours of the 17th regarding the block of the finds and the 5th '47 cover. Since the block appeared at a meeting I could not attend, and the question you ask on the '47 cover seems to demand an official answer, I have taken the liberty of sending all to the Foundation for official reply. I am astonished at your remarks about the F.C. I refuse to be called "laughing stock."

Cary.

Oct. 20/55

Oct. 24, 1955.

Mr. Lawrence L. Shenfield,
40 Highland Circle,
Bronxville 8, N.Y.

Dear Larry:

I am enclosing herewith a letter that I wrote you a week ago, on the 17th, intending to send it to you after you had commented on the 5¢ 1847 cover. The letter contains my opinion on that cover. Evidently you do not care to make any comment which is okay with me. In the future I will not bother to exchange views with you on any controversial item. You returned to me the photo and P.F. certificate without any expression whatsoever.

I assume that you took offense at my remarks about the P.F. Committee. I certainly meant every word I stated and I have no apology to offer. It is being recognized all over the country that the Committee is an absolute joke. I have been engaged in philatelic research work on 19th U.S. since 1915 and I believe in all the years I have accumulated some knowledge of the subject. It is damn serious business when a committee posing as an "Expert Committee" condemns such a rare piece as the Waterhouse 3¢ 1861 PINK BLOCK. Of course nobody who has examined this item and with any real knowledge of 19th U.S., would take such an opinion seriously but nevertheless their certificate, silly and absurd as it really is, does cast a shadow on this block.

Again I repeat, and most emphatically, the P.F. Expert Committee is making a laughing stock of serious philatelic research work, and I believe that every one who has been engaged in such work with me holds the same opinion. I have been trying to co-operate with the Committee ever since it was organized and have never charged them any fee but hereafter when any opinion is requested of me, I intend to charge them a fee the same as anyone else.

I was informed that you passed on the 5¢ 1847 cover, hence I took the matter up with you as a personal matter. Had I wanted the matter referred to the Committee I could have written them myself.

From the tone of the above letter you will surely note that I took offense at your letter.

Yours etc.,

Confederate Postal History

BY EUGENE V. CONNETT

An increasing interest in Confederate postal history becomes more evident every day. Here is an item from a contemporary New York newspaper which shows some light on how the Confederate Post Office operated at a profit!

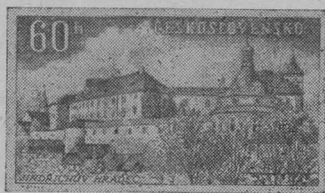
Corporal Merrill, recently released from imprisonment at Richmond, thus describes the facilities afforded to the federal prisoners for obtaining letters:

"Respecting the facilities for mail delivery to the prisoners, I feel constrained to record a fact which was highly creditable to the sympathetic feelings of the Union officers, and correspondingly to the discredit of the Confederate authorities. At one period some three hundred letters, addressed to the Union prisoners, had accumulated at the Postoffice, and were withheld from their owners for nearly a fortnight. As soon as the Union officers were made aware of this fact, they inquired as to the cause, and were informed that the authorities declined to deliver them until the postage was paid, and as they believed that but few of the privates had any pecuniary means, they had determined to with-

hold them. Upon this explanation the Union officers directed that the letters should be delivered forthwith, and that they would pay the postage, which amounted to some twenty-five dollars. The Confederate authorities invariably exacted seven cents per letter on delivery at the prison, notwithstanding that the five cents Confederate postage was prepaid by the writers in an enclosure to General Wool."

The prison referred to by Corporal Merrill was Libby Prison in Richmond to which many of the Union soldiers captured at Manassas were first taken. I wonder if anyone has a cover which might have been involved in the above transaction? A record of evidence of payment of the seven cents extra postage would be extremely interesting philatelically. In my modest collection of prisoner of war letters I have only one *received* by a prisoner. He was captured at Bull Run and received the letter on the battlefield shortly before he was captured and sent to Libby Prison in Richmond. He returned this cover, with a list of men captured with him, to his family in New York by another soldier.

ed on a 12c red and green. Upon the 30c dark green and magenta is the pilot seated in plane and dated "1892-1920".



CZECHOSLOVAKIA—Postals—Three large horizontal pictorials show examples of the fine old buildings which are the country's pride. Upon the 30h is the ancient clock-tower and steep-roofed buildings of Tabor which surround it. The arcaded streets and old gate are the pride of Prachatic, on the 45h carmine. A view of mighty Palace walls, bridges, chapel, and more walls are impressive on the 60h gray green.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA—The

17, and 195A, rare. A single value, 60hal, marked the International Motorcycle Race, according to the Postal Administration, as well as a trio of adhesives showing architectural sights which are titled "Beauties of Our Towns." Values are 30hal, 45hal and 60hal. The International Philatelic Exhibition, Praga 1955, which closed Sept. 25, was marked with two miniature sheets, one perforated and the other imperforated, with each containing the same five stamps with denominations of 30hal, 45hal, 60hal, 75hal and 1.60k. The design depict architectural sights of Prague.

FINLAND — A 25 markka denomination goes on sale Nov. 1 to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the founding of the



city of Lahti. The design pictures what is probably the town municipal building. Three semi-postals will be released Nov. 24 with the additional charge aiding the Red Cross of Finland. Values will be 10m plus 2m, 15m plus 3m, and 25m plus 5m. The designs will show a young

Ashbrook
COPY

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

October 13th, 1955.

Mr. Eugene V. Connett
170 Turrell Ave.,
South Orange, N. J.

Dear Mr. Connett:

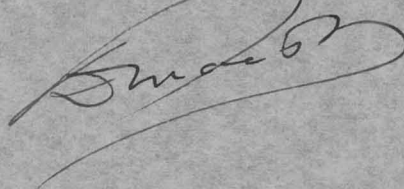
I read with considerable interest your item published under the heading "Confederate Postal History" in Mekeel's Weekly of October 7, 1955. Particularly, as it had a bearing on one of my pet subjects, - Confederate prisoner-of-war letters, etc.

I never heard the statement you quoted from a letter by one of the Union soldiers held in Libby Prison, to the effect that "The Confederate authorities invariably exacted seven cents per letter on delivery at the prison, notwithstanding that the five cents Confederate postage was prepaid by the writers in an enclosure to General Wool." Frankly, I doubt that any such rate was ever "officially" imposed, and believe that instead it was probably an attempt at some petty thievery. Surely there was no official 7c rate nor a 2c fee for delivery of mail anywhere in the Confederacy!

I have several covers and letters to and from men held in Libby Prison, and have seen and know of many more. The postage on all of them was either at the 5c-10c Confederate rates, and/or the 3c-6c Union rates for thru-the-line letters.

I thought you would like to have these comments, and I hope you keep on publishing any other interesting items you may run across bearing on Confederate postal history.

Cordially yours,



MacB/HK

c.c.: Earl Antrim
T.M. Parks
L.L. Shenfield
T.W. Crigler, Jr.
G.N. Malpass
S.B. Ashbrook

Stan Have you ever heard
of this before?
Mac



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.

10/20/55

Dear Stan:

Do you have an record of auction prices on any of the 12¢ '51 printed on both sides?

I have a chance to buy one of these stamps, used, a fair copy that probably is as good as any of the very few known examples. I believe it will cost me around \$800. I had one when I was a kid but not the same one I can now buy.

Now this is strictly a business deal and I insist that you send me a bill.

Stamp business only average but I've been plenty busy just the same. This blamed price list I put out takes a great deal of time---- particularly when it comes to collecting the money due me!

I filled out the blank for the R.D.P. and recommended Perry as per our conversation. If you do likewise we may be able to put him over.

Sincere regards,

Oct. 22, 1955.

Mr. L. G. Brookman,
103 Loeb Arcade,
Minneapolis 3, Minn.

Dear Colonel Brookman:

Replying to yours of the 20th. I have never been very enthusiastic about things that I call "freaks." I never took much interest in them. I call a 12¢ 1851 a "freak" and as such I never bothered to make much of a record of such that came up in sales.

Worthington had a copy - it was Lot 116 in the sale by Morgenthau on Aug. 21, 1917. The sale price was \$175.00. This is the only sale that I ever recorded in my files. I have a record of the copy you owned. I find you wrote me about it on March 15, 1942 (cost to you \$10.00). I also have a photo (front and back) of the Duveen copy - prints sent to Chase by Charley Phillips years ago. I suspect this was the Worthington copy. The back shows parts of two stamps.

I am awfully sorry that I do not have more data to send to you.

With best -

Cordially,

General Ashbrook

Oct 1955

Dear Mr Ashbrook

Thank you for returning
my document so promptly. From your
letter I gather that you feel that my document
might be an indication of the actual final date
of mail service from the north to the south. Is
this correct?

I am sending the Victoria cover
although I could not see anything different.
Perhaps you will.

Enclosed are 3 other U.S. covers
which I am seeking more information on.

The first is the 1861 3¢ with the
Don Pedro. Is the 3¢ "used abroad" from
Brazil? Why? Why the "due?"? This
cover was in the Schenk collection.

The 1869 cover apparently originated
in Constantinople and was sent by private
means to New York where the 3¢ 1869 was
applied and the cover forwarded to Pittsburgh.
I heard that there was an article in Stamps(?)
describing a similar cover. Are you familiar
with the article or the cover. Again do

you have any idea of the scarcity of this item?

The envelope to Denmark has been thoroughly confused. It hardly seems possible that 3¢ would have been the letter rate to Denmark. There is no notation on the cover to indicate that it was a 1¢ overpayment of the 2¢ circular rate. My guess is that some other stamps have been removed. What do you think?

Have you any interesting covers for sale? I am not too interested in buying any very expensive items until I see what the Caspary catalogues look like.

There are a few items which I think I would be interested in anytime however. They are:

- ① a single 3¢ 1869 used to Bermuda
- ② a single 3¢ 1869 used from Alaska
- ③ an 1847 cover used to a foreign country especially a 5¢ 1847 paying the 5¢ rate of the 1850's to France I understand such covers exist is that correct?
- ④ U.S. and Peruvian stamps used together from Peru
- ⑤ an Eagle Carrier used from some town other than Philadelphia.
- ⑥ a New York postmaster used from some town other than N.Y.

P.S. If you are in the custom of charging for information of the kind I ask, please do.

Sincerely
Paul Jagger

Oct. 25, 1955.

Mr. Karl Jaeger,
2106 Ellington Road,
Columbus 12, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Jaeger:

Thanks very much for your kindness in the loan of your cover from Melbourne, which I am returning herewith with the other covers that you included.

Your cover is different from the one that I illustrated in my article in the "Stamp Specialist" but it is from the same origin but to a different address in Richmond, Va. I assume that both covers indicate that the original date of May 28th was taken as the dead line for sending mail into the seceded states. The New York postmark has this date and the letter was not sent to Richmond but was sent back to England. Our rate to Australia at that period, "Via Marseilles" was 39¢ per $\frac{1}{4}$ ounce and 45¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. The sum paid at Melbourne was one shilling 8 pence or approximately 39¢ in our money (24 plus 16). I am not quite sure as to the meaning of the "8" on both covers but I assume this was 8 pence and was the sum due from the sender for having his letter returned to him.

Regarding your other covers.

Cover from Brazil. There is no date on this cover but I judge the use was in the late eighteen sixties. This letter was brought to New York by a U.S. mail steamer and the steamship rate from a foreign country with whom we had no treaty was 10¢. The 3¢ 1861 was recognized, hence 7¢ was due from the addressee. I suppose the writer thought the Brazil stamp would pay the Brazilian postage and the 3¢ '61 the U.S. After the Civil War a number of southern people emigrated to Brazil. This letter might have been from such a source.

3¢ 1869 cover. A letter from a Missionary. These were sent in batches under separate cover to New York and mailed. Examples such as this are quite well known.

3¢ Stamped Envelope. No year date of use. This was evidently a use in the late 1870's and was sent under the U.P.U. rate of 5¢. I judge this had a 2¢ stamp which is missing. Of course, it is possible that it "got by" the postal clerks at Chicago with only 3¢ paid when 5¢ should have been.

Again referring to your 3¢ 1869 cover. I do not recall an article in "Stamps" on a cover in this class, but of course there might have been one, or mention of such an item. I believe that such covers are relatively scarce but not rare. The nature of such a cover would hardly make it command much of a premium, (in my opinion).

Do I have covers for sale? The answer is yes, in this way - I am at

#2. Mr. Karl Jaeger - Oct. 25, 1955.

times given collections to dispose of for the estates of deceased friends. At present I am dispersing the collection of my late friend Harold W. Stark of Ann Arbor, Mich. If I run across any items that I think might be of interest to you I will be glad to send them to you for a look.

5¢ 1847 to France. There was never a 5¢ rate to France in the 1840's or 1850's but mail was sent Via England with payments of 5¢. Postage from the U.S. frontier was collected from the addressee. This was before we had a postal treaty with France.

I charge fees for the authentication of valuable covers, signing same on the back, with a description of the rate, route, etc., accompanying the item. My minimum fee is \$5.00. I charge \$2.00 for a photograph of a cover, or a superb color slide @ \$1.50. If you would like to see samples I will gladly submit.

I also issue a monthly "Service" for which I charge \$100 per annum. In these issues I discuss 19th U.S. and our postal history. I will be glad to submit a sample copy.

I am pleased to reimburse you for the forwarding postage inasmuch as I requested a loan of your cover.

Sincerely yours,

P.S.--A query in your former letter. Mr. Dietz did not make any mention in his book re - the accuracy of Mr. Reagan's statement.

S.B.A.

TELEPHONE
PLAZA 7-4460

APPRAISALS FOR SALE,
PROBATE & INSURANCE

DIRECTORS
H. R. HARMER B. D. HARMER
F. T. BUCK MARGARET MAHONEY

H. R. HARMER, Inc.

INTERNATIONAL STAMP AUCTIONEERS

6 WEST 48TH STREET
NEW YORK 36, N.Y.

ALSO AT 41 NEW BOND STREET, LONDON, W.I.
AND 25 CASTLEREAGH STREET, SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA
ESTABLISHED OVER 50 YEARS

CABLES
HARMERSALE, NEW YORK

LEADING AUCTIONEERS OF
RARE POSTAGE STAMPS

AUCTIONEERS OF THE
"PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT" COLLECTION

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

19th
October
1955

Dear Stan:

I am enclosing from the Caspary collection an unrecorded example of doubling in "Twelve Cents".

We are naturally of the opinion that this is a painting job, but would appreciate your confirmation on this point.

I must apologize for sending you these items basically one at a time but we are coming across them at odd moments and wish to get them through to you so that that part of the sale can be completed.

An envelope, sufficiently stamped for return is enclosed.

Sincerely yours,

H. R. HARMER, INC.

B. D. Harmer
Director

BDH:E
Enclosure
Dictated by but signed
in the absence of Mr. Harmer

Oct. 25, 1955.

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

Dear Bernard:

Herewith the 12¢ 1851 as per yours of the 19th. You are quite right - this is a "painting" and not a genuine double transfer. The 12¢ plate (No. 1) did not produce any such a variety as this. The stamp comes from the bottom row of one of the two panes, neither of which had such a variety.

The enclosed fake was no doubt made by the same "artist" who made a copy that I wrote about in my "Service" Issue of July 1954. I am enclosing two clipped sheets from the issue together with photo print. You can return at your convenience.

No fee on this stamp.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

TELEPHONE
PLAZA 7-4460

APPRAISALS FOR SALE,
PROBATE & INSURANCE

DIRECTORS
H. R. HARMER B. D. HARMER
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HARMERSALE, NEW YORK

LEADING AUCTIONEERS OF
RARE POSTAGE STAMPS

AUCTIONEERS OF THE
"PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT" COLLECTION

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

21st
October
1955

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Herewith are two further items from the Caspary Collection, as follows:

1. United States 1857 5c perforated, mint.
2. A cover to Belgium bearing eight (8) copies of the same 5c, including pairs; also a 1c. A beautiful cover despite the fact that another stamp, probably a 1c was removed (double rate by American Packet which calls for 42c).

In our opinion the color of the 5c is the Indian red, or what the Scott catalogues calls henna brown. We would like to get your esteemed opinion as to whether you agree with this.

Stamped self-addressed envelope is enclosed for your convenience.

Sincerely yours,

H. R. HARMER, INC.



H. J. Bloch

HB:E
Enclosure

Oct. 25, 1955.

H. R. Harmer, Inc.,
6 West 48th St.,
New York 36, N.Y.

Attention: Mr. H.J. Bloch

Dear Mr. Bloch:

Herewith the 5¢ 1857 - Type I - mint and the 5¢ 1857 cover to Belgium as per yours of the 21st.

1) 5¢ 1857 Type I, perforated, unused, o.g. In my opinion, this is the Indian Red, a mint copy. I made a photograph of this stamp by ultra-violet and could not discover any trace of a cancel removed. The gum on the back is original in my opinion. There seems to be a slight defect(?) in the hair over the right eye - You might examine this carefully under a good microscope. The bottom row of perfs seemed awfully sharp to me. This shade is a bit light.

2) Cover to Belgium. All of the 5¢ 1857 Type I are the Indian Red or S.U.S. "Henna." (Personally I prefer "Indian Red.") They are excellent examples of the color. The center line copies are quite desirable. Stamps used from New Orleans in January 1859 though these copies were surely issued a year earlier. Very unusual to find perfs down the center line of Indian Red copies. From New Orleans to Boston to New York, thence by American Packet, Via French Mail @ 21¢ per $\frac{1}{4}$ oz. or 42¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. A 1¢ 1857 missing. The Boston marking in red on face is faded out but it must have had a credit marking of "24," the U.S. share "18¢."

I have no record of a cover with as many as 8 copies of the Indian Red. This cover is genuine in all respects with the exception of the missing 1¢ stamp.

No fee for the 5¢ mint copy. A fee of \$5.00 for the cover. I have signed the latter on the back.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

MEMO *from the desk of...*

THE BOOKKEEPER

Oct. 27 1955

Mr. Stanley B Ashbrook

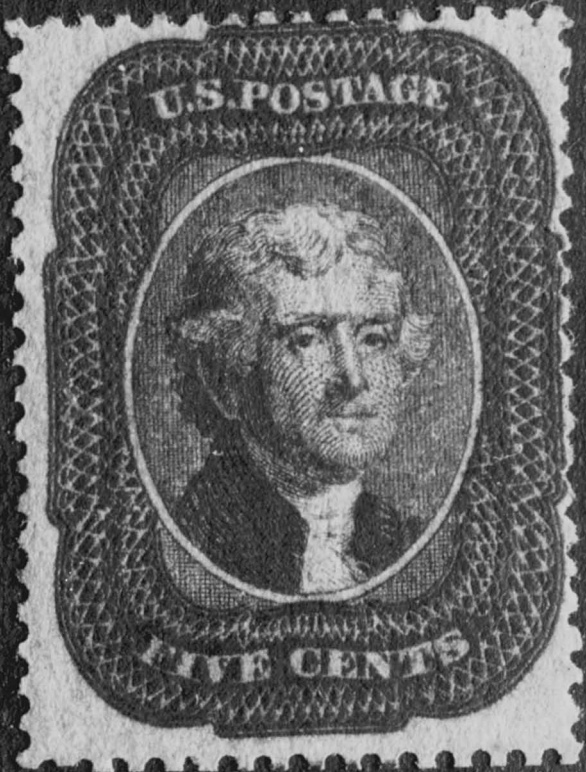
-1- 5¢ 1857 Type 1 perf. unused o.G

2 - Cover to Belgium

Fee \$ 5.00 enclosed as per
your letter of Oct. 25th

With thanks

C300



CASPAR OCT 24-55

QUARTZ F64 RE MIN C300

C299 CASPARY-HEINNA



5561 #2100

QUARTZ-13-F64-17MIN C299

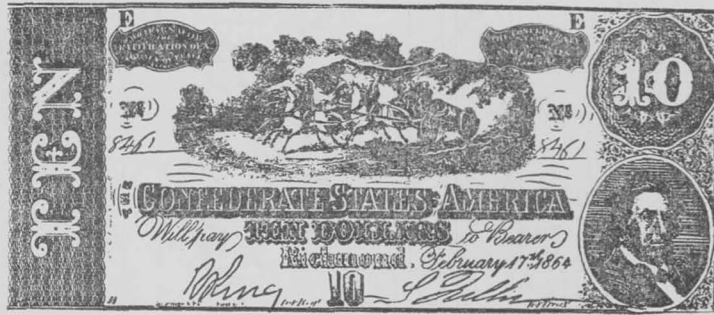
C299 CASPARY-HEINNA



5561 #2 J308

QUARTZ-13-F64-17 MIN C299

CHARLES J. AFFLECK
34 PEYTON STREET
WINCHESTER, VIRGINIA



COLLECTOR
UNITED STATES and CONFEDERATE
STAMPS and CURRENCY



Dear General Ashbrook -
Colonel Malpass has suggested I send you the enclosed photo-stat copy of a block of Confederate Nos 9. TENS. for inclusion in your outstanding tabulation of records.

Colonel Beaman of this city and I acquired this block last week. It has been peacefully resting in an old thorn tree near by since the war and we are glad to bring it out in the open.

I also wrote Colonel Malpass and suggested consideration be given to establishing

a circuit in the Americas
which should bring additional
funds into the Treasury
and also keep the members
to build up their collections
and move their duplicates.

Sincerely yours

O. J. Appleton

10-20-55

Oct. 22, 1955.

Mr. Chas. J. Affleck,
34 Peyton St.,
Winchester, Va.

Dear Mr. Affleck:

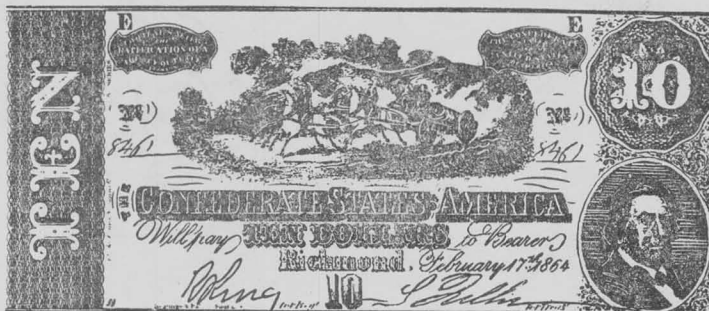
It was most kind of you to write me about the new "TEN" block and to send me a photostat of it. May I make a request? I would like very much to make a fine photograph of the block and if agreeable to you, I would like to publish an article in "STAMPS" about it, you giving me what data regarding it that you would like for me to mention and anything that you would not care to have published.

And lastly may I inquire, is the block for sale, and if so, would you care to place it in my hands to be sold for you?

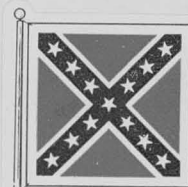
I do thank you for your kindness and if you do not care to comply with my request as above, I assure you, it will be perfectly okay.

Sincerely yours,

CHARLES J. AFFLECK
34 PEYTON STREET
WINCHESTER, VIRGINIA



COLLECTOR
UNITED STATES and CONFEDERATE
STAMPS and CURRENCY



Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Thank you for your letter of the 22nd and I am glad to send you the block of C.S.A. T-E-N's so that you may write an article for "Stamps".

Dr. F. C. Beavers and the writer discovered this rare Confederate block of twenty-two T-E-N's in an old Southern Mansion near the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains. The unusual block was in a frame with other Confederate papers and had been in this old home since the war.

This block is unique in that it has an exceptionable wide margin on the left, evidently is the upper left corner block and also contains number 62, which is the only position not retouched.

As you know, the stamp was issued April 20th, 1863. The earliest known date cancellation is April 24th, 1863. The sheet consisted of one pane of 100 stamps. Because of the poor transferring, 99 out of the 100 stamps were recut or touched-up. Position No. 62, was the only position not retouched. The plate was of copper and did not wear too well. The stamp was withdrawn shortly after its issuance because Davis' aide, Col. W. H. Browne, told Mrs. Davis the likeness was more of a resemblance to Lincoln than to that of her husband, Jefferson. The total number issued was somewhere between 800,000 and 1,000,000 stamps. Colors range from a light milky blue to a deep, rich shade of blue. The ratio of unused and used copies is about the same.

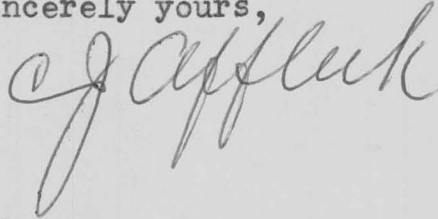
For your information, Dr. F. C. Beavers, is owner of a large drug store in this city and the writer, C. J. Affleck, retired from General Mills, Inc., also secretary-treasurer of The Valley Stamp Club. Both are members of the Confederate Stamp Alliance.

Page two.

This block was acquired jointly by Dr. Beavers and the writer. We have given no thought to selling the block but due to the fact it is jointly owned, we will eventually have to make some division and may consider selling.

We are proud of these stamps and are glad we can bring them out in the open for others to enjoy.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "J. Ashbrook". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "Sincerely yours,".

October 24, 1955

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

Oct. 27, 1955.

Mr. C. J. Affleck,
34 Peyton St.,
Winchester, Va.

Dear Mr. Affleck:

Herewith I am returning your block of the
Confederate "TEN" together with check to cover your
forwarding postage. Later I will send you two prints
of the photograph that I made.

Again thanks very much.

Sincerely yours,

Oct. 26, 1955.

Mr. C. J. Affleck,
34 Peyton St.,
Winchester, Va.

Dear Mr. Affleck:

Thanks very much for your kindness in sending me your block of 22 of the Confederate "TEN." I will return it to you tomorrow after making a good photograph of it.

For your information and that of Dr. Beavers, I would like to correct some of the data in your letter. Your information was confused with the "Frame Line plate" and evidently came from some of my published articles on that plate of past years. For example, both the "TEN" plate and the Frame Line plate were copper plates, however, the Frame Line plate was one of 100 subjects, whereas the "TEN" plate was one of 200 subjects.

Back in the middle nineteens I started to reconstruct the Frame Line plate and was later joined in my work by the late Edward S. Knapp. I am still working on that plating and have definitely located 97 of the 100 positions. I have three different varieties that belong in my three vacant positions but material is so scarce I have not been able to identify the positions of my three. I was the first to discover that 99 positions on the Frame Line plate were recut and one position had no recutting, viz., #62 on the plate of 100.

Mr. Knapp and I supposed the "Ten" plate was also one of 100 and early in the nineteen twenties we started to reconstruct the plate but after our work had progressed quite a bit, we discovered the plate contained 200 subjects, so we abandoned our work. No one has ever reconstructed the entire plate.

In the very fine book by our own General August Dietz of the C.S.A., entitled, "The Postal Service of The Confederate States of America," the author gave quite a description of both plates and illustrated the following blocks of the "TEN":

A	block	of	30	-	6V	x	5H
A	"	"	24	-	irregular		
A	"	"	24	-	"		

I do not seem to have a record of a larger block than the above one of 30. I note that your block is from the left pane and contains several minor double transfers.

I have heard the story that Mrs. Davis was displeased with the "TEN" stamp because the head resembled that of Lincoln, but I seriously doubt if there is any truth in same.

My father was a soldier of the "Lost Cause," one of "Morgan's Men" hence my interest in the postal history of the C.S.A.

#2. Mr. C. J. Affleck - Oct. 26, 1955.

I am enclosing a list of the earliest known dates of use of C.S.A. stamps.

Again many thanks.

Sincerely yours,

Maurice J A M E T

Paris, le 28/10/55

NOUVELLE ADRESSE

2, Rue Taitbout PARIS-IX*

Tél. : TAITbout 54-11

Mr Stanley B. ASHBROOK

P.O. Box 31

33 N. Ft Thomas Avenue

FORT THOMAS, Ky

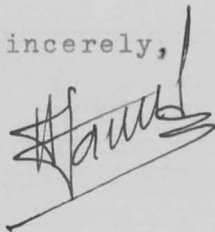
(Etats-Unis)

Dera Mr Ashbrook,

Please find herewith
four covers. I should be much obliged
if you would have a look at them and sign
them in case they are genuine.

Thank you very much in advance,

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Maurice J. A. M. T.', written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Maurice J A M E T

10, rue d'Alger

P A R I S ler

Paris, le 28 Octobre 1955

Mr Stanley B. ASHBROOK

P.O. Box 31

33 N. Ft Thomas Avenue

FORT THOMAS, Ky

(Etats-Unis)

POUR EXPERTISE

- 1) Une lettre portant un New York 5c., obl. plume et cachet à date rouge New York 60.000.-
- 2) Une lettre portant un 3Cts U.S.A. obl. du cachet marron
Paid dans un cercle, à côté cachet marron Jamaica Vt 15.000.-
- (3) Une lettre portant un 3Cts, un ¹²~~10~~Cts noir, et une bande de 3 du 5Cts des U.S.A. ~~2~~ ² LES deux premiers obl. du cachet à date noir, la bande de 3 du cach. à date bleu. Sur la lettre cachet bleu Et. Unis Serv. Am. D. Havre 8.000.-
- 4) Une lettre portant un 5Cts et un 10Cts U.S.A., ainsi qu'un 10Cms Emp. dent. France. Sur la lettre cach. à date New Orleans, ainsi que la griffe "Trouvé à la Boite". 8.000.-

91.000.-

Nov. 8, 1955.

Mr. Maurice Jamet,
2 Rue Taitbout,
Paris 9, France.

Dear Mr. Jamet:

Herewith I am returning the four items contained in yours of October 28th and I am pleased to report that all are genuine. I enclose signed photo prints of each one and I have also authenticated each one on the reverse side.

I would like very much to purchase item No. 3. If agreeable to you kindly return it to me with your price and I will remit by return mail. I am quite sure your price will be fair. In case you will sell it to me I will remit my examination fee.

My fees for the four covers are as follows:

Item No. 1 - 5¢ New York	\$ 5.00
Item No. 2 - 3¢ 1857 - Jamaica Wt	3.00
Item No. 3 - New Orleans to France	5.00
Item No. 4 - 5¢ 1862 plus 10¢ '61	3.00
	<u>\$16.00</u>

With every good wish - believe me

Cordially yours,

P.S.--My son Stanley B. Ashbrook, Jr. is a Lieutenant in the U.S. Navy and is attached to the U.S. Destroyer "Rowe." His ship left this country last Saturday and will be in the Mediterranean until sometime in February. He hopes to get a leave and spend a few days in Paris around the Christmas Holidays. I will send him a letter of introduction to you and no doubt you and Mrs. Jamet can give him some good advice regarding the best places to buy such items as perfume, etc. Any favors that you extend to him will be sincerely appreciated by his Mother and I. Incidentally he is 25 and not married.

Telephone : GERRARD 4900

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



MANAGING DIRECTOR : O. BACHER, PH. D.,
DIRECTOR : S. BACHER.
MEMBERS BRITISH PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION,
AMERICAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY, COL. CLUB
NEW YORK AND OTHERS.

VALUERS FOR SALE.
PROBATE & INSURANCE.

ESTABLISHED 1921

The WESTMINSTER STAMP CO.

LIMITED

THE SPECIALISTS IN U.S.A. STAMPS

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

Stanley B. Ashbrook, Esq.,
Fort Thomas.

Oct. 31, 1955

Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

Thank you so much for yours of Oct. 26 with additional memo re. PINK.

I take my hat off to you, in admiration for your candour and courage
how you stand up, in private AND in public, for causes you believe in. If there were
more men like you, the world would be a better place.

Would you be good enough to tell me what you make of the postmarks
on enclosed piece? My search here was in vain. I am unable to establish the postmarks.
Very many thanks.

With sincere personal wishes

cordially yours

Otto Bacher



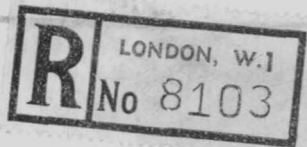
Stanley B. Ashbrook, Esq.

33 N. Fort Thomas Ave.

Fort Thomas

Ky.

USA



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





Nov. 5, 1955.

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

Dear Doctor:

Herewith I am returning your block of six of the 3¢ 1861 I do wonder that the marking bothered you, because, if it is genuine it is quite a scarce and unusual item so far as I am aware. It reads as follows:

MARICOPA
Sep 7
WELLS
A.T.

In other words, Maricopa Wells, Arizona Territory. I have never seen this marking before, hence it would be presumptuous for me to express a definite opinion regarding it. I have no data in my files regarding it, hence I do not know if it is an official postal marking or one that is unofficial - and private.

Arizona was created a Territory as of Feb. 24, 1863 and a state as of Feb. 14, 1912. It was originally a part of New Mexico. I have a list of post offices dated 1867 but there was no such a post office at that time. However, an 1870 list does include it. Therefore, it seems probable that a post office was established there between 1867 and 1870. Inquiry at Washington would give the date.

I note that there is a station called "Maricopa" on the Santa Fe R.R. but whether this is the original "Maricopa Wells," I do not know.

Dr. Carroll Chase is our foremost authority on Territorials and I will write him to see if he can give me any data and I will write you later.

Many thanks for your kind words. Members of the P.F. Expert Committee do not like for me to disagree with their opinions. I am urging them to cancel their certificate on the PINK block but I doubt if their pride will permit such a course.

With regards -

Cordially yours,



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS



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

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

Dec. 7 1955

Dear Stan:-

Thanks for the photo of the
Manicopa Wells A.T. block. Very pretty.
One a record of several pieces. Surely
a well tutorial.

Best

as ever

CC.

Dec. 5, 1955.

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

Dear Doc:

I enclose a photo print of an item sent to me by Dr. Bacher of London for a look. The strikes are in blue and the photo shows them up better than the original. I suppose you are familiar with this marking but in case it might be unusual I am sending you this print. Later Mort Sampson was able to supply me with three covers, two with 3¢ '61 and one a 3¢ Pink 1861 envelope. Two strikes in blue and one in black. I have color slides of all items in case you would like to see them.

Keep this print if you wish it.

With best wishes -

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

NOVEMBER 1, 1955 (9:30 P.M.)

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK, ESQ.
P.O. Box 31
FORT THOMAS, KENTUCKY.

DEAR STAN:

HERE IS A COVER THAT NEEDS THE "OLD MASTERS" CONSIDERATION.

I WAS AT SIOUX CITY, IOWA AT THE TMPS SHOW AND BOUGHT THIS COVER FROM W. O. BILDEN - OF MINNEAPOLIS - JUST BECAUSE IT DID NOT MAKE SENSE TO ME. THIS LETTER IS DATE LINED "LIVERPOOL 4TH JULY 1863" - AND AT THE UPPER LEFT HAND CORNER OF THE SHEET IS THE WORD "ASIA" WHICH I TAKE TO BE A TRANS-ATLANTIC STEAMER OF THAT PERIOD.

ON THE ADDRESS FACE YOU WILL SEE THE NOTATION P PERSIA - AND IN THE UPPER RIGHT CORNER 1/- WHICH I TAKE TO BE 1 SHILLING POSTAGE. (I DO NOT KNOW IF THAT IS THE CORRECT POSTAGE FOR THAT PERIOD OR NOT). THE LETTER IS ADDRESSED TO PHILADELPHIA. QUESTION: WHO PUT THE PAIR OF 1¢ 1861 STAMPS ON THE COVER - TIED BY THE POSTMARK OF PHILADELPHIA - JULY 16, 1863 - AND WHY WERE THEY PUT ON? IF IT CAME VIA THE "PERSIA" FROM LIVERPOOL - WHY IS THERE NO ENGLISH POSTMARK? IN 1863 THE DROP LETTER RATE MAY HAVE BEEN 1¢ OR 2¢ - FRANKLY I DO NOT KNOW - OR THERE MAY HAVE BEEN A CARRIER FEE - BUT THE QUESTION STILL REMAINS - WHO PUT THE STAMPS ON THE COVER AFTER IT ARRIVED IN AMERICA. I CAN SEE NO EVIDENCE THAT A STAMP HAS BEEN REMOVED FROM THE COVER - AND SO FAR AS I AM AWARE THERE WAS NOT A 3¢ RATE FOR A LETTER WITHIN A CITY.

WHEN YOU FEEL LIKE RELAXING A BIT - AND GIVING THIS "PROMBLEM" A BIT OF THOUGHT I WILL BE GLAD TO HAVE YOUR IDEAS OR OPINION ON THIS ONE. A SELF ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE IS ENCLOSED.

ALL GOOD WISHES -

SINCERELY,

C. CORWITH WAGNER.

Nov. 5, 1955.

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

Dear Corwith:

Herewith your 1¢ 1861 cover as per yours of the 1st. This is what I call a "boot-leg" cover, that is, it was carried privately from Liverpool to Philadelphia and mailed there - therefore, a shilling or 24¢ in postage was not paid but instead the local delivery rate of 2¢. The Act of Mar. 3, 1863, effective July 1, 1863 fixed the Drop Rate at 2¢ (hence the 2¢ B.J.) and this rate included local delivery in those cities where the delivery system had been inaugurated.

I note that this letter went to the P.O. Box of the addressee. As you will recall, the drop rate was later reduced to 1¢ in cities and towns which did not have free delivery service.

Inside the letter is by "Africa" but on the outside it is "per Asia." Both were British mail ships of the Cunard Line. The writer intended that the letter go in the regular mail and no doubt he intended that it be prepaid with a shilling stamp. Instead it was handed to someone who conveyed it to Philadelphia or it could have been sent under separate cover to some other business firm in Philadelphia with instructions to place it in the mail there. No doubt this is the logical solution. Incidentally, there was no such a thing as a "Carrier Fee" after June 30, 1863.

Bilden is supposed to be quite a student of U. S. covers. Is it possible that he did not have an analysis for the cover.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

Lot 24 Sc. 10 Cat. Est \$100⁰⁰



79

JUL 19

AMERICAN
JULY 20
51 C
LIVERPOOL

1851 3¢ ORANGE BROWN STRIP OF 6 & PR ON COVER: POSTMARKED
JULY 8th (8 DAYS AFTER ISSUE): RECEIVING CANCEL DATED
JULY 20th 51: PLATE POSITIONS ON STRIP OF 6: 71-76 R1E:
POSITIONS ON PAIR 87-88 R1E: EX CHASE COLLECTION:
MAGENTA CANCEL: VERY RARE ITEM.

Wm. A. Clarke
East Chatham Col Co
New York State

1861 3¢ ON PATRIOTIC SIMILAR TO WALCOTT #1222
LETTER ENCLOSED

AT THE CLEVELAND STAMP CLUB SHOW

I close one of our 2-WAY Auctions at the conclusion of the Cleveland Stamp Club Show on Sunday, Feb. 6. Material will be on display at our Bourse Table and may be entered any time during the Show. Mail Buyers who are not on our 2-WAY mailing list should send in of the catalogs. We accept mail bids on these also.



Nelson P. LaGanke's
STAMP-ADE CO.

CARNEGIE HALL - 1220 HURON ROAD
CLEVELAND 15, OHIO

MAin 1-0909

March 29, 1955

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

The enclosed clipping is from our February 4th HI-Hat Catalog. This Cover was stolen in the mails after the Sale had been completed and we had shipped it to the successful bidder. It sold for about \$65.00. Obviously, it is the only Cover of its kind and since you watch all auctions and keep a record of such things, we wish to report the fact that it was stolen and if you ever see it crop up again, please notify the Postal authorities so they can check back and see who the new owner might be. It was sold to a customer in California.

A BROKERAGE SERVICE FOR DEALERS AND

Very truly yours,

STAMP-ADE CO.

Nelson P. LaGanke
Nelson P. La Ganke.

NPL:k

Sept. 25, 1955.

Mr. Nelson P. LaGanke,
% Stamp - Ade Co.,
1220 Huron Road,
Cleveland 15, Ohio.

Dear Mr. LaGanke:

Last March you wrote me about a cover that had been stolen, Lot 24, in your sale of Feb. 4th. I am wondering if it was ever recovered? If you have a photograph of it I will be glad to include a notice and photograph in one of my monthly issues of my Special Service.

With kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

Nelson P. LaGarke's
STAMP-ADE CO.

CARNEGIE HALL - 1220 HURON ROAD

CLEVELAND 15, OHIO

MAin 1-0909

Oct., 1st, 1955.

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook;

As far as I know the stolen Cover was never recovered. The
P.O. Dept. paid my claim.

I do not have a photograph of it. The only reproduction is
the one on the HI-HAT Catalog, which in turn was produced
by the offset printing process. The printer probably has the
piece of film from which the plate was made.

A BROKERAGE SERVICE FOR DEALERS

Sincerely yours

Nelson P. LaGarke
Nelson P. LaGarke.

Oct. 27, 1955.

Mr. Jack R. Dick,
15 W. 81st St.,
New York 24, N.Y.

Dear Jack:

Re - your cover to Switzerland, here is the data -

84¢ on cover to Switzerland
(7 - 10¢ '61 - 1 - 12¢ '61 - 1 - 3¢ '61 = 84¢)

From San Francisco Sep 21 1864
"Via Prussian Closed Mail"

Red New York - date ----?
"BR.PKT" - large red "24"

Rates to

Switzerland in September 1864

By Prussian Closed Mail - Unpaid 35¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.
Paid 33¢ " "

By French Mail - 21¢ per $\frac{1}{4}$ oz.
42¢ " $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.

By Bremen Mail - 19¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.

By Hamburg Mail - 19¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.

NOTE

84¢ Paid would appear to be by French Mail @ 21¢ per $\frac{1}{4}$ oz. - (4 x 21 = 84)
However, in such a case the credit would have been (by BR.PKT) 4 x 18¢ = 72¢
and the U.S. share 4 x 3¢ = 12¢.
A credit by "P.C.M." of "24" indicates 2 x 12¢ or an original rate of
2 x 33¢ or 66¢ (PAID 33¢)
The U.S. credit per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. - 7¢ Prussian plus 5¢ to Switzerland.

I suggest you check the above and also send me the New York postmark date.
This might have been prepaid by sender to go French Mail but when it got to New
York it was sent by "P.C.M." and "Br. Pkt." to England in a closed bag.

Sincerely yours,

Oct. 18, 1955

Dear Stan,

Thanks for the two "rates of postage" lists. They shall come in very handy. I would sincerely appreciate your endeavoring to secure more such lists for me.

The cover we discussed (7-10¢, 1-12¢ & 1-3¢) is from San Fran. Sept. 21, 1864 to Switzerland via P.C. Mail. Red "N. York Br Post" appears indistinctly on face of cover as does a large red manuscript "24." I am trying not to send it to you since it is mounted in my album in such a way that removing it is quite difficult, so, maybe you can be helped by the information contained herein, if not, let me know.

Cordially
John S. Reed

P.S. - No stamp is missing or has it been removed.