

	Scrapbook No. 40 May 1956 – August 1956
1.	E.B. Jessup Re Hawaii Missionary Cover
2.	Howard Lehman RE various covers via Nic – to Canada Elec
3.	D.N. McInroy Re 1¢ 51 – Type 1A
4.	Dr. W.S. Polland re 3¢ 1861 R.R. Cover
5.	E. Perry Miscellaneous
6.	Tracy Simpson Re Louisville & Cinti Mail Line
7.	Wm. E. Tickel 3¢ 1861 – Rose
8.	Ollie Wolcott
9.	Philip Ward Jr. ship into N.O. Re Transfer Rolls 1851 Issue
10.	Wilshire Stamp Co. 10¢ 1861 Type 1 1¢ 51 Reprint
11.	Dr. O. Bacher 30¢ 1869 on Piece Disraeli
12.	Ezra Cole Cover from England Forwarded with 3 1861
13.	Irwin Heiman 5¢ - 10¢ 1847 Cover Ex. Dunham sale –Dec. 54
14.	E.C. Krug Various covers
15.	C.C. Hart two 5¢ 47 covers Chicago 6 Middleton Conn
16.	Leon Reussille Re 12¢ + 3¢ 61 to France Earliest 12¢ 61
17.	Roger Weill 10¢ 1847 – Green Cancel
18.	C.C. Hart 10¢ 1847 cover Roswell Geo
19.	"Stampazine" 10¢ 2847 Reprint
20.	E.D. Cole 3¢ + 1¢ 57 Cleveland O
21.	L.G. Brookman Re 3¢ 67 Grill covers May & Aug 1867
22.	E.C. Krug Cover from England Forwarded
23.	Henry Hill Re 8800 <sup>00</sup> Cover 5¢ 1856
24.	Geo. N. Malpass mobile stampless
25.	E.C. Krug 3¢ 1861 Pink covers
26.	Horace Poole 5¢47 Cover MacGregor's Landing Iowa
27.	S.H. Dike Re New Mexico Covers
28.	Tom Parks L.V. Huber Re New Orleans Blockade cover
29.	Mrs. Harold Pickett Steamer Gen'l Quitman
30.	Philip Rust 1¢ 1857 99R2
31.	Corwith Wagner cover "STEAMSHIP 40"
32.	Mort Neinken Re 1¢ 1851 – type IV Block INK VARIETY
33.	E.C. Krug Fake 30¢ bank note cover
34.	Win Boggs 30¢ cover to Guatemala
35.	C.C. Hart Five 5¢ & 47 Covers
36.	E.C. Krug Covers from June stolen sale
37.	Richard L Trout Cinti O
38.	E.C. Krug Re 5 Covers
39.	C.C. Hart 2 - 5¢56 covers
40.	E.C. Krug – 5 covers Stalow sale
41.	J.G. Fleckenstein 24¢ 61 cover to Swiss
42.	E. Perry Re Franklin Carrier with RED Phila
43.	H.S. Cole 5¢ 1847 OH 161 items
44.	E.C. Krug 3¢ 57 PART Pert Jonesborough Ind.

45.	Geo D. Cabot 1¢ 1851 Pl. 4
46.	L. L. Shenfield Re Confed Cover "SAVANNAH" P.M.
47.	E.D. Cole 3¢ + 1¢ 57 with foreign working
48.	S.D. Harris re - 24¢ 1861 – 78A
49.	K. E. Keister Re 5¢ C.S.A. Athens
50.	Jack Molesworth 5¢ 1856 Block of 8 -
51.	MacBride Article "Blockade cover" in stamps
52.	Re 7R1 <sup>E</sup> Dark Blue – Ex. SBA
53.	Ezra D. Cole 5¢ 1847 orange
54.	S. Ichida Kobe Japan Various
55.	Jack Molesworth 3¢61 unused 13 this PINK
56.	E. Perry Re Millard Mack covers
57.	Jack Molesworth Re 10¢ 1857 Unused IV 86L1
58.	Sam Paige Re 3¢ 69 Bisect Plus 2¢ 63
59.	E.B. Jessup Re 12¢51 Bisect on Piece "JUN 1"



896



# SCRAP BOOK

No. 951

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For Extra Sheets Ask For  
FILLER No. 951-F

MADE IN U. S. A.

Edgar B Jessup  
Ambassador West Hotel  
Chicago Ills

Hawaii cover was lot 62 in  
Harris Sale Harmer Rouse of  
April 27 1954 sold to  
SIEGEL at one thousand  
and fifty dollars stated  
it was from Emerson and  
Powers collections stop  
In Powers sale by Kelleher  
May 8 1943 it was Lot  
164 stop. I do not have  
sale price. Stop. I do not  
have record of Emerson  
Sale. Regards

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

May 18, 1956.

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

Dear Edgar:

I wrote Dan about the Missionary cover and he advised me that it sold in the Leland Powers sale @ \$1,000.00. I judge the damage was responsible, but has it not been stated that the majority of these stamps have been repaired? Dan did not know where Powers obtained it, and he had no recollection that it ever belonged to Emerson. Who today knows much about the Missionary stamps? All the experts in them of past days are dead, so to whom could we inquire - Where did Leland Powers obtain this cover. Dan stated that Harris was the ~~the~~ buyer in the Powers sale.

I received yours from Chicago and will reply later. Stan Jr. is home so I am letting all work slide for the present.

Do hope Mildred has fully recovered. Give her our best wishes -

Cordially yours,



May 14, 1956.

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

Dear Dan:

I am seeking a bit of information. In your 424th sale of May 8, 1943, Lot 164 (Leland Powers) was a Hawaii 13¢ Missionary cover. Can you give me the sale price? This same cover came up in the Admiral Harris sale by Harmer Rooke on April 27, 1954, as Lot 62 and was sold to Bob Siegel. It was stated this was ~~ex~~-Powers and Emerson but I do not seem to have a record of it in any of the Emerson sales. Can you tell me - without undue trouble - if Bob owned this cover at anytime and was it in any sale by you?

I did not get down to the Fipex and so missed seeing you as well as a lot of old friends. However, I was reliably informed that you were on hand and was looking fine and just as young as ever.

With all good wishes to you -

As ever yours,

DANIEL F. KELLEHER  
WILLIAM F. KELLEHER

DANIEL F. KELLEHER  
Postage Stamps for Collectors  
B. L. DREW & CO.  
EST. 1885  
7 WATER STREET · BOSTON · MASS.

TELEPHONE  
LAFAYETTE 3676

May 15, 1950

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook  
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan:

The Hawaiian 13<sup>th</sup> Missionary cover in  
the Powers sale, May 8, 1943 went to Admiral  
Harris for 1000<sup>00</sup>

I have no record that Emerem owned it, nor where  
Powers got it.

I visited the Fifer on Saturday evening but  
contacted none of the old timers. However when at  
Sy Colby's on Monday, Ed Jessup and Krug  
showed up to look at a few items in my sale.  
My sale last Saturday went exceedingly well, chief  
support from Malceworth, W.E. Harris and  
Stampazine. Nothing nice here on the horizon.

Sincerely  
Daniel F. Kelleher

May 18, 1956.

Mr. Daniel F. Kelleher,  
7 Water Street,  
Boston 9, Mass.

Dear Dan:

Thanks very much for yours of the 15th  
with the data on the Leland Powers cover.

If perchance you can offer me at any time  
any item that is out of the ordinary or extra  
fine please do so.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

With me all  
the time

# Ambassador Hotels

SUPERIOR 7-7200

CHICAGO

Was this  
check all?

Dear Stan & Mildred -

Such a good short visit  
What a flying stop but Mildred  
was really rather bad. She  
was bad on train and here  
but I think better tonight  
tho its 88.8° right now - 7 pm -  
It kills her & I didn't expect  
it early in May -

Thank a million for your  
note - That seed terribly low  
didn't it? Of course its eye -  
appeal now is far greater.

It puzzles me - I don't know  
what its worth and you didn't  
say one way or the other -  
was it illustrated? That would  
be bad - tho' I'd fool no one -

HOME OF THE FAMOUS

Pump Room - The Buttery - Beau Nash - The Bath

Sarah Siddons Walk - The Parade Room



# Ambassador Hotels

SUPERIOR 7-7200

CHICAGO

Is it worth \$2000 as it now appears? They are hard to find I can tell you - and how it would fit my Hawaiians?

Carhart once said it was what a cover would do for your collection that counted - so he went overboard on that ocean mail carrier - remember?

You are an excellent judge of Phil values and I have confidence in what you'd say -

What a Kodak job you do fast and perfect. I'm going into it in a simple manner some way soon -

Thanks again for all you did and again wish it had longer -

Really could find good early

HOME OF THE FAMOUS

Pump Room - The Buttery - Beau Nash - The Bath

Sarah Siddons Walk - The Parade Room



# Ambassador Hotels

SUPERIOR 7-7200

CHICAGO

California is that stark material.  
I can see how you would not have  
time to look for such as that  
Haywood Cal I got otherwise  
you might have sent me some.  
It is quite a job. I got a  
Terrible kick out of that  
manuscript early - earliest -

Wonderful dinner - Grand  
cheese - superb coffee etc.

Regards to James -

I'll be seeing you again before  
long - I'll surprise you -

Two men here in session this pm  
Big meeting tomorrow -  
Smoke up Medford.

The very best from us both  
to the two of you

Egan

HOME OF THE FAMOUS

Pump Room - The Buttery - Beau Nash - The Bath

Sarah Siddons Walk - The Parade Room

May 23, 1956.

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

Dear Edgar:

Re - yours from Chicago in reply to my wire. Thanks for the check for \$7.00 for the Stark cover and the slides.

Re - the Hawaii cover. Yes, it was illustrated in the Harris Sale as you have doubtless learned since your return home. As to the value, in its present condition I would think it might well be worth \$2,000.00. Inasmuch as all(?) are repaired, would this be any exception? I see no reason to bring up this feature. How many people would remember the Harris illustration in his book or catalogue? I obtained a beautiful color slide of it which I will send later.

I will watch carefully for any California items in the Stark collection and send them to you.

I note you may be returning East in the near future - fine, your visit was much too brief.

Stan was here all last week and we sure enjoyed his homecoming.

Em Krug is due next Monday and Dorsey a few days later.

How is your Mildred? Has she fully recovered?

Our best wishes to her and you.

Cordially yours,

HOWARD LEHMAN

119 WEST 71ST STREET NEW YORK 23, N. Y.

May 7, 1956

Dear Stan;

Enclosed you will find three covers. The via Nicaragua is for sale, I want \$105.<sup>00</sup> for it, the owner paid \$137.<sup>50</sup> for it long ago, anything you get over \$105.<sup>00</sup> is yours.

The other two covers are mystery covers. I can not explain the cover that went to Canada and can not figure out what a 3cent 1851 was doing on this cover, also I can not figure out how it was over the C<sup>D</sup>. Let me hear your explanation.

The Concord N.H. PAID 3, is a

hard one to figure out; my solution is  
as follows: - This Insurance notice  
was printed ahead of time. The 3 cent  
rate went into effect July 1, 1851, therefore  
either a mistake was made or this  
notice was sent out after July 1<sup>st</sup> 1851.

One thing is pretty sure this must <sup>(probably Jan 1852)</sup>  
be a provisional marking of some kind  
similar to the Tusculum Ala. provision  
and must have been applied at the  
Post Office, before they were mailed out.

Please note the next to the last  
paragraph referring to stamps - "Post  
Office stamps <sup>can be obtained</sup> at most of the post offices  
and this is the best change to send in  
a letter."

To go a little further, the writing  
at the bottom of the letter seems to be



as follows.

" Sent our draft forward  
at the Merchants Bank Burlington Vt.  
for 32.11

W. Lusiwald (post master  
or  
portsmouth?)

mailed?

At Burlington Vt.

Dec	34.80
	<u>.88</u>
	35.68
	<u>3.57</u>
	32.11

The .88 cents must be interest, and  
the 3.57 is the 10 per cent discount  
mentioned in the last paragraph.  
over

I believe this is a very interesting item and would like to hear your comments on same. If you want to write it up in your special service you have my permission to do so.

Now here is something of real importance. H. R. Farmer is having a sale May 28, 29, + 31. In this sale are many items from the estate of John Kleeman of Montclair N. J. whom you no doubt knew. When you get this catalogue look at lots 404-405-407-408. There is something wrong with all this stuff, as I had these items from him last year. The Emory

Va. cover is a stampless cover which was sent to Dietz as a handstamped paid and which he signed and which it is; However, the stamp was added later. — The Hopedale Penny Post (Lot 405) never grew on the front of any envelope and I'll bet \$5.<sup>00</sup> it does not belong on that cover front or back.

The Petersburg, Va. first day cover is going to be hard to prove but it smells as far as I am concerned. Lot 404 is the only one that looks a little bit good, but I would not buy it either.

I suggest that you write Bernard Harmer for these items but don't mention that I ever saw them

This might be a good thing to call  
attention to in your special service.

However buys that Emory Va is  
going to get a beautiful screwing  
if it is bought as a good item.

Well I guess I've written enough  
for one letter. Please let me  
hear from you

Sincerely

Howard



RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

No. 511387

SENT TO

**Mr. HOWARD LEHMAN**

STREET AND NO.

**119 West 71st Street**

**NEW YORK (23) N. Y.**

CITY AND STATE

*If you want a  
return receipt,  
check which*

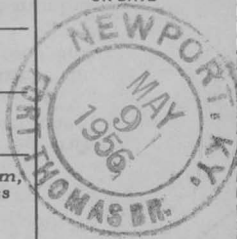
☐

*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.

May 9, 1956.

Mr. Howard Lehman,  
119 West 71st St.,  
New York 23, N.Y.

Dear Howard:

Re - yours of the 7th. VIA NICARAGUA cover. Nothing outstanding about this and hence not attractive. I cannot think of any prospect who might be interested - no New York postmark, etc. It is quite true that this type of the marking in blue is uncommon but how many of the present day give a rap for this feature? This was a framed marking but little of the frame lines show. I think I have a better cover in the Stark lot for \$75.00. I am returning it herewith.

Re - the cover to Hamilton, Canada. This was 1852 and the rate was 10¢ paid or unpaid - all or none. The writer apparently put a 3¢ 1851 instead of paying 10¢, hence New York rated it as entirely unpaid with 10¢ due in Canada. Our 10¢ was equal to 6 pence currency (not sterling) - So the Hamilton P.O. rated it as 6d due. Covers such as this are rather common - both as stampless and with 3¢ 1851 stamps or even 3¢ 1857. I am sure you have seen quite a few.

Re - the Concord item. I think the use was 1852 (or perhaps later), and that this is just a handstamped paid. I assume the printed date of the circular (1851) is correct, because I think the reference to "Post Office stamps" referred to the 1847's. You will recall that it was quite the custom to refer to them as "Post Office stamps." Inasmuch as there was no 3¢ rate (circular drop or first class) in January 1851, my guess is that there is little chance that this use was before January 1852.

Re - the Harmer sale that you mentioned. So far I have not received a catalogue. I will keep your letter before me and advise you later. I certainly did know John Kleemann quite well and I had a letter from him shortly before his death. His brother Jake was much the best of the two. He lives in Augusta, Ga. and I hear from him occasionally. John handled a lot of phoney stuff - knowingly. Guess he thought he had a right to do so after he got stung so badly on the Grinnell Missionaries.

Thanks Howard, for your check for \$13.75 for the little lot of Type V covers.

Looks like we are due to have a lot of visitors for the balance of the month and Stan Jr. will be home on leave from the 15th to 22nd and the chances are we will be down at Lexington the weekend of the 19th - then back down there on the 28th for several days, so be sure and advise me in advance when you expect to be out this way.

With best wishes -

Yours etc.,

May 18, 1956.

Mr. D. N. McInroy,  
16003 - 15th Ave., S.W.,  
Seattle 66, Wash.

Dear Mr. McInroy:

Herewith the One Cent 1851 as per yours of the 14th. This is a Type 1A, and quite a nice copy and in my opinion sound in every way. I examined it carefully and failed to note any defect. It is too bad it is so heavily canceled. If it was not for this feature this copy would be worth over \$600.00 in my opinion. It is a fine sharp impression and excellent color. I found it a difficult copy to plate but I made a photograph of it and later I hope to give you the plate position from the print. If you will put a good glass on this you will note that there are no plating marks, hence I will have to identify it by a process of elimination. I signed the stamp on the back for you.

My fee for the examination is \$3.50.

This letter is a bit brief as I am swamped with work.

With kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

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 1540 Fifth Ave.  
SAN RAFAEL, CALIFORNIA  
TELEPHONE GLENWOOD 4-2451

5-9-56

Dear Mr Ashbrook:-

Do you have any idea as  
to the name of the R.R. used on this particular  
corr? Any help would be appreciated.

Kindest regards,

Sincerely

W Scott Polland



May 14, 1956.

Dr. W. Scott Pollard,  
1540 Fifth Ave.,  
San Rafael, Calif.

Dear Doctor:

Herewith the 3¢ 1861 cover as per yours of the 9th. The marking is "St. L. & I. M. R.R." or "The St. Louis & Iron Mountain R.R." This road, in the early eighteen sixties, ran south for 87 miles to a town called "Pilot Knob Mo." I have a list of the stations on the road but I cannot make out the town in your strike. I suppose this road is a part of the Mo. Pac. R.R. today. I am sure you can find it on a Missouri map and you might be able to identify the town.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

February 19, 1956

Stan:

Thanks a lot for the correction in yours of the 16th. It gives me no satisfaction to ~~errors~~ <sup>have</sup> of mine or anybody else's perpetuated.

I may or may not have read the U.S.-British treaty of Dec. 15, 1848 among the many treaties I ~~have~~ read. I am in my 72nd year - not my 172nd. Where would I find time to do the things which I could do if my time was confined to one country?

Specialized work has been done here on engraved, lithographed, typographed stamps, and surcharges, and including British North America, all five Central American republics, five or more countries of South America, and very intensive work on The Dominican Republic and Haiti. And perhaps others that do not occur to me at the moment.

The work on the Brazil Dom Pedros was more or less continuous for eight years, included at least twenty plates, and the sixty volumes contained 3,000 or more pages.

In my opinion the work on the 10¢ Jeffersons rates with the studies of the 1¢ and 3¢ 1851-57. There are ten plates before the re-engraved, and not including re-entered states. No doubt I still have hundreds of copies which, if Latta's theory were correct, could not exist at all! My material contains plenty of proof that his "relief break" never happened. More than 20,000 of those stamps were examined here.

The Independent Mails book will take 360 printed pages, the Carrier book, for which 2,500 items have been photographed, will need 720 pages even when many of the photos are omitted, and there is enough data in hand to make a book of 600 pages or more on U.S. Local Posts and Stamps.

Much work has been done on U.S. General Issue Revenues, and also the Private Die stamps, Pony Express, Western Franks, etc. The files contain a record of 1,000 Mississippi River steamboats in operation during a period of about fifteen years.

I can take you to a room in the New York Library where I obtained data in 1916 and it hasn't been published yet. Twenty-five years ago Chrissie and I spent nearly a week in the Library of Congress. The wad of pages of her shorthand notes haven't been transcribed yet. I don't know what they contain.

That's why I cannot recall which treaties I may have read.

Probably my error resulted from confusion regarding the Cunard ships. I thought the service began in 1840 and had an idea that it went to Boston only for about four years.

Where we disagree is what constitutes a "domestic rate." I contend that a domestic rate is from one post office to another in the U.S. If the 5¢ New Yorks on letters to foreign countries prepaid only that



rate then, in my opinion, letters within the 5¢ zone from Boston would have gone to the Boston Post Office - and stayed there. The "domestic rate" would have prepaid that service only, and would not have put the letters onto any ship.

But the letters show they were put on a ship. Therefore the service was more than mere "domestic." The 5¢ stamp on a letter going abroad prepaid the domestic rate and additional service which was "shore to ship."

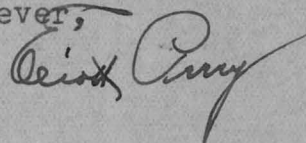
Two kinds of service, each at the same rate - 5 cents. The domestic rate - post office to post office - and the "shore to ship" rate of 5 cents which included the domestic rate.

As there was no charge for the extra service, it is evident that the P.O. Dept. absorbed it.

From July 1, 1851, when the prepaid domestic rate was 3 cents, the "shore to ship" rate was 5 cents, and the P.O.D. got 2 cents for the extra service. But if the letter was mailed in the same port where it was put on board ship, it seems to me the P.O. Dept. got 1¢ drop letter postage plus 4 cents "shore to ship."

I hope your cold departs soon and fails to return. I have had an annoying cough occasionally but have been able to work every day. It will be a tight squeeze to fulfill commitments for the FIPEX show.

As ever,



\* including stamps from line-engraved plates which were not made from transfer rolls, and have no position dots, relief varieties and such helpful criteria.



May 8, 1956

Stan:

Yours of the 4th. Neinken showed me the N.O. cover at the FIPEX banquet. When I got home I looked up the N.O. section of the Carrier Chapter. So far as appears from any records I have found there was no collection fee on mail letters from 1851 until the Act of April 1860 when the fee was one cent. So in this N.O. to Mexico letter of 1860 the two 1¢ stamps could not have prepaid a collection fee before April and would have overpaid a 1¢ fee after April 3rd, if they were affixed with intent to prepay carrier service to the N.O. Post Office. You may omit the photo.

A Of course the writer of the letter may have thought there was a 2¢ collection fee, because the delivery fee on mail letters prior to April 1860 was two cents, and added the two 1¢ stamps by such error.

I recall very few stamped envelopes of any value used to foreign countries. They do occur when there was no specific domestic use for the rate, such as the 7¢ Reay, and the 5¢ Taylor and Garfield. Some 10¢ envelopes are known used abroad, such as double U.P.U. rate and I suppose Supplementary Mail altho I do not recall having noted the latter. The 7¢ Plimpton may have been available for a year or so but I don't recall having seen any. \*

Other high values, corresponding to the adhesives which were largely intended for foreign rates, were large size, and thus perhaps more suitable for over-weight domestic letters than they were for ordinary foreign letters. However, unless some official records are found it could be anybody's guess as to why the Reay and Plimpton high values were issued. That is, prior to the "syndicate" 30c brown and 90¢ purple, etc.

I did not examine any items in the Caspary sale of Jan. 16th, and so have no ideas about Lot 152. Probably it would have seemed strange to me that the cancel was on a cover from Kalamazoo to Lockport. A.H.C. did have some items that I had reason to believe were not just what they appeared to be. I found him to take the objective viewpoint - an item was good or bad on its own merits whether it was his property or not. I won't say he was easy to convince against his own belief, but if I could prove I was correct he would agree. In one instance I proved that a cover could not have been faked in 1892 because it had been in existence many years earlier and was still in the condition as when it was mailed. His ideas had been based on an assumption which didn't happen to be true.

As ever,

Clint Curry

Some 2<sup>d</sup> green ones of 1887  
with 3<sup>d</sup> greenish as blue to  
make 5<sup>th</sup> U.P.U. rate, or  
combinations to make double U.P.U. are known.

June 12, 1956



Stan:

C.W.P. and I returned from a Week at Washington's Birthplace in Virginia last evening and found your letter of the 7th. Sherm is being transferred to the National Park at King's Mountain, S.C. some miles from that town in North Carolina, this week and we wished to see him and our daughter-in-law and our grandchildren while they were only 300 miles away instead of 600.

I found the quote from the Act of June 15, 1860 in the PL&R of 1866, page 60. It is Section 233. A reference note says "Approved 15 June, 1860. (12. Stat.38)."

I followed PMG Holt's interpretation of that Act, i.e., "delivery" at the one cent fee meant, on mail letters, delivery (collection) to the post office, or from the post office, according to whether the letter was outgoing or incoming. On local letters which were handled in any way by carriers, no drop letter postage was charged and the carrier fee was one cent. This could be for drop letters taken to the post office for delivery at a window in the post office, or for letters dropped in the post office local delivery by carrier, or for local letters which were collected and delivered by carrier.

The one cent collection fee on mail letters was commonly, if not always, prepaid by a special carrier stamp or by a One Cent "U.S. POSTAGE" stamp of 1851-60 or 1861. The One Cent delivery fee from the post office to the addressee was collected in cash. Unless an addressee was a box-holder, or for another reason was on the "don't deliver" list, the carrier took out all mail for addressees in his district, was charged for it and was checked out on his return to the post office, when he paid in the cash fees he had collected and was credited with the undeliverable mail.

For at least part of the time in Cincinnati and probably other cities where a "do deliver" list of addressees was practicable, the carriers apparently took out only mail to addressees whose names were on the list.

Holt was compelled to interpret the Act of June 15, 1860 as he did because otherwise, in New York and other large cities, there would have been no collection fee on mail letters, which had been the case since 1851, more or less continuously in Philadelphia and invariably in New York. As I tried to explain in the Carrier Chapter, many local posts were charging only one cent on local matter and on mail letters "to the post office." In New York and Philadelphia the locals were getting a big share, or most of the local business because if a local letter was also a drop letter the drop letter postage had to be added to the carrier fee. Holt wanted the Act of April 1860 so the U.S. carriers would get more of the local business which the locals were getting.

mail

In general, the local (private) posts could not get incoming letters to deliver, so the U.S. carriers had a practical monopoly of that service. To enable the U.S. carriers to extend this monopoly to the outgoing mail letters, in 1851 the one cent collection fee was abolished



but the delivery fee was two cents, collected in cash. Hence, wherever the collection fee had been one cent and the delivery fee was the same, on mail letters, and the amount of incoming and outgoing mail was about equal, instead of getting one cent for outgoing and also one cent for incoming, they received the same total - two cents - all on the incoming mail.

Following the Act of June 15, 1860, and to enable the carriers to obtain the same amount of total fees, Holt had to charge a cent for collecting mail letters. That is why the great majority of the 3¢ plus 1¢ letters are found in the period July 1, 1860 to June 30, 1863.

The only place I see where my interpretation of the Acts of April and June 1860 might be more accurate, is that the fee on local letters was only one cent for collection, or for delivery, or for both, while there were two distinct fees (of one cent each) on mail letters, i.e., one cent for collection on outgoing, and one cent for delivery on incoming. Because both fees would not be collected on the same letter, I think it was reasonably accurate to state that "This (one cent) fee applied to both city letters and mail letters."

Acts of Congress applied to all post offices - including New Orleans. I don't see how Holt could have avoided interpreting the Act of June 1860 different at New Orleans than at any other post office. He could not charge a fee of more than one cent on any one letter, and so either charged a cent for "delivery" to the post office, or nothing. What possible reason could Holt have advanced for interpreting the law so as to maintain the carriers' total fees at many offices but to slash them deeply, if not cut them in two, at New Orleans?

The U.S. Carrier Book was expected to be ready for the publisher to make the cost estimate by June 1st, but last month so much of it had to be re-arranged to meet the publisher's desires that I could not get it done. It will be finished this month if possible.

I agree with much that you say about John Luff, but the carrier system was not his best work. His work was largely based on the Act of 1851, but he did not read that carefully, or understand it, and never read the Act of 1836 - which may well be considered to be the basic act - at all. The Carrier Book has not been written to criticize Luff, but neither is it intended to perpetuate the many errors that were printed in both editions of his work. I believe the present generation of philatelists is entitled to know whether a stamp Luff said was lithographed, or typographed or engraved, actually is what he said it was. However, probably there are people who object to having any of Luff's errors credited to him. I knew him quite well for many years and never found him to be the tin god which some seem to credit him with being. And it seems doubtful to me that he is entitled to more generous treatment than he showed to his own contemporaries.

I find reference to paragraphs or sections 1, 2, 4 and 5 of the Act of June 15, 1860. Section 2 of that Act is Section 233 of 1866. Section 1 refers to newspapers mailed in packages and is Section 232 in 1866. *Section 3 may have become obsolete before 1866.*



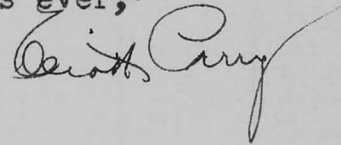
#3

Stan

6/12-'56

I believe you wrote me that the Act of February 27, 1861 required a WAY fee to be prepaid by stamp, but I do not find this in the Appendix to Luff's book, nor in the PL&R for 1866, and suppose it was omitted in 1866 because it had become obsolete before that date. I would like to have the reference, with the Section of the Act in which it occurred, in order to show why some 3¢ plus 1¢ letters may be either postage plus carrier fee, or way fee.

As ever,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "David C. Cury".

June 19, 1956.

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

Elliott:

Thanks very much for yours of the 12th with reference to the Act of June 15th, 1860. I have sent to Washington for a photostat copy of the entire act and when same is received I will be glad to loan it to you.

I note your remarks about your trip to see Sherman and his family. I suppose we are getting along in years. When I visited at your home at Halloween in 1935 Stan Jr. was a bit past five years old. Later you roomed with him at the cracker-box home in Fort Mitchell in the winter months of early 1936. He is now an officer in the Navy and will be 26 this summer. My eldest son will be 49 in September. Time certainly slips by in a rush. I suppose we are now old men. Well at times I have to admit I feel that way.

Elliott, I do not recall that I ever stated that a prepaid Way Fee had to be paid by stamps. I certainly do not hold this to be a fact and do not believe there was any Regulation to this effect. We do have quite a few covers showing a prepayment of a Way Fee by stamp but I believe such were exceptions. I suppose many such letters were prepaid in cash and the carrier kept same, in which case there would not be any evidence on the cover. Incidentally, in this respect I recently was shown a 3¢ 1857 plus 1¢ postmarked Cleveland, O. I have a record of two 3¢ '61 plus 1¢ '61 Cleveland covers but never before had I run across such a Cleveland cover with 1857 stamps.

Your letter was carefully noted. Thanks.

One more point. Do you believe any "E" and "F" grills were used in 1867? Could it be possible that either one could have been used as early as August?

Yours etc.,



May 21, 1956

Stan:

Thanks a lot. John says he will take Mr. Mack's job if it can be done at our convenience. We are already obligated for much of our time and don't care about getting into another jam like FIPEX. We took the last FIPEX job last summer, turned down <sup>se</sup>veral in the fall altho they were good friends who we would have been glad to help, and still had to crowd six month's work into four. Maybe it was worth the strain as all three of the exhibits for FIPEX obtained good awards and one of them got the highest in the U.S. Section.

A note is going to Mr. Mack today.

As ever,

TRACY W. SIMPSON  
66 ALVARADO ROAD  
BERKELEY 5, CALIFORNIA

April 26, 1956

Dear Stanley

Thanks for your letter of Apr. 22, and  
for the kind suggestion of loaning me the Chase  
Sale (1927) of railroad covers

Fortunately, I got hold of one of these  
(also unpriced) some time ago, and photographed it, so  
I am in the same position as you. I am now  
on the track of the prices and think I have a  
line on them. If I get them I'll gladly run them  
off for you if you'd like to have them.

I recently got a punk cover with a poor strike  
of the big 39mm LOUISVILLE & CINCINNATI MAIL LINE  
with the MAIL LINE toward the upper part of the circle. The  
unusual thing about it is its date March 23, 1854. I thought  
this is fairly late for this old market. I also got what  
I think is most unusual - a U10 3c Newitt cover tied by the  
small blue 33x19mm oval ROUTE 7309 which also bears  
a packet mark - the well known double-lined oval STEAMBOAT/SOUTHERN  
BELLE, also in blue. As you know, aside from the well  
known combination of the fat 34x27mm ROUTE 7309 and oval U.S. MAIL/  
PACKET/NATCHEZ almost no combinations of steamboat-name  
markings and route agent markings are known (except of course the  
circular ROUTE 8165 SATURDAY EVENING PACKET for NATCHEZ.)

Otherwise little news with me. No, I won't be going  
to Fipax. Big designs I have. Wish I could make it.  
Best wishes Tracy



5 May 1956  
Roswell, N. M.

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

Dear Sir:

I have been reluctant, for some time, to bother you over the enclosed stamp but I have worried with it until my curiosity has overcome my fear that the explanation is simple, and therefore, a waste of your time.

I think it is a three cent 1861 (Scott #65) and there even my thinking stops. I have read everything I can find on early printing and inking techniques and have found no clues. Neither have I found any reference or mention of such a stamp in the philatelic literature I have had access to.

Is this Scott # 65? Are the different colors from improper printing and inking or are they caused by chemicals, sunlight, or some other outside source? Most important of all, if they were caused by or in the manufacture, how?

Anything, and as much as, you can tell me about this stamp will be greatly appreciated. I will be glad to pay for your time and trouble.

Thanking you for your trouble, sir, I remain

Sincerely,

*William E. Tickel Jr.*

Capt. William E. Tickel Jr.  
405 S. Sequoia  
Roswell, New Mexico

APS # 33871



# 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 Capt WM E. Tickel Jr

405 S. Sequoia

ROSWELL N. Mex

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



POSTMASTER.

May 6, 1956.

Capt. William E. Tickel, Jr.,  
405 S. Sequois,  
Roswell, N. Mexico.

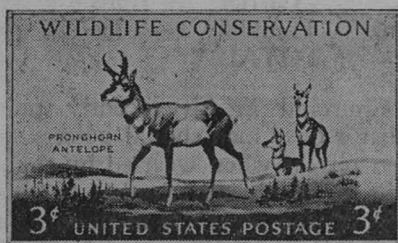
\*Dear Captain:

Replying to yours of the 5th, I am returning herewith your 3¢ 1861, which is the #65 - the common Rose. There is nothing unusual about the color, paper or perforation. This is just another Rose. The bottom part is a bit discolored - This is due to dampness and is what in philately termed, oxidized. Dampness caused a chemical change in the ink. If you will place this stamp in a bath of peroxide, much of the original color will be resored.

There is no fee for the above.

Sincerely yours,

## 3c Pronghorn Antelope, June 22 At Gunnison, Colorado



Postmaster General Arthur E. Summerfield announced that the second of the three stamps being issued to emphasize the importance of Wildlife Conservation in America will be released at Gunnison, Colorado, on June 22, 1956. This special 3 cent stamp will be first placed on sale on the occasion of the annual convention of the Colorado Division of the Izaak Walton League.

The pronghorn antelope, which is the subject of this issue, is an outstanding example of the conservation work being carried on by Federal and State Governments. Antelopes have been protected studied and transplanted under scientific guidance so that their numbers have increased from a low of 17,000 to herds large enough to allow hunting in five Western States.

The design portrays a Buck and two Does of the Pronghorn Antelope species in their natural habitat. Across the top of the stamp is the wording "Wildlife Conservation," in dark modified Architectural Roman, and across the bottom "3c United States Postage 3c," in modified white face Architectural Roman. The wording "Pronghorn Antelope," arranged in two lines, appears to the left of the design slightly below the center, in dark Gothic. This design was reproduced from a drawing by Bob Hines, Artist of Fish and Wildlife Service, U. S. Department of the Interior.

Stamp collectors desiring first day cancellations of the 3 cent Pronghorn Antelope stamp may send a reasonable number of addressed envelopes to the Postmaster, Gunnison, Colorado, with money order receipts to

## Switzerland's National Day



**SWITZERLAND — National Day Stamps Pro Patria 1956** — Five special stamps with extra charge for the benefit of the 1956 National Day Collection will be issued again on 1st June. In accordance with the chief object of this year's collection the 5c stamp pays tribute to the work of the Swiss woman in the domestic circle. The four other values terminate the "Lake and Watercourses" series begun in 1952. As stipulated, 90 percent of the net proceeds from the extra charge will go to the National Day Collection, which this year is intended for the woman in the service of the people. The remaining 10 percent will be used in equal parts for the Swiss National Library in Berne and for the founding of an Academy of Arts and Letters in Switzerland.

The details are as follows: 5c symbols of feminine work and devotion, (greenish blue). Lakes and watercourses in two colors: 10c Rhone at St. Maurice (green, yellow green). 20c Katzenssee (brownish-carmine, reddish light brown). 30c Rhine at Trin (brown, yellowish brown). 40c Walensee (blue, light blue).

## CANCELLED-TO STAMPS

Misled by some well-meant but badly worded remarks about *cancelled-to-order stamps* in one of our philatelic weeklies, a number of collectors have started to reject stamps they believe are cancelled to order and therefore "worthless", demanding that such stamps should be clearly labeled as such when offered and calling unethical the practices of dealers who do not. Theoretically, they would be right, but unfortunately they do not have the correct notion of what cancelled-to-order actually means. Without such knowledge, they believe every cancelled stamp that still has gum or has a corner cancellation is cancelled to order and unsuitable for their collections. Now, everyone is entitled to collect as he pleases and if someone does not want corner cancellations but wants a full postmark on his stamps — although the corner-cancelled ones may arise from commercial use and the fully cancelled ones not — is his privilege to do so. To reject cancelled stamps only because they still have gum cannot be defended so easily, because a simple bath will remove this blemish. After such a simple and entirely proper operation the "worthless" stamps would become satisfactory for this type of collector. As a matter of fact, this last possibility was long ago influential for a revision of principles in respect to cancelled-to-order stamps, by restricting the term to stamps, which are not cancelled in the same way as stamps actually used on mail. Therefore, all stamps, cancelled with a postmark which was used to obliterate stamps on mail, regardless of whether they actually were used on mail or only cancelled to make a used stamp out of an unused one, must be considered genuinely cancelled, provided, of course, that the cancelling was done at the place and on the actual date shown on the postmark. Cancelled-to order are only stamps with a cancellation which does not conform to these specifications. Either an entirely different handstamp, never used for cancelling stamps on mail, or else a correct postmark which was never used to cancel the particular kind of stamps during their period of use — usually with the date turned back to the period of actual use — may be used for cancelling-to-order. The former kind of handstamp was used by some administra-



May 4, 1956

By PHILIP H. WARD, JR.

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

## Plates of the 1851-57 Issues On Hand Sept. 1877

Two letters and a memorandum list, which come to my attention, throws additional light on the plates and transfer rolls used in producing our stamps of the 1851-57 series. While the stamp agent designates the stamps as "issue of 1851" I am under the impression that he classifies the plates used only for the perforate stamps, which are philatelically listed as issue of 1857, as "issue of 1851".

It will be noted that he mentions plates #1 to #12 of the 1c, which is the number listed by Ashbrook after his years of study. In recent months additional studies by Morris Fortgang, a student of these issues, has led him to believe that those stamps, which we heretofore have designated as stamps from plates #5 and #6, are all from plate #5. If this is the case, possibly plate #6, which is mentioned in this official memorandum, was never put to press.

It will also be noted that 26 plates of the 3c are listed. For some reason plate #11 and #19 are among the missing. Perhaps they were lost or previously destroyed. They existed, for I have in my personal collection plate blocks of each. Then, too, there is plate "O" so designated by Dr. Chase, for the plate was given no number and the good Doctor designated it as "O" in his studies. One each of the 10c and 12c plates mentioned were never used as far as our studies go.

In the Shepard letter to follow mention is made of the delivery to Mr. Chambers, the Postage Stamp Agent, of "all the plates, dies, rolls, etc." of the series of 1861, 1869 and 1870. I cannot find any letter or memorandum from Mr. Chambers to the Department upon the subject of these additional plates, dies and transfer rolls.

The two letters and memorandum read:

"New York, Sept. 1st 1877

P. O. Box 1124,

Hon. A. D. Hazen,

Third Assistant Postmaster General,  
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

In accordance with your letter of instruction of 24th August, we did on the 30th of August deliver to Mr. H. A. Chambers, Postage Stamp Agent, all the plates, dies, rolls, etc., belonging to the several denominations of Postage Stamps, of the series of 1861 and 1869 adding thereto those of the series of 1870, as shown per enclosed copy of receipt under date of Aug. 30th, signed by Agent Chambers and Madison Davis, Chief of Stamp Division, P. O. D.

Very Respectfully,  
Your Obedient Servants  
A. D. Shephard"

Hon. A. D. Hazen,

"New York, Sept. 7, 1877.

Third Assistant Postmaster General,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I enclose herewith a memorandum list of the cancelled rolls and plates for making postage stamps of the issue of 1851, and the cancelled plates of the current issue of stamps, which under verbal instruction from Madison Davis Esquire, Chief of the Stamp Division of your Bureau, I have caused to be boxed, strapped and sealed and left in the custody of the Continental Bank Note Company for further orders.

As soon as the contractors complete the printing of the specimen stamps of old issues ordered by you, I will cause all dies, rolls and plates not of current series to be also boxed, strapped and sealed ready for storage. The Contractors have not yet furnished me the list of plates, etc., of the current issue, which, in accordance with Mr. Davis's direction, I requested. When furnished it will be forwarded.

Respectfully,  
H. A. Chambers, Agent."

"Memorandum of U.S. Postage Stamp rolls, and plates, boxed and sealed by Henry A. Chambers, U.S. Postage Stamp Agent, Sept. 6th, 1877, and left in the custody of the Continental Bank Note Company of New York City.

One box, marked "F" — containing cancelled plates of the issue of 1851 as follows:

One (1) cent plates Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12,—  
12 plates.

Three (3) cent plates Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12,  
13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28,  
— 26 plates.

Five (5) cent - 1 Plate

Ten (10) cent - 3 Plates

Twelve (12) cent - 3 Plates —7 plates

1c broken, rusted and warped 3 Plates  
3c ½ plain, ½ rusted 1 Plates  
1c 10 heads, balance plain 1 Plates  
3c broken, warped, and rusted 2 Plates  
One (11 plate 56 of 1c 10 of 30c  
and 15 of 12c 1 Plates  
One (11 plate plain and rusted 1 Plates — 9 Plates

TOTAL 54 Plates

One box marked "OG" — containing cancelled rolls of the issue of 1851 as follows:

1c rolls 7—Rolls  
3c rolls 3—Rolls  
5c rolls 2—Rolls  
10c rolls 2—Rolls  
12c rolls 2—Rolls  
24c rolls 2—Rolls  
30c rolls 2—Rolls  
90c rolls 2—Rolls  
Carrier 1—Rolls  
Franklin 1—Rolls  
TOTAL 24 Rolls"

Sir Winston Churchill in his recently published *Birth of Britain* contends that a busy man should possess some private hobby to which he can retreat when wearied by the strain of politics, the clash of interest, or man's ingratitude.

The "swiftness of the posts" is mentioned as early as 1520 B.C. in the Book of Job in the Bible.

In America the Postal System dates from 1639 when the General Court of Massachusetts, by ordinance, legalized a means of communication whereby it was directed that all mail brought from over the seas should be left at the home of Richard Fairbanks, in Boston. He in turn would see that it was transmitted to the proper part of the New Colony to which it was addressed. He received one penny for each letter so transmitted.

Former Postmaster General Jesse M. Donaldson told a committee of Congress it should raise postal rates on magazines, newspapers and other publications by 70 per cent before increasing charges on ordinary letters.

The American Philatelic Congress will meet in Philadelphia on Oct. 19 to 21. Sessions to be held at the National Philatelic Museum with headquarters at the John Bartram Hotel. Additional information desired may be had from the Secretary, Mrs. Conway Zirkle, Secane, Pa.

Coming auctions will be held by Lee Gilbert (May 11) U. S. A.; Carl E. Pelander (May 11-12) U. S. and foreign, including desirable Scandinavian J. & H. Stolow Inc. (May 11-12) U. S. and foreign, nice early U. S. singles, Cape triangles, including covers, a number of larger lots by countries; Daniel F. Kelleher (May 12) the Robert P. Hackett collection of U. S., a choice lot of early singles, 1901 1c and 4c inverts, late mint blocks, airs, departments, envelopes, revenues, colonies; H. Lazarus (May 15) postal history material of the world.



**Post Office Department**

Received from: **STANLEY B. ASHBROOK**  
P. O. Box 31

33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.,  
FORT THOMAS, KY.

One piece of ordinary mail addressed

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

THIS

GPO



NAL MAIL,

MASTER.

Oliver H. Wolcott  
2985 Copley Rd.  
Copley, Ohio

May 15 1956.

Mr. Stan Ashbrook,  
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.,  
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Mr dear Stan,

I have now rested up a little after the N. Y. show, but I have had to immediately get into high in getting some garden work done - after such a late spring. The show was the best ever - I had a grand time, and met many of our mutual friends. I had a short visit with Ed. Jessup who said he hoped to stop by and see you. He was sure a busy fellow.

I am enclosing a cover written from Austin Texas on May 12 1840. which is in the Republic of Texas period. It carries no special forwarding agents mark at N. O. and without such a mark probably reduces its value. I cannot understand the rate. I think the original rate was 77 in red but after being crossed out it was again made 77 in black. This was a double letter which for over 400 miles should have taken double the 25¢ rate, but with a 1¢ ship charge would have made only 51¢. Perhaps to this should be added the rate from Boston to Ohio which would have been another 50¢. I thought that you would like to see this interesting letter and perhaps offer some solution for the rate. The owner wants \$20.00 for this cover and I am wondering if it is worth it.

With every good wish, my dear sir, and with personal regards to yourself and Mildred, I remain,

Cordially,

*Ollie*

May 18, 1956.

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

Dear Ellie:

Yours of the 15th received enclosing the stampless cover from Texas in 1840. The rate is okay, viz., a ship letter into New Orleans rated as a triple 25¢ plus the 2¢ ship fee - 77¢ due. I don't know why the original "77" was crossed out. I suppose someone did not think it looked very much like "77." Would that be your guess?

The single postage rate at that time was - one sheet of paper - over 400 miles - 25¢ - the ship rate was 2¢, whether single, double, triple, etc., etc. If a letter weighed over 1 oz., a quad rate was to be charged. Because this came from Texas had no bearing on the rate - as it was a ship letter - the distance was not from origin but rated from port of entry. This letter did not weigh much over  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. There must have been another enclosure to make the three sheets of paper.

Ollie I think a price of \$20.00 on this is absurd. In fact, I would not pay \$5.00 for it. Its only feature is that it was from Texas but so far as a ship letter into N.O. is concerned, such are common as a great deal of mail came in that way.

Ed Jessup spent all day with us last Saturday. Mrs. Jessup was ill and did not leave the hotel so Mildred went over and visited with her.

From all reports, Fipex was a tremendous affair.

Mildred joins me in best wishes -

Cordially yours,

Oliver H. Wolcott

2985 Copley Rd.

Copley, Ohio

May 26 1956.

Mr. Stan Ashbrook,  
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.,  
Fort Thomas Ky.

Dear Stan,

Many thanks for your letter of May 18 in which you gave me information on the Texas cover.

Now get a good hold on your chair - for a shock - Fred and I are going down to the commencement exercises of the Lincoln Memorial University, and are going to return via Ft. Thomas, arriving probably on June 4th. or 5th. Now Stan if you are busy we do not want to take up a lot of your time, but we ~~do~~ want to stop by for at least a short visit. I hope that you will be at home at this time and I shall get this letter right in the mail so you may be able to reply before we leave on June 1st.

We are also going to stop in Dayton to see Roy G. Fitzgerald who you probably know. I am going to bring a few covers and autograph letters along to show him and will have something to show you also.

I am looking forward to seeing you and Mildred, and with very best wishes, I remain,

Cordially,

Ollie



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

May 10, 1956

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

Dear Stan:

I have your letter of the 8th and in reply have no idea <sup>for</sup> ~~as to~~ whom Cole might be purchasing the unused material ~~for~~. I sat in at the Caspary sale when he made these purchases and wondered the same thing. For a long time I was unaware as to who was acquiring some of the fine revenues that Cole bought and recently found out who his client happened to be. He was a man who had been on my mailing list for years, but had not purchased really rare pieces. You ask if it could be Hindes of the west coast. Such a collector is not known to me and unless you are selling him and would feel my competition would hurt you I would like to have his name and whereabouts.

While in New York I was informed about a very well-to-do coin collector who is especially interested in foreign gold coins. I have a collection of these worth a couple of hundred thousand dollars and promptly upon my return from New York I wrote him.

There has been great criticism over the awards at New York, especially in the U.S. division. There was some very fair collections that should have received a third or fourth award. This would have encouraged the collectors, who were very much put out. Jessup must have been one of the U.S. judges, but I imagine he was swayed by Rich, Sol Glass and the like. Unfortunately, I did not see Jessup. I went over Monday, Wednesday and Friday and remained from 1:00 to 8:00, but Jessup must have been in the judge's room most of the time. I am indeed sorry that I missed him.

Unfortunately, there was no collection of mint U.S. and there was a great scarcity of rare mint pieces. I still am pleased with my way of collecting, namely mint blocks and covers.

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook

May 10, 1956

-2-

I might mention for your confidential information that Weill approached me in regards to the purchase of my collection and is coming up to Philadelphia in about 2 months' time. He asked me a lot about it and I think what he wants to do is go back and talk to his client.

I understand they had a lot trouble in taking down the exhibits. The carpenters were on strike and the glass people would not permit the individuals to take the top rail off so that the glass could be lifted out. As a result, a lot of people could not bring their collections home with them. Davis had charge of the U.N. exhibit consisting of about 100 or 200 frames, which were located in one room. I understand he took 2 or 3 of his friends into the room with him, locked the door and dismantled the collections themselves. Of course, the others could not do this.

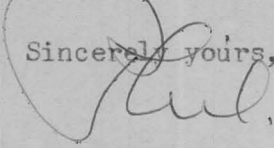
From my point-of-view, and looking at it not only as to rarity, but from a financial end, I would say that Mrs. Dale had the finest exhibit shown. It was not for competition, otherwise it certainly should have received the grand award. She had a number of 12 pence Canada, including a pair. She had the block of 4 of the Cape Woodblock, which included the blue error. She also had a single one penny Mauritius on a big piece of the envelope, also a pair of the 2 pence on cover. Every piece in the collection was in choice condition and of real rarity.

Since starting this letter Davis has phoned me and states that he understands the show will go \$50,000 in the hole, although I can hardly believe this. He says there is wide criticism, not only on the awards, but people have gotten sore that they have not only let the foreigners run the show, but that they received the bigger portion of the awards.

I was talking to Sir John Wilson and he was very enthusiastic, but Davis tells me he was paid a large fee for coming over as well as expenses and it was he who insisted that no dealers should be among the judges. As a result, they had a lot of nice fellows such as Harry Buten, who does not really have a collection and knows as much about stamps as I do about astronomy. And to think that Steve Rich and Sol Glass were among the U.S. judges. Steve only knows a few 20th Century issues and Sol does not ever know these. How could they possibly judge fine early U.S.?

I have your letter regarding the early plates mentioned by the Post Office and will write you about this later.

Sincerely yours,

  
PHILIP H. WARD, JR.

May 15, 1956.

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

Dear Phil:

Jessup was here all day last Saturday but I did not mention I had a letter from you or divulge any of the contents. Bear in mind that Edgar is a great friend of Louise Dale and is in line with all she stands for. He thought everything about Fipex was OK - He thinks the P.F. is OK and also the Expert Committee, so why argue. He goes along 100% with the New York crowd. Ed is the type who is flattered by any attention from people in high places regardless of whether they are genuine or counterfeit. He likes to hobnob with Sir John Wilson, Louise Dale and be an important person on the Jury. I am sure you understand. Hence why voice my opinion. Many such people give me a pain because I think they are phonies. One man's opinion. I never did like Lichtenstein. I always thought he was a dictatorial egotist and unless I am not mistaken his daughter is following in his footsteps. I think she runs the P.F. and that all of those associated with her cater to every wish and whim of hers. This because she puts up most of the cash.

All of the above will explain why I did not discuss anything in your letter with Edgar. I have an idea he was fed up with being a "Judge" and I doubt if he will serve as such at any time in the future.

Maybe I am of the old school and am not in step with those who run present day philately.

Re - the buyer of unused 19th. The man I had in mind is Barrett G. Hinder, 503 Market St., San Francisco 5, Cal. I do not know whether he is a man of great wealth or not, but I have heard he is building up a very fine unused collection which he has bequeathed to M.I.T. of Boston. He is a neighbor of Jessup.

I note the Weill matter. I will treat this in strict confidence. You may have something here. Please keep me advised.

Edgar did not know anything about the dismantling of exhibits. He was not there on Sunday. I understand from quite a reliable source, the Show will go into the red but my source did not mention a figure as high as \$50,000.00. Read the editorial by George Linn in Linn's for May 7th.

Chase is in Paris - Has been for several weeks and will be over there all month.

I understand that Brazer passed away but I have not had any details.

With regards -

Cordially yours,



May 3, 1956

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

Dear Phil:

Re - your column in Mekeel's of April 27th and the various plates.

1847 plates - Two returned - made by the Bureau - 100 subjects - one of 5¢ and one of 10¢.

1851 plates (1851-1857-1860 - Eight plates returned - I think J. Kelly made an error in referring to "4 plates made by National." He would have been correct had he stated - 4 made by Toppan Carpenter & Co. These were the -

5¢ 1860 -	Plate 2 -	Type II
24¢ 1860 -	"	1
30¢ 1860 -	"	1
90¢ 1860 -	"	1

The other four were the new plates made for the "Reprints" in 1875 by Continental. Of course, the Eagle and Franklin Reprints were made by Continental in 1875.

Does the above answer your query?

Phil, I am enclosing a clip from my May 1st Service Issue. Please note my remarks about your 5¢ 1857 Brick Red - block of four. Are all my remarks correct? Also note my remarks about used blocks of the 5¢ Type II Brown. Do you not agree that used blocks are rare?

With regards -

Cordially yours,

P.S.--Re - the 10¢ 1847 cover in the Caspary sale with the stamp tied by a square grid. Did it occur to you that the cover is a fake?



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Belgium, Mozart ..... (3) .35  
Czechoslovakia, Indust. .... (4) .46  
Formosa, (map) transp. .... (4) .22  
Hungary, Dogs ..... (3) .90  
Jugosl., Arts, Churches ..... (12) 3.25  
Monaco, FIPEX ..... (9) 1.10  
Monaco, Olympics, Auto ..... (3) .68  
Monaco, Triangles Prov. (22) 2.65  
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C4. \$52.00 C22. \$22.00 C38. \$4.25  
C5. \$175.00 C23. \$16 C40. \$1.00  
C6. \$90.00 C24. \$16.00 C42. \$3.50  
C7. \$2.00 C26. \$10 C43. \$4.50  
C8. \$11.50 C27. \$65 C44. \$9.00  
C9. \$9.00 C28. \$1.10 C45. \$1.00  
C10. \$20.00 C29. \$1.10 C46. \$10.00  
C11. \$3.00 C30. \$1.10 C47. \$1.00  
C12. \$16.00 C31. \$10.00 C48. \$1.00  
C17. \$1.00 C32. \$1.10 C49. \$1.00  
C18. \$335.00 C34. \$40 C52. \$2.00  
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#### 1956 Price List

### U. S. REVENUES

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# U. S. Notes

By PHILIP H. WARD, JR.

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

## The 1847 and 1851 Postage Stamp Plates

It will be recalled that our first stamps, the issue of 1847, were produced from steel dies and plates made by Messrs. Rawdon, Wright, Hatch & Edson. There were supposedly one plate for the 5c and a single plate for the 10c. It was thought at one time there were two plates for the 5c, but there has been no evidence to prove this fact. The 10c denomination has been plated and no single stamp from a second plate has been noted. We cannot say as much for the 5c, which has not, as yet, been plated.

We do know that the records of the bank note company show that under date of December 12, 1851, they destroyed one each of the 5c and 10c plates from which the 1847 issue were produced.

We know that in 1875 plates were produced for the reprints of 1847 and 1851 among others. We had always supposed that these new plates were made by the Continental Bank Note Company.

With these facts in mind we cannot account for a memorandum we have located in the early postal files. It is signed by "J. Kelly" who evidently was from the New York postal agency in New York who was the contact between the post office and the bank note engravers. The note reads:

"Memorandum

to

Mr. Davis

P.O. Dept.

New York, Aug. 20th, 1877

We have of old plates —

issue 1847—2 plates rec'd Aug 18th, 1877

issue 1851—4 plates made by National

issue 1851—4 plates made by Continental

and one plate "Carrier" — Franklin head and one plate "U. S. P. O. Dispatch" (Eagle vignette) —

We do not find issue of 1861 — what is your pleasure.

J. Kelly"

Were these reprint plates, and if so, how did the National firm come to make four plates of the 1851 issue? If not, were they experimental plates of some kind? We are entirely in the dark and wonder if some of our students such as Dr. Chase, Stan Ashbrook or others can help us out.

## Newsy Notes

The Postmaster General, Arthur E. Summerfield, made the official address at the first day sale of the new 20c Monticello stamp at Charlottesville, Va. on April 13th. It was unusual for the Postmaster General to attend such a ceremony outside of Washington. Among his well-chosen remarks were: "You will agree, I am sure, that this stamp is a worthy tribute to a noble residence on a historic site — deeply steeped in American tradition and history. It is, first of all, a tribute to the American love of the home and family — the center of dreams — the fountainhead of our culture — the keystone of our very civilization" Later on he continued, "By commemorating Monticello, the home of Thomas Jefferson, this stamp commemorates the eternal hunger of men for freedom, for justice, for opportunity to use their God-given talents and to achieve the dignity worthy of their creation in the divine image."

The final decision as to whether the Treasury will place on sale to collectors the obsolete wine stamps now on hand, will be made by the Operating Facilities Division. Mr. Bruce McNair, the Director, wrote us under date of April 3rd "Since Mr. Jack's letter to you of February 28th, responsibility for disposal of obsolete revenue stamps has been assigned to this office. Several methods of disposal are being considered and we hope to be able in the very near future to advise you and other stamp collectors of our decision as to the method of disposal to be used." We answered this letter by suggesting that they be turned over to the Revenue Philatelic Agency under the able supervision of Mrs. Lucille Kester where they will be sold in behalf of the Revenue Bureau the same as other U. S. revenue stamps. We have been trying to bring about their sale for over a year and a letter from our readers to McNair may help to bring about a favorable decision.

Mr. Edgar B. Jessup, one of our best-known philatelists of the far west and owner of one of our foremost collections of early U. S., is also president and general manager of Marchant Calculators, Inc. We have just received the 1955 yearbook of this well-known firm, manufacturers of business calculators. We have seen this firm over the years grow from a small concern to one of the most important in the industry under the able leadership of Edgar Jessup.

Of our highest denomination, the \$5 stamp, the new Alexander Hamilton type, 34,272 first day covers were cancelled at Patterson, N. J. on March 19th. Figuring that some had pairs and

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blocks this means about \$200,000 worth were cancelled on the first day in behalf of the collector and to think this costs the Post Office no larger outlay than would this number of 3c stamps. Some nice profit.

From May 1st to 27th many States of the Union, as well as Alaska, will have special "National Salvation Army Week" cancellations.

A special canceller for the Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs, May 5-6 at Fond du Lac and one for the Northwest Federation of Stamp Clubs on June 1-3 at Yakima, Washington, is being used.

The Post Office Department announces a new postal publication, similar to the others, entitled "The Postage Stamps of the United States". Well-illustrated with many details, including a list of plate numbers. Available from the Supt. of Documents, Washington, D. C., at 75c.

Auction catalogues are still arriving too late for inclusion in our column. H. R. Harmer Inc. (May 7-9) the Schaffner collection of U.S. and possessions, essays, proofs, choice early mint singles and late blocks.

The H. R. Harmer Inc. firm is distributing a very attractive leather-bound pocket stock book with tweezers to celebrate their 1,000th auction sale.

## Slogan Cancels

Special slogan cancellations may be obtained by sending self-addressed envelopes to appropriate postmasters, requesting cancellation be applied:

"Golden Anniversary"

Galax, Virginia

August 2-11, 1956"

(Galax, Virginia)

May 12 thru August 11

"Bellefonte, Pennsylvania

Sesqui-Centennial

August 12-18, 1956"

(Bellefonte, Pennsylvania)

May 6 thru August 18

"Seton Hall University

1856-1956"

(South Orange, New Jersey)

May 1 to December 1

"50th Anniversary

Food and Drugs Act

1906-1956"

(Indianapolis, Indiana)

May 1 thru June 30, 1956

"Sesquicentennial

Williamsport, Penna.

July 8-14, 1956"

(Williamsport, Pennsylvania)

July 8-14, 1956

"Sesqui-centennial

Cape Girardeau, Mo.

August 19-25, 1956"

(Cape Girardeau, Missouri)

August 19-25, 1956

"1806 Post Office 1956

Sesquicentennial

St. Charles, Missouri"

(Saint Charles, Missouri)

May 1-August 31, 1956

"Home and Museum

of Casey Jones

Jackson, Tenn."

(Jackson, Tennessee)

April 30 thru October 30, 1956

A temporary philatelic station

("Boy Scout Fair Convention

Station, Reading, Pennsylvania")

will be established in Reading,

Pennsylvania, on the occasion of

the Boy Scout Fair to be held

there May 17 thru 19, 1956.

## Auction and Sales Calendar

May 7, 8, 9—H. R. Harmer, Inc., 6 West 48th St., New York 36

United States and Possessions

May 9, 10—Harmer, Rooke & Co., Inc., 560 Fifth Ave., New York 36

United States and British Empire

May 10—Gold Medal Auctions, 50 West 46th St., New York 36

United States and Foreign

May 11, 12—J. & H. Stolow, Inc., 50 West 46th St., New York 36

U. S., British Empire, Foreign and Fine Collections

May 17, 18—Billig & Rich, Inc., 55 West 42nd St., New York 36

U. S. & Poss., Great Britain & Empire, Latin America and Foreign

May—Mercury Stamp Co., 522 Fifth Ave., New York 36

United States, British Empire and Latin America

May—Star Stamp Co., 503 Fifth Ave., New York 17

British Empire Collection

May 21, 22, 23—H. R. Harmer, Inc., 6 West 48th St., New York 36

Modern Mint Issues with First Day Covers

## 1869—From Gen. Picher Collection

Priced at about 10% above the Picher costs (1946)

1869	proofs, India paper, blocks 2c (\$10), 3c (\$10), 6c (\$14), 12c (\$14), 24c (\$32), 30c (\$37.50), 90c (\$150)	
1869	1c to 30c. (#112-21) red cand. the 3c, 12c (star), 10c 15c I, 24c (red town), fine, 10 stamps	440.00
1869	90c (#122) well centered, red cand. superb	800.00
1869	1c mint block 32 (8x4) magnificent, fresh, full o.g., well centered, a showpiece	1,250.00
1869	1c mint block, v.f. (\$140), block 9 fine mint	335.00
1869	1c used horiz. block 8, v.f.	290.00
1869	2c mint v.f. blocks, dark shade (\$67.50), light	48.00
1869	3c top six rows of sheet with plate and imprint, block 60, v.f. mint, fresh	675.00
1869	3c mint block (\$20), used horiz. block 6	57.00
1869	6c mint block, f. top imprint	355.00
1869	10c mint block 9 ex Worthington, Lozier	2,100.00
1869	30c used block, v.f.	130.00
1869	90c horiz. used block 6, fine, rare	2,250.00
1869	reprints 1c block 6 (\$185), 2c block 6 (\$195), 10c block 4, all mint, v.f.	400.00

PHILIP H. WARD, JR.

ARCHITECTS BUILDING, 17TH & SANSON STREETS, PHILA. 3, PA.



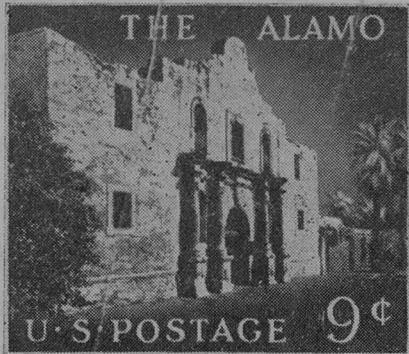
# MEKEEL'S WEEKLY STAMP NEWS

VOL. LXXXVI, NO. 17

APRIL 27, 1956

WHOLE NO. 3406

## 9c Alamo, First Day, June 14th, San Antonio, Texas



Postmaster General Arthur E. Summerfield announced the description of the 9 cent Alamo stamp of the new ordinary series. This stamp, the seventeenth of the new regular series to be released, will be first placed on sale at San Antonio, Texas, on June 14, 1956.

The stamp will be .075 by .087 of an inch in dimension, arranged horizontally, printed by the rotary process, electric-eye perforated, and issued in sheets of 100. The color of the stamp will be red.

The central design of the stamp features a view of the Alamo, reproduced from a drawing by an artist in the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. The artist's concept portrays the Spanish influence

in architectural design, as well as the effects of time and erosion. Across the top of the stamp is the wording "The Alamo" and across the bottom is "U.S. Postage" with the denomination "9c" in the lower right corner. All lettering is in white face Architectural Roman.

Stamp collectors desiring first day cancellations of the 9 cent Alamo stamp may send a reasonable number of addressed envelopes to the Postmaster, San Antonio, Texas, with money order remittance to cover the cost of the stamps to be affixed. An enclosure of medium weight should be placed in each envelope and the flap either sealed or turned in. The outside envelope to the Postmaster should be endorsed "First Day Covers."

There is given below information pertaining to the 3 cent Wild Life Turkey stamp (Wildlife Conservation), which will be first placed on sale at Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, on May 5, 1956:

Designer: Bob Hines (modeled by Victor S. McCloskey, Jr.).

Engravers: Vignette by Chas. A. Brooks. Outline frame, lettering and numeral by John S. Edmondson.

## 3c Antelope June 22

Postmaster General Arthur E. Summerfield announced that the second of the three stamps being issued to emphasize the importance of Wildlife Conservation in America will be released at Gunnison, Colorado, on June 22, 1956. This special 3 cent stamp will be first placed on sale on the occasion of the annual convention of the Colorado Division of the Izaak Walton League.

The pronghorn antelope, which is the subject of this issue, is an outstanding example of the conservation work being carried on by Federal and State Governments. Antelopes have been protected studied and transplanted under scientific guidance so that their numbers have increased from a low of 17,000 to herds large enough to allow hunting in five Western States.

The stamp is 0.84 by 1.44 inches in dimension, arranged horizontally with a single outline frame, printed by the rotary process, electric-eye perforated, and issued in sheets of 50. The color of the stamp will be announced later.

The design portrays a Buck and two Does of the Pronghorn Antelope species in their natural habitat. Across the top of the stamp is the wording "Wildlife Conservation," in dark modified Architectural Roman, and across the bottom "3c United States Postage 3c," in modified white face Architectural Roman. The wording "Pronghorn Antelope," arranged in two lines, appears to the left of the design slightly below the center, in dark Gothic. This design was reproduced from a drawing by Bob Hines, Artist of Fish and Wildlife Service, U. S. Department of the Interior.

Stamp collectors desiring first day cancellations of the 3 cent Pronghorn Antelope stamp may send a reasonable number of addressed envelopes to the Post-

(Continued on Page 140)

## Vertical Gum Breakers

BY GEORGE W. BRETT

As we predicted in our article in the March issue of "Bureau Specialist" a change has now been made in the production of our dry printed rotary press stamps in an attempt to counteract curling. The first stamp that has shown up with the change, to the best of our knowledge, is the new 1½ 1954,



issued Feb. 22, 1956. The change is in the addition of another set of breaker rollers on one of the contract electric eye perforators. These new rollers produce a pair of breaker lines per stamp (colorless of course) lengthwise of the roll of paper. This is normally the vertical direction of our stamp designs as well and the breaker lines have been designated accordingly even though on the 1½c 1954 this is actually the horizontal.

Prior to this development we have had a roughly horizontal set of four lines or breaks per stamp and their application is being continued in conjunction with the new breaks. Actually these breaker lines of the previous type have slanted at a slight angle either up toward the left or up toward the right depending whether one had a left or a right side pane of stamps — and this relationship also differed between stamps produced on the Stickney presses and those produced on the experimental rotary press because of the printed rolls being wound differently on the two presses.

Now the old type breaker marks while appearing as four lines per stamp are actually produced by rollers with helical ridges (we like to think of them as simulating gear teeth) meshing to a superficial degree and if you will carefully examine a sheet from the back you will see this — in other words you will note across the sheet that you have shallow channels or depressions alternating with relatively raised flat ridges. You have roughly two depression channels and two flat ridges across each ordinary-sized stamp (the result of two "teeth" above and below) and their mutual edges result in the four breaker lines that we have mentioned. And to us, looking at the back, the

flat ridges on the sheets appear to be consistently wider than the depressions.

As we discussed last month however the curling problem was not being satisfactorily handled for the new dry printed rotary press stamps using the previous production methods, which included the use of these helical breaker rollers. A careful examination of such dry printed stamps reveals that the gum was only being cracked or broken in one direction which was enough to overcome the set acquired while in roll form but which did little to overcome the natural tendency of the sheets to curl in a direction across the grain of the paper because of the gum on one side. We have said "natural tendency" because actually there is a real weakness in the paper along the direction parallel to the common length of the paper fibers — and the great majority of these fibers are aligned lengthwise of the paper rolls. In the direction at right angles consequently there are few cross fibers to resist the tensioning effect of the gum and if the gum is not broken across this direction then the situation is favorable to the curl.

Anyway there has now been released this first expedient of vertical breakers to solve the problem. This has been done by placing another set of rollers on one of the contract "eye" perforators so positioned that the web passes between them after passing the prior set of breaker rolls. The upper of the two new rolls is composed of twenty ridges which track along grooves in the lower roller. Thus, in effect, we have a male roller and a female roller. Actually this is quite similar to the arrangement on the older breaker rolls except for the direction of orientation of the ridges and grooves. As in the work of the older rolls we get our slight ridges or depressions (the breaks) at the mutual edges of the grooves and ridges and the result here is the two vertical lines per stamp on 400 subject work. For each stamp then we have had here one ridge on the upper roll and one ridge on the lower roll. And the upper ridge, which is the narrower, has been so positioned that it rolls along the central portion of the stamp rows.

Preliminary tests at the Bureau have indicated the efficacy of this change but the real test will come as the stamps are used and handled in the field. In other words, the arrangement can only be considered to be temporary as yet (the perforator(s) can be operated with or without of course as desired) and its extension will depend on experience.

—Bureau Specialist

## U. S. REVENUES

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RB16c 5c black .....\$140.00  
RB17c 6c violet blue .... 17.50  
RB18c 6c violet, uncanc. . 27.50

Guaranteed. (The roulettes are often faked).

What else do you need in Revenues?

George B. Sloane

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### MINT BLOCKS OF FOUR

1851	1c II, III pos. 88-89, 98-99R2, later cat. \$2500. As a single, large margins, fine appearance, but vertical crease, bottom sheet margin (#7-8)	\$750.00
1851	1c II pos. 86-87, 96-97, bottom sheet margin	150.00
1851	3c part left imprint, cut into bottom (#11)	25.00
1851	3c right sheet margin, gash on shoulder (#11)	35.00
1851	3c claret, pos. 79-80, 89-90R4 (#11a)	42.00
1851	10c II, III close left, slight crease (#14-15)	600.00
1857	1c, I, II (#18-19) mint	100.00
1857	5c orange brown (#30) block 6	225.00
1857	10c V (\$60), 12c (\$110), 24c (\$200), 90c	750.00
1861	3c August #56 (\$150), 10c (#58) a rarity	800.00
1861	3c (\$8), 3c Lake (\$300), 3c pink	800.00
1861	3c imperf. horiz. (#85a) no gum, not reg. issued	250.00
1868	5c brown #76 (\$125), 15c #77, rare block, imprint	500.00
1867	We have most of the gridded blocks	
1869	Without grill 1c (#112b), 2c (#113b) unique from Worthington collection, each	500.00
1869	15c II (#119) horiz. block 6, fresh, fine, just touches bottom	185.00
1869	mint singles v.f. no grill 24c #120a (\$125), 30c #121a (\$100), 90c #122a	225.00
1870	6c (#148) horiz. block 6, v.f. brilliant	200.00
1870	7c (#149) fine block	250.00
1870	15c (#152) v.f. block 6, brilliant	300.00
1870	90c (#155) fine block, scarce	450.00
1902	\$1 (\$175), \$2 (\$225), \$5 all v.f. blocks	600.00
1909	3c blue paper (#359) v.f.	300.00
1909	5c blue paper (#361) v.f.	950.00
1909	13c blue paper (#365) top plate block 6 fine	950.00
1909	15c blue paper (#366) v.f.	275.00
1915	10c Pan. Pac. perf. 10 (#404) v.f.	250.00
1916	50c perf. 10 (#477) v.f.	290.00
1916	\$1 perf. 10 (#478) v.f.	235.00
1918	\$2 orange and black, top arrow	175.00
1922	10c imperf. (#5626) issued without gum	400.00

Of course we have many of the other early blocks and most of the late blocks from 1894 to date.  
**PHILIP H. WARD, JR.**  
ARCHITECTS BUILDING, 17TH AND SANSON STREETS, PHIL. 3, PA.

## STAMPS WANTED!

We urgently need anything in United States and Foreign Collections, general or specialized, old covers, accumulations. Used or Unused. Also Estates, Dealers stocks, sheets, blocks, singles, etc. in fact almost anything worth while. Over 25 years of continual buying assures you of a high price and fair treatment. Your letters will be promptly answered or, better still, ship now with your best price or for our offer after inspection. Immediate payment — no delays or propositions. Your stamps held intact pending acceptance of our offer. We spend many thousands of dollars each year. How much of it will be yours?

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## S — U. S. — G

### B. N. A. and HAWAII WANTED TO BUY

Collections, Lots, unused & used, anything except the very commonest stamps.

**STANLEY GIBBONS INC.**

88M Park Row, New York 38





## WILSHIRE STAMP COMPANY

*Postage Stamps For Collectors*

7758 SUNSET BOULEVARD

LOS ANGELES 46, CALIFORNIA

MAY 2, 1956

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

DEAR SIR:

ENCLOSED HERewith PLEASE FIND U. S. #7 UNUSED AND  
#58 UNUSED.

WE WOULD LIKE YOUR OPINION ON THESE STAMPS, IF THEY  
ARE THE PROPER NUMBERS. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

ENCLOSED HERewith IS ALSO A SELF-ADDRESSED STAMPED  
ENVELOPE FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE.

WE WILL REMIT UPON RECEIPT OF YOUR INVOICE. THANK YOU.

WITH THANKS IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR KIND COOPERATION,  
WE REMAIN

VERY SINCERELY YOURS,

WILSHIRE STAMP COMPANY

By Rea Stacey

BG:NG

ENCLS.: STAMPS AS LISTED ABOVE.

May 4, 1956.

Wilshire Stamp Company,  
409-11 No. Larchmont Blvd.,  
Los Angeles 4, Calif.

Gentlemen:

Herewith the two stamps as per yours of the 2nd. The 10¢ 1861 is #58, what I call the Type I. This is the stamp sometimes called the Premiere Gravure or "August." I call the #68, the sometimes called "September," the Type II, - this is the way they should be catalogued. I have signed this stamp on the back for you. The other stamp, the One Cent, is from the "1875 Reprint plate." You will find full details of this plate in my book, the U.S. One Cent Stamp of 1851-1857, in two volumes, published in 1938 and now out of print. Occasionally copies come up at auction and sell at \$40.00 to \$45.00 for the two. Volume 2 has an immense amount of data on Westerns and California. You should have copies. They are a good investment.

There is no charge for the examination of these two copies.

Sincerely yours,



Established 1921

INVOICE

A 633



**The Westminster Stamp Co. Ltd.**

(O. BACHER, D.P.H.)

DIRECTORS: O. BACHER, D.P.H., B.P.A., P.T.S., A.P.S., — S. BACHER.

THE SPECIALISTS IN U.S.A. POSTAGE STAMPS

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

Telephone: GERard 4900

Bankers:  
Barclays Bank Ltd.,  
Piccadilly Circus,  
London, W.1.

Selections on approval and Want Lists executed from  
the most comprehensive U.S.A. Stock in Great Britain.

Harley B. Itshbrook, Esq. 17/57 1956  
33 W. Fort Thomas Ave.  
Fort Thomas, Ky. 40440.

ALL GOODS REMAIN OUR PROPERTY UNTIL PAID FOR.

Saw ch. it. Be good enough to  
check up for me in enclosed piece  
(addressed to Disraeli!), bearing a

304 1869.

Thank you so much!

It was delightful to talk to you  
over the phone, but I will deeply  
regret it that I couldn't meet you.

Best wishes

Yours sincerely  
O. Bacher.

Please write on the  
back of the piece whatever  
you have to say! I bought it in New York.

W.B.

63



FRAGILE  
WITH CARE.

Supposed liable to customs duty



PASSED  
U.S. CUSTOMS  
MAY 21 1956  
LOUISIANA  
KY.

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK

33 N. FORT THOMAS AVENUE

FORT THOMAS

R LONDON, W.1  
No 3822

Supposed liable to customs duty KY.

U.S.A.

THE WESTMINSTER STAMP CO. LTD.,  
REGENCY HOUSE, 1-4, WARWICK STREET,  
LONDON, W.1. ENGLAND

THE WESTMINSTER STAMP CO. LTD.,  
REGENCY HOUSE, 1-4, WARWICK STREET,  
LONDON, W.1. ENGLAND



THE WESTMINSTER STAMP CO. LTD.,  
REGENCY HOUSE, 1-4, WARWICK STREET,  
LONDON, W.1. ENGLAND

May 23, 1956.

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

Dear Dr. Bacher:

Herewith I am returning the piece of cover with the 30¢ 1869 addressed to Disraeli. I refuse to pass on items such as this as I do not consider stamps on pieces of paper have any value whatsoever over a stamp off cover. A "cover" that is not complete with all postal markings is not a cover, in my opinion. It is a very simple matter to tie a stamp to a piece. The London postmark on this piece shows "70," but in 1870 the single rate to G.B. from the U.S. was 6¢. I seriously doubt if this was a 5 times 6¢ rate, nor is there any indication that this was a registered letter.

I remember seeing this item before and no doubt I have a record of it in my files but I do not consider it of sufficient importance to waste time looking it up.

I trust that you had an enjoyable time at Fipex and that it proved profitable.

With kindest regards -

Sincerely yours,



EZRA D. COLE

*Rare Postage Stamps*

NYACK . NEW YORK

*Commissions . Appraisals*

TELEPHONE NYACK 7-0964

May 28th, 1956

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

Dear Stan:

Have the copy of your letter you wrote to  
Harmer and also the letter from Hart today. I  
am still trying to see what I can do for you  
and everybody else.

Take a look at the enclosed. I don't under-  
stand this thing. If the cover left on the 14th  
of August how could it be stamped July 29th?

Sincerely,

EDC:mkl

Ezra D. Cole.

THANKS FOR THE RETURN  
OF BACHASSE MAG.  
TENNIS FOOT STILL BUTAINS

Hcn -

Tennible Cold Wet SPRING

Hene

E-2

No 401659

# 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*

☐

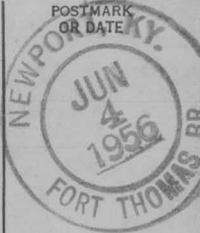
*31¢ shows to whom,  
when, and address  
where delivered*

*If you want re-  
stricted deliv-  
ery, check here*

☐

*20¢ fee*

POSTMARK  
OR DATE



POD Form 3800  
July 1955

Replaces previous editions of  
this form which MAY be used.

1. Stick postage stamps to your letter to pay:
  - 15-cent certified mail fee
  - First-class or airmail postage
  - Either return receipt fee (*optional*)
  - Restricted delivery fee (*optional*)
  - Special-delivery fee (*optional*)
2. If you want this receipt postmarked, stick the gummed stub on the address side of the letter, leaving the receipt attached, and present the letter to a postal employee.
3. If you do not want this receipt postmarked, stick the gummed stub on the address side of the letter, detach and retain the receipt, and mail the letter.
4. If you want a return receipt, write the certified-mail number and your name and address on a return receipt card and attach it to the back of the letter.
5. Save this receipt and present it if you make inquiry.

June 4, 1956.

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

Dear Ez:

Yours of the 24th, 25th and 28th received. I have had little time to attend to my work due to visitors, and this week threatens to be worse than the last two.

Both Edgar and Em seemed to think that the judges did a pretty good job. I am not prepared to offer any criticism because I did not see the Show. However, from all sides came an awful lot of criticism and complaint. Personally, I think a person is half-nuts to exhibit for competition in any philatelic show. After all what is a medal or a blue ribbon worth. A person who really wishes to serve the best interests of philately should exhibit without competition. Being given an award by a jury uninformed people is damn absurd. I made no comment to Edgar or Em because they spent a lot of time trying to do a good job without any reward. They can have such stuff but not for me.

I have had quite an exchange of mail with Bernard and some have been quite frank. Am I right in coming to the conclusion that this Britisher has permitted the Success of H.R. Harmer to go to his head? I think he has a well-head and as the niggers say - He thinks he is "Mr. Lawd God." He lays all the blame of the refusal to make Hart a refund on the Executor of the Caspary Estate. That is a lot of pure bunk in my opinion. I feel confident that had he advised or urged the Estate to make a refund to Hart that they would have done so. In my humble opinion there is no bigger damn fool than a person who permits a little success to swell his head to the bursting point.

Re - the enclosed cover - I don't think the manuscript date has anything to do with the actual dates of transmission. It was mailed at origin on July 12, 1861 - thru London on July 13th - reached New York on July 29, 1861 - (foreign division) was sent to Cambridge and was forwarded from there with a 3¢ 1861 on "Aug 28" - or perhaps the 25th with an "Early Rose."

Give Jean our best and tell her that Mildred and I hope her foot is much improved. What a time she has had with it.

Weather has been miserable - just like the middle of November - dark, cloudy and cold every day for a week. We are promised a change for the better. I hope so.

With regards -

Cordially yours,





# IRWIN HEIMAN

INCORPORATED

*Stamps for Collectors*

2 WEST 46TH STREET

NEW YORK 19, N. Y.

May 31, 1956

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

Dear Stan;

I am enclosing herewith a 5c and 10c combination cover which I would like you to give the full "Ashbrook Treatment". (And please be sure to send a bill.)

This is what I know about the item. I have it from Bill Lea of England who claims to have replaced the stamps after examining them for condition. It was sold in an H.R. Harmer, London, sale of Dec. 6, 1954. Tear sheets also enclosed. It has not as yet been examined by the Foundation (who probably wouldn't give an opinion on it anyway.).

If you are able to authenticate the cover for me I can sell it. Your records may include some information.

I hope you and yours are in good health.

Best regards,

*Irwin Heiman*

---

June 4, 1956.

Mr. Irwin Heiman,  
2 West 46th St.,  
Room 803,  
New York 36, N.Y.

Dear Irwin:

Re - yours of the 31st enclosing the 1847 cover with a 5¢ and 10¢ 1847 canceled in blue from Buffalo, N.Y. May 22 to Lockport, N.Y. This cover was Lot 63 in the London Sale by H. R. Harmer, Ltd., on Dec. 6, 1954. I examined this cover after the sale in December 1954 and my opinion was at that time that the cover was not genuine. It was again submitted to me subsequently and I again stated such an opinion.

Sincerely yours,

DO NOT MAKE ENVELOPE  
DO NOT MAKE ENVELOPE

To Irwin Heiman  
2 West 46<sup>th</sup> St  
New York (36) N.Y.

For

Opinion on 54-10d 1847

Cheney - ~~Lockport~~

Buffalo N.Y. to Lockport

N.Y. " May 22 " - - - - - \$5<sup>00</sup>



June 4, 1956.

Mr. Irwin Heiman,  
2 West 46th St.,  
New York, N.Y.

Dear Irwin:

Re - the enclosed cover - the following information is strictly confidential and I request that you do not quote me in anything following.

I believe Ezra Cole attended the Harmer Sale in London Dec. 6 - 7th, 1954 of the James Dunham collection. He purchased this cover, I assume for some client, at 220 pounds. Upon his return he submitted it to me and I made a very careful examination of it. I made photographs both in black and white and in color. It was my opinion the cover was a fake and I so reported to Cole. I am not sure but I suppose his client turned it down upon the strength of my report and it was returned. I suppose Ezra requested an extension at the time of purchase.

It was again submitted to me later but I have not taken the trouble to look up who sent it, but on the second trip I made an enlarged photo in color of the two stamps. No need to go into all the details why I felt sure the cover was not as represented, but one thing that especially impressed me was that this use was supposed to be in May 1848, but this 5¢ stamp could not have been used so early. I enclose a photo print that I made for my records in December 1954 - Note my notation under the 5¢ - "WORN - NOT 1848." In other words, this stamp came out of a shipment made by Rawdon Wright later than May 1848. No 5¢ stamps used that early are as badly "worn impressions" as this copy. In brief I am positive this stamp could not have been used in May 1848. The stamps are not tied and the cancels are all smeared, not fine strikes of a blue grid.

I am pleased to report that the Ashbrook family, all three are in good health. Do you realize that it has been eight years since you were out here and we had quite a nice dinner out at "Swan's" on Ky. route #25?

Mrs. Ashbrook joins me in kindest regards -

Cordially yours,



AUCTION SERVICE  
APPRAISALS  
COMMISSIONS

# IRWIN HEIMAN

INCORPORATED

PHONE  
LUXEMBURG 2-2393

*Stamps for Collectors*

2 WEST 46TH STREET

NEW YORK 19, N. Y.



July 12, 1956

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook;

Dear Stan;

Many thanks for your prompt and expert analysis of the 5c and 10c combination "cover". I guess if this thing pops up much more you would save time by having the remarks mimeographed. Woe is me whenever I find a bargain it aint.

It is hard to believe it is 8 yrs. since we were all together. If you could dig up something worthwhile for me to buy or sell we could rectify that pronto.

Best regards,

June 4, 1956.

To

Mr. Irwin Heiman,  
2 West 46th St.,  
New York 36, N.Y.

For

opinion on 5¢-10¢ 1847 cover  
Buffalo, N.Y. to Lockport, N.Y.

"May 22" ..... \$5.00

PAID  
JUN 15 1956

PAID  
JUN 15 1956

June 15, 1956.

Mr. Irwin Heiman,  
2 West 46th St.,  
New York, N.Y.

Dear Irwin:

Thanks very much for yours of the 12th with  
enclosure.

I do wish I could dig up something for you.

Cordially yours,



June 2, 1956.

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

Dear Em:

Re - the three covers of yours that I am returning herewith.

1¢ 1857 N.Y. Carrier. I made a memo on the back that this is a Plate 4 stamp. How odd that this one and the one on the 3¢ plus 1¢ cover are both from the same plate and with a line of vertical perfs in the same place - Strange?

3¢ 1861 plus 1¢ '57 - New York Dec. 1862. I made a color and a regular of this and I also signed it on the back for you. No charge. A mighty nice cover. Thanks.

Stark Cover - H.P. 5¢ 1847. I signed this when you were here but because it is a Seybold cover I signed it inside. I should have called your attention to this when you were here.

The next day after you left I remembered that we forgot to get out the Stark cover which had the wrong price on it, so here it is.

Stark No. 1465 - Price \$7.50. I wrote Mrs. Stark that this was the price Jack and I had fixed. I am sure it will be OK.

Re - yours of the 31st. We were pleased to learn that you both arrived home safe and sound and we don't blame Dorsey for not calling us up. It is a long walk up that ramp from the train and she was very sensible in not making the trip just to say hello.

Ok Em on the folder. It has not arrived as yet but I will write you about it later.

Our best to you both. Darn cold here - down to 48 last night. Can you imagine!!!

Yours etc.,



ESTABLISHED 1928

# Reserve Plan Inc

TRADE MARK REG.

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

May 31, 1956

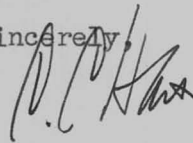
Mr. Stanley V. Ashbrook  
33 North Thomas  
P. O. Box 31  
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Enclosed find two 1847 covers, which I would like you to opinionize. I have purchased these with the understanding that they would be sent to you, and I would appreciate your passing on them to see whether or not they are genuine and whether there has been any repair work done to either of them.

These came from William Bilden, in Minneapolis, who also offered me a 5-cent 1847 cover from New Mexico, which formerly belonged to Dr. Chase. His price, in my opinion, is exorbitant - \$850.00. It will have to be offered for considerably less than this to interest me.

Sincerely,



C. C. Hart

CCH:jm  
Enc.

June 6, 1956.

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

Dear Mr. Hart:

Herewith the two 5¢ 1847 covers as per yours of the 31st.

Re - the Chicago cover of May 17, 1849. I examined this very carefully and in my opinion it is genuine. However, this cover has a very decided faded-out appearance. It has either been subject to the sun or strong daylight or was in a damp place or has been "washed." The Chicago postmark is badly faded and surely not like it was originally. While the cover is genuine in my opinion, it is far from fine due to the deterioration as above.

Re - the Middletown Con. cover of Jan. 15, 1849. I wonder if this stamp actually was used originally on this cover. I am always suspicious of a cover which has a stamp in a "wrong place." In other words, was this originally a stampless cover sent collect? The encircled "5" rate marking is in the place where the 5¢ 1847 stamp might have been had the stamp originated on this cover. Further, the postmark and the encircled "5" are in a much fainter blue than the three strikes of the PAID. Did you notice this?

I made an enlarged photograph of the stamp by ultra-violet light and have just developed the negative. So far as I can see from the negative there does not seem to be any evidence of a removed cancelation but a print might disclose such evidence. I also made color slides which might disclose something but I will have to wait until these are processed.

I have signed the Chicago cover on the back but will have to withhold a final opinion on the other cover until later. I am returning both herewith.

I am also in receipt of yours of the 4th and note your plans for the next week.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

June 23, 1956

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

Dear Mr. Hart:

Again referring to the 5¢ 1847 cover of Middletown, Conn. as per my letter of the 6th. I enclose herewith photo print (C329) which I made by ultra-violet light and as you will note it fails to show any positive evidence of a former cancelation removal. I also enclose a color slide of this cover, and as I stated before, there seems to be a difference in color between the postmark and the encircled "5," as compared to the much darker blue of the strikes of the PAID. This may be due to light strikes of the former as compared to heavy strikes of the latter. I wonder?

This cover may be perfectly genuine in every way but it is an item on which I would not care to pass a definite opinion.

I am sorry that there was such a delay but I was waiting on the processing of the slide.

I am also enclosing a slide of the Chicago cover, 5¢ 1847.

With my kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

Enclosed:

4 x 5 photo print - (C329)-  
no charge

two slides @ \$1.50 each  
EK 21, - 14 - 20

A813

A813

A813

BY  
C.C. HART

BLUE  
PAID

M13

AT

13

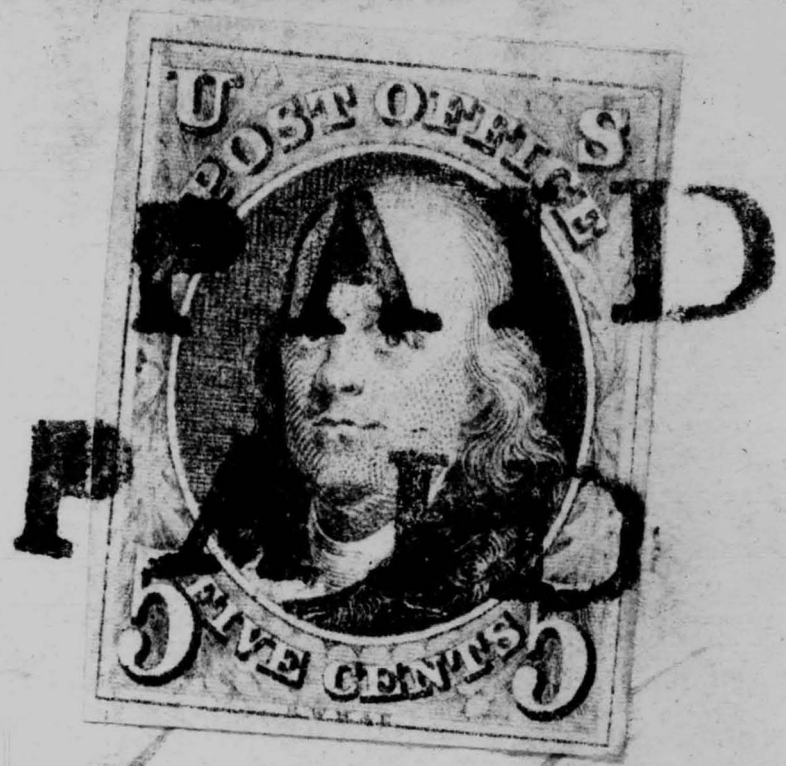
F64

RED

45

SEC

PAID



*Mr. Lapham*

*150 Nassau*



6

APPLEGATE, REUSSILLE, CORNWELL & HARTMAN

34 BROAD STREET

RED BANK, NEW JERSEY

RED BANK 6-1800

JOHN S. APPLGATE-1927-1950  
WILLIAM E. FOSTER-1927-1952

LEON REUSSILLE, JR.  
E. ALLAIRE CORNWELL  
HARVEY G. HARTMAN  
MILTON A. MAUSNER  
SAMUEL CAROTENUTO

June 5, 1956

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Enclosed herewith by insured mail is a letter with a twelve-cent 1861, which appears to have been mailed from Trenton, New Jersey, on August 30, 1861, and the stamp probably affixed August 31st, or a day or so later. As the fastest east-bound crossing between New York and Liverpool up to 1861 was taken by the Persia of the Cunard Line in 1856 in nine days and five hours, which was not eclipsed until 1863 by the same line's Scotia, I feel that the letter took about ten to twelve days (more likely twelve) to reach France. I could not make out the date of the Bordeaux receiving stamp. I could probably find out what steamship left New York on or about September 1st, which might help better to pin down the date of probable use of the adhesive.

I enclose my check for \$1 to cover postage and insurance of \$50. Please bill me for your valued opinion if you will.

Yours truly,

*Leon Reussille, Jr.*

LR:lge  
Enclosures

June 12, 1956.

Mr. Leon Reussille,  
196 Broad St.,  
Red Bank, N.J.

Dear Mr. Reussille:

I am in receipt of yours of the 5th enclosing the cover to Bordeaux, France with a U. S. 12¢ and 3¢ 1861, from Trenton, N.J. - manuscript postmark - of Aug. 30, 1861.

In my opinion, this cover is genuine in all respects and I have so endorsed it on the back. It is quite an interesting cover as it is the earliest known use in my records of a 12¢ 1861 and my records go back to about 1915. In other words, since that time I have never seen an earlier use of the 12¢ 1861. The S.U.S. gives "Sep. 1861." I am advising the Editor, Mr. Gordon Harmer, of this cover and no doubt it will be changed to Aug. 30, 1861 in the 1957 Edition of the S.U.S.

You will note that the small circular French postmark reads at the bottom, "Am Calais" - In other words, "By American Pkt to England, thence to France thru Calais." During that period, "American Mail Packets" sailed from New York for the Continent every Saturday. In 1861, Aug. 30, fell on Friday, so this letter was mailed from Trenton, N.J. to New York for the sailing Saturday afternoon Aug. 31, 1861. By "Amer. Pkt" did not mean a mail ship of American register but rather "Am. Pkt" meant that the letter was sent at the expense of the U.S. P.O.D.

In the case of your cover, it was transmitted from New York on the "S.S. Bremen" of the "German Lloyd Line." This German mail steamer had returned to New York from Germany, arriving on Aug. 19, 1861. The U.S. P.O.D. paid this German line "sea postage" for the transmission of U. S. mail going to England or the Continent. As the ship did not stop at a French port, the U.S. bore the expense of the transit to England. As the rate to France was 15¢ per  $\frac{1}{4}$  ounce, the U. S. share of the rate was 9¢ and the French share was 6¢. This was as follows: U.S. 3¢, Internal plus 6¢ sea (to England). The French was England Via Calais 3¢, plus French internal of 3¢. Thus we credited France 6¢ for every quarter ounce by such transmission retaining the balance of 9¢.

Under the French postmark on face is the red New York postmark - (Foreign Exchange) dated Aug. 31 with a "6" at the bottom - this "6" being the U.S. credit on the letter to the French P.O.D. Incidentally France settled with Britain for the transmission of the letter from England to the French frontier at Calais. The Calais marking is Sep. 13, so no doubt the letter reached England on Sep. 12, showing a passage from New York of 13 days. This was rather slow for that period, as the blue ribbon was held by the Cunard "Persia" by an Eastward passage of 9 days 1 hour and 45 minutes - New York to Queenstown in June 1856. Incidentally,



#2. Mr. Leon Reussille - June 12, 1956.

it is my recollection that German lines never captured the Blue Ribbon until 1897.

My fee for the above examination is \$3.50 and I am crediting same with your check for \$1.00 for which kindly accept my thanks.

Sincerely yours,

(40-16)

June 12, 1956.

To

Mr. Leon Reussille,  
196 Broad St.,  
Red Bank, N.J.

For

Authentication of cover  
to France from Trenton, N.J.

Aug. 30, 1861 with

3¢ 1861 plus 12¢ 1861 ..... \$3.50

Cr by check ..... 1.00

Balance ..... \$2.50

APPLEGATE, REUSSILLE, CORNWELL & HARTMAN

34 BROAD STREET

RED BANK, NEW JERSEY

RED BANK 6-1800

JOHN S. APPLGATE-1927-1950  
WILLIAM E. FOSTER-1927-1952

LEON REUSSILLE, JR.  
E. ALLAIRE CORNWELL  
HARVEY G. HARTMAN  
MILTON A. MAUSNER  
SAMUEL CAROTENUTO

June 15, 1956

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

I have yours of June 12th, giving me your valued opinion about the U. S. 12¢-1861 cover from Trenton, N. J. to France. Thanks very much for the opinion and the other information contained in the letter. I enclose your reasonable statement and check to cover it.

While I was fairly familiar with rates on steam carries between U. S. and England, I did not know how the 15¢ rate on letters to France was broken down. Your letter explains this breakdown.

Now that I know that the cover was carried by the North German Lloyd's "Bremen," I am thinking of placing the item in my fleet collection of steamship letters (1838-1885) for eventual write-up. The collection of such covers on a "fleet" basis is likely to become uninteresting, so I have brightened the collection with about twenty maiden voyages or maiden return voyages, some last voyages, some voyages quite difficult to get, where the ships made one or several voyages; steamship letters accompanying prominent persons such as Samuel Cunard, Charles Dickens, Jennie Lind, etc; interesting examples of retaliatory rates, steamship letters bearing forwarders' hand stamps on the face and so on. I have not yet been able, however, to pick up a Collins Line "Adriatic" on her only voyage under Collins auspices. Bonsor, Staff and Heyl have been helpful, especially Bonsor, whom I have found to be quite reliable. Bill Peterman of Caldwell, N. J., whom you probably know, gets together with me from time to time.

Have you any information as to what the straight line "five ways" might mean? I have one on one of the early Cunard ships from Liverpool to New York and nobody has been able to explain it to me.

A little while back I bought a registered cover to a Confederate prisoner of war with a 3¢ #65 tied, from Baltimore to Point Lookout, Md. It was accompanied by a letter from you dated March 30, 1944, to Frank B. Lawrance of Dayton, Ohio, in which you set forth as to this cover he apparently got from you that it appeared to you that up to the date you wrote him it was the only



Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook

-2-

June 15, 1956

cover to a prisoner of war which showed any evidence of registration. My curiosity impels me to ask if you have come across any others since then.

Thanking you again, I am

Sincerely,

*Leon Reussille, Jr.*

LR:lgc  
Enclosures

Permitted  
FLOYER BOND

RAG CONTENT

U.S.A.

June 19, 1956.

Mr. Leon Reussille, Jr.,  
34 Broad St.,  
Red Bank, N.J.

Dear Mr. Reussille:

I am in receipt of yours of the 15th with check for \$2.50 for which kindly accept my thanks.

I have very carefully noted the contents of your letter and I can well appreciate what an interesting collection you are putting together. However, my field has been largely confined to foreign rates of postage from the U.S. and a study of all(?) markings found on such mail. I am not especially interested in incoming mail, only as certain covers might be helpful in the study of outgoing mail.

Re - the persons mentioned. I do not recall having any contacts with a Mr. Bonsor. Staff of England is a Britisher whom I have found is one who requests all the information he can obtain and refuses to give in return. Years ago I corresponded with Eric Heyl but have not heard from him for quite a long time. I have corresponded with Mr. Peterman and found him to be most helpful, most co-operative and fine in every way. When I have had occasion to seek information from British students I met with little success with one exception. This was Alan Robertson. I always found him more than willing to share any data in his possession. Apparently a very fine chap. It is my impression that the British are more interested in stamps than in their postal history which pertains to rates and postal markings.

Re - your query about a S.L. marking "Five Ways." I regret to state that I never heard of such a marking.

Re - the Registered cover from Baltimore, Md. to a prisoner of war, at Point Lookout, Md. I remember the cover quite well and I have a photo print of it in my files. This cover was originally in S.W. Richey collection (Cincinnati). As near as I can recall this is the only registered cover that I have ever run across addressed to a prisoner of war. I have a record of a cover from Farmington, Mo. with a 3¢ 1861 to a P of W - at Gratiot Street Prison, St. Louis, which has in manuscript "Due 10¢ Reg." There is too little evidence here to class this as a Registered to a P of W.

I have what I call the "Ashbrook Special Service" which I send around the first of each month to a small group of close friends who are interested in 19th Century stamps and our postal history, rates, markings, postal treaties, etc., etc. I have a great deal of material submitted to me for examination and many of such items have interesting stories to relate. Thinking that some of my reports would be not only interesting to some of my friends but also educational, I decided in 1951 to inaugurate this "Special Service." I accompany issues with very fine actual photographs of the items discussed. I charge a fee of \$100.00 a year, payable in advance. Under separate cover I am sending you a "sample copy" which you need not return. If you think this Service would be beneficial to you I would be

#2. Mr. Leon Reussille, Jr., June 19, 1956.

pleased to have you as a subscriber.

Sincerely yours,



TELEPHONE  
RAYMOND 0022

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

*Philatelic Dealers*

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

407 ROYAL STREET  
NEW ORLEANS 16, LA.

June 7, 1956

Stanley B. Ashbrook  
Ft. Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan:

Here is a 10¢ 1847 which we have received on approval from  
Walter Rapaport of Hollywood, Fla. Is it possible for you to determine whether  
the green cancellation is good ? We would much appreciate your opinion.

Please be sure to include a bill for expertization fee when returning.

Yours sincerely,

Raymond H. Weill Co.

By 

rgw:lc  
enc.

P. S. - Not necessary to register this item when returning.

**RAYMOND H. WEILL CO.**  
ROGER G. - RAYMOND H. WEILL  
407 ROYAL STREET. NEW ORLEANS 16



**AIR MAIL**

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook  
P. O. Box 31  
33 No. Ft. Thomas Ave.  
Fort Thomas, Ky.

June 12, 1956.

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

Dear Roger:

Herewith the 10¢ '47 as per yours of the 7th. I regret that I am not able to give you a definite report on this stamp. I suppose it could be good but if so the green is most unusual - not like the greens that I have seen of that period and later - still it is an ink that did not penetrate the thin paper of the stamp. It impressed me as most too good and I don't like the red - looks like it might have been added as something extra.

And finally - and confidential - this fellow Rappaport seems to be able to offer too many unusual and rare cancelations. I believe he is honest but I suppose he could be an innocent outlet for some slicker. Here is a rather odd coincident - an out-of-town friend was here Saturday and showed me a 5¢ 1847 with a cancelation I had never seen before - I inquired - "where did you get this" - and his reply was - from Walter Rappaport - not long after - Saturday morning, I received your letter. Perhaps just a coincidence.

I could make a photograph by ultra violet to see if a former cancel had been removed but this copy is so heavily inked with green that a removed cancel might not show up. Maybe that is why it is so heavily canceled. I doubt if the expense of such a photograph would be justified.

I believe the fakers find it very easy to make an item like this - don't you?

My regards to Raymond and you.

Cordially yours,

No photographs made.



ESTABLISHED 1928

# *Reserve Plan Inc*

TRADE MARK REG.

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

June 7, 1956

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Enclosed find a 10-cent 1847 cover, which I have recently purchased and which I would like for you to opinionize.

I am back in Kansas City for two days, leaving Monday afternoon to be gone a week. I have not had an opportunity to see Mr. Michaels, but I will do so upon my return. I will have to see him personally, because I do not believe he is well enough to answer a letter.

Sincerely yours,

C. C. Hart

CCH:jm  
Enc. #5339  
(2)

June 11, 1956.

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

Dear Mr. Hart:

Thanks very much for yours of the 7th with check for \$100 for my 1956-1957 Special Service. Receipt is enclosed herewith.

Herewith I am returning the 10¢ 1847 cover from Roswell, Ga. on Feb. 21, 1850 to Savannah, Ga. In my opinion, there is no question but what this is genuine in every way and I have signed it as such on the back. What a super superb copy this is. I note that the Roswell P.O. only received 250 of the 10¢. Just imagine - only 250. Also that 100 were received in October 1850 so no doubt the stamp on this cover was one from a pane and a half.

I note that you are leaving K.C. this afternoon and will be gone a week and that upon your return you will try and see Mr. Michaels. I am anxious to learn how he considers your rights in this case. I have had a number of interesting letters regarding the Kalamazoo cover - both pro and con. I intend to publish those that are the most sensible - fair-minded and no ax to grind. I feel that this is a serious situation and that a show-down is needed, and I cannot help but believe that you would be rendering a great service to present day philately if you would bring suit and make a test case of it. Regardless of all arguments to the contrary I feel very strongly that you have been defrauded out of over \$400.00 and that you should do something about it even if you have the best legal advice that you can not make any recovery.

With best wishes --

Cordially yours,



June 11, 1956.

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

For  
Authentication of  
10¢ 1847 cover -  
Roswell, Ga. Feb. 21, 1850 -  
to Savannah, Ga. .... \$3.00



C330



Red

Red  
Grid



Miss Snider Lathrop & Niece  
Roswell Ga  
Feb 21 1850  
Savannah  
Ga.


BY HART

232 - F128 - GREEN-9 SEC

W

No 401662

# RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

SENT TO <b>Stampazine</b>		POSTMARK OR DATE  			
STREET AND NO. <b>109 West 43rd St</b>					
CITY AND STATE <b>New York (36) N.Y.</b>					
<p>If you want a return receipt, check which</p> <table border="0"><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> 7¢ shows to whom and when delivered</td><td><input type="checkbox"/> 31¢ shows to whom, when, and address where delivered</td></tr></table>			<input type="checkbox"/> 7¢ shows to whom and when delivered	<input type="checkbox"/> 31¢ shows to whom, when, and address where delivered	<p>If you want restricted delivery, check here</p> <table border="0"><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> 20¢ fee</td></tr></table>
<input type="checkbox"/> 7¢ shows to whom and when delivered	<input type="checkbox"/> 31¢ shows to whom, when, and address where delivered				
<input type="checkbox"/> 20¢ fee					

POD Form 3800  
July 1955

Replaces previous editions of  
this form which MAY be used.



1. Stick postage stamps to your letter to pay:  
15-cent certified mail fee  
First-class or airmail postage  
Either return receipt fee (*optional*)  
Restricted delivery 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.

Memo From:

*Stampazine*

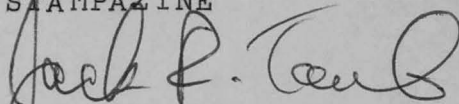
JUNE 5, 1956

DEAR MR. ASHBROOK:

I HAVE TAKEN THE LIBERTY OF SENDING THIS STAMP TO YOU AT THE SUGGESTION OF M.L. NEINKEN. HE FELT THAT YOU MIGHT BE ABLE TO PROVIDE US WITH SOME INFORMATION REGARDING IT. WE BELIEVE THAT IT IS ## EITHER A DOUBLE TRANSFER OR A RE-ENTRY, BUT CAN FIND NO REFERENCE MATERIAL ON IT. YOUR OPINION WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED. IF THERE IS ANY CHARGE FOR THIS, KINDLY LET ME KNOW, AND I SHALL SEND YOU THE PAYMENT BY RETURN MAIL.

IF WE CAN EVER BE OF ANY PHILATELIC SERVICE TO YOU, PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO CALL ON US.

PHILATELICALLY YOURS,  
STAMPAZINE



JACK R. TAUB  
MANAGER

# Stampazine

109 WEST 43rd STREET • NEW YORK 36, N. Y.



SAVE THE EASY WAY  
BUY U.S. BONDS ON  
PAYROLL SAVINGS

AIR MAIL

INSURED  
TIMES SQUARE STATION  
JUN 6 1956  
NEW YORK 36, N. Y.  
FEE

CONTENTS:  
MERCHANDISE — 4th CLASS MAIL  
POSTMASTER! THIS PARCEL MAY BE OPENED  
FOR POSTAL INSPECTION IF NECESSARY  
RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED

MR. STANLEY ASHBROOK  
34 FORT THOMAS AVENUE  
FORT THOMAS, KENTUCKY

June 8, 1956.

Mr. Jack R. Taub,  
% Stampazine,  
109 West 43rd St.,  
New York 36, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Taub:

Herewith I am returning the 10¢ Reproduction of 1875 of the 10¢ 1847 - S.U.S. #4. I fail to note anything unusual about this copy with the exception of some doubling in places of the frame lines due to recutting. I failed to note any doubling of the lines of the design - thus no re-entry or double transfer.

I am wondering if my good friend Mort Neinken noticed something that my eye failed to catch? If so, will you be so kind as to advise me. The copy appears quite normal to me - just another #4.

I thank you for offering to assist me in any way possible should the occasion arise. This was most kind indeed.

Sincerely yours,

Copy to  
Mr. M.L.Neinken



**EZRA D. COLE**

*Rare Postage Stamps*

**NYACK . NEW YORK**

---

*Commissions . Appraisals*

---

**TELEPHONE NYACK 1-0964**

June 8th, 1956

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

Dear Stan:

Em tells me he had a nice visit with you.

At Fipex a friend of mine bought the enclosed cover.  
Did you ever see a Carrier use in Cleveland before? I  
never did and thought it was quite interesting.

Sincerely,

EDC:mk1


Ezra D. Cole.

June 11, 1956.

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

Dear Ezra:

Herewith the 3¢ '57 plus 1¢ '57 Cleveland cover, as per yours of the 8th. This is not a Carrier cover but rather a Prepaid Way cover into the Cleveland Post Office. I judge the use was in February 1860. It is an extremely rare cover, in my humble opinion. I have a record of two covers with 1861 stamps, viz., 3¢ '61 plus 1¢ 1861 but I do not seem to have any record of a 3¢ '57 plus a 1¢ 1857. Maybe I have seen such a cover in the past but if so I have no recollection. If this cover does not mean a lot to your friend I would like to acquire it, not for re-sale, but for my reference collection.



One of the 3¢ '61 plus 1¢ '6. covers as mentioned above was in the Tudor Gross collection and after his passing I acquired it. I forget offhand who owns the other one but I have a photograph of it.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

EZRA D. COLE

*Rare Postage Stamps*

NYACK . NEW YORK


*Commissions . Appraisals*

TELEPHONE NYACK 7-0964

June 13th, 1956

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

Dear Stan:



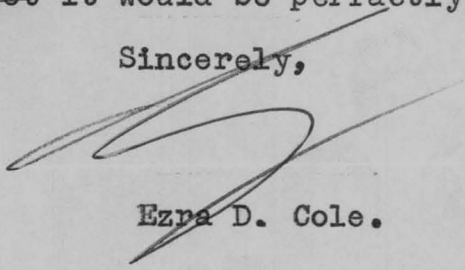
I thought you would be interested in the Cleveland cover. I never recall seeing a Carrier cover in Cleveland and am not sure whether they even had a Carrier service, at least in the 1857 period. Cleveland you will recall was a small town then even though it is a big City now.

I hardly think this man will sell the cover. I would like to buy it myself, not for resale. I am going to send him your letter with my answer to his.

I hope you made a photograph of this cover and a record of it, and if you every make any prints or duplicates I would like them.

I assume if you want to use this cover in your Service ~~Sheet~~ it would be perfectly alright.

Sincerely,



Ezra D. Cole.

EDC:mk1

CLEVELAND O PREPAID WAY

Prepaid WAY  
Into Cleveland  
A Very Rare

Feb'y  
Year?  
Probably  
1860

Cover of *Green Mount*



*William V. Tinsley. Esq.*  
*North Royalton.*  
*Cuyahoga Co.*  
*Ohio*

C332

~~C332~~

BY F. COLF



4

June 7th, 1956.

Mr. L. G. Brockman,  
103 Loeb Arcade,  
5th & Hennepin,  
Minneapolis 3, Minn.

Dear Les:

First. Here is a cover that I sold Emmerson C. Krug - a 3¢ 1867 grilled all over. Krug has very little respect for my opinion on grills, so he requested me to send this cover to you for your opinion. What he wants to know is this - Is the stamp genuine? Is it the 3¢ '67 regular stamp grilled all over? If so, please sign it on the back as such, and Em wants you to charge him for your examination. Be sure and do it.

Second. Here are three covers from two lots in the Mozian Sale of May 22 last. They were bought by Cole for my good friend C. C. Hart of Kansas City, who sent them to me. I want your opinion of Lot 76 described as a use May 22, 1867. How come? Send me a bill for your opinion and I will pass it on to Creighton. No need for an opinion on the other two covers which I suppose are okay. If you see anything wrong, then expertise it and send me your bill.

I told Krug I knew nothing about grills and meant it. He then said, how come you signed this cover on the back. I gave him an Ernie Jacobs answer - "It looked good." I'll bet I made a darn good guess.

I enclose return postage - Air - Registered.

Best wishes -

Cordially yours,

P.S.--Since writing the above I am in receipt of a letter from Henry stating he plans to drive down next week for a little visit and would like for you to come with him. Why not? Les we would be delighted to have you and do hope you can arrange to accompany Henry. I know he would love to have you.

June 8th, 1956.

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

Dear Em:

Your registered of the 5th arrived this afternoon late.

First - Re - the Stark cover - grilled all over 34 1867. Under separate cover I am sending you an 1870 list of post offices. When you return it to me please insure it for \$10.00. You will note the address on the cover is okay. I am sending the cover up to Les Thursday A.M. and requesting him to examine it very carefully and if okay to please sign it on the back. I explained to him that it was a Stark cover that I had sold you and that you would like to have his okay and to be sure and bill you for same. I am no authority on grills but I would bet anything that this is the genuine stamp in every way. I return the covering as Les would have to take it off and it might get lost.

This will acknowledge receipt of your check for \$7.50 for the Stark cover #1465. Thanks very much.

Re - your experience at the Post Office. One of the head men down at the Newport P.O. told me last week that they have an awful lot of trouble getting competent help and as a result they have many instances of poor service. That may be the answer when we have examples. I don't think the Regulations permit the forwarding of anything but first-class mail unless full postage is paid, but that is just my impression.

Thanks for the word from Gene Costales. Quite a nice fellow whom I have known for many years.

Again re - your Stark grill cover. I would much prefer an opinion by Les on any grill item to one by the P.F. - Besides with my handstamp on it they might guess that I was right. I doubt very much if Les passes on items for the P.F. - Still he might.

Re - the Gibbons hinges. I have only a small supply left so I suggest you write the New York firm of Stanley Gibbons Inc.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,



# L. G. BROOKMAN

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

103 LOEB ARCADE  
MINNEAPOLIS 2, MINNESOTA

R.D.P.  
A.S.D.A.  
M.C.C.

June 8, 1956

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

Dear Stan:

*or use on stamps*

All the evidence we have concerning the grills indicates that no stamps with the 11 x 13 or the 9 x 13 grill were released or used until 1868. We have no reason to believe that these grills were made until after the "A", "C", "D" and "Z" grills had been made. All those were really experimental in nature and were produced by Mr. Steele and the N.B. Note Co. on their own initiative and the government did not pay a cent for their production. The first grilled stamps that were paid for as such were recorded (at a different rate of payment from the ungrilled stamps) in the P.M. Generals report of 1868 as of the first quarter of that year. I have never seen any "evidence" that they were issued earlier unless one could accept the two covers at hand as such. I cannot so accept them.

It is my belief, that as difficult as it may to believe, that both of the 1867 dates are in error on these two covers. You will note, ~~that if the color of the stamps is any indication,~~ that the two stamps came from different sheets which of course has to be true since they are two different grills, the E and F grills, which did not come on the same sheet. The color of these stamps indicates that they were NOT from the early printings of the grills which by chance were on the pale rose stamps, similar in color to the stamps used for the grilled-all-over issue. The color of the stamps on these two covers is in the color of the most common stamps that were used for the F grill (9 x 13) and for the later printings of the E grill (11 x 13).

*would it not be most unlikely that one town had both the E and F grills earlier than any other of which we know?*

I presume, were it worth the effort, that collectors of Vermont covers could be contacted to see if they know anything about the dating of Bennington covers in 1867 and 1868. Of the various possibilities about these stamps (Genuine grilled stamps being placed on the covers by some faker, genuine ungrilled stamps being removed, grilled with a fake grill and replaced; or a mistake in the year date--this last is what I believe. I consider the fact that they are from the same town lends weight to this idea. In any event, I most certainly do not believe the E and F grills were used at this early period.

Now, regarding the cover with the grilled all over stamp on it, I believe the grill is genuine and as far as I know the use was genuine. This stamp is in remarkable condition since

*A*



# L. G. BROOKMAN

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

103 LOEB ARCADE  
MINNEAPOLIS 2, MINNESOTA

R.D.P.  
A.S.D.A.  
M.C.C.

Ashbrook June 8, 1956 (2)

*of the end of the envelope*

the perforations are almost intact which is exceedingly rare and, as a matter of fact, a good cause for suspicion on any grilled-all-over stamp. The perforations at the bottom seem to have been cut because they are so straight but I do not think this detracts from this nice cover. Under the lamp the words could be (in part) Jan 15 --difficult to be certain. *Really should be Jan 15th!*

I took the liberty of lifting (with a Gonnert) the upper 1/3rd of the stamp so I could examine the grill from the back which was necessary to be certain of the grill.

I presume that the cover postmarked Oct. 30th was just included to show that the cancel on the grilled stamps was genuine--as far as the cancel itself is concerned. It is the date of '67 that is telling a fib as far as the grilled stamps are concerned.

Mych to do so will close now. Doubt if I can come down with Henry.

Sincere regards,

P.S. No bill for any of the above.



June 12, 1956.

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

Dear Em:

I am herewith returning your Stark cover - grill all over, and quote as follows from the letter from Les Brookman, dated June 8th, as follows:

"Now, regarding the cover with the grilled all over stamp on it, I believe the grill is genuine and as far as I know the use was genuine. This stamp is in remarkable condition since the perforations are almost intact which is exceedingly rare and, as a matter of fact, a good cause for suspicion on any grilled-all-over stamp. The perforations at the bottom seem to have been cut because they are so straight but I do not think this detracts from this nice cover. Under the lamp the words at the end of the envelope could be (in part) Jan 15—difficult to be certain. Really should be June 15th.

I took the liberty of lifting (with a Gomet) the upper 1/3rd of the stamp so I could examine the grill from the back which was necessary to be certain of the grill." (unquote)

Les put a P.S. on his letter: "No bill for the above." I paid the registered postage both ways but perhaps it would be nice if you wrote him and thanked him and insisted that he send you a bill as his signature on the back of the cover does add value and then you will hesitate to send him future items if it means you are imposing on his time.

Please pardon my suggestion as above as I am sure you would have done so anyway.

When you were here I believe I showed you a letter from Sid Barrett. I am now enclosing a copy of my reply. This has to do with proposed changes in listings for the 1957 S.U.S. Please treat this as confidential and return same at your convenience.

With regards -

Yours etc.,

This Krug  
Cover sent  
to Brookman

JUN - 6 1956



EMMERSON C. KRUG

3008 13TH AVENUE SOUTH  
BIRMINGHAM 5, ALABAMA

June 5, 1956.  
Tuesday P.M.

Dear Stan,

I may not get to mail this until tomorrow. But the P.O. called me a while ago that I had a registered package and I have just come back with it. But it was dated June 2nd. which is rather slow time. In it were my covers which you so kindly returned. I hope you go ahead and write up the little carrier in the service bulletin.

Dumb me, I should have looked inside that cover and not have bothered you about the signing, the 5¢ 47 Seybold one.

Herewith my check for lot 1465, the Stark cover. Thanks for remembering it.

I had a new experience from the Post office the last day or so. I never knew before that if you did not put enough stamps on a package it would not be forwarded as postage due as a letter is so done. Did you know that? I sent one of my "Ethiopian" bus boys from the cafeteria office with it and they told him 20¢ and he put it on and left it. That is the package with your folder. Lo! and behold, Saturday A.M. a man from the P.O. brought it all the way out to my home, some 2½ miles, saying it was 9¢ short and left it with our cook, she having no stamps and he wouldn't take the money. So, I really stormed down to the P.O. saying if they attempted to charge me the full 29¢ again and would not take just the 9¢ against the already cancelled 20¢ stamps that I would write a personal letter to Summerfield about it. So they took the 9¢. A little thing but it made me mad a h-ll. So maybe someday the folder will get there.

I forgot to give you a message from the FIPEX. I saw Gene Costales, had a chat with him and he asked to be sure to remember him to you. Late but better than to have forgotten completely.

Of course after I got home and had time to go over the Stark purchases I found one or two things to ask questions about. Later a couple of covers I will send up to have you explain them to me. Stark had all this written out as you know but I did not have time to copy or absorb. But here is an item that you have signed as I asked you to do along with the other covers. I want this cover of course if it is good. I know your antipathy for grilles and don't blame you. But this is as nice a copy as I ever saw if O.K. I only question it because you have always said to send it to Les or somebody that studies these. As you may or may not know this stamp has been placed on covers galore using the proofs or essays or whatever they are. I think at least a dozen came into Acton's some few years ago at 25¢ each. What got me suspicious of this one is that devoid of a state I can find no town "Remson" in any Oneida County. In fact the only Remson I find is in Iowa, according to the R-Mc Atlas. Now, please don't just send me back the refund on this lot 934 @ \$50.00. It is a good buy if good and as nice a copy as I ever saw. If you get Les to pass it I think it will be best. I know you do not want a P.F. on it nor to send it to them. In this case they no doubt send it to Les/ but I can send it to the P.F. in this latter case. But I think for the protection of your signing it and for mine we should ask Les to see it. I will of course pay the expenses. What do you think?

Sincerely,



Enclosed

Lot 934 Cover SUS #79 \$50.00

P.S. Is it possible to buy hinges in those green tin boxes put out by Stanley Gibbons any more?? See sample here



June 7, 1956.

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

Dear Mr. Hart:

Further re - the 3¢ cover showing a use in May 1867. I can hardly imagine a 3¢ grill being used as early as May 1867. Surely something must be wrong but if not then this is indeed a most unusual cover. I am sending it to Lester Brookman for his opinion on the grill that is on the stamp. I never claimed to be much of an authority on grills.

Sincerely yours,

# L. G. BROOKMAN

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

103 LOEB ARCADE  
MINNEAPOLIS 2, MINNESOTA

R.D.P.  
A.S.D.A.  
M.C.C.

June 15, 1956

Dear Stan:

It is obvious that it is impossible to go further with our examination of the Bennington covers without actually having a chance to examine the stamps off the covers.

If you can get the owners permission to take the stamps off the covers I would be very glad to look at them again.

It is my guess that these grills will prove to be genuine but I hope I am wrong because that would at once clear up this little mystery. Of one thing I think you can be certain--no genuine grills were used at the dates indicated.

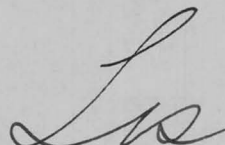
Dates on covers are often misleading. As I recall, Phil Ward had a cover on which the date was 1866 and which bore a 10¢ "Z" Grill (according to him). I did see the cover but not the above stamp which had been removed and sold by Phil. I have no reason to doubt his classification of the stamp but the cover certainly didn't originate in 1866 although both the stamp and the cover could well have been genuine. It is possible that my above mentioned date may not be accurate, as I'm just going by memory, but the circumstances are correct. I don't think Phil tried to claim that the cover was an early use--just a mistaken date.

I don't have the Mozian catalog so I have no idea how the covers were described.

Hope you and Henry have had a good time. It has been terribly hot here--up to 100 officially--but we had a good rain yesterday and they predict a wonderful 80 above for today and tomorrow.

Sincere regards,

P.S. Had a letter from Krug--told him to send me some pralines as a fee this time but told him I would charge him in dollars after this.



June 18, 1956.

Mr. L. G. Brookman,  
103 Loeb Arcade,  
Minneapolis 3, Minn.

Dear Les:

I am sure Hart will give me permission to remove the "grill" stamps from the covers and when I receive same, I will do so and send them up to you. You are quite right about errors in cover dates as I have had some interesting cases, but in this case I would be willing to bet that the cover dates are okay and the grills are faked. This on the assumption that no genuine small grills were used in 1867.

Re - Krug. Be sure and charge him your regular fees - same as you would charge a total stranger. He can afford to pay and should. Bear in mind that when you sign a stamp or cover it sure adds more value to the item than your fee. And never forget the little girl who gave away a million dollars worth before she realized she could sell it.

Yes, we had a fine visit with Horace and Henry and regretted that you were not able to accompany them.

Mildred joins me in best wishes to Helen and you.

Cordially yours,



**EZRA D. COLE**

*Rare Postage Stamps*

NYACK . NEW YORK

---

*Commissions . Appraisals*

---

TELEPHONE NYACK 7-0964

June 15th, 1956

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

Dear Stan:

Yours of June 13th.

Creighton Hart spotted those covers in  
the Mozian sale and I bought them for him for a  
few dollars a piece.

To be perfectly frank with you I did  
not think anything about them one way or the other.

Lot 76 cost \$8.50  
Lot 81 cost 1.75

I doubt if there is anything that any one  
can buy in that Stolw sale. Lord knows what Jack Dick  
is up to, but if he can do business with Stolow, he  
is better than any one else.

Sincerely,



Ezra D. Cole.

EDC:mk1



# Reserve Plan Inc

TRADE MARK REG.

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

July 2, 1956

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

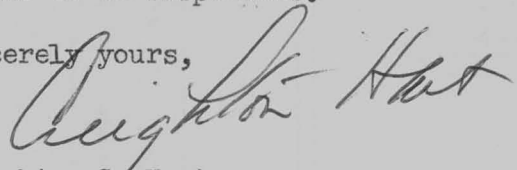
Re - "E" grills. I believe that the May 22, 1867 date on the "E" grill cover is genuine. Lester Brookman, page 273, volume 1 in his book "U. S. 19 Century", gives in detail the postal markings and rate used on a cover dated January 25, 1867 from Alton, Illinois to Germany. In addition, he gives the postmark at New York as well as arrival at Hamburg plus other data.

With your knowledge and information about rates and postal markings I believe that you can determine whether this cover was mailed January 25, 1867 or 1868. Brookman says that he believes the 1867 date on this cover is also incorrect. If you can prove 1867 date is correct, then I believe it will substantiate this early date of use of the grill stamps. Also it would tend to prove that the "F" grill was in use before the "E" grill or possibly at the same time ~~was in use before the "E" grill or possibly at the same time~~ and if this is the case, then the "F" grill was not an alteration of the "E" grill as Elliott Perry infers in the next chapter.

I suspect that there are many more covers with the 1867 year date around and I shall look for them in New York this fall when I will be spending more time there.

Re - Middletown, Conn. cover. I agree with you that the difference in the ink marks on this cover are very suspicious. Of course the stamp used to impress the PAID was a different stamp than the one used for the town mark, and I am not well enough acquainted with inks to know whether or not the same ink used with different stamps might not appear different. Until I know more about it, different shadings caused by a stamp will certainly cause me to be suspicious.

Sincerely yours,



Creighton C. Hart

CCH:dr

P.S. It would be an unfortunate coincidence if the Hamburg line left N.Y. on the same dates in January '67 as in January '68.

July 15, 1956.

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

Dear Mr. Hart:

We have had one out-of-town visitor after another ever since late in June and as a result I am behind in a lot of my correspondence.

Regarding yours of the 2nd and the "E" grill covers of Bennington, Vt. I must confess that I am no student of grills, and for that reason I submitted the covers to Brookman and Perry. As I wrote you yesterday, both agreed the stamps are genuine and both agreed that the uses could not have been in 1867. Until we can find some evidence that would tend to question their opinions I think we will have to accept as true their joint opinion that the year of use was 1868 rather than 1867, strange as that seems. Why that office used a "67" year slug in May, June and August of 1868 seems very strange but evidently it was done. Strange that no one called attention to such an error.

Yours of the 5th also received with copy of your letter to Bernard Harmer which I have carefully noted. Considering the way the Estate has acted in the matter of a refund I doubt if they will do anything further. I am enclosing a copy of a letter that I have today written Bernard. I would like to narrow this case down to one point -

HONORABLE or DISHONORABLE

With my kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

July 13, 1956.

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

Dear Mr. Hart:

I am returning herewith the three (3) Bennington, Vt. covers. I did not replace the stamps on the two covers as I thought you would like to see what the grills look like from the back. I suggest that you merely hinge the stamps to the covers so that anyone who cares to, can examine the backs of the stamps.

I submitted these to both Brookman and Perry and it was the opinion of both unbeknown to the other that the grills on the stamps are genuine but that the year use could not have been 1867 but in all probability 1868.

I paid Perry a fee of \$5.00 each for his examination, for which you can reimburse me as per enclosed memo. Inasmuch as I had a special interest in this case I am not making any charge for my work.

With regards -

Cordially yours,



July 14, 1956.

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

Elliott:

This is in reply to yours of July 2nd returning the three Bennington, Vt. covers. Thanks very much.

I am happy to state that I know of no reason whatsoever that your conclusions regarding the two grill covers is not absolutely correct and I am conveying same to my friend whom I am sure will accept same without question. I am enclosing my check for \$10.00 and will pass the fee along to him. I apologize for this tardy acknowledgement.

Prepaid Way into Cleveland. I enclose a small photo of this cover. I have requested the owner to return the cover to me so that I can make a natural size photo. If he complys I will send you a print.

I also enclose for your files a print of a cover that belongs to Ollie Wolcott. This was from General Winfield Scott to General Halleck. I never saw that New York marking before.

Yours etc.,



July 2, 1956



Stan:

A The three Bennington covers which came from you today are enclosed. I see no reason to doubt the authenticity of the E grills. My conclusion is that if the '67 dates are correct nothing else agrees, while if the '67 dates are wrong, everything else agrees. Hence it is my opinion that the two grill covers, and a third which you mention, ~~was~~ ~~was~~ went thru the mails in 1868 and not in 1867. Of course thus sounds incredible, but I think any other solution is even less credible.

Grills are deadly and I'd say philately would have been better off if none of them had ever been used for issued stamps. But the story of what Steel was trying to do and the various steps taken to attain the purpose ~~are~~ are interesting. I never studied them because they fascinated me. I knew that some of Luff's statements were mechanical impossibilities, and thought somebody should carry on where Stevenson left off. It is of interest to note that after being wrong for about forty years since Stevenson's study was published, the Scott catalog has finally accepted most of Stevenson's ideas.

Obviously, Luff could not sell Worthington a genuine B grill and retain in his own collection a stamp with an entirely different grill which for years and years was claimed to be the only genuine B grill. One or the other had to be wrong. The Worthington copy fits into the sequence perfectly. The Luff copy won't fit at all.

B The E size, paper and color of the 3c stamp all fit into the sequence in 1868, but in my opinion it is impossible to fit them into any logical sequence in 1867. A result cannot precede a cause - it must follow the cause. The E, grills were not a cause, they were a result of a cause, i.e., the experiments Steel made in 1867.

The wrong dates merely prove that the Bennington postmaster was lazy, careless or indifferent in a most unusual degree. Nobody would expect such a thing to happen, but it could and did.

If the owner wants to pay a fee for an opinion that doesn't happen to agree with yours, whatever the service may be worth to him will be O.K. with me.

The matter of the WAY fee was tied in with the fact(?) that from early in 1861 a WAY letter with the fee prepaid by stamp did not have to be marked WAY, thus making it difficult or impossible to be certain whether the extra 1¢ stamp prepaid a WAY fee or carrier collection, if the letter was postmarked in a city where carrier service was in operation.

I shall be pleased to have the better print of the Cleveland cover for use in the Cleveland Chapter.

As ever,

Curtis Perry

Excerpts from a letter from Elliott Perry dated July 2nd, 1956 to Stanley B. Ashbrook regarding two covers from Bennington, Vt. with "E" grill stamps, postmarked "May 22 '67" and "Aug 17 '67."

"The three Bennington covers which came from you today are enclosed. I see no reason to doubt the authenticity of the E grills. My conclusion is that if the '67 dates are correct nothing else agrees, while if the '67 dates are wrong, everything else agrees. Hence it is my opinion that the two grill covers, and a third which you mention, went thru the mails in 1868 and not in 1867. Of course this sounds incredible, but I think any other solution is even less credible.

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The wrong dates merely prove that the Bennington postmaster was lazy, careless or indifferent in a most unusual degree. Nobody would expect such a thing to happen, but it could and did."

July 14, 1956.

Mr. C. C. Hart,  
Suite 1020, 922 Walnut St.,  
Kansas City 5, Mo.

Dear Mr. Hart:

I am enclosing a memo herewith with  
excerpts from the letter by Elliott Perry re-  
garding the Bennington, Vt. covers.

Sincerely yours,



EMMERSON C. KRUG

3008 13TH AVENUE SOUTH  
BIRMINGHAM 5, ALABAMA

June 13, 1956.

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

Dear Stan,

I have yours of yesterday, the registered letter with the 3¢ grilled cover. I have written Les as per the enclosed which you may read and return. The enclosed check is for the registering to him and back and the return of my covers which you have up there when you do so.

I hesitated to write you knowing you are entertaining today, but then if I wait until you have no company at all, I would be way into the summer. I am sure you enjoyed the Popes. He sure was not very "give-outy" about what he had with me. I don't know why since I gave him plenty of leads. I, for one, like to show off what I own and plenty of my friends here see everything I buy. But they are a nice couple and I hope and know he has some nice covers.

I have read and re-read your letter to Sid Barrett. I hope he takes your advice about several points. I particularly think that the single use on cover of the 12¢ 1851, 57, or even 61 is scarce if not even rare. I have for several years kept my eyes open for any of these on small covers and have found only a handful to even bid on. In the Caspary sale in January there were only two 12¢ 1851s, lot 558 went to Lehman for \$160.00 and lot 559 to Cole for \$230.00. BOTH WERE LEGAL SIZED covers. No others were in the collection as singles on cover. No 12¢ 1857 singles on cover were offered. You may have noted that I grabbed these from the Stark album my first go round.

When I think of the beautiful Indian Reds that I sold in 1949 it makes me feel like Harold said he did at FIPEX, going around and seeing his old covers, Ex-Brooks, here and there. But that's water over the dam.

As for the pinks, we have that subject up at the very moment and I have no comment only that I hope it is all ironed out as you have indicated. I return the letter to S.B.

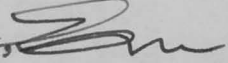
I had a letter from Ez today. I had thought he might have made a killing for his own stock as he does sometimes with the pinks in the Fox sale last week, there being 22 lots from Mr. Yaekel. I had written him to send them down plus his profit for me to see. The letter today states "I did not buy any of the lots from 237-259 for myself. I did buy several for Ted Gore and one for another man but anything any good I bought for somebody. I think I bought ten or twelve of these lots." Etc. I quote this thinking that you may want to borrow from Ted for your article.

But Ez sent these two little covers to sell me with the usual healthy price ticket. One of them rather intrigues me, the \$25 one. What do you make of this? And I ask only because it is of the very few days in question about the PINKS. I make it out that it originated in TENBY? England on July 12, 1861, left London July 13, 1861, New York Jul 29, 1861, Cambridge, Mass. July 29, 1861. But where did it get the 3¢ 1861 forwarding stamp?

I include the other cover, which he says was lot 236 in Fox sale, simply because they were together. I think the price too high on it. It was sold as a #65 rose of course. The date August 1862.

ENCLOSED

2 COVERS- \$25-\$40

Sincerely, 



June 15, 1956.

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

Dear Em:

The following is very confidential. Horace Poole and Henry Hill arrived yesterday afternoon, and were scheduled to leave from the Motel at 5 A.M. today. I made a minute examination of his Klep cover and it is as good as gold. All evidence proves this fact. I am so darn glad and so was he. It would have been a tragedy otherwise.

Re - the two Cole covers which I return herewith. First the 3¢ '61 from England, Ezra sent this to me week before last and stated he didn't understand it. Here is the explanation - I do not think that the manuscript date of Aug. 14th has anything to do with the actual dates of transmission. It was mailed at origin on July 12, 1861, thru London on July 13th (see back) - reached New York on July 29 (Foreign Division) and was sent up to Cambridge, Mass., and from there it was forwarded with a 3¢ 1861 stamp on Aug. 28 or perhaps the 25th with an early rose. This stamp is not a PINK. (See EK21). To Zurich from Boston Date? - down to New York - from there on Aug. 9, 1862 by Hamburg Pkt - to Zurich - Stamps of 1861 - 1¢, V. pair 3¢ and 12¢ - total 19¢. The rate Via Hamburg Packet was 19¢ per  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. (See EK28 - 566).

That was a nice letter that you wrote Les. I return the copy.

I believe that I wrote you that we had an awful nice visit with the Popes. He is a rather quiet chap and does not brag about what he has.

I believe this brings us up to date.

Many thanks Em for the check.

Regards -

Yours etc.,

P.S.--Since writing the above the P.O. book arrived - Thanks.

Henry W. Hill  
Janney, Semple, Hill and Co  
Box 780  
Minneapolis, I, Minn



Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook

**REGISTERED**

33 No. Ft. Thomas Ave

P.O.Box 31

Ft. Thomas

Ky

11902

**RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**



KAROLYN KLASP—4 5/8 x 6 1/4  
THE AMERICAN ENVELOPE CO.  
WEST CARROLLTON, OHIO

UNITED  
STATES  
POSTAGE



6 CENTS 6



UVRS

N.O.  
Sep  
30



Brick  
Red

By The  
HAVRE  
LINE



Red



Blue

Blue



Red

Blue F.L. By H.H.H.

Saturday  
APR 30

Photo

"E"

A 2 3 3

New York

Apr 30 1859

Was Saturday



PHOTO "A"





Red Brown

N E N

Black



Black

Monsieur A. Garnier

Black

Black

N.W.  
Nothing On Back

(13)

Nantes.

This  
was  
Probably  
1859

Postmarked  
Tues And  
Sent To  
Boston For  
Wednesday Sailing

A 665  
Waterhouse  
~~Date~~  
~~June 1955~~

In 1858  
Apr 19 was  
Monday

In 1859  
Apr 19 was  
Tues.

This BRICK RED Cover Was Sent To S.B.A. By Henry Hill - Minneapolis  
March 23 1953 - Sent To Him By A Dealer In Paris @ \$225<sup>00</sup>.  
He Stated He Would Buy It. This Cover Was Sent To Me By  
S.E. Schacht of Huntington Ind on Mar 7 1940 To Record.  
A Photo Is In Files Under Rates To France In APR 1859 - THIS  
Cover Went By The Amer PKT HAVRE Line Sailing On Saturday  
APR 30 1859. - A233-

10. Mar 23 1859 In BLACK. N.Y. '3' In  
 ED - [RA] In Red - French In  
 Purple. The 3 In N.Y. Indicates  
 This Went Via American PKT  
 DIRECT To France - Hence U.S.  
 20. CREDITS France 34 -  
 French 15 15 AVRIL 59  
 HAVRE - on Back - Four French  
 HAVRE-PARIS - 15 Apr 59 = Paris  
 16 Apr 59 = Paris & Borde 16 Apr 59  
 - Nantes Receiving Not Legible -  
 Submitted By Paul Dorn - Oct 3 1936  
 Price \$75.00 - BRICK REDS -



*Mrs. A. J. Dorn*  
*Paris*  
*France*





Photo "G"

New York

Apr ~~March~~ 2 1859

Was

Saturday

*to first steamer*

Center  
Line  
Red Brown

Letter  
Oct 21  
1857



Black

Req

*Monsieur A. Garnier*



N.w  
(5)

Blue



Red

*Santes.*

*France*

11-10

Photo "B"

A 666

By N.W. Waterhouse

~~Date~~

~~June~~

~~1955~~

Oct 31 1857 Was  
Saturday

BROWN - Type I - Plate One - Collection Henry W. Hill  
A 262



Photone

78

Monsieur P<sup>re</sup> Dubreuil  
Castillon



Grande

France



*San don ogne*

A 262

June 14 1860 was

Thursday

per Steamer.

40 Shyph

Monsieur E. de ~~Paris~~ ~~London~~ ~~Paris~~ ~~London~~  
chez Monsieur E. D. Rogers

2 rue de Tournon

3 Paris



142



Photo F

A 760  
Jamet Sale

AUG 17 1861  
was  
Saturday



*James (Jr)*

(7)

*William S*



Photo D

A682

By  
dame

Dec 12 1857  
was

Saturday

**HARRY B. KEFFER**

SUCCESSOR TO

**THE COLLECTOR'S SHOP**

**17 BROADWAY**

**NEW HAVEN 11, CONNECTICUT**

**FINE POSTAGE STAMPS**

**AUCTIONEER**

---

**AMERICAN STAMP DEALERS ASSOCIATION**

**AMERICAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY**

**COLLECTORS CLUB OF NEW YORK**



July 1, 1956.

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

Dear Henry:

Yours of the 21st received with return of the various photo prints that I sent you.

Re - the New York forwarding handstamp on the back of your Klep cover. I note your explanation but I still think there must be a better one. Rather than an agent of the New York firm in New Orleans, why not a branch of that firm - same name - etc. If only the whole letter was intact. I mentioned that the handwriting of the addressor was well known on Garnier covers - We should be able to find a cover that would give us the name of the New Orleans firm. As the problem now stands - Here is a letter from New Orleans put into the U.S. Mail at that office. It would be foolish to suppose the New York P.O. (U.S. Mail) would take this letter - bound for France - around to some New York business firm and have them handstamp it. The problem intrigues me.

Re - yours of the 28th. I note that on all your Havre covers you do not have one with the round type. Maybe some subscriber to my Service will show up with an example.

Re - the Filstrup block. Looks as though someone is stuck with this. Do you suppose it is Molesworth or Dic?

I note you are very busy - There is no hurry to reply to any of my letters.

The color slides have just arrived. I will pick out a set and send them to you and if you wish any extras be sure and advise.

With best wishes,-

Cordially yours,

June 23, 1956

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Answering yours of the 19th re the Havre receiving marks I think you may find it rather difficult to get the exact information you want. Direct American Service was not too heavy at about the time the Treaty started and such covers seem, to me at least, on the scarce side.

They seem to be more plentiful before 1857 and those I have from the U. S. to France all show the small round "Outre Mer-Havre" receiving mark.

When you get to the first 3 months in 1857 I mentioned several times before that I have never seen a properly rated cover direct to Havre by Am. Pkt. during this short period. That is why I am so interested in the Karl Jaeger "C" photo. It is from this period and even if it is from France via England by Am. Pkt. it is the combination of 5 dec. paid & 21¢ due which makes it a good item.

Answering your question 1): No, I have no cover showing the round Havre mark you described.

Question 2): The "A" could mean American Service and the "D" Direct Service (refer to Hill's article in Stamps Oct. 30, 1937-p.169) Note, however, that letters were also used as "Code" markings (bottom position) on the via England and Calais mail. There seems to be quite a good variety of these but I have never made an extensive study of them.

I have the following cover: From the U. S. direct by Steamer Vanderbilt, Oct. 1859, collect, 12 debit and showing an Octagon Havre receiving mark with the "D", side position. I believe the Vanderbilt at this time was under limited contract with the U.S. and also went to Bremen. I am inclined to agree with Hill that the "D" stood for Direct if in the Havre mark, right side position. It is very possible that a round mark may have been used in 1857 by Havre though I cannot corroborate such use.

As I said before, direct cover material is not too plentiful, in fact, I think a ratio of 50 to 1 for covers through England against direct Havre Service is not too high a guess and during certain short periods it was even higher.

I will be pleased to hear more from you on the above.

With best wishes,

Cordially yours

*Eugene Jaeger*



# JANNEY, SEMPLE, HILL & CO.

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

## DIRECTORS:

B. J. CASE - C. M. CASE, JR.  
A. E. COX - R. M. FLEMING  
L. M. HATFIELD - H. P. HILL  
H. W. HILL - S. J. MIROCHA  
J. L. NORBECK - T. S. SNYDER  
L. W. WELD

## HONORARY DIRECTORS:

O. H. ENGLUND - E. G. LANDE



6-28-56

Stanley B. Ashbrook  
P.O.Box 31  
33 No. Ft. Thomas Ave  
Ft. Thomas, Ky

Dear Stan;

The past few days have been hectic for John Norbeck and myself. To top is all off, I have got to give some time to Mrs. Hill's social engagements. Hence I have not written before.

I found at the stationary store the binders for the Service enough for Lester and myself.

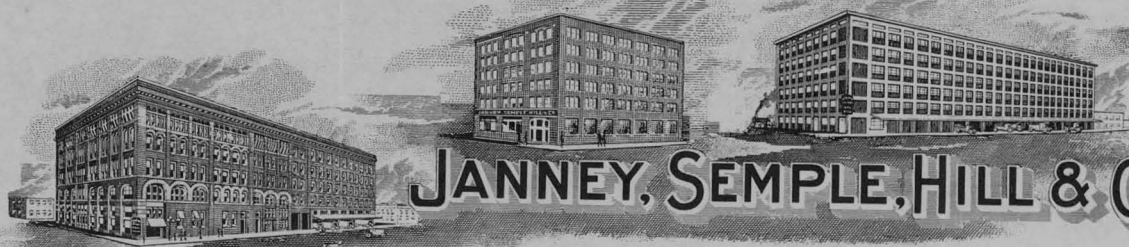
Both Les and I were both thrilled at the Photos and I think they are as fine as ever I have seen. I went thru all of the covers and I did not have a "La Havre" in the round marking. Les thought from the Richmond lot he had one but did not. Will keep my eyes open to find it. I got the Stolow Catalog and after checking the Klepp Sale and noting my remarks about the covers decided not to place any bids.

Had a letter from Jack Molesworth offering me the Filstrup Block of 8 for the small price of I850.00. He forgot he had written me before Jack Dick bought it. Jack had offered it to me last Feb phoning me at Chicago for I750.00 and guaranteed to take it off my hands in June at 2,000.00. I turned it down.

No news up here, just hope the work lets up so I can work on my collection.

*Henry*





# JANNEY, SEMPLE, HILL & Co.

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

## DIRECTORS:

B. J. CASE - C. M. CASE, JR.  
A. E. COX - R. M. FLEMING  
L. M. HATFIELD - H. P. HILL  
H. W. HILL - S. J. MIROCHA  
J. L. NORBECK - T. S. SNYDER  
L. W. WELD

## HONORARY DIRECTORS:

O. H. ENGLUND - E. G. LANDE



TRADE MARK

6-2I-56

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

Dear Stan: Horace and I arrived at Dubuque, Iowa and I went on to Cedar Rapids, quite a ride and picked up by the cops at Cascade, but I knew some of his friends and talked him out of a ticket, promising to be good. Now I shall try to answer all of the questions in your letters.

1. I like the way you describe the covers in the form of a certificate better than your signature as in the past.

2. Re- cover 5¢ 1856 you failed to note and I think it is important that the stamps come from L 4I, 5I, 6I.

3. With the letter originating from New Orleans, why was the forwarding handstamp of a New York firm there? We believe that the agent of the firm either had an office in New Orleans, allowed his representative to use the hand stamp or on a trip there he carried his own and affixed it himself.

4. On all of my Garnier covers there a handstamp but all are of a different firm and are on front.

5. I have only one Garnier cover which has a Havre marking in an octagon shape, all of the other covers have the usual round Et. Unis Serv. in a small circle except one in the center of which is the date in a small octagon shape.

I appreciate what you have done for me. I intend to write my friend Baille in Paris who made the find to learn from him the kind of business he was in.

All of the photo's you sent to me are enclosed which I hope will arrive in good order. I am sorry I was unable to stay longer but the press of the business made it necessary to get back. Perhaps next time I won't be so rushed.

My best to Mildred and likewise to you.

*Henry*



40  
23

June 17, 1956.

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

Dear Henry:

Herewith I am returning the two covers that you left with me last week, viz: (1) the 5¢ 1856 cover - V.S. of 3, from New Orleans Via New York and Havre, France to Nantes, France - this from the Klep Sale last March, Lot 527, and (2) Cover to Switzerland - from Platteville, Wis., viz New York and Prussian Closed Mail to Switzerland in 1859 - this also from the Klep Sale last March, Lot 676.

I made photographs of each and every feature of these two covers, both in color and black and white, and slides and prints will be sent to you as soon as processed. Accompanying each cover is a certificate of authentication. I did not make any notations on the covers. I trust that both of my certificates are satisfactory, but if not, I will be pleased to give more detailed explanations. Here are some further remarks:

The 5¢ 1856 cover. Routing. You will note that the addressor in New Orleans routed this out of New York by the mail steamship "America." This was a British Packet of the Cunard Line and sailings of these British subsidized mail ships were every other Wednesday from New York and Boston. You will note that this letter was mailed from New Orleans on June 15th which was Monday. I judge the writer was aware that it would be impossible for his letter to get to New York or Boston the following Wednesday, the 17th, so evidently the British "S.S. America" was scheduled to sail on Wednesday, the 24th. However, the letter reached New York in time to be forwarded by an "Amer. Pkt." sailing direct to France two days earlier on Monday the 22nd, thus the New York postmark of June 22nd with a large "3" at top, which was the U. S. credit of 3¢ to the French P.O.D. According to the terms of the U.S.-French treaty, credits were to be in red and debts (account of unpaid mail) were to be applied in black. At the time this letter was transmitted the treaty had been in force less than three months, hence in handling large batches of mail I suppose it was natural that a slight error such as this - black instead of red, was bound to occur. The cover itself shows that the French P.O. recognized that the letter was fully PAID and that the "3" was a credit and not a debit. Had the French misunderstood this credit - they would have rated the letter as unpaid with a French due marking in decimes. On the face of this cover is the small round French "receiving" marking of "Havre" in red. This proves that the letter was sent direct to Havre from New York. It reads, "ETATS - UNIS-PAQ-AM-A-6-JUIL-57-Havre." To be explicit this meant, "From the United States by American Packet (PAQ.AM.) - received at Havre - July 6, 1857." You will note that after "AM" there is an "A." I am not certain what this indicated but my guess is that it indicated the "Line," which brought the letter.

It may interest you to know that this particular type of HAVRE receiving marking seems to be most unusual. I thought I had a tracing of this round marking in

#2. Mr. Henry W. Mill - June 17, 1956.

my files but was surprised to find that while I had tracings of the octagon type with similar wording I did not have any record of this round type. I enclose small photo showing the octagon type with HAVRE at bottom instead of LE HAVRE (See Photo "A").

I am enclosing herewith a photograph of a Waterhouse cover - See Photo marked "B." I thought this was in the sale but evidently it was not. This was a use in October 1857 and it shows the octagon "Havre" marking. This is a Garnier cover and in the same class as yours. This a 15¢ rate with V.S. of 3 - 5¢ 1857 Type I Red Brown. This type of New York postmark was the regular type used on mail sent by "Amer. Pkt." direct to France. Why the circular type of HAVRE marking was discontinued and the octagon type adopted as early as November 1857 I do not know.

I also enclose Photo "C" which is one of your covers. Here is the same type of cover as Photo "B" - By direct steamship - Amer. Pkt. - to Havre. This has the octagon HAVRE marking.

Note Photo "D" - This is a triple 3 x 15¢ direct to Havre in December 1857 with the Octagon Havre.

Note Photo "E." Here is a photo of another cover by the Havre Line direct with the Octagon Havre and N.Y. credit of "3" (regular type).

Photo "F" is that wonderful Jamet cover. It was paidas 2 x 15¢ but it was not over ½ oz., so New York rated it as a single direct to France with a credit of 3¢. Note the octagon Havre. This reads, "ET-UNIS-SERV-AM-D-" the same of the other examples of the octagon type.

Photo "G" - shows another Garnier cover to Nantes in March of 1859.

Please return these photos to me as they are from my files but if you wish duplicates of anyone I will make prints for you.

You will note that I put the sailing days on the back of each, and that American packets as a rule sailed on Saturdays.

\*\*\*\*\*

Re - your cover to Switzerland. I doubt if much more could be stated than I included in my memo attached to the cover, except that in one of my early issues of my Service I gave quite a complete write-up of how mail was transmitted by the Prussian Closed Mail.

It certainly was nice having Horace and you down even if the time was much too short. We trust that you had a pleasant return trip.

Mildred joins me in best wishes -

Cordially yours,



June 17, 1956.

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

Dear Henry:

Strictly confidential. I am enclosing herewith a photograph of a Garnier cover that was in the Waterhouse collection. You will note that this has the New York debit marking in black, and that the letter went by a Br. Packet to England, thence to France. Why did New York debit the French P.O. with 3¢? A single rate letter prepaid and by British Packet from the U.S. - not over  $\frac{1}{4}$  oz. - would rate a credit in red of 12¢. For example, everything is right about this Waterhouse cover except the strip of stamps and the New Orleans postmarks. In other words, without the two it would be an ordinary single rate stampless sent unpaid, but with the stamps it does not make sense. For example, if 15¢ had been paid at New Orleans the debit 3 would not make sense - Further, the French rated it as a single with 8 decimes due, which was the equivalent of 15¢. If 15¢ was paid at New Orleans why did the French rate it with 15¢ due (8 decimes)?

If this strip was actually put on at New Orleans and canceled there at the time of mailing, then the only explanation is that New York made an error and rated the letter as a single but with no payment whatsoever.

I feared at first that your Klep cover was in this class and you can see why I felt that way.

Please return this print but if for any reason you would like to have a duplicate I will be glad to make one for you.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

Re - cover - 5¢ 1857 - Type I - Red Brown, Block of six (6)  
2V x 3H, plus a single on buff envelope from Platteville, Wis.,  
Jan. 2, 1859 to Switzerland.

This was a single rate of not over one-half ounce Via Prussian  
Closed Mail, the rate being 35¢, of which the U. S. share was  
23¢ and that of the Prussian P.O.D. 12¢.

This letter was sent to New York - a red postmark on back of  
that office dated Feb. 2 (Wednesday), and thence was despatched  
in a sealed (Closed Mail) by British Packet to England, thence  
to Ostend, Belgium, thence to Prussia, where the bag was opened  
and this letter sent on to Switzerland.

This is an exceedingly rare cover and it is genuine in every  
respect.

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STANLEY B. ASHBROOK

June 16, 1956



Re - cover - 5¢ 1856 - V.S. of three, with center line to left on blue folded letter, (cut) from New Orleans, June 15, 1857, (Monday) Via New York, June 22, 1857 (Monday) to Nantes, France.

This letter was a single rate of not over one-quarter ounce, sent prepaid, by American Packet direct to Havre, France. This was a rate of 15¢, the U.S. share being 12¢ and the French share, 3¢ (internal). The New York marking (Foreign) has a "3" at the top - thus the U. S. credit of 3¢ to the French P.O. Dept. The U.S.-French postal treaty (effective April 1, 1857) stipulated that "credits" be stamped in red and debits in black, but in this case, the New York Foreign Division thru an oversight stamped the "3" credit in black. The French Receiving marking reads, "ETATS-UNIS-PAQ-AM-A-6-JUIL-57-LE HAVRE."

This cover is genuine in every respect.

June 18, 1956.

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

Dear Henry:

I am sending the two covers to you by registered mail this morning.

There is one point I neglected to mention in my letter re - the 5¢ 1856 cover. On the back is a forwarding handstamp of a New York firm, and what bothers me is how this got there. This letter originated in New Orleans and was mailed there. How come it got into the hands of a firm in New York? There is nothing about the address to indicate any contact with a New York firm after reaching there. I cannot explain this feature and wonder if you can offer any suggestion.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

P.S.--You have other Garnier covers - Do any of them have such a firm on the back?

June 17, 1956.

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

Dear Henry:

Herewith I am returning the two covers that you left with me last week, viz: (1) the 5¢ 1856 cover - V.S. of 3, from New Orleans Via New York and Havre, France to Nantes, France - this from the Klep Sale last March, Lot 527, and (2) Cover to Switzerland - from Platteville, Wis., viz New York and Prussian Closed Mail to Switzerland in 1859 - this also from the Klep Sale last March, Lot 676.

I made photographs of each and every feature of these two covers, both in color and black and white, and slides and prints will be sent to you as soon as processed. Accompanying each cover is a certificate of authentication. I did not make any notations on the covers. I trust that both of my certificates are satisfactory, but if not, I will be pleased to give more detailed explanations. Here are some further remarks:

The 5¢ 1856 cover. Routing. You will note that the addressor in New Orleans routed this out of New York by the mail steamship "America." This was a British Packet of the Cunard Line and sailings of these British subsidized mail ships were every other Wednesday from New York and Boston. You will note that this letter was mailed from New Orleans on June 15th which was Monday. I judge the writer was aware that it would be impossible for his letter to get to New York or Boston the following Wednesday, the 17th, so evidently the British "S.S. America" was scheduled to sail on Wednesday, the 24th. However, the letter reached New York in time to be forwarded by an "Amer. Pkt." sailing direct to France two days earlier on Monday the 22nd, thus the New York postmark of June 22nd with a large "3" at top, which was the U. S. credit of 3¢ to the French P.O.D. According to the terms of the U.S.-French treaty, credits were to be in red and debits (account of unpaid mail) were to be applied in black. At the time this letter was transmitted the treaty had been in force less than three months, hence in handling large batches of mail I suppose it was natural that a slight error such as this - black instead of red, was bound to occur. The cover itself shows that the French P.O. recognized that the letter was fully PAID and that the "3" was a credit and not a debit. Had the French misunderstood this credit - they would have rated the letter as unpaid with a French due marking in decimes. On the face of this cover is the small round French "receiving" marking of "Havre" in red. This proves that the letter was sent direct to Havre from New York. It reads, "ETATS - UNIS-PAQ-AM-A-6-JULI-57-Havre." To be explicit this meant, "From the United States by American Packet (PAQ.AM.) - received at Havre - July 6, 1857." You will note that after "AM" there is an "A." I am not certain what this indicated but my guess is that it indicated the "Line," which brought the letter.

It may interest you to know that this particular type of HAVRE receiving marking seems to be most unusual. I thought I had a tracing of this round marking in



#2. Mr. Henry W. Hill - June 17, 1956.

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Note Photo "D" - This is a triple 3 x 15¢ direct to Havre in December 1857 with the Octagon Havre.

Note Photo "E." Here is a photo of another cover by the Havre Line direct with the Octagon Havre and N.Y. credit of "3" (regular type).

Photo "F" is that wonderful Jamet cover. It was paidas 2 x 15¢ but it was not over ½ oz., so New York rated it as a single direct to France with a credit of 3¢. Note the octagon Havre. This reads, "ET-UNIS-SERV-AM-D-" the same of the other examples of the octagon type.

Photo "G" - shows another Garnier cover to Nantes in March of 1859.

Please return these photos to me as they are from my files but if you wish duplicates of anyone I will make prints for you.

You will note that I put the sailing days on the back of each, and that American packets as a rule sailed on Saturdays.

\*\*\*\*\*

Re - your cover to Switzerland. I doubt if much more could be stated than I included in my memo attached to the cover, except that in one of my early issues of my Service I gave quite a complete write-up of how mail was transmitted by the Prussian Closed Mail.

It certainly was nice having Horace and you down even if the time was much too short. We trust that you had a pleasant return trip.

Mildred joins me in best wishes -

Cordially yours,



A596

From N.O.

Boston ap 27 60

(FRIDAY)

Have 12 May

From SF

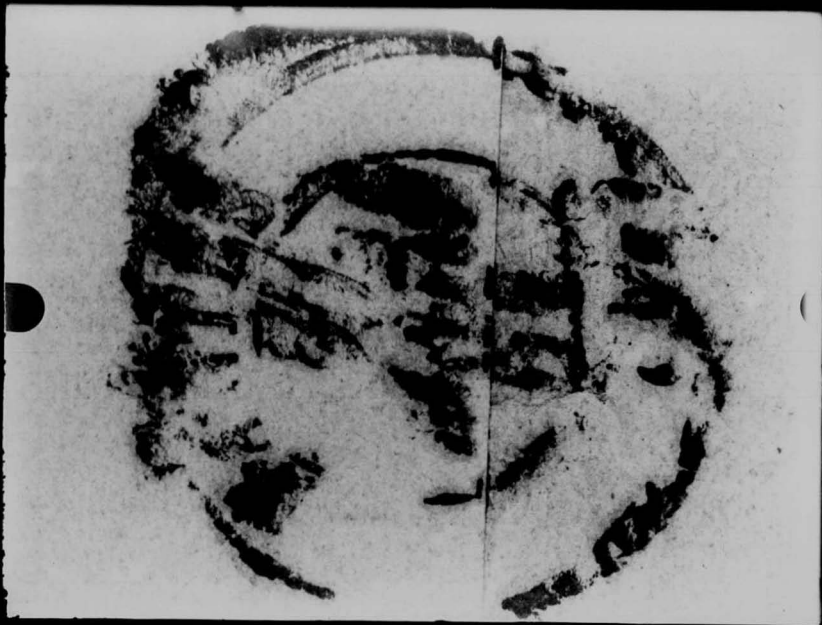
N.Y. Aug 25

1860

A725

Credit 3

(Saturday)



N.Y.

JUN 22 1857

HAVRE

Was Monday

N.O. Jun 15

Was Monday



ETATS-UNIS-PAQ-AM. A.  
LE HAVRE

346-47  
America  
Command Line

---

Havre Line  
Ocean Steam N Co  
Shep's Franklin  
Humboldt

HAVRE  
LINE

---

ARAGO  
And  
Fulton

Built in 1855

---


To Switzerland via Prussian Closed Mail From PLATTEVILLE YVIS JANY  
28 1859 - Klop Sale - Brucissells - March 27 1956 Lot 676 Sold  
@ \$2760<sup>00</sup>. This Cover is Genuine in Every Respect.

June 15 1956

Allen Asher



SHORT PAID RATE TO FRANCO  
NEW ORLEANS, La., May ? 1858. Rated at New York as entirely u  
due in France.

Back of 54 1856 Cover with V. 3. of a, Ex Klep.  
From N.O. Jun 15 1857. New York Jun 15 To  
Nantes France - This Forwarding  in Red.

→ Switzerland Via Prussian Closed Mail

Re-Cover - 54 1856 - Y.S. of three, with center  
line to left on ~~for~~ blue folded letter, (cut)  
From New Orleans June 15 1857, (Monday)  
Via New York June 22 1857 (Monday)  
to NANTES, France. ~~Plus~~

This letter was a simple rate of  
not over one quarter ounce, sent  
prepaid, by American Packet direct  
to Havre, France. This was a rate  
of 15¢, the U.S. share being 12¢ and  
the French share, 3¢ (Internat).  
The New York Marking (Foreign) has  
a "3" at the top - this the  
U.S. Credit of 13¢ to the French  
P.O. Dept. The U.S.-French postal treaty  
(effective April 1, 1857) stipulated that  
"credits" be stamped in red and debts  
in black, but in this case, the New York  
Foreign Division thru an oversight  
stamped the "3" Credit in black.

The French Receipt Marking reads  
"ETATS-UNIS-PAQ-AM-A-~~10~~ 6-Juil-57-  
LE HAVRE". This cover is genuine  
in every respect  
June 15 1956

Stanley B Ashbrook



Re. Cover - 541857-Type I - Red Brown, Block of  
Six (6) 2V x 3H, plus a single on huff  
envelope from PLATTEVILLE Wis,  
Jan 2 1859 To Switzerland.

This was a single rate of  
not over one half ounce rien  
Prussian closed mail, the rate  
being 35¢, of which the U.S.  
share was 12¢ and that of  
the Prussian P.O. 21¢.

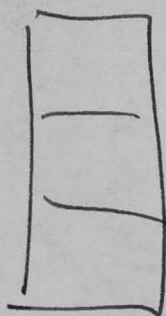
This letter was sent to  
New York, - a red postmark on  
back of that office dated Feb 2  
(Tuesday), and thence was  
dispatched in a sealed (closed mail)  
by British Packet to England, thence  
to Island Belgium, thence to  
~~the~~ Prussia, where the bag was  
opened and this letter sent on  
to Switzerland. This is an exceedingly  
Rare Cover and it is genuine  
in every respect.

June 16 1956

Stanley B. Ashbrook

MR. HOWARD LEHMAN  
100 West 11th Street  
NEW YORK 13, N.Y.

Re Henry Hills



54 1856 Cover

Mr. HOWARD LEHMAN  
110 West 71st Street  
NEW YORK 22, N. Y.



May 15, 1956.

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

Dear Henry:

Re - your 5¢ 1856 Klep cover, I think you should let me examine this for you, because the crooks over on the Continent are extremely clever and can make covers that are almost perfect. No one outside of myself has made as great a study of their methods. Here is an item that cost you almost \$9,000.00 and yet you have not submitted it to me to see if everything is OK. Are you absolutely sure it is perfect in every way? If it is not have you any recourse? Even if something is wrong would the P.F. Expert Committee know? It is a thousand to one they would not.

My only interest is yours - believe me - they are aware on the Continent that you pay high prices, so they are going to try and take you for a ride - sooner or later. Please be careful.

Yours etc.,



May 15, 1956.

Mr. L. G. Brookman,  
103 Loeb Arcade,  
5th & Hennepin,  
Minneapolis 3, Minn.

Dear Les:

This is strictly confidential and not a hint to Henry. I have had a hint that the Klep cover that cost Henry nearly \$9,000.00 is questionable. He has not shown it to me, because he is confident it is genuine, and maybe it is, but if the dope I get in correct, there is one feature that is not regular. It may be an error but raises a question and believe me, there should not be any question about an \$8,800.00 baby. They know Henry pays high prices, so sooner or later they are going to take him for a nice ride.

I don't give a damn what anyone says about Belasse - I think he is a Lousy crook and I would not trust him as far as I could toss a bull. Henry don't know a darn thing about the markings on foreign rate covers (in my opinion) and he trusts his own judgment in buying an \$8,800.00 baby. Oh boy, what a prospect for a ride to the really smart boys over there. I wonder if you will differ with me? What did you think of that \$8,800.00 prize? Did you see anything wrong with it?

Now all my dope may be 100% wrong, so keep this strictly confidential, and destroy this letter and I will not keep a copy.

Regards.

Yours etc.,



# JANNEY, SEMPLE, HILL & Co.

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

## DIRECTORS:

B. J. CASE - C. M. CASE, JR.  
A. E. COX - R. M. FLEMING  
L. M. HATFIELD - H. P. HILL  
H. W. HILL - S. J. MIROCHA  
J. L. NORBECK - T. S. SNYDER  
L. W. WELD

## HONORARY DIRECTORS:

O. H. ENGLUND - E. G. LANDE



5-18-56

Stanley B. Ashbrook  
Ft. Thomas, KY

Dear Stan;

I have every intention of showing you the Klepp Cover but I do not want to send it by mail.

By the terms of the Sale it cannot be returned ~~if~~ it was bad. I am sure however that it is good. It has been under black light and all of my friends, Weill, Keffer and Les agree it is O.K.

I want you too, to see the cover along with the Red Brown block of 6 plus I Prussian closed mail, but I want an excuse to come down to see you both. Just when I am puzzled because our business has developed expense problems again and I am in the process of breaking down percentages of expense to every department. A delay cannot do me harm as I have no recourse to the Sale.

I am writing Balasse today for prices realized and will get it for you. Kindest regards. I will phone you before I come.

*Henry*

# L. G. BROOKMAN

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

103 LOEB ARCADE  
MINNEAPOLIS 2, MINNESOTA

R.D.P.  
A.S.D.A.  
M.C.C.

May 16, 1956

Dear Stan:

Your Special Delivery just at hand. I really haven't had too much of an opportunity to CLOSELY examine the cover in question. There was a little talk about the possibility of one portion of the margin being tampered with but I did not note this on visual examination. As I recall, there was a slight difference in appearance but this could be due to age.

I will say this--drunk or sober I never would pay over \$2500 for this cover. This despite the fact that I saw it bid up (by several bidders) to the high price at which it was knocked down. I believe the bidding was honest--no shills. Had you or I had it and asked HALF of the realized price we would have been branded as thieves.

My OFF-HAND opinion of the cover is that it is genuine and O.K. but the strip may just possibly have been tampered with a little in the margin. This is only a possibility and not, in my opinion (based just on visual examination), a probability. I do hope you get a look at this cover sometime.

Wish I could see you. It is too damned long between our visits.

Helen and I had a good time at "Fipex" although I was under the weather for two days--just like I was in London. We went out to Bermuda and had a wonderful vacation there--expensive but worth it.

Heymen of Louisville, Bilden and myself went down to Richmond after Fipex and bought an interesting lot of old covers. An original lot that came out of an old paper mill many years ago. Around 80 5¢ and 10¢ '47's and a lot of other good material. I have been buying a lot of material--both U.S. and foreign. I do think that SALES will drop off now. Wonder if you think the same way. As sure as the devil the stock market is going to sag for a while. That doesn't bother me directly because my stock is STAMPS.

Sincere regards,

*P.S. Returning your letter  
for evaluation -- destroy  
this one also.*





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

May 15, 1956.

Mr. L. G. Brookman,  
103 Loeb Arcade,  
5th & Hennepin,  
Minneapolis 3, Minn.

Dear Les:

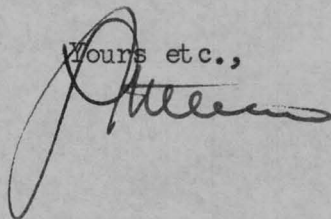
This is strictly confidential and not a hint to Henry. I have had a hint that the Klep cover that cost Henry nearly \$9,000.00 is questionable. He has not shown it to me, because he is confident it is genuine, and maybe it is, but if the dope I get in correct, there is one feature that is not regular. It may be an error but raises a question and believe me, there should not be any question about an \$8,800.00 baby. They know Henry pays high prices, so sooner or later they are going to take him for a nice ride.

I don't give a damn what anyone says about Belasse - I think he is a Lousy crook and I would not trust him as far as I could toss a bull. Henry don't know a darn thing about the markings on foreign rate covers (in my opinion) and he trusts his own judgment in buying an \$8,800.00 baby. Oh boy, what a prospect for a ride to the really smart boys over there. I wonder if you will differ with me? What did you think of that \$8,800.00 prize? Did you see anything wrong with it?

Now all my dope may be 100% wrong, so keep this strictly confidential, and destroy this letter and I will not keep a copy.

Regards.

Yours etc.,





May 23, 1956.

Mr. L. G. Brookman,  
103 Loeb Arcade,  
5th & Hennepin,  
Minneapolis 3, Minn.

Dear Les:

Thanks for yours which I will destroy. Here is the situation. Two different people have written me about that cover and asked my opinion because they questioned it. This is bad. I don't see why Henry took such a chance. That 5¢ 1857 "orange brown" cover he bought in the Waterhouse sale is a fake and it is common knowledge that I condemned it. I think Bacher is crooked and no doubt he sold the cover to Waterhouse, so of course he has a fine background story. Why does Henry trusts such crooks? Do you know?

Henry went ahead and illustrated that cover in his book and people who know are laughing at him for doing this.

Please treat this as confidential.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

May 23, 1956.

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

Dear Henry:

Re -- yours of the 18th. None of your friends such as Weill, Keffer and others, would know whether the 5¢ 1856 cover was good or bad, so their opinions on this item would be valueless.

I have been informed that the New York postmark is in black and if it is, then as sure as the very devil, something is wrong.

I understand that Belasse is printing a list of the prices in his magazine, also a write-up of the sale. I sure would like to have a translation in English. How are we to obtain same? We sure should have one.

Believe me, you don't ever have to have any excuse to come down and pay us a visit.

With all good wishes --

Cordially yours,

June 15, 1956

Dear Stan:

Yours of the 7th before me.

I agree that it is possible that Scruggs and Hubbell joined forces to do "the deed." Not a word out of Hubbell since Norfolk. He has not supported this administration in any way, shape or form, yet is the man that two of our Trustees wanted to have the "Haydn Myer Award, Presented to the one who has done most for the Alliance".

On the good side of the ledger I have received many letters from colonels who are pleased with what has been accomplished in less than a year. For the Alliance, it has been a wonderful thing - for you a real trial and tribulation. I do believe that all of the STUDENTS and better grade members appreciate what has been involved, at least to the point of complete approval.

For your information I have recently submitted my resignation to Ben Reeves as Chairman of the Committee on Postal History, S.P.A. No comment should be necessary.

Enclosed is a clipping I have had around for quite some time, one which may explain the action of a certain individual. No need to return it. Alvarez is nobody's fool. He is Editor-In-Chief of "Modern Medicine" and a long accepted leader in the medical field.

Now for the enclosed cover. This is one I have with my "blockade-run" items, and I believe it to be such. Would like a PROFESSIONAL OPINION of this, and will pay your fee for same.

Here is the way I rationalize it:

1. Cant be BEFORE 1861, as the double circle postmark was not in use in May of 1860.
2. If 1861, and thereby "after secession" use, it would have required only 1¢ drop letter rate (unless unpaid, when it would require double. But there is nothing to indicate that it is unpaid).
3. Most likely 1862. Blockade runners did get in and out at that time. Manuscript "CLIPPER" denotes an ocean-going type ship, and not a river boat. 2¢ rate would be correct, and this marker was used and is listed in Dietz catalog.
4. Later use is possible, but unlikely, as the blockade was pretty tight by May of 1863 and thereafter. Also, a 2¢ handstamp was in use from the city of Mobile.

Will be pleased to have your comments, and if you can sign the cover, so much the better. I own it outright.

Nothing else new, so will close.

Best regards.

*George*



June 18, 1956

Mr. George N. Malpass,  
5401 - 9th St., North,  
St. Petersburg, Fla.

Dear George:

Herewith I am returning the Mobile stampless of May 29 with the Drop 1ct marking. The cover came from the Wulfekuhler collection and no doubt it was in the sale by H. R. Harmer some years ago. I recall that I had quite a bit of correspondence regarding it with Wulfekuhler, Larry Shenfield and Dr. Dave Sellers of Mobile. I had Dr. Sellers search the City Directories of Mobile and the enclosed is a copy. I recall that I did not think this was a blockade cover. Here are some comments on your notes -

No. 1 - Yes, this could be before the blockade period, that is, before June 1, 1861, because this double circle postmark is quite well known on the U. S. 1¢ 1857 - the 3¢ 1857 and on other higher values of the 1857 - 1860 issues. I judge this type was used at the Mobile P.O. as early as "early 1860" possibly as early, as "late in 1859." However in 1860 and 1861 it was almost invariably used with an 1860 or 1861 year logo but the exception may have been Drop Letters. I am going on the supposition that the office had more than one of these stampers and that no year logo was used on local letters but on first-class mail, the stamper (or stampers) had year logos.

No. 2. You are wrong in stating there is nothing to indicate that it is unpaid, on the contrary there is nothing to indicate it was PAID. Had it been paid it would have been stamped PAID. Bear in mind that there was never a 1¢ Drop rate in the C.S.A. and this apparently was a sealed Drop sent unpaid at a 1¢ rate. Just because there are two strikes of the "Drop 1ct" is no indication that 2¢ was due, in my opinion.

No. 3. Dietz listed this "Drop 1ct" as a C.S.A. marking but he was wrong as there was never such a C.S.A. rate.

No. 4. It is my impression that we came to the conclusion this was a use after the war - either in 1865 or 1866.

With regards -

Cordially yours,



EMMERSON C. KRUG

3008 13TH AVENUE SOUTH  
BIRMINGHAM 5, ALABAMA

June 12, 1956.  
Tuesday P.M.

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

Dear Stan,

I was almost embarrassed yesterday to come home from town & find on my desk a copy of Henry Hill's book by AIRMAIL, of all things. He had told me in N.Y. that he had sent me a copy and if it was not here when I returned to let him know, which I did. I had no idea he would send another but try to locate the lost copy. Of course I am writing to thank him but do feel like he had a lot of trouble with me. Sure a charming gentleman and one I hope to know better in the future.

Glad the brief case came to hand. I also received the Postal Book of 1870, noted the Remsen, Oneida Co., N.Y. and have just sent it back by insured Parcel Post. Let me know when it gets there safe and sound.

By the way, here is a tip. I buy those slip covers you use, not from Ful-Vu people but a better substitute from Sam Paige for \$8.50 per 100. Shall I tell him about you or will you write him?

Here are the Pinks, the three I got in the Fox sale. I know this catches you busy with company, so just lay aside until you get a chance to look at them.

Lot 250, the earliest known cost me \$85.00 plus 5%

" 252, the pigeon blood Paid 3 New Britian cost me \$82.50 & 5%

" 254, the pigeon blood Nashua, N.H. cost me \$145.00 & 5%

I am pleased with all three purchases against the one in Siegel sale 3/22/56 wherein lot 128 went to J.Dick for \$255.00, a single Oct 4, 1861.

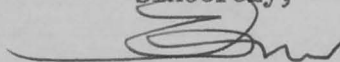
Here is a dilemma for me. I have these three other covers which in one case you have seen and marked it as 64A. This is cover from Newburgh N.Y. to Troy, August 20 (Inside August 19, 1861.) Please take another look at this along side the Fox lots. I bought this as a true pink from a Paige sale last year.

Then here is this cover from Auburn, N.Y. to Sinclearville, N.Y. dated Sep. 13, (1861?) Surely this is neither a rose pink nor a rose. Wouldn't this be a pink if not what he says it is? I bought this for a pink in a Harmer Rooke sale.

And finally is this cover with the black star, Yonkers, N.Y. to Morristown, N.J. I bought this as a pink from a Siegel sale. I make the same statement as the Auburn cover above. Dated 24 August, (1861)

Glad the 3¢ grilled all over was O.K. Let me know what Les' fee is.

Sincerely,



Enclosed 3¢ 1861 pinks.

Lot 254 Fox 6/6/56	152.25
" 252 "	86.63
" 250 "	89.25
" 489 Paige 12/2/55	22.58
" 45 HRL 11/56	22.50
" 263 RS 5/24/56	26.00
	<hr/> 399.21

June 13, 1956.

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

Dear Em:

Re - Lot #250 in the Fox Sale - June 6th last.  
After a search I found a photo of this cover that I  
made in 1950 - I also made a photo of the back with  
my lengthy notation. I had failed to file these two  
prints in my card index or any record therein of this  
cover. I suppose I never got around to it. You ob-  
tained quite a bargain in Lot #250.

Hurriedly yours,

June 14, 1956.

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

\* Dear Em:

Herewith your six 3¢ 1861 covers as per yours of the 12th. I have examined these today in good daylight and here are my comments -

There can be no question about the Nashau cover (Sep 5-'61) and the New Britain cover (Sep 1 '61). These are true Pigeon Bloods. The Nashau is especially fine.

If there is any conflict anywhere it is with the Cleveland cover of Aug. 19, 186, but it is a better tint than the Newburgh, N.Y. cover. I examined the latter and this is certainly what we have always called a near Pink and what the S.U.S. lists as "ROSE PINK." Compare these two covers - Cleveland and Newburgh. There is little difference but the Cleveland is a bit more Pink. I suppose to be 100% correct it should be classed as the Rose Pink.

The Yonkers. This is badly faded and it is definitely a Rose.

The Auburn. We had some correspondence about this several months ago. This is a faded Pink and if Todd or anyone else said that I passed this as a Pigeon Blood they are lying. It is a faded Pink. I made color slides of each of the stamps (enlarged). Pinks and Pigeons do not photo very good, but it will be interesting to see how they turn out.

By the way, the Pigeon cover in the Siegel sale last March which sold @ \$255.00 was bought by Hart not Jack Dick. I have a color slide of the cover but not one of just the stamp. Would you like to see it? I will loan it to you.

Further re - the memo by Gerald Todd. I find he is not a member of the A.P.S. or S.P.A. If I could locate his address I would write and request an explanation. I wish you would destroy the memo and erase his memo from the back.

Henry Hill. That sure was nice of him to send you a copy of his book. He phoned me last night from Louisville that he had to go to Lexington today and that Horace Poole was with him and would be here this afternoon.

Slip covers. Please send me a sample of the kind that you get from Sam Paige. I wonder if mine are larger?

With regards -


Yours etc.,

Em - I wish you  
would destroy this  
letter. It was a  
personal letter to Yeckel  
and not public  
property. I despise  
such a stubb S.



Dear Stan:

Please rub all the notes off of the back of  
this cover and destroy the two letters.

A stylized, cursive handwritten signature that appears to be the name "Sam". It features a large, looping initial 'S' followed by a few more fluid strokes.

Hurrying to Syracusa

This stamp tied Auburn N.Y. Sept 13<sup>th</sup>  
(1861) is known as a Pigeon Blood  
Pink and has been certified by  
Stanley B. Ashbrook stamp authority.  
Catalog by Scott as no 64.  
I value this cover at \$35.00 up.

Gerald Todd  
This Memo is Untrue - I Never Stated This  
Stamp Was A Pigeon Blood  
Allen Shuman

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

PLEASE NOTE:

It Has Come To My Notice on Frequent  
Occasions That Items on Which I Have  
Authenticated or Furnished Data About,  
Have Been Offered For Sale Accompanied  
By The Letter That I Wrote The Owner.  
This Is A PERSONAL LETTER To You And  
You Alone And I Respectfully Request That  
You Treat It As Such. I Have No Objection  
If You Quote From It.

Stanley B. Ashbrook

Oct. 30, 1950.

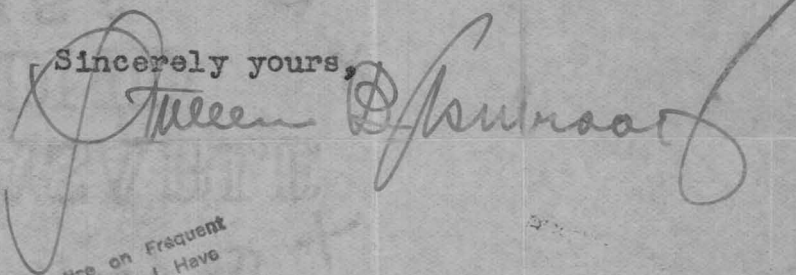
Mr. Louis F. Yeckel,  
6543 Walsh St.,  
St. Louis 9, Mo.

My dear Mr. Yeckel:

I cannot tell you what a big kick I got out of seeing this remarkable cover - only on rare occasions does an item show up that seems literally out of the world to me - My pencil notations are self-explanatory and about all that I can add is this - I made the notations because I feel sure you will keep the cover - The fact is, no matter what price the seller put on this cover it would be far too low. I can well imagine that there are a number of Cleveland collectors who would love to have this very remarkable cover.

I never saw the Luff cover and what Luff might have called a Pink might have been simply a Pinkish-rose and besides a use on the 18th might have been on Monday, the 19th - as the P.O. clerk could have used an 18th on Monday the 19th. At any rate - such an extremely early use of a 3¢ 1861 is as good to me as if it was actually the earliest - The fact remains that only a few - a very few collections can show an 1861 stamp used as early as Aug. 19, 1861. No matter what this cover cost you I think you obtained a very great bargain. My congratulations are yours. I guess I am a bit different from the average collector but a cover like this gives me a real thrill.

Sincerely yours,



PLEASE NOTE:

It Has Come To My Notice on Frequent  
Occasions That Items on Which I Have  
Authenticated or Furnished Data About,  
Have Been Offered For Sale Accompanied  
By The Letter That I Wrote The Owner.  
This Is A PERSONAL LETTER To You And  
You Alone And I Respectfully Request That  
You Treat It As Such. I Have No Objection  
If You Quote From It.

Stanley B. Ashbrook

HORACE S. POOLE  
1475 MONTROSE TERRACE  
DUBUQUE, IOWA

JUNE 17, 1956.

DEAR STAN:

HERE IS THE COVER FROM MC GREGORS LANDING,  
IOWA WITH THE 5 ¢ 1847 STAMP WHICH I WANT YOU  
TO LOOK OVER. ALSO ENCLOSED IS LETTER FROM  
ROLAND L. HUSTIS, REGARDING THIS COVER. AS  
YOU PROBABLY KNOW, MR. HUSTIS, A LONG TIME  
MEMBER OF APS, IS A REAL STUDENT AND WAS RE-  
SPONSIBLE FOR THE BULLETIN PUBLISHED BY APS  
"THE MILWAUKEE & MISSISSIPPI R. R. AND ITS  
POSTMARKS".

I DID SO ENJOY MY VISIT IN FORT THOMAS WITH  
YOU AND MRS. ASHBROOK. HENRY DELIVERED ME  
SAFELY IN DUBUQUE, ABOUT FOUR THIRTY SATUR-  
DAY AFTERNOON AND HE WENT ON TO CEDAR RAPIDS  
WHERE HE EXPECTED TO SPEND THE NIGHT.

AS EVER, SINCERELY

*Horace*





McGregor, Landing Iowa  
Apr 10 1857

Hon. John A. Bingham,  
Denoce,  
Wisconsin.

Pais.

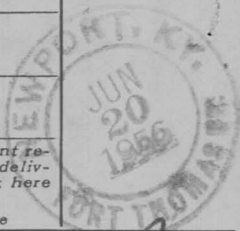
No 401665

# RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

SENT TO		POSTMARK OR DATE
STREET AND NO.		
CITY AND STATE		
<div style="border: 1px dashed black; padding: 10px; text-align: center;">HORACE S. POOLE 1475 Montrose Terrace Dubuque, Iowa</div>		
<p><i>If you want a return receipt, check which</i></p> <div><input type="checkbox"/> 7¢ shows to whom and when delivered</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> 31¢ shows to whom, when, and address where delivered</div>		<p><i>If you want restricted delivery, check here</i></p> <div><input type="checkbox"/> 20¢ fee</div>

POD Form 3800  
July 1955

Replaces previous editions of  
this form which MAY be used.



1. Stick postage stamps to your letter to pay:  
15-cent certified mail fee  
First-class or airmail postage  
Either return receipt fee (*optional*)  
Restricted delivery fee (*optional*)  
Special-delivery fee (*optional*)
2. If you want this receipt postmarked, stick the gummed stub on the address side of the letter, leaving the receipt attached, and present the letter to a postal employee.
3. If you do not want this receipt postmarked, stick the gummed stub on the address side of the letter, detach and retain the receipt, and mail the letter.
4. If you want a return receipt, write the certified-mail number and your name and address on a return receipt card and attach it to the back of the letter.
5. Save this receipt and present it if you make inquiry.

June 20, 1956.

Mr. Horace S. Poole,  
1475 Montrose Terrace,  
Dubuque, Iowa.

Dear Horace:

Re - your 5¢ 1847 cover with manuscript postmark of "McGregors Landing, Iowa, Apr. 10, 1851," I have examined this very carefully and it is my opinion that this item is genuine in every respect. I believe this 5¢ 1847 stamp was used on this cover on the date of the postmark. I do not believe that originally this was a stampless cover sent paid to which someone added this stamp. My examination indicates that the ink used to cancel the stamp with "pd" is the same as that of the postmark. Further, there is no penned rate on the cover as there surely would have been had this been a "stampless." The stamp itself is evidence of the rate. And finally, the shade and impression of the stamp is quite correct for a use as late as April 1851.

Sincerely yours,

(S.B.40-26)

(EK30-14-17)



6 June 1956

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

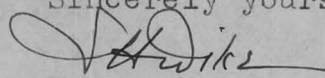
For several years I have been compiling information from which I hope to publish a postal history of New Mexico Territory. I now have rather complete information as to establishment dates of postoffices and have made records of over 2000 postmarks. In corresponding with Dr. Chase about this project, he indicated that he had given up plans of writing up New Mexico and very kindly lent me all his notes on this territory. I have made records of all the big and important collections that I know of. My own collection numbers some 600 covers.

Whereas, I don't know whether you are a collector of this sort of thing or not, I suspect that you have records in the form of photographs of the important New Mexico covers that you have seen. I would like very much to have copies of these, and wonder if you have any that you would be willing to let me use, if I desire, as illustrations in my forthcoming book. I would, of course expect to pay you for them. Do you have a photo of an early Santa Fe bearing a single 5¢ '47, the second having been cut off in opening the envelope? (I believe this cover to have been mailed in 1850). And may I have a copy of the photo of the Santa Fe now in the Alpers Collection which bears ~~six~~ <sup>five</sup> copies of No. 17?\* I have made photos of a number of early unique items, and perhaps you would like copies of these. Are your interests restricted primarily to certain stamps, or what? If you have photographs for which you have no negatives, I would be happy to pay for having them reproduced if they should have a place in a New Mexico postal history.

I would be very glad to try to answer any questions you may have on New Mexico. I also have considerable information on Arizona, and intend to undertake the Arizona problem next.

I shall certainly appreciate anything you are willing to do, and look forward to hearing from you in the near future.

Sincerely yours,

  
S. H. Dike

Dr. S. H. Dike  
3072 35th Place  
Sandia Base  
Albuquerque, N.M.

\* How come this rate?

June 14, 1956.

Mr. S. H. Dike,  
3072 35th Pl., Sandia Base,  
Albuquerque, New Mex.

Dear Mr. Dike:

Replying to yours of the 6th, I regret to state that New Mexico covers are a bit out of my line and I never made any effort to acquire or record such items. While I have a few photographs I am sure they are items that would be well known to you.

I believe I have a few covers with the 3¢ 1861 and the Maricopa Wells A.T.

Sincerely yours,

Confederates  
Blockade cover

England to New Orleans

MacBride wrote 2/23/1950:

"Tom Parks turned up the other day with a photo of a cover he owns, which apparently ran the blockade from England to New Orleans. It has "Due \$1.50" and "2" written on it in blue pencil, - for the blockade and ship postage, but I was chiefly interested to note that it has the small double-circle New Orleans postmark dated Jan. 4, 1862. Thus it seems that this type of postmark was used on ALL mail arriving in New Orleans by boat, whether by river or by ocean!"

3556-79 H St., Jackson Heights, N.Y.

May 17, 1956.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Thank you for your two letters of May 8 and 11 and for the nice photo, which I am glad to have.

Enclosed are photostats of pages of Harmer Rooker's auction of the Steve Brown collection in 1939.

I have a letter from Earl Antrim stating that he personally did not attend the auction but that Ezra Cole acted as his agent and bought it for him. He (Antrim) has a photostat identical with your photo which he had made when he owned this piece.

The notes on the back were in heavy pencil, so heavy they showed through the face. I copied them & then erased them as they detracted from its appearance.

These notes were written by some unknown early owner who had blockade covers via New York & Charleston to the same "A.H. Kernion, New Orleans". I thought maybe Steve Brown had but the catalogue of his auction does not include these other covers.

It was these notes which thought the \$1.50 meant 7½ oz. at better rate (or 75 oz. at



circular rate) - (the interpretation is mine) - the notes said they thought this was a wrapper on a package cut down to envelope size.

The paper is thinner than the usual British letter or envelope paper at the time but could very well be Riddell's complained of rate of \$1.50 for a  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz letter (which somebody trimmed down) as you suggest may have happened.

Apparently Steve Brown, Harmer Rooker, Ezra Cole, Antium, & Sampson (from whom I bought it) as well as people I have shown it to, thought it was an overseas blockade cover & not a river steamer item from within the South.

Re the other New Orleans markings, the two which are not mine are copies of 'stats of Shenfield's' which Mac loaned me some years ago.

Re the indigo blue Union New Orleans marking, the only one I have is Sept. 22, 1862 and I have a black with similar "crooked S" dated Dec. 17, 1862. The change in color was some time between.

So far as I know, the highest Confederate rate known is \$1.50? And this piece I have is the only known New Orleans Blockade-run known to exist today?

I'd appreciate your observations.

With many thanks for your interest,

I am

Sincerely,

Thos. Parbes

May 23, 1956.

Mr. Thomas Parks,  
3556 - 79th St.,  
Jackson Heights, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Parks:

I sent my good friend Leonard Huber a photo print of your cover. I enclose his reply and copy of my reply to him. Please return.

I have yours of the 18th with enclosures and I will reply later.

Incidentally I attended the Brown Sale in 1939 and have the catalogue that I used at that time.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

June 7, 1956.

Mr. Thos. Parks,  
3556 - 79th St.,  
Jackson Heights, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Parks:

Please pardon this tardy acknowledgement of yours of the 17th with enclosures.

I am wondering what you thought of Leonard Huber's letter that I sent you under date of May 23rd?

Regarding your manuscript, "Confederate Army Camp Cancels," which I am returning herewith. I think this is excellent and I read it very carefully with the result that I found you were far better informed on the various subjects than I am. I went thru my files but failed to find any data that I thought would be helpful to you. In what publication will this appear? I hope you will send it to "Stamps" where it will receive a wide circulation.

I also return the photostat of the pages from the Brown auction Catalogue.

With kindest regards -

Cordially yours,



June 12

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Thanks for your letter of June 7<sup>th</sup>.

With regard to Huber, I sent him a photo of this same New Orleans cover six years ago. He made no foolish comments then and apparently has forgotten seeing it before.

I owe him a letter & when I get around to it will answer.

I haven't recovered from WWII injuries & have a tough job. I make the rounds from overwork to sick leave & back to overwork.

Re "Camp Cancells", I collaborated with MacBride & Lt. Col. Sheppard on this for accuracy & detail. Most of the covers are mine.

Mac thought it would help Dave Kent's "Confederate Album" so I sent it to him. The circulation isn't as big as "STAMPS" but it reaches the right people, all of whom do not take "STAMPS".

Will let you know when I write Huber.

Regards,

Thos. Parks



June 16, 1956.

Mr. Thos. Parks,  
3556 - 79th Ave.,  
Jackson Heights, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Parks:

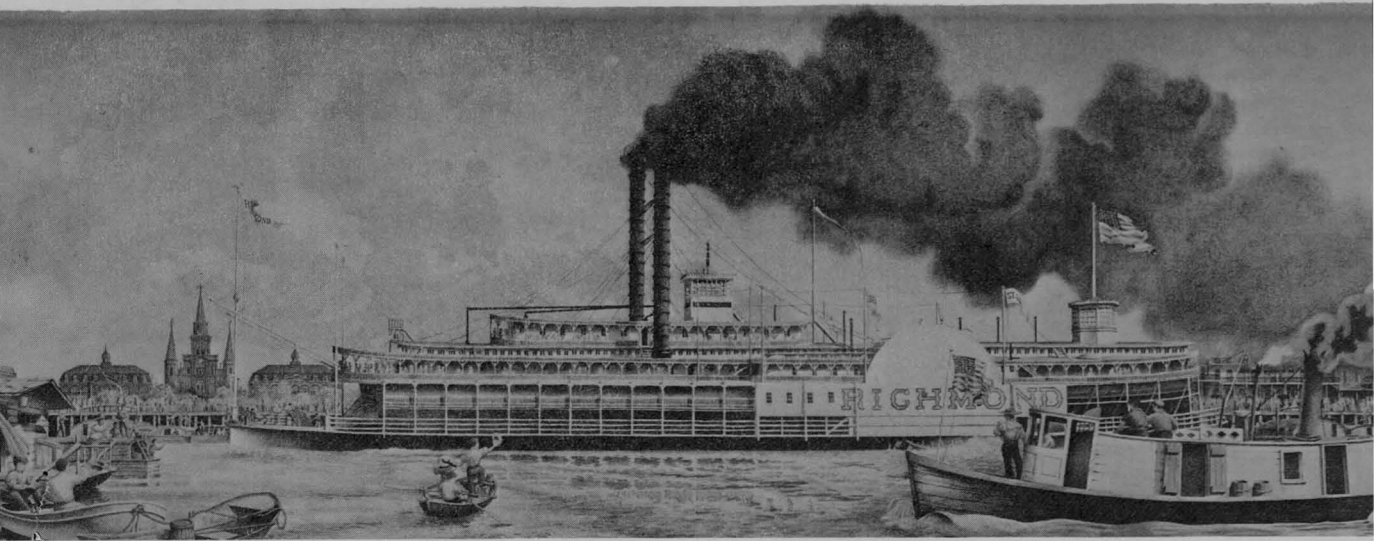
Yours of the 12th received and I was indeed sorry to learn that you are still suffering from injuries received in World War II. I do wish you well.

I note your remarks re - Leonard Huber. I regret that your contacts with him have not been most satisfactory. I have known him by correspondence for quite a few years and our relations have been most pleasant.

I had a letter from him recently stating that no blockade letters were run by river, that the Mississippi was completely closed by traffic by a federal blockading squadron at the mouth. I do not recall how you figured that your cover may have reached New Orleans.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,



June 7, 1956

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook  
P. O. Box 31  
33 North Ft. Thomas Ave.  
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

With further reference to the cover that Mr. Parks sent you. I have just noticed in your letter of May 23rd you ask if there was any evidence that the blockade was run by ship up the river. I would like to answer this by saying that the Mississippi was completely closed to traffic by a federal blockading squadron at the mouth of the Mississippi at this time and that as far as I know no traffic went this way. It was far easier to go by railroad to Berwick Bay and I am convinced that all letters destined for foreign countries that went by Costa's route were forwarded in this manner.

Yours very truly,

Edward T. Huber

*P.S. - no traffic upriver either  
for letters to go out of the country  
in my opinion. Frankly the cover  
is a puzzle*

LVH/IH

June 16, 1956.

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

Dear Mr. Huber:

Thanks very much for yours of the 7th. I appreciate your remarks re - the river route. Let us suppose that this "cover" might be a "Blocade" cover, and if there is no chance that it could have run a blockade by which route could it have arrived. If it came thru Mexico I would imagine there would be something to identify such transmission. I quite agree that this cover is quite a puzzle and it would be nice if we could establish its true status.

I enclose the clipping that I referred to in a former letter. This was furnished to me by Mr. Parks. Will you kindly return it at your convenience.

With my kindest regards -

Cordially yours,



June 6, 1956.

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

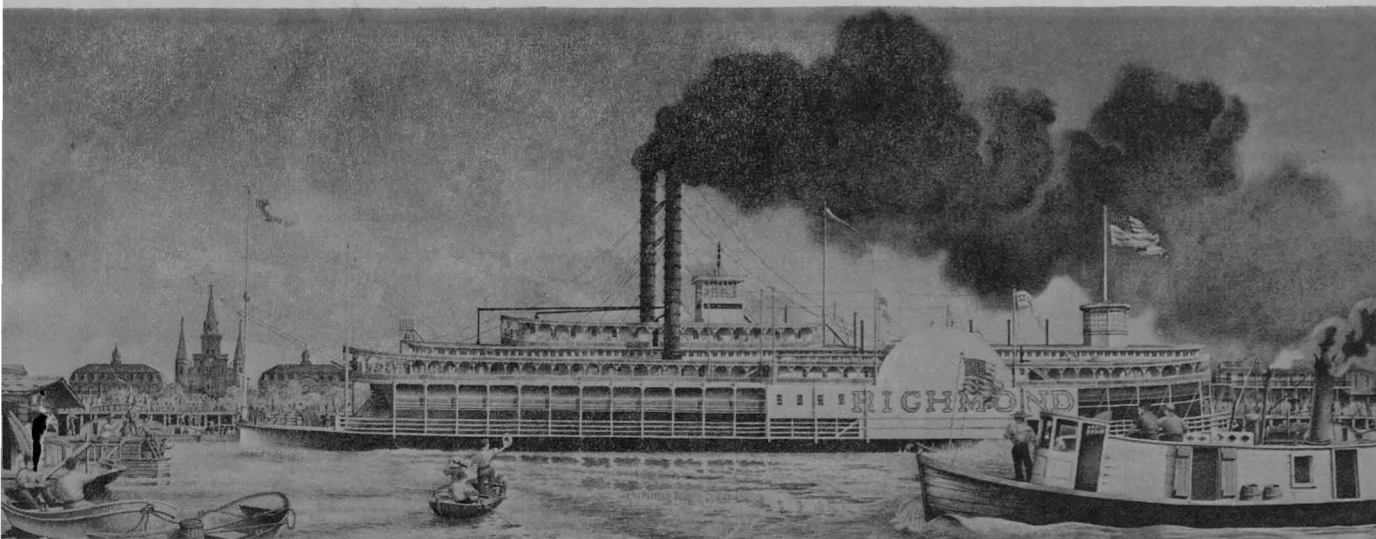
Dear Mr. Huber:

Here is the result of my effort to bring out  
the postmark on your cover. I think that it  
speaks for itself.

With regards -

Cordially yours,





June 27, 1956

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook  
P. O. Box 31  
33 North Ft. Thomas Ave.  
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

As you can see from the enclosed copy of a letter to Mr. Parks he wrote me concerning "the \$1,50 due cover". I am returning the little photostat that you sent. Apparently mail did get through the blockade to New Orleans. I would be of the opinion that what came through came on very small vessels and not up the Mississippi, first because of the blockading Gulf Squadron and secondly because if any mail ever got through by the river this would have been reported in the press and I have never run across any mention of it. Mr. Parks is very far away from the scene of the action and he has only fragmentary material with which to work and he jumps to conclusions before ascertaining all the facts.

Cordially yours,

Howard V. Huber

LVH/IH

June 27, 1956

Mr. Thomas Parks  
3556 79th St.  
Jackson Heights, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Parks;

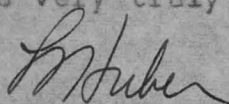
I acknowledge receipt of your letter of June 20th concerning the puzzling "Due \$1.50" cover which bears a New Orleans postmark dated January 4, 1862. Just how this cover came to New Orleans will probably never be known because of the fact that the letter accompanying the cover was lost. I hardly think it came up the Mississippi River and I will tell you why. As early as June 1861 the "Powhatan" and the "Brooklyn" the former a paddle-wheel sloop and the latter a screw sloop of considerable size, arrived to close the mouth of the Mississippi. (As you will recall the commerce raider "Sumter" under Capt. Semmes slipped through this blockade a short while after.) In October 1861 the Gulf Blockading Squadron had been so reinforced that four vessels were sent fifteen miles upstream to a place called the Head of Passes. These were the "Richmond" with twenty-four big guns, the "Vincennes", the Preble, and the "Water Witch". I have no doubt that these vessels or others like them successfully blockaded the river and prevented the passage of shipping to New Orleans. While this was going on, Ship Island was being invested. By December 1861 Butler had a considerable force of men there and the blockading squadron from that time on until the time that New Orleans fell in late April 1862 cleared the Gulf surrounding the mouth of the Mississippi entirely so that no ocean going vessels could get in. The only possible way for communications to have been sent into the city would be by small coastal boats which slipped through the blockade

squadron net and came through the lakes at the back of the city.

You state in the last page of your letter that you do not consider the cover shown as figure 104 in "The Great Mail" as a blockade run cover since "nobody was blocking Mexico to prevent mail from England and nobody was preventing mail across the Rio Grande". As I recall this letter was sent by the announced route of Costa's Foreign Mail Service. The mail was sent by railroad to Morgan City from thence to Texas into Mexico. Actually it would never have come this way if the Federal Blockading Squadron had not been in the Gulf. While the mail did not go on a ship which sailed through the squadron (as did the Wilmington mail for instance) it did nevertheless out-flank the blockade and as such in my opinion this cover is entitled to rank as blockade run.

I would suggest that you would wait and try to accumulate more evidence before hazarding a guess in print about your cover. If there was one cover there will probably be more. I would search for it rather than rush into print when actually so little is known about the cover. You are at a disadvantage in being so far away from the scene of the action and unless you have a tremendous source of information at your disposal jumping to conclusions is a hazardous thing to do.

Yours very truly,



---

LVH/IH



THOMAS PARKS  
3536 79TH STREET  
JACKSON HEIGHTS, N. Y.

June 21, 1956.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Thanks for your note.

Herewith copy of my letter to Huber.

Bedause of past experience I thought it best not to mention your having been in touch with me.

I gave Harmer some unkind remarks but have no desire to quarrel with Huber.

At the Brown sale you and the other experts did not question the write-up of lot 2410? The fact that it was not withdrawn from sale, and was ok'd by the various people whom I have mentioned, plus my own studies of postmarks, lead me to believe it is what it was claimed to be.

It would be course be h/elpful if another of the number of covers which ran into New Orleans could be located for comparison, and an article on mail into New Orleans would be interesting.

Regards,

TM Parks



June 20, 1956.

Dear Mr. Huber:

Please accept my belated thanks for your thoughtfulness in sending me a copy of your splendid booklet "Blockade Run Mail From New Orleans", which reached me in December 1954.

My health was somewhat wrecked in the Army and I have been on the down grade for some time. Unfortunately, my correspondence has been neglected.

I have been doing some researching on New Orleans postmarks which I think will interest you and possibly lead to an article about blockade mail to New Orleans to supplement yours from New Orleans.

Enclosed are photostats of 6 varieties of the small double circle postmark identified as 11a on page 160 of your book "The Great Mail", 3 of them Confederate and 3 occupation markings.

You may recall that about six years ago, after I had read "The Great Mail", I sent you a photo of the "\$1.50 plus 2" cover postmarked January 4, 1862, asking about blockade-running ships and at the time you replied that you couldn't help me.

Since then I have been shaking the bushes and compiled the following "dossier" on this cover.

I bought it about 1945 from E.N. Sampson, a dealer who is generally reputed to know Confederate philately, as being a cover which ran the blockade into New Orleans.

On the back, and showing through in the photostat, a previous owner had written in very heavy pencil:

"Addressed to A.H. Kernion Esq. New Orleans Canal Bank, New Orleans. Mailed from England. (I have an Adams Express cover from England through New York from this same company and to this same company, also one through Charleston, S.C.) Arrived in New Orleans Jan. 4, 1862, marked "Due \$1.50" in blue pencil, also "2" in blue, this for the ship captain. Probably face of larger envelope".

On the back, in another hand, was written:

"Lot 2410, Harmer Rooke Sale of Steve Brown Collection, November 1939."

At the time I supposed that the notation was by Steve Brown and meant that he owned the other covers addressed to the Canal Bank. I have later found that such covers were not in his auction.

I consulted MacBride at the time and found that he had made an extensive study of New Orleans postmarks and had found that the small double circle was used only by the ship mail section of the New Orleans Post Office, on ship mail only, during the Confederate period. The "2" for the ship's captain appeared correct. The "Due \$1.50" is apparently the highest Confederate postage rate known.

I wrote to Gordon Harmer, of Harmer, Rooke, sending him a photostat and requesting the courtesy of confirmation that this was the Lot 2410 in the Brown sale. With an alleged rudeness which still amazes me, he gave me a brush off and assertedly pretended that "he couldn't find it in his records."

However, I didn't need to depend on him. Mac loaned me his copy of the Brown sale catalogue and I obtained a letter from Antrim that he had bought this cover at the Brown sale, having had Ezra Cole act as his agent and bid it in for him. There is no mistake about this. Antrim has a photo which he had made when he owned this cover and it is identical with this photo.

The catalogue description reads:

Page 150, Lot 2410 - "Stampless cover, mailed from abroad to New Orleans, marked "Due \$1.50" and postmarked New Orleans, a very interesting blockade runner, coming into New Orleans during the war."

So far as expert opinion goes, Steve Brown, Gordon Harmer, Ezra Cole and Earl Antrim were sufficiently satisfied with the above description to buy this cover. Furthermore, all of the greats, including Ashbrook, presumably conceded the accuracy of the description in that they did not question it and secure its withdrawal from the sale. Inasmuch as they, and Sampson, did not question it, it is good enough for me.

With regard to the \$1.50 rate, so far as I know this is unique. Mac furnished me a photostat of a clipping from the "Picayune" dated February 4, 1862 which offers an explanation. (I presume he obtained the 'stat from you?) It reads in part:

"Information has been communicated to this Department that on letters delivered from vessels which have run the blockade you have been charging from seventyfive cents to one dollar postage. - "

The correct rate on ship mail delivered by non-contract vessel was 5¢ for the Post Office and 2¢ for the ship's captain, but since Riddell was charging 75¢ for single letters he no doubt charged double that for overweight letters. For the former he used the well known "Steam 7" ~~mark~~ but of course he had none for over a dollar.

The postmark is absolutely correct. John Oxner has a cover with 5¢ green with this exactly the same date and identically struck postmark, the same in all details.

That this is a postal charge and nothing else appears clear because nothing else like it is known, so far as I can find out.

On page 42 of "The Great Mail" Figure 26 shows a \$1.50 rate from New Orleans to New Hampshire but it has nothing to do with this cover. Figure 26 was a U.S.P.O. Express Mail cover a quarter of a century before 1862. The Confederate P.O. did not operate any express mail in 1862, and when it did - the Trans-Mississippi Express - the rate was in multiples of 40¢ with no 2¢ charge.

This could not have been an Adams or Southern Express because they always placed their handstamp on mail they carried, never marked a rate on it, and, as quoted in the newspaper clipping referred to:

"On foreign letters, going out, the usual rates of postage for the distance they are carried in our mails before going into private hands is chargeable, and the same rates should be paid by any express or private company carrying them."

In other words, if an express company carried a letter, it paid the post office. Furthermore, this was an incoming letter, obviously not carried by an express company.

There were three possible 2¢ rates - drop letter, advertised, and ship's captain fee. This was obviously the ship's captain fee as it bears no advertised mark, would not have a separate \$1.50 rate for a drop letter, and bears the ship's mail type of postmark.



3  
In Fox's auctions a while back there were some post-war express covers with high rates but they showed them in "bits" as "2/" and "4/". However, again, these have nothing to do with this cover as it is dated 1862.

As to the number of letters which reached New Orleans by running through the blockade, there were enough to be mentioned in the complaint to the Confederate Post Office on account of overcharges by Riddell, as mentioned in the newspaper clipping, and so far as I can learn up here, the blockade didn't amount to much as of January 4, 1862. In the book "The Civil War", by James Street, he quotes official sources as saying that when the war started in 1861 the North had 3 ships to cover 3500 miles of Southern seacoast, and a year later it had only 120, including armed ferry boats. Whether ocean vessels went into New Orleans, or whether they unloaded into small boats, I can't find out up here, but maybe you have some data on the subject in New Orleans.

On page 153 of "The Great Mail" Fig. 104 is of an interesting cover which went to New Orleans from England via Mexico and Brownsville, Texas. However, this is not a "blockade-run cover" by any stretch of the imagination. Nobody was blockading Mexico to prevent mail from England, and nobody was preventing mail across the Rio Grande.

So far as I can learn, after nearly a dozen years of trying, no other cover has the right identifications and has been recognized by experts as a cover run through the blockade to New Orleans.

I have in mind publishing a summary of the above and asking whether collectors can report one or more other covers with similar markings and possibly contents.

Personally, I would like to see an article about blockade-run mail into New Orleans similar to yours about mail from New Orleans, but I do not have the background material and illustrations, such as you had for your story. By any chance have you been collecting such? If so, you are welcome to anything I have or may dig up.

Would like to hear from you in this connection, at your convenience.

As ever,

July 2, 1956.

Mr. Thomas Parks,  
3556 - 79th Street,  
Jackson Heights, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Parks:

Please pardon this tardy acknowledgement of yours of the 21st.

Thanks very much for copy of your letter to Leonard V. Huber. It would have been perfectly okay had you mentioned to him that we have been in correspondence concerning your cover. I read your letter to him with much interest and perhaps a bit of an explanation may be in order regarding one feature. I did attend the Brown Sale and apparently I was present when this lot was sold. However, in my catalogue I made no notation, only the sales price.

When I attend a sale and a questionable cover is offered I volunteer no opinion unless same is requested and even then I doubt if I would express one. Just because I was present at a sale and witnessed a fake sold certainly does not mean that I thought the item was good or bad. I may not have even seen or examined the lot. I have no recollection of seeing your cover before the Brown Sale, at the sale or after the sale. In fact, I have no recollection of ever seeing it before you sent it to me recently.

I do not think there is enough evidence to prove that the item was actually "blockade run," though I suppose it could be all that is claimed for it. I only wish for your sake that additional evidence could be unearthed that would strengthen its claim as a blockade run into New Orleans. I believe Mr. Huber can give you more assistance along this line than most anyone else I can name.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,



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

July 9, 1956.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Thanks for your letter. Apparently I have been misled by what I have heard and seen.

When I used to examine auction lots I probably never saw more than several dozen different auction set-ups before they were held but I many times heard persons who were examining them challenge them to the auctioneers and the price lists of these and others came out with "withdrawn" opposite lots which had been challenged. If you say that challenging lots is not customary, I will drop it as a reason for thinking the "\$1.50 plus 2" has that in its favor.

I have personally refused to buy lots at times, when asked to, because I thought they were incorrectly described, but I did not challenge them because I have no status. I simply reported to the out-of-town person that I didn't approve them. Since Antrim says Cole bought this one for him, I guess it had Cole's approval.

Herewith another nonsensical reply from our "New Orleans expert".

I'm sorry but the combination of all the nonsense he gave you, plus his ignoring the photostats and other data I sent him, plus his apparent anxiety that I not find out by publication if other covers exist, lead me to think that he doesn't want me to find out if this is ~~not~~ what it was described as being.

I had a similar experience once before when I had a splendid cover and was interested in writing it up.

I think it best that he not know that I communicated with you about it. Thanks.

Sincerely,

Thos. Parks

July 5, 1956.

Dear Mr. Huber:

Thanks for your letter of June 27th. You evidently have a lot of information about the New Orleans blockade. Apparently a large part of the few ships available at the beginning were concentrated there.

According to the "Picayune" plenty of foreign mail reached the New Orleans post office, regardless, and enough to cause a complaint that reached publication.

Obviously the mail boats did not go up the river full of Federal ships but the mail did reach the New Orleans post office -- and my cover has the obvious markings for such mail.

Why do you oppose my publicizing it? I have lost 12 years writing around. The only way to find out anything is to reach more people - obviously by publication.

Re your postscript: "Are you positive about the date - 1862?" -- didn't you read the material I sent you?

The postmark on the cover is very clearly 1862; I mentioned that Oxner has an identical strike on a  $\pi$  5¢ green; I submitted to you photostats showing that this particular style of handstamp, with this width of inner ring, was used only by the Confederate P.O. in late 1861 and early 1862. I submitted photostats of early 1861 Confederate river mail and late 1862 Federal postmarks, proving they were different. This cover is postmarked 1862 and there is no possible doubt about it. Likewise, since the "Picayune" says Riddell charged 75¢ for single letters there is no reason why he would not charge \$1.50 for double letters. And, only ship mail had an additional 2¢ charge (unless marked "advertised").

I am satisfied with the opinions of Steve Brown, Harmer, Cole and Antrim that the description in the Brown sale catalogue issued by Harmer Rooke is correct.

I am therefore going to publish a "Search For Bridey Murphy" style of item about this and see what happens.

Regards,

July 16, 1956.

Mr. Thomas Parks,  
3556 - 79th St.,  
Jackson Heights, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Parks:

I have yours of the 9th and I regret that I gave you the wrong impression about challenging auction lots. What I meant to convey was that I do not go around expressing opinions. I have attended many auctions and never took the trouble to examine all the lots. Would it not be presumptuous on my part to stop in the midst of a sale and state that lot so and so was fraudulent? That might be all right for some to do but not for me. I believe that I wrote you that I send for lots that come up at auction and return them without comment. Why should I take it upon myself to inform the auction firm that this lot is bad and that one is good? Would that not be presumptuous on my part? It is not up to me to police auction sales or any lots in sales. I charge for an opinion at the rate of \$5.00 and up per cover. Why should I dispense information free? Bear in mind the beautiful little maiden who gave away a million dollars worth before she realized she could sell it for what it is worth. I have given away - free of cost - lots of data that cost me dear to acquire - I am now trying to get something for it. If Tom, Dick and Harry like to attend auction sales and challenge lots they think are questionable that is their privilege but I do not choose to follow such a practice.

Regarding your piece. You mentioned that it had Cole's approval. Now I know Ezra quite well but in all frankness I would not place much value on his opinion of your New Orleans piece and the same would apply to Antrim. This with no disrespect to either one but with the conviction that neither one are competent to pass on the item.

Regarding Huber. I wonder if you are not a bit hard regarding him? I have known him for ten or more years and always found him to be a very careful student. In fact, all of my correspondence with him over the years have been most satisfactory and pleasant. I think his book, "The Great Mail" is a very fine piece of work. In addition, he has published some very worth while articles in the A.P. and I believe in other philatelic publications. I do not believe he has condemned your N.O. item nor denied that it could be a "Blocade" item. On the contrary I believe it is his opinion that it could be all you claim for it but sufficient evidence is lacking at present. I believe that is very fair and sensible. I have not advised Huber that I have been in correspondence with you and I will not.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,



Cover.  
Included is  
referred to on  
last page -  
see

MRS. HAROLD MAJOR PICKETT  
3567 OLA STREET  
JACKSONVILLE 5, FLORIDA

May 21, 1956

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

I received your letter in New York with the original sent to my home. It was nice to hear from you again, and believe me, many of us in New York were thinking and talking about you.

I had a long talk with Mr. Malpass, and while we were sitting in the C.S.A. lounge talking, who should come in but Ben Reeves. He does not feel too well, and in spite of his "rest" periods each day, says he is exhausted from any exertion at all.

While Mr. Malpass was talking to another man, I brought the subject around to Scruggs and asked Reeves what disposition had been made in S.P.A. of your charges against Scruggs. Well, that started it. I was afraid I might make Reeves feel worse, or have another heart attack, as he really started in.

He said that he had been a very good friend of yours for years and years, and why else did I think he had suffered a heart attack himself, when Scruggs falsely claimed that you were in the hospital in a critical condition? BUT he then went on that as far as he (Reeves) was concerned, the burden of guilt was on you until you proved that you DID NOT write the letter in which Reeves was called an immigrant Pole. And so on and on. I got Malpass into the discussion, but there is no reasoning with



MRS. HAROLD MAJOR PICKETT  
3567 OLA STREET  
JACKSONVILLE 5, FLORIDA

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Reeves. He listens when he wants to, and disregards the conversation when it suits his purpose to do so.

Mr. Malpass laid the burden in Reeves' lap as to why the C.S.A. had not expelled Scruggs. Malpass wanted to work with S.P.A. but after all the loud wailing at first, not one of the witnesses was willing to speak up and accuse Scruggs.

Reeves said only one thing which made ~~sense~~. He said the only way that Scruggs could be expelled now was by a petition of the members. Of course, the so-called big-shots want some one else to start the petition in their <sup>OWN</sup> name, and thereby absolve all of them from any implication, but they would accept the demands of the members, thus standing in good grace with the members, and also getting rid of the undesirable member.

I am sick to death of both S.P.A. and A.P.S. I can see no reason for me belonging to either one. All my old friends in S.P.A. were staying at the Henry Hudson. I saw the Zinsmeisters, Al Diamond, The Vinings, Steve Rich, and several others on Friday before the Coliseum opened on Saturday, and yet they never offered me a pass to get in to the show, so I had to stand in line for 2½ hours to get in Saturday. And they knew I had had the serious cancer operation in October. I finally had a chance to tell Al Diamond that I thought it was very funny that none of them could offer me a pass on opening day to save me the long wait. Then, - he asked Marian Zinsmeister to give me a pass which I declined. I showed him that

MRS. HAROLD MAJOR PICKETT  
3567 OLA STREET  
JACKSONVILLE 5, FLORIDA

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I had already bought 10 tickets which would suffice for the week. I don't care to be under any obligation to them.

I did discuss with George the possibility of Hubbell being in on the forged letter. I had told George of that possibility in the very beginning, and George Malpass had said that he didn't believe it could be him. I said that I would not overlook any possibility.

This I know. Hubbell was and is very bitter about his defeat in the C.S.A. election. Crigler is sulking like a spoiled child because he is not running C.S.A. as in the past, as are several others well known to you.

The peculiar thing is that each person who reads the forged letter puts a different interpretation to it. Vining thought the small time editor was Zinsmeister. I think it is Harry Weiss. (And don't overlook Weiss in your list of suspects.) Reeves is sure the Pole is him. Of course the reference to Vining is clear enough.

I sent all my material relevant to the Scruggs affair to Vining to try to convince him of my own interpretation. When I saw him in New York he was very cordial. I asked him why he had never answered my letter enclosing all the material, and he said, (very stupidly) "I didn't know you expected an answer." I said, "I thought any letter deserves an acknowledgment and subsequent answer."

MRS. HAROLD MAJOR PICKETT  
3567 OLA STREET  
JACKSONVILLE 5, FLORIDA

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To go back to Hubbell. It is possible that he could be linked in the forged letter. My first reaction was that it could be the work of Scruggs, Hubbell, and Weiss. Think that one over. Each is named and defiled in the letter. Scruggs by name, Hubbell as the Vest Pocket Dealer, Weiss as the small time editor.

My constant prayer is that you will uncover the one or ones who forged the letter, and that the ones (like Reeves) who say that you are guilty of writing the letter until you prove that you did NOT, will have to eat their words.

I said in a letter I wrote to Hubbell after he had sent me a Tallahassee Paid Confederate cover, something to the effect that what did he think of the forged letter that had been sent out under your name in which ~~He~~ (Hubbell) was referred to. But he did not answer that letter.

This is a long winded letter, but I am impelled to just let my thoughts ramble on paper when I write to you, much as I do when I wrote to Mr. Malpass. He oftentimes gathers ideas from my ramblings. When we talk, we ramble that way, and perhaps one of us will give the other a clue that opens up a whole new idea. So excuse my rambling. I really can write better.

I was asked by Mr. Malpass to ask as Secretary for C.S.A. in the absence of Tom Crigler. I made detailed reports of the C.S.A. business meeting, the "Southern Supper", C.S.A. Awards, and even the Fipex

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MRS. HAROLD MAJOR PICKETT  
3567 OLA STREET  
JACKSONVILLE 5, FLORIDA

awards which were won by C.S.A. members. I went up to the Press Room at Fipex just as if I had every right to do so, and got an advance copy of the news release on the awards. I sent copies of these reports to Malpass, Crigler, Wilkenson, and David Kent.

As an example of Crigler's sulkiness, he wrote a letter dated four days after the one that David Kent wrote me. Kent was so grateful for the report, and called it "exceptional job you have done in reporting the Fipex-C.S.A. meeting in New York." Crigler said, "Your interesting report has been hastily read and it sounds good. Know you had a good time at Fipex and only wish I could have been along, but that was impossible. I am up to my ears as it is, and can't do what I am supposed to do."

That last line is very true. Crigler has not been on the ball on a lot of things, and has made a number of stupid errors.

This is certainly enough for this time. Hope you are not completely worn out with this lengthy letter, and I hope somewhere in my ramblings there will be something of help to you.

I am enclosing a cover which I would like you to look over and tell me if you think it is Confederate usage. I just recently bought it hoping that it is Confederate use. If you care to give me an opinion, please let me know what your charges will be.

Sincerely yours, *Lee Pickett*



June 7, 1956.

Mrs. Harold Major Pickett,  
3567 Ola Street,  
Jacksonville 5, Fla.

My dear Mrs. Pickett:

I trust you will forgive my negligence in acknowledging receipt of your letter of May 21st with enclosure. I have literally been swamped with work that demanded immediate attention.

The crooks over on the Continent are constantly improving their work and much of it is extremely clever. I find an increasing amount of such material is submitted to me for my opinion, and such examinations require lots of research work, special photographs, etc., etc. Thus time slips by before I am aware that a week or two has elapsed.

First regarding the cover that you enclosed and which I return herewith. The marking on this is "Steamer - Gen. L. Guitman." This marking is unknown before 1857 - The cover is addressed to "Messrs Carroll Hay & Co. New Orleans, La." This firm succeeded to the old firm of Buchanan Carroll & Co. in 1859 and operated thereafter under that name.

This cover was a letter that was carried by the steamboat privately and was not subject to postage if it related to the cargo carried by the boat. There is no evidence as to the year of use, hence no way that I know of to prove it was a use during the life of the Confederacy. It could have been a use in 1859 or 1860. Who can prove it was not? Of course there is no fee for the above.

It was most kind of you to furnish me with such a full and interesting report on Reeves - the S.P.A. - Fipex, etc. I want you to know that your letter was read with much interest and was greatly appreciated.

Regarding Reeves. I had always considered that Ben was a friend of mine though I must confess he is hardly the type I would care to have as a very intimate friend. His mind must have been affected by his heart attack if he really thinks I was the author of the forged letter. I cannot believe he actually thinks anything of the kind. Such a ~~notion~~ must have been put into his thick head by Mr. Vining. The fact is I never knew he was an immigrant Pole. The fact is I never took him seriously enough to care whether he was a Jew, a Pole, Russian or what-not. I think he permits Vining to think for him and Ben is just a figurehead as President of the S.P.A. If he was not - then he would not be President.

I have come to the conclusion that the forged letter was not the work of Scruggs alone but rather the joint work of Scruggs and Hubbell. I feel convinced that Hubbell was the one who selected the names to whom the thing was mailed. There is no question in my mind but what Hubbell had his close friend Roland Noe

#2. Mrs. Harold Major Pickett - June 7, 1956.

mail the letters here at the Newport Post Office. Hubbell is a very close friend to Scruggs and they got their heads together and concocted that cowardly and damnable attack on me in retaliation for my action against both of them. I should have realized from the first that Hubbell was in on this with Scruggs.

I am convinced the "small time editor" had reference to Harry Weiss. I realize that Weiss might have had a hand in the affair but I am not convinced that he did because I never gave him any cause to wish to do me a low-down trick.

I fear that the Post Office officials do not think the case is of sufficient importance to make a thorough investigation. I have an idea they made a casual examination, got nowhere, and have lost interest. I do not know what I can do to make them make a more thorough investigation of the case unless I appeal direct to the P.M.G.

A lot of dirt was turned up in the past year but looking back I think one fine thing was accomplished - We did get rid of Hubbell and we did prevent a drunken scoundrel from obtaining office in two philatelic organizations, therefore, a real service was rendered decent philately. I had a lot of mud thrown at me including the disgusting forged letter. I wonder if the result was worth all the effort? I believe it was.


With every good wish - believe me,

Sincerely yours,

P.S.—Just an after thought. Surely by this time Scruggs knows that I think that he wrote that forged letter. If he had any honor in his makeup he would have written me and if innocent, he would have denied it 100%. No matter how much he hated me, if he was innocent of this crime he would have denied it, and this applies also to Hubbell and his financial backer and friend, one Roland Noe of Southgate, Ky.

No 401660

# RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

SENT TO Mrs Harold M. Pickett		POSTMARK OR DATE  	
STREET AND NO. 3567 Ola St			
CITY AND STATE Jacksonville (5) Fla			
<p>If you want a return receipt, check which</p> <table border="0"><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> 7¢ shows to whom and when delivered</td><td><input type="checkbox"/> 31¢ shows to whom, when, and address where delivered</td></tr></table>			<input type="checkbox"/> 7¢ shows to whom and when delivered
<input type="checkbox"/> 7¢ shows to whom and when delivered	<input type="checkbox"/> 31¢ shows to whom, when, and address where delivered		
<p>If you want restricted delivery, check here</p> <table border="0"><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> 20¢ fee</td></tr></table>		<input type="checkbox"/> 20¢ fee	
<input type="checkbox"/> 20¢ fee			

POD Form 3800  
July 1955

Replaces previous editions of  
this form which MAY be used.

1. Stick postage stamps to your letter to pay:
  - 15-cent certified mail fee
  - First-class or airmail postage
  - Either return receipt fee (*optional*)
  - Restricted delivery 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.



99R2

May 22, 1956.

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

Dear Phil:

Here is a very fine off-cover copy of the  
1¢ 1857 - Type III - 99R2. Copies of this stamp  
nicely perfed are most exceptional. The price  
of this copy is \$750.00 and I think it is a very  
safe investment at that price.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

Delong  
To SBA

PHILIP G. RUST  
Route 5  
THOMASVILLE, Georgia

DO NOT MAKE ENVELOPE  
DO NOT MAKE ENVELOPE

Dear Phil

Here is a very fine  
off cover copy of the 1¢  
1857 - Type III - 99R2. Copies  
of this stamp nicely  
perfected are most exceptional.  
The price of this copy is  
\$750<sup>00</sup> and I think it  
is a very safe ~~and~~  
investment at that price.  
With Regards  
Cordially

5/24/56

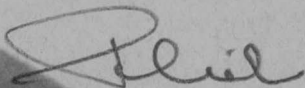
Dear Stan:

Try as I will, I can't get enthusiastic over the perfed items of this issue.

It was very nice of you to submit it, however.

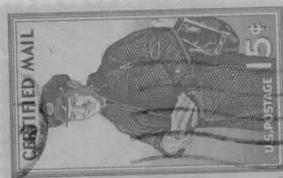
The Zepps were nice. I'll give them to the boys. I imagine you've gotten the check by now.

Pardon the note. The COW doctor is waiting for me now!

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Bill", is written at the bottom of the page.

PHILIP G. RUST  
Route 5  
THOMASVILLE, Georgia

PHILIP G. RUST  
WINNSTEAD PLANTATION  
THOMASVILLE, GEORGIA



CERTIFIED MAIL

No 777521

MR. STANLEY B. ASHBROOK  
33 N. FORT THOMAS AVENUE  
FORT THOMAS, KENTUCKY

\$389.00



C. CORWITH WAGNER . . .  
INSURANCE AGENCY

SUITE 1834 BOATMEN'S BANK BUILDING

SAINT LOUIS (2)

ACCIDENT  
HEALTH  
LIFE  
FIRE  
BONDS  
BURGLARY  
& HOLDUP  
AUTOMOBILE

ESTABLISHED  
1914

M A I N  
1-1640

May 22nd 1956

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook,  
33 No. Fort Thomas Ave.,  
Fort Thomas, Kentucky.

Dear Stan:

I come to seek your advice on the enclosed cover, which I obtained recently from a dealer in Minneapolis. When I got it, it was a bit roughed up and the two side flaps of the envelope were sealed with red wax to the bottom flap - which ordinarily would be the top flap - as can be noted from the red stains showing thereon. In taking the cover apart to press it out, and make some minor repairs to the upper right and the upper and lower left corners, I was careful not to remove the sealing wax. But when I finished the repairs and put the envelope in the press to dry out - I forgot that the wax was soft - and when I took the cover out of the press two days later the wax was pressed out very thin and was loose - so I took it off. I mention this so that you will understand the condition of the cover when I acquired it.

You will note on the back of the envelope - right flap - there is an oval hand-stamp that reads "Forwarded by Adam's & Co's EXPRESS J.M. Fernlan Agt PANAMA" - you will also note that with the top flap sealed down a portion of the Adams marking is covered by the flap. In other words the oval had to be applied before the flap was sealed.

When I bought the cover I assumed that it was a California item because of the STEAM SHIP and the "40" rate mark - I had not noticed the date in the memo on the address face reading "Rec'd Mar 7th 1854". After noting the year date I realized that it could not be from California as the 40¢ rate was discontinued in June 1851. In the lower left corner of the envelope is the notation "B<sup>K</sup> J. A. Parker" which I take to mean Barque J.A.Parker. I believe that the markings on the address face are genuine - but I have never seen such a marking of Adams Express as appears on the reverse side - so - if the Adams & Co's marking is good - it must be a very scarce or even rare one. I am not at all familiar with foreign postage rates - as you well know. Can you justify this 40¢ rate from any point in South America - east or west coast - or from Africa or Austrailia ??? And have you any record of such an Adam's & Co's Express marking ?????? Your opinion will be appreciated. A fee is in order, so you will please enclose your bill when you return the cover. Return registry postage is enclosed.

I enquired for you at FIPEX, but was told you would not be there. I hope your health is good and that all goes well with you and yours, My kindest personal regards,

Sincerely,

Wagner Personalized Insurance Service has acquired a reputation for Promptitude and—Reliability  
C. Corwith Wagner.

May 24, 1956.

Mr. C. Corwith Wagner,  
1834 Boatmen's Bank Bldg.,  
Saint Louis 2, Mo.

Dear Corwith:

It was nice to hear from you and I am pleased to report that I am OK and that I have no ailment except that of advanced age. Because I am not as young as I was a few decades back I try to conserve my strength and make it a point to avoid excitement, arguments, late hours, red liquor and especially wild women. I thought I would be much better off if I did not attend the New York Show and from all reports I believe I was wise. I do trust that you are in perfect health and that all goes well with you.

Now for the cover which I return herewith. Both markings "Steam-Ship" and "40" were applied at New York and the Adams marking indicates the letter was put into the mail at Panama City. The charge of 40¢ would be the U. S. postage regardless of where the letter came from originally. If the date is correct and I have reason to believe it is, a rate of 40¢ would apply to an unpaid letter of between  $1\frac{1}{2}$  and 2 ounces with origin at Panama. In other words, the rate was, "For any distance over 3,000 miles (by U. S. conveyance) - 10¢ single unpaid, 20¢ double, 30¢ triple and 40¢ quadruple. The latter meaning over  $1\frac{1}{2}$  ounces but not over 2 ounces. See P.L. & R. - 1852 Edition, page 20.

Re - the Adams marking. I am sure that I have seen this before and possibly have a photograph of it but I have been unable to locate a record in my files. I find it impossible to cross file a lot of data, hence when I want something special I have trouble locating the data. I will make a photo-front and back of your cover - and send them to Edgar Jessup. I am sure Edgar has a record of the Adams marking. Some years ago, Konwiser or Larry Mason published an article in Linquist's "Stamp Specialist" on various Forwarding handstamps. I am sure you have a file, and I think you will find the article in one of the early issues.

Under no circumstances would I think of charging you with a fee and further, I want you to feel that whenever you have any item on which you think I could help out a bit I want you to know that it is a pleasure to render any assistance in my power. In the past you have been most generous in assisting me and I have always greatly appreciated your generous co-operation. This I can assure you.

I note that the Yeckel collection is coming up at auction. I sincerely trust that the sale proves a great success. Whenever you see Mrs. Y, please remember Mrs. A and me to her. Louis Yeckel was a grand character and it was nice to have known him - such is the greatest thing in philately - the fine

#2. Mr. C. Corwith Wagner - May 24, 1956.

friends that we make.

With every good wish --

Cordially yours,

P.S.--I note your remarks about the Adams marking under the flap. I suppose this handstamp was applied to a lot of envelopes at one time and I have wondered if such envelopes were actually a Frank. In other words, a fee was charged by Adams for mailing.



*Champion Pants*

*Manufacturing Co., Inc.*



SALES OFFICES IN PRINCIPAL CITIES

FORTY-NINE WEST TWENTY-THIRD STREET • NEW YORK 10, N. Y.

CABLE ADDRESS, CHAPANTS, N. Y.

June 21st, 1956

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

Dear Stan,

Enclosed is a type 4 block. I plated this hurriedly last night as 36-37-38, 46-47-48R1L. I didn't have a chance to check it, but I believe it is correct.

However, I am not sending the block for this reason, but I believe there may have been a little skull duggery.

Please look at the upper right ornament on position 37. It looks to me as if part of the ornament has been painted in. What do you think?

Kindest regards.

Sincerely,

*Mort.*

MORTIMER L. NEINKEN

MLN:HL  
ENC.



June 26, 19561

Mr. Mortimer L. Neinken,  
49 West 23rd St.,  
New York 10, N.Y.

Dear Mort:

Herewith the One Cent 1851 - Type IV block of six as per yours of the 21st. The plate positions are correct, viz., 36, 37, 38RL - 46, 47, 48RL. I do not know what to think of the 37R - The question seems to be, did these dots, etc., originate there intentionally or unintentionally. To be more explicit, are these ink errors - offset dots and lines or did somebody try his hand at a minor paint job. Note the back and the number of "offset" ink dots. There are some on the back of 37R under those in the upper right ornament. On the other hand there seems to be very definite evidence that someone tried to paint some of the weak lines of the design, not only on 37R at upper right but on 38R at upper left.

I noted no evidence of any repair work but rather some monkey-business by someone who tried a little experimenting to see if he could improve the rather faint lines of a worn plate impression. Perhaps he was not greatly impressed with his handiwork and did not extend it to other stamps.

One thing is sure, in my opinion, this is not a plate variety - not consistent.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

EMMERSON C. KRUG

3008 13TH AVENUE SOUTH  
BIRMINGHAM 5, ALABAMA

June 27, 1956.  
Wednesday A.M.

Dear Stan,

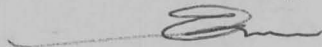
This came in today from Ezra with a \$50 ticket on it. I dont think the price too high if the thing is O.K.

I have written him if he would be offended if I sent it to you. In the meanwhile I see no reason why I should wait to get your O.K. If he says-"No, I can sell it without anything more than what you see." I dont anticipate this but in case it does happen no one need know I sent it to you. But of course I want your O.K. on the back if it is O.K. I will then remit to you and to him.

If you think so note that this is a National on back.

Em still progresses slowly. No news yet this morning.

Sincerely,



Enclosed

EDC Cover #154      \$50.00

June 29, 1956.

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

Dear Em:

I have not had the prices of the Fox Sale of June 6-7-8 as yet. I believe John has ceased to send out a list of prices but prints lists in the next catalogue of his sales. Is this your understanding?

By all means hold up on that 30¢ cover to France until I can make a thorough examination of it. Offhand I will state this - If it is genuine then it must have been overpaid. I will report as soon as possible.

Regards.

Yours etc.,



June 30, 1956.

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

Dear Em:

Herewith the "30¢" Bank Note cover as per yours of the 27th. I regret to state that this cover is a rank fake - This 30¢ stamp was not used originally on this cover - this is not a mere opinion, but a fact. You can, of course, quote me.

At first glance I knew the rate was incorrect but thought it might be an overpay and wrote you at once, however, there was no overpay. The part of the San Francisco postmark is a paint job and not a very good one at that. The faker removed a 10¢ Bank Note and substituted this 30¢ stamp.

We were pleased to learn that Em Jr. is still coming along okay.

Regards.

Yours etc.,

P.S.--My Service is in the mail today. I would appreciate comment on my remarks on the Kalamazoo cover. Also do you think Henry paid too much for his 5¢ '56 cover?



July 3, 1956.

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

Dear Em:

Yours of the 1st received. Thanks for your check for \$5.00.

30¢ Bank Note fake. I feel sure I have seen this before but did not have time to look thru hundreds of photos. I don't have time any more to index the latter. I am lucky if I can get time to sleep a bit.

Steve Brown cover Lot 539. I wonder why Henry thought you had a photograph? Strange? Why didn't he ask me? As you know it went to Knapp at \$530.00. I am awfully glad you called my attention to this cover because I believe it has the round "Le Havre" marking that I have been searching for. I am not sure I have a duplicate print but I suggest you write Henry to request one from me. I am sure I sent one to him some years ago. Too bad you did not buy that cover when you had a chance. It is the very rare 20¢ rate direct to France before the Treaty. This is an exceedingly rare rate. I note upon examination that the French p.m. has "OUTER - MER" at the top - so it is different from the one on the Klep \$8,800.00. In the Knapp sale, the 20¢ rate cover was lot 2471 and it went to Kelleher at \$500. Em, you are a million times right believe me. I would far prefer the Brown cover to the Klep. In fact, the Brown is almost surely unique - I would be willing to bet that there is not another 20¢ rate paid with the 5¢ 1856. At least I do not recall one. I would not intimate to Henry but I believe those slickers on the Continent pulled the old army game on Henry. I do not believe two different people were willing to pay \$8,800.00 for that cover. If Henry can get out even he should do so by all means. You must remember Henry's cover cost him 15% above \$7,600.00.

Again re - the 30¢ Bank Note cover. Have you forgotten Waterhouse Lot 664? Both covers were probably made by the same crook. Here is the answer - Note Waterhouse Lot #647. Sale price 17 pounds, or \$47.60. Who bought it? Looks like someone wanted to get out even?

Regards.

Yours etc.,

P.S.--I have no memo that I saw this cover before the sale.

P.P.S.--Again re - the Brown cover. It is illustrated on page 128 of the Brookman book, Vol. #1. This from a photo print I gave Les. His description is in error - this was not a 4 x 5¢ shore to ship but rather the rate 20¢ direct to Havre as per Vol. 2 of my One Cent book - "foreign rates of postage."

# Reserve Plan Inc

TRADE MARK REG.

SUITE 1020 COMMERCE BLDG. 922 WALNUT ST.

KANSAS CITY 6, MISSOURI

June 29, 1956

Mr. Stanley Ashbrook  
Post Office Box 31  
Ft. Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Stanley:

Re: The American Home I am glad you enjoyed the article which illustrates Kansas City homes. I hope some time you and Mrs. Ashbrook will have the opportunity to enjoy our terrace. Virginia and I avoid publicity, but permitted The American Home to take the photographs at the request of our architect. The only way architects have of advertising is through favorable publicity such as this which they received. Dave Mackie is not only a friend but did an excellent job for us when we built several years ago, so we were glad to consent to his request. Virginia is wearing the pink dress. Phil Rahm is wearing the dark suit and his wife, the white dress. My elder son regularly dates one of their twin daughters. So far, their romance has gone smoothly enough so that we are still friends.

Re: Kalamazoo Cover: I concur in your friend's suggestion that the dispute over the Kalamazoo Cover be dropped. I wrote the New York secretary of state, and he replied that it seemed to be a matter to be settled between the parties and refused to give an opinion on the ~~cover~~<sup>matter</sup>. Ralph Jones, my attorney, said the facts were interesting enough to be asked as a question on a bar examination.

Re: Enclosures: Enclosed find five covers which I received at Pat Herst's sale. As you can see, the prices are rather reasonable. 1847 covers with locals interest me, and unfortunately, the locals are seldom tied. One cover with the G. A. Mills was formerly in the West collection, and I believe is okay. If you feel justified in opinionizing any of them, I would appreciate it.

Re: Five-cent Boston Cover: This is apparently an 1847 cover used from England. Unfortunately, the stamp is not tied, but it does bear the black Boston grid used



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

June 16, 1956

Dear Stan! -

TRUSTEES

HENRY E. ABT  
RICHARD S. BOHN  
JOHN R. BOKER, JR.  
GEO. E. BURGHARD  
HUGH M. CLARK  
LOUISE B. DALE  
WILLIAM A. EDGAR  
GEO. R. M. EWING  
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TREASURER  
WINTHROP S. BOGGS  
DIRECTOR  
ETHEL HARPER  
ASS'T TO THE CHAIRMAN

Off the record - do you know  
anything of this correspondence?  
Photo enclosed - please return  
as soon as possible -

Hope you are fine - and  
taking care of your self -  
Expect to get away in  
about 10 days for a much  
needed vacation - on Cape  
Cod again

Regards  
This



July 1, 1956.

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

Dear Win:

I feel sure that I have seen other covers from this correspondence but do not seem to be able to put my hands on any photos.

In my opinion, this cover is a fake. The use, in my opinion, was May 5, 1870 and a 10¢ stamp was removed and this 30¢ substituted.

I am pleased to report that I am okay but working much too hard. I trust that your health is good and that you have a pleasant vacation on the Cape.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

(40-34)



Winthrop S. Boggs

July 9, 1956  
22 E 35<sup>th</sup> St NYC 16.

Dear Stan:-

Thanks for your note re the 30c on  
cover to Guatemala - had examined it care-  
fully and am of the opinion it's O.K. - the  
Guatemala rate marks "4" (for 4 reales) indi-  
cates a letter weighing between 1 and 2 ozs -  
and 30¢ would be for 1 to 1½ ozs - there  
is no evidence of tampering - and the  
cover shows evidence of being a heavy one -  
I have seen others from this correspondence  
which appears to be somewhat extensive and  
of ordinary purport -

Am leaving for Cape Cod on the  
11<sup>th</sup> for a much needed two weeks vaca-  
tion - It has been a hectic year - I  
hope the coming year will be quieter - there  
is so much to be done -  
Try to take it easy yourself -

Regards,  
W.S.B.

July 15, 1956.

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

Dear Win:

I have yours of the 9th and note you believe the cover is genuine. I hope the P.F. does not issue a certificate to that effect. I can show you a cover (photo) with a 10¢ 1861 to Guatemala with a "4" so don't count on this as indicating a 30¢ U. S. rate.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

Aug. 20, 1956.

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

Dear Ezra:

In June Boggs sent me a 30¢ 1869  
cover to Guatemala - I informed him that it was  
a rank fake.

The P.F. went ahead and issued a  
certificate stating it is genuine. I understand  
it is coming up in a sale by Herman Herst. He  
don't send me his catalogues. Can you obtain one  
for me?

Regards.

Yours etc.,



Aug. 20, 1956.

Mr. Lawrence L. Shenfield,  
40 Highland Circle,  
Bronxville 8, N.Y.

Dear Larry:

Thanks for yours of the 17th with further comment on the Franklin. I made a color slide of the item and it shows up the red postmark to excellent advantage. I will send it to you if you would like to see it.

Mention of the P.F. reminds me - the following is confidential (no mention to Boggs). Several months ago he sent me a cover (or a photo of it?) with a 30¢ 1869 to Guatemala. I informed him it was a fake (and it is). I understand it is coming up in a Herst sale with a P.F. certificate. Larry this is bad business - no matter on which side of the fence is the viewpoint. Some innocent buyer will get stuck and the P.F. will be responsible for the loss. They should refuse an opinion in cases where they are not absolutely sure. How can you disagree with me on such a point? Boggs wrote me he disagreed with me and was sure the cover was genuine. Boggs VS Ashbrook. The P.F. took his opinion instead of mine. I could swear a blue streak a mile long but what good would it do.

I am enclosing a letter and clipping and photo from George Linn, all of which please return. I will be glad to convey to George any comment you wish to make.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

P.S.--I might add - I wouldn't trust Herman Herst, Jr. as far as I could toss a bull by the tail.



EZRA D. COLE

*Rare Postage Stamps*

NYACK . NEW YORK

*Commissions . Appraisals*

TELEPHONE NYACK 7-0964

August 22nd, 1956

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

Dear Stan:

The Philatelic Foundation is up to their old tricks. I don't suppose they will ever learn.

Thanks for tipping me off about that cover for someone is sure to write me about it. Isn't this a cover we have seen somewhere before? I have a faint recollection of it.

I get Herman Herst's catalogues but do not have any on hand now so I would assume that this will be offered in some sale early this Fall. Just as soon as I find out about this or get a catalogue I will write you and will get a catalogue from him for you somehow.

Sincerely,

Ezra D. Cole.

P.S.) I see by the August 25th issue of "Stamps" that Herman Herst is to have an auction sale September 28th at the Hotel Sinton, Cincinnati, Ohio. If this is so you sure can write him for a catalogue and maybe see what happens right there or have someone on the floor.

LAWRENCE L. SHENFIELD

Advertising & Merchandising  
Consultant

40 Highland Circle, Bronxville 8, N.Y.  
DEerfeld 7-4206

August 28, 1956

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

Dear Stan:

Answering yours of the 20th. Thanks, but do not trouble to send me slide of the Franklin. It is in the Luff Reference Collection now and if we ever turn up another fake Phila. P.O. like it, I'll let you know.

I return the Linn correspondence. I know nothing of Scrugg's gift to Boys' Town. He did buy the block of the 2¢ Uniontown at Auction - he is of Catholic faith - he may be trying to reform -- so perhaps he did gift some stamps to Boys' Town. Do not believe he would dare to foist fakes in a gift of this kind.

Now to the 2nd paragraph of your letter. I feel that I cannot let it go unanswered - and I will try to answer it carefully and without rancor. I trust you will read it on the facts. The real reason why I am answering it personally is that I deplore the differences of opinion which arise simply because the basis or facts or beliefs upon which an opinion is stated are not disclosed. It is not enough to say "that is good or bad". To provide the other fellow immediately with the facts or suspicions you hold is the way to progress, education and often agreement.

Now to these 30¢ 1869 covers to GUATEMALA. There are two from the same correspondence -- (1) a 30¢ single (you have photo); (2) a 30¢ + 10¢ 1869. Both are only part covers, really fronts, of stout, backed paper evidently enclosing more than the usual letter. In one, we read that papers and currency are enclosed. Both fronts bear the same N.Y. cancel of MAY -- and the 4 (reales) mark of Guatemala. It would certainly appear that these letters carried more than 1/2 oz. or 1/4 oz.

Before 1862, Guatemala did not have a postal treaty with the U.S. In 1862 prepayment became obligatory at 10¢ per 1/2 oz. or fraction - to Central America states. So the 30¢ + 10¢ cover is in line with the rates, if it ran over 1-1/2 oz. and as stated the cover gives all indications of heavy carriage.

LAWRENCE L. SHENFIELD

-2-

So even though without year date these covers agree with postal regulations. The cork rosette killers which tie all these stamps were examined meticulously -- no evidence of painting or retouching was seen. Under the lamp there was no evidence of stamps or stamp removed, and no evidence of pen cancel removed from the covers. 30¢ stamps are well known used from New York.

Now, Stan, in your letter to Linn you say in effect -- (1) you think you have seen other letters from this correspondence (2) in your opinion a bank note stamp has been removed and the 30¢ substituted. This letter I read some time ago. Let me follow your hypothesis (2):

(A) If a bank note stamp were removed it would have been a 30¢ value (if our reading of over-weight is correct); would have been originally either (a) not tied (or pen cancelled - not likely); (b) tied but cancel on cover removed; (c) tied with cancel on cover left to tie up with substituted 30¢, with painted matching.

(B) Consider (a) -- then the cancel on the cover tying the 30¢ is painted to match. There is no evidence of this.

Consider (b) -- no evidence of cancel on cover removed - and again no evidence on 30¢ same as (a) above.

Consider (c) -- no evidence of painted matching to 30¢

(If an unused 30¢ were used the whole cancel would be faked to tie - no evidence of this).

I say no evidence of painting or matching based upon the tell-tale appearance of such frauds, of which we have dozens of well-done examples. (I rule out also a strip of 10¢ 1871-79 - since surely such a strip removed would leave scattered ties to be seen.)

(C) Now, Stan, which of the methods above do you believe was used to make these covers? You must have a conviction because you have such a strong opinion. I have given you our data for opinion. Give us yours specifically.

\*

\*

\*

As stated, the only way for minds to meet is for minds to state facts and specific reasons. These matters are not "Boggs vs. Ashbrook" as you write. They rest upon collaboration of opinions and facts given. Let me have yours.

It was not necessary to show Boggs your letter -- your last one which I know of, stated your position. And don't "swear a blue streak" when you have read this letter. For Heaven's sake, Stan, let's collaborate for the good of the hobby we both love.

Best to you,

Carry

LAWRENCE L. SHENFIELD

Advertising & Merchandising  
Consultant

40 Highland Circle, Bronxville 8, N.Y.  
BRonxville 2-4206

Dear Stan -

Tardily answering yours of Sep. 1. Next time we'll send the cover, not a photo. I agree with you that an opinion from a photo is dangerous. Since you did not comment on my detailed letter of how we examined these two items. I presume you agree that there was no evidence of stamp removal or painting. In regard to the "4 R." marking, my understanding is that the Guatemala rate was:

1st 1/2 oz.	1 Rate
next 1/2 oz	1 Rate
next 1 oz	2 Rates

So the 4 Rate would cover weights from 1 1/2 to 2 oz and the 2 covers in question were rated U.S. 1 1/2 oz (30¢ stamp) 2 oz (30¢ + 10¢ stamp). Isnt that correct?

Referring to the last P. of yours we believe there is direct evidence that these covers are genuine. despite the absence of your dating.

Best regards

Sep. 21

Larry.



Sept. 25, 1956.

Mr. Lawrence L. Shenfield,  
40 Highland Circle,  
Bronxville 8, N.Y.

Dear Larry:

I have yours of the 21st.

Yes, I noted your form letter very carefully, each point that you made, etc., and I have this letter for future reference.

I am making an investigation of the "due markings" on mail to Guatemala and later I will be in a better position to express an opinion.

I enclose a print which please return. Here is a 10¢ rate with a "4." It seems strange that a 40¢ rate would have a "4." Boggs did not ask my opinion and I should not have expressed one. He sent me a photo, thinking I would like to have a record of a cover to Guatemala with a 30¢ 1869 for my files. His intent was to do me a favor. I suppose I expressed an opinion as a warning for the Committee not to authenticate the cover because it was my conviction that the cover was a fake.


Larry, for years and years I have studied faked covers turned out by Zareski and the other artists over on the Continent and I have employed photograph to record features of their work. Believe me when I tell you that they are clever, they strive for perfection. Do you mean to tell me that amateurs comprising the P.F. Committee are well enough informed to cope with such work? At times their faking is so damn clever I don't know whether some are good or bad. Is there anyone on that Committee who has spent as much time as I have in trying to become as efficient as possible? That Committee covers the world - I cover a very small field in comparison - just 19th Century U.S. and Confeds but not the P.M.P. I have little knowledge of the latter.

Think it over.

Regards.

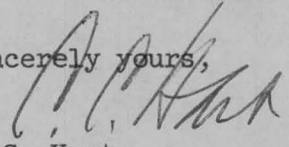
Yours etc.,

Mr. Stanley Ashbrook  
June 29, 1956  
Page two



for canceling foreign mail. The letter is dated Liverpool, June 7, and Boston, June 21, allowing fourteen days for the crossing. The letter is also headed per Niagra, which indicates that the letter came via this ship. The back stamp interests me, and my guess is that the letter was enclosed in another letter and forwarded <sup>with</sup> by William Bailly Lang's applying the stamp. Of course, it could be that the stamp was placed on the cover in England and then dispatched by Lang when he received it at Boston. Unfortunately, the stamp is on the lower left hand corner, which arouses our suspicion as to its genuinness. I hope you think it is okay, and can so state.

Sincerely yours,



C. C. Hart

CCH:nc

GILBERT BOND  
25% COTTON FIBRE  
USA

July 1, 1956.

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

Dear Mr. Hart:

Herewith I am returning three of the five 1847 covers, viz:

- 1) G.A.Wells
- 2) Boyds
- 3) U.S.Mail

I have signed each one of these as genuine.

I am holding the other two for further examination and will report later.

Re - the cover from Liverpool. If the stamp was actually used on this cover then the chances are it was applied by Lang in Boston. This letter was sent under separate cover - (privately carried?) to Lang - this to save postage - what I call a bootleg cover. Lang put the stamp on and mailed it - but, this could have been a stampless, postage paid. It is true that Boston used a black grid in 1850 and 1851, and a fixer could have been aware of this.

More later.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

(40-35)

INTERART EXHIBITION  
TO THE CENTRAL EXHIBITION  
PHILATELIC



July 1, 1956.

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

Elliott:

Here are two covers that belong to a mutual friend of ours. While he did not request same I believe he would like to have your opinion as well as mine. If you believe these covers are genuine will you please sign either one or both on the back. Advise me of your fee and I will remit by return mail - Here are some remarks:

Messenkopes Local. Is this stamp genuine? Do you believe it was used originally on this cover? Is the 5¢ '47 canceled with a round grid and also with an encircled "5" rate stamp or in your opinion, what is this cancelation? Is there any doubt in your mind that this 5¢ '47 was used on this cover?

5¢ '47 on a cover from Liverpool. Do you believe the 5¢ was actually used on this cover? Impression and color of stamp is okay for June 1851 - also a use of a black grid. Chances are the stamp was not put on at Liverpool and if put on at Boston by Lang why is it in left bottom corner? To all appearances the stamp was added after the Boston postmark and PAID was applied. The postmark shows the rate and the PAID shows the rate was paid, so this could have been a stampless to which somebody applied a 5¢ '47 with a black grid, aware of the fact that Boston used a black grid in 1850 and 1851. What is your opinion? If you think the cover is perfectly good, will you sign it on the back?

Return envelope herewith.

Yours etc.,



July 27, 1956.

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

Dear Mr. Hart:

I apologize for holding these two covers so long but the fault was not mine. I sent the two covers down to Elliott Perry and they were not returned until this morning. I am sending Perry a check for \$10.00, as a fee for his examination and passing the charge to you and I am not charging you anything.

I quote from Perry's letter dated July 24th as follows:

"The two 5¢ 1847 covers you submitted are enclosed. I don't like either of them well enough to sign my name as an expression of a favorable opinion, although I might spend a lot of time without finding satisfactory proof that either of them did not go thru the mail as they now appear.

In my opinion the cover with the Messenkope is more likely to be authentic. A round grid in red was used on 5¢ 1847s in New York around the date of the letter and the Union Square P.O. stamps were being used. The Messenkope is genuine. A photo might show if the larger red marking includes a "5" and it is conceivable that a clerk used that handstamp first and then cancelled the stamp with a round grid. I question whether such covers should be priced as a rare combination, because a buyer may pay real money for a value that is problematical. I would rate such combinations at the value of the stamps separately, plus the value of the cover itself, if it has value. Then a buyer will get what he pays for.

I am less favorably inclined toward the Boston to Springfield cover. I would not hanker for the job of proving it wrong, yet it would not satisfy me. I agree with your opinion that the stamp was not needed for the postage. I suspect the "need" was philatelic a long time later rather than postal in June 1851.

If the service is worth anything to the owner he can pay whatever it may be worth to him, but I prefer to ask no fee for an opinion which can satisfy neither the owner nor myself."

Regarding the above. The Messenkope - I agree with Perry that this cover may be genuine but I certainly would not be willing to sign it as such, because there is little to prove that it is. I felt that way but I am no authority on Locals, whereas Elliott is.

Re - the Boston. This could have been a stampless to which someone attached the 5¢ stamp. No competent student could sign this as genuine without some positive proof. Here is a letter brought in privately, and mailed. Because of the black trid I think it could be that the stamp was probably used as we see it. I am not quite as dubious as Elliott.

We are leaving for a short vacation tomorrow, Saturday the 28th and will be away until about August 7th or 8th. All mail will be held at the P.O. until our return.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

July 24, 1956



Stan:

The two 5¢ 1847 covers you submitted are enclosed. I don't like either of them well enough to sign my name as an expression of a favorable opinion, altho I might spend a lot of time without finding satisfactory proof that either of them did not go thru the mail as they now appear.

A In my opinion the cover with the Messenkope is more likely to be authentic. A round grid in red was used on 5¢ 1847s in New York around the date of the letter and the Union Square P.O. stamps were being used. The Messenkope is genuine. A photo might show if the larger red marking includes a "5" and it is conceivable that a clerk used that handstamp first and then cancelled the stamp with a round grid. I question whether such covers should be priced as a rare combination, because a buyer may pay real money for a value that is problematical. I would rate such combinations at the value of the stamps separately, plus the value of the cover itself, if it has value. Then a buyer will get what he pays for.

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If the service is worth anything to the owner he can pay whatever it may be worth to him, but I prefer to ask no fee for an opinion which can satisfy neither the owner nor myself.

The other five covers submitted recently are also enclosed. The New York stampless is marked 1.25 on the face and 8.50 on the back. It is worth \$1.25 to me.

My cover with single 5¢ 1857-60 (Type II) came to light yesterday. It is tied on a letter written in New York and the tie is a New York postmark. The letter is from a well known correspondence, to Philadelphia, and I believe the stamp prepaid 3¢ postage and no more. As for the 5c on buff envelope Newark to Chester, N.J., May 30, 1862, the pen marks on the stamp may not prove anything, but they seem to agree better with a thought that someone used a cancelled 5¢ stamp to pay 3¢ postage than that the 5¢ stamp was for a WAY fee into Newark, plus postage to Chester. Isn't May 30, 1862 rather early for this particular brown color?

As ever,

*Arthur Gray*

July 28, 1956.

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

Elliott:

Thanks very much for yours of the 24th with return of the two 5¢ 1847 covers and also the five Stark covers and the photo print.

Re -- the Stark covers, I did not send these down to sell but rather for you to see. However, if you wish the New York stampless #1578 @ \$2.25 you are welcome to it.

For your examination of the two 5¢ 1847 covers I am charging my friend a fee of \$5.00 each so here is my check for \$8.75 in settlement. I have carefully noted your comments on the two covers and I am certainly in agreement.

We are in a rush to get away.  
Yours etc.,



EMMERSON C. KRUG

3008 13TH AVENUE SOUTH  
BIRMINGHAM 5, ALABAMA

July 3, 1956.

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

Dear Stan,

I have just recieved these lots from the Stolow sale of last Wednesday the 27th. I only got four of them which are enclosed for your signing if they are O.K.

An accompanying letter from Ez states that he is going to mail me a priced catalog which I am to forward to you and which I will do.

They are:

Lot 131- 1¢ 1851 tied by Express mail	\$35.00
" 135- 1¢ 1851 strip four & 10¢ 1855 pair	\$175.00
" 160- 24¢ 1860 & 1¢ 1857 on front O.M.	\$100.00
" 267- 5¢ 1862 strip of three RED-BROWN	\$120.00 (Be sure to so note)
Please sign, if O.K., all four.	<hr/> \$430.00

Of course I missed on several more but I note the above cost Harry Stolow at the Balasse sale \$405.00, so he did not get rich nor did JD off of me. But I wanted lot 47 very much and bid \$90.00 on it. I thought this high for a manuscript cancelled copy. It brought \$200.00.

Well, the other day I bought in a sale of Siegel's the enclosed Hudson Riv Mail cover for \$31.00. I wanted it to go with my regular cover which you saw. Do you see any way of establishing the fact that this stamp originated on this cover so that you would feel free to so sign it? Is there any way of comparing ink? I suppose not for the P.M. ink would be different from the address ink. If it had just been tied this cover is more desirable than the Stolow one. Does the red "5" show that the stamp does not belong there? I dont intend to try to send the cover back so you can feel free to tell me what you think.

Realizing tomorrow is a holiday I am sending this via special. I dont do much business with Stolow so when you decide on the approval of his four items (The Hudson Riv cover is in no hurry) will you send me a collect wire so I can remit. Then you can send them back at your convenience.

To return anything to Stolow is a new experience since Cole does not go there, does not like them, etc. and I dont want to be dilatory about any returns. I have seen these, had them sent down for examination, etc.

Am at this very moment awaiting the arrival of the ambulance with Em, Jr. Dorsey is accompanying him.

Sincerely,



Registration Value.

4 Covers Stolow	\$451.50
1 " Siegel	32.50
	<hr/> \$484.00



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

Re - a piece with U. S. 24¢ 1860 plus 1¢ 1857 Type V tied in black by the New York Ocean Mail postmark (to California) of Jan. 1 (1861). Addressed to PORTO with double circle postmark of "PORTO 21 JANR 1861" - Also red "LONDON JA-14-61-PAID."

Re - the Ocean Mail postmark, this was a strike of the tri-monthly sailing to Panama of the 1st, 11th and 21st. On this piece it was surely struck thru error as this piece of mail was surely addressed to Portugal and to the City of PORTO or OPORTO, Portugal's second largest city. This was surely a rate "by British Mail Via England," the rate being 29¢ per 1/4 oz. and 37¢ per 1/2 oz. This was originally a rate of the latter, viz., 37¢ and evidently a 12¢ 1857 stamp is missing. This communication evidently was sent from New York on Tuesday, Jan. 1, 1861, to Boston and was forwarded from there on a Cunard ship sailing for Liverpool on Wednesday, Jan. 2nd, 1861. Of the 37¢ in postage that was paid, the U. S. share was the 5¢ Internal and the British share was 32¢. The manuscript "32" in red at left was this credit. On face is a black handstamped "160," which was the Portugal postage due of "160 Reis" - As a "Reis" was 1/10 of a U. S. cent, this was approximately 16¢ or 8 pence.

All markings on this piece are genuine in all respects.

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July 4, 1956

(From the Klep Sale by Balassee - Brussels  
March 27, 1956 - Lot 778).

Re - a piece with U. S. 24¢ 1860 plus 1¢ 1857 Type V tied in black by the New York Ocean Mail postmark (to California) of Jan. 1 (1861). Addressed to PORTO with double circle postmark of "PORTO 21 JANR 1861" - Also red "LONDON JA-14-61-PAID."

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All markings on this piece are genuine in all respects.

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July 4, 1956  
(From the Klep Sale by Balasse - Brussels -  
March 27, 1956 - Lot 778).

July 4, 1956.

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

Dear Em:

Herewith the four Stolow covers and the Siegel cover as per yours of the 3rd. You will note that I gave special attention to the ~~Ed~~-Klep - Stolow Lot #160. A very interesting piece and one that I certainly will use in an issue of my "Special Service." This letter got into the "slot" for mail for California and as a result got hit with the postmark used for mail bound for Panama by the Ocean Mail. I am surprised that Edgar did not go after this strong. When he sees a photo he will be quite sore that he missed it (just my opinion).

I wired you this afternoon that all the Stolow lots are genuine. I suppose as Ezra claims this Stolow crowd are a crooked outfit but as long as they have things in their sales you can use, one would be foolish not to try and buy. It has been my experience that they don't give a buyer a break - every time I have been able to buy anything in their sales I get it at my bid. So it is much better to bid thru an agent. In other words, if you would send them a bid of \$100 on a lot you would not get it at \$99.00. Not a chance.

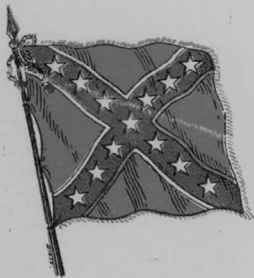
Re - the Siegel cover. There is no evidence that I can detect that this stamp originated on this cover, in fact, it looks like it was put on after the mail clerk rated and postmarked the letter. It is my opinion that this was a stampless sent unpaid and the route agent rated it as "5" due - Had this stamp been used on this cover I do not believe the clerk would have pencanceled the stamp as they had canceling devices. Another bad point is that all evidence of year use has been removed, so this might have been a use before the 1847 stamps or even after. Had this been after July 1, 1851, the unpaid rate would have been 5¢ (due). I believe there is more circumstantial evidence that the stamp was not used on this cover than any evidence that it was. However, there is no actual proof and for that reason I doubt if it would be fair to return it. My opinion is this - I don't think Siegel or any other dealer should have offered this as genuine.

I have photos of four other covers with stamps pencanceled, all of which I think were originally stampless sent collect. I enclose a poor print of a stampless of May 1847. This "5" seems to have been used before the 1847 stamps.

Lot 47 in the Stolow sale was surely Lot 373 in the Klep sale. In the Klep it sold at 3200 francs with 15% added, equaled \$112.00. Too bad it was not illustrated in either sale. Did you see it before the sale? I did not. The chances are I have a photo of it in my files.

Again re - Stolow - bear in mind they guarantee all items in the sales or money back. They have respect for my opinions and I am sure(?) that they would refund if I condemned an item. They will even give you a signed guarantee on any item you purchase if you ask for such.

I note you were awaiting the arrival of Emmerson. We hope he made the trip OK.  
Regards.  
Yours etc.,



C.S.A. 1954  
Richmond



Stanley B. Ashbrook  
33 North Fort Tomas Ave  
Fort Tomas , Kentucky





RICHARD L. TRAUT  
4541 HAMILTON AVENUE  
CINCINNATI 23, OHIO

7 - 2 - 56

Dear Mr. Ashbrook

Enclosed you will find a copy of a Confederate New Orleans postage stamp  
brown red in color .

Could you tell me if this stamp is Good or if it is a fake. Would you  
sign this stamp if it is Good. Send me any bill.

Also list what it may be worth.

Yours truly,

Col. Richard L. Traut

*Richard L. Traut*

June 27, 1956.

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

Dear Em:

Your registered of yesterday came on the first mail this morning. We were glad to learn of Em's continued improvement and will be interested to learn how the X-ray shots turn out. No mention of the baby so we assume the news is good. You never did tell us how this accident occurred so when you get a bit of time give us the details.

Re - the Mueller article. I thought it was excellent and am in agreement that he is a brilliant student. I doubt if he has his equal in his field in this country and that includes that redhead effeminate S.O.B. who brags that he is the peer of all. I know that Ezra has great respect for Mueller's knowledge. Too bad that he is not a profound student of 19th U. S.

Re - the "S.L.U." cover. I doubt if "P.R." really wants to buy it. I am expecting a phone call from him and if he wants me to try and get it for him I will suggest that it be done thru you. Thanks for the offer to help out and everything will be confidential. What I would like to know is who offered it to him.

I will offer the single to H.L. It was in the Stark folders but you probably did not notice it had the "S.L.U." cancellation. It was not marked as such. I have no Stark off-cover material that is not included with the covers.

I note you have a lot of bids in for the Stolow sale today. I never heard of a Lomar Hall and didn't know Ez had a helper. Someday Ez should introduce his left-hand to his right.

I return the Paige slip cover. Fine. I suggest you order 500 and I will be glad to take half. They are the same size and seem better than the Ful.VU.

I set Molesworth right about Mr. K. of B. so I feel sure you will hear from him.

Re - the five covers that you enclosed -

Cover 25 B. I will send this down to Chase - tell him it belongs to you and that you want an opinion on it and expect to pay for same. If it is anything out of the ordinary to sign it on the back as such.

Cover No. 11. Em, you did send this "Chicago Perf" cover to me but offhand I forget what I wrote you about it. I am sending it down to Doc with the above. I don't like it and that may be the reason I did not sign it when you sent it before. Much depends on the plate. We will see what Doc says. It would be an easy matter for a "fixer" to locate a cover of this particular period and punch some holes in the stamp (after removal).

#2. Mr. Emmerson C. Krug - June 27, 1956.

Gainesville, Ala. cover. This is good as gold. Thanks for the look. This originated elsewhere on the river - (down stream) and was brought to G. by this steamboat and entered the U.S. Mail. Quite a nice Tombigbee cover. Scruggs never made this kind of material (I hope).

Cover #60 - 24¢ 1861 Red Violet. Thanks for the look. I made a color slide of the color for reference.

Cover 60A. Also thanks for the look. Signed in 1942. That don't seem so long ago but it was. Quite a lot of water has gone over the dam since that far off day. I was pleased to make a color record. No color work in those days for me.

Yours of Monday did not arrive until after your letter of yesterday though it was marked "Air Mail" Seems like it is a "hit and miss" game.

We do hope that no trouble will develop over Emmerson's eyes. The Doctor in charge should know the symptoms and if he feels confident that no damage will result I would hold that thought and none else.

I note you received a Fipex silver medal. Well, you deserve all they give you because you gave a lot of time and did your best.

Barbara Mueller is the person to whom I sold a cover (Lookout Mountain) for you. She is something unusual, viz., a philatelic student. She specializes in "Registered Mail" and seems to be very proficient. She got a lot of data from me and then used it as her own - no credit to source. Just like a female but maybe she don't know any better. However, I am for her - regardless - because we need such people - collectors who take their collecting seriously and publish articles - (educational). Do you not agree? I don't know a thing about her - age? - married? - occupation? - how fixed financially? - etc - etc.

Thanks for the Kiplinger.

Regards.

Yours etc.,

No 401669

# RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

SENT TO

DR. CARROLL CHASE

STREET AND NO. R. F. D. 1 - MILFORD,  
NEW HAMPSHIRE

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*

*If you want re-  
stricted deliv-  
ery, check here*

☐

*20¢ fee*

POSTMARK  
OR DATE



POD Form 3800  
July 1955

Replaces previous editions of  
this form which MAY be used.



1. Stick postage stamps to your letter to pay:
  - 15-cent certified mail fee
  - First-class or airmail postage
  - Either return receipt fee (*optional*)
  - Restricted delivery fee (*optional*)
  - Special-delivery fee (*optional*)
2. If you want this receipt postmarked, stick the gummed stub on the address side of the letter, leaving the receipt attached, and present the letter to a postal employee.
3. If you do not want this receipt postmarked, stick the gummed stub on the address side of the letter, detach and retain the receipt, and mail the letter.
4. If you want a return receipt, write the certified-mail number and your name and address on a return receipt card and attach it to the back of the letter.
5. Save this receipt and present it if you make inquiry.

June 27, 1956.

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

Dear Doc:

Here is a cover that belongs to my good friend Emerson Krug of Birmingham. He would like to have your opinion on the stamp and if it is anything out of the ordinary he would like to have you sign it on the back for him. Naturally he fully expects to pay for this service so advise me of the charge.

Stamped addressed envelope for return.

Our best to Jean and you.

Cordially yours,

June 27, 1956.

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

Dear Doc:

Here is another cover that belongs to Krug. What do you think of it? I examined it very carefully and I thought it had some good points as well as bad. The year does look like 1857 but if a fixer could lay hands on a 3¢ '51 cover used at or around the 1856-57 period, which shouldn't be hard, I suppose it would be darn easy to punch in some holes. What about the plate? Would it be right for a Chicago perf?

Regards.

Cordially yours,

ESTABLISHED 1928

# Reserve Plan Inc

TRADE MARK REG.

SUITE 904, 521 FIFTH AVENUE

NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

July 10, 1956

Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

Enclosed find two '56 (54) covers  
to be opinionized.


Re 54 strips of 3: Ex-Caspary, lot 457,

These two covers may have postal markings that  
will interest you as per your July "Special Service".

I have a third 54 1856, I purchased in  
England abx. 10 years ago with either a vert. pair  
or vert strips of three plus a single. All the stamps  
are cut into but it may have some postal  
markings of interest. When I return to N.Y., 7-16-'56,  
I'll look for it and send to you.

So long for now —

C. P. Hall

 54 III Caspary Lot 457



July 14, 1956.

Mr. C. C. Hart,  
Suite 100, 922 Walnut St.,  
Kansas City 6, Mo.

Dear Mr. Hart:

I am returning herewith your two 5¢ 1856 covers as per yours of the 10th - one with the H.S. of three from New Orleans to France, the other with the single 5¢ 1856 from New Orleans Jan. 15, 1857, to France. Incidentally, it may be of interest to you to learn that I have a record and photograph of another letter that went by this same trip to France and these two covers show the earliest use in my records of the marking "C.B. - 4Oc."

I note that you have another cover with the 5¢ 1856 to France and if not too much trouble will you send it to me for a look.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

EMMERSON C. KRUG

3008 13TH AVENUE SOUTH  
BIRMINGHAM 5, ALABAMA

July 24, 1956. Tuesday A.M.

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

Dear Stan,

Yours of yesterday just came this morning and I haste n to reply. I am so glad you are going to make the trip down to Norfolk and thereby get a little rest. Funny as it may seem it is what both of us need here. Dorsey lost about ten pounds during Em's accident and needs to get clear away. I have to attend our annual stockholder's and subsequent director's meeting for officer election in Tampa on August 13th and 14th and I hope to be able to go over to Daytona Beach for a couple of weeks just to get her back in shape. The boy is getting along so nicely that I am sure by then she can go that far and be able to relax. My it would be wonderful if you and Mildred could drive down there at that time, say Aug. 15 to Sept. 1. It's a great place to relax.

While the Balasse magazine has not come yet I have the Fox list here. I will copy and return it to you. I wonder why John did not send me one as he has here-to-fore after you asked him to do so. But thanks for loaning me yours.

I am mailing back the letter from Mr. Wagner about the Yeckel collection. I am glad too that everybody is happy about the deal. I am sure John made some money also. As far as Ez's letter is concerned he had told me the same line of dope when I saw him last. In fact it has been repeated in letters since then. I still have my doubts that he is very close to Ez. I saw him buy the lots Ez speaks of in his letter. I am the one who told Ez that Dick had been by Cincinnati. I was writing him about the Stolow lots and spoke about the fact that Dick had not made much off of my purchases from that sale. In that letter I simply mentioned that Dick had been to Ft. Thomas and "about".

Since you will have a chance to look at the five lots I have in the last Stolow sale and I need to know before I send a check to them direct I am sending them up. Three need an O.K. by you, a fourth already has it and another is O.K. Anticipating them O.K, I enclose my check for \$15.00.

I paid \$43 for the Jamaica Mail cover, \$57.50 for the 10¢ plus 1¢ 1857 to California, \$7.50 for the little Galena, Ill cover, \$25 for the 21¢ rate to Holland and \$32 for the cover with your O.K. on back.

I will want that Hawaiian cover O.K.'d if I buy it, the one you sent back to Siegel. Thanks for sending it to him.

Sincerely,



Register Value

Five covers \$175.00

10¢ 1857 plus 1¢ 1857 from New York to San Francisco - Carrier cover to the New York P.O. This was Lot 1348 in the 1925 Chase sale. Also in the Gibson sale in 1943. I do not think these 10¢ plus 1¢ covers are in the rarity class and doubt if I ever made any such a statement.

Re - Ashbrook book Vol. 2, page 181, this is the chapter by Berry and he listed this cover as belonging to Gibson. I signed this on the back and there is no charge. I suppose the only odd thing about this cover is that it did not receive the N.Y. Ocean Mail postmark, probably because it was postmarked in the Carrier Division. I have little doubt that it went Via Panama rather than by the Overland Mail.



45¢ to Venezuela, from New Orleans May 21, 1855. The official rate by the 1854 P.L. & R. and the 1855 P.L. & R. (July 1, 1855), was "45¢ per ½ oz. - British Mail Via Southampton." Apparently this letter was sent direct to Kingston, Jamaica from New Orleans by an American ship because of the 24¢ U.S. credit (red "24" on face). Thus the U. S. share, 5¢ internal, plus 21¢ sea to the British frontier. The credit was a shilling or 24¢ to the British for conveyance by British Packet to La Guayra (or La Gurara) Venezuela. Handstamped on face in black is "Jamaica Ship Letter." The earliest use known of a 10¢ 1855 is May 19, 1855, this cover shows a use on May 21, 1855. There is another cover of record from N.O. to Paris, France on the same date.



21¢ to Amsterdam, Holland, from Baltimore, Md. on March 22, 1861,  
from New York on March 23, 1861 by Amer. Pkt. per Steamer "Etna,"  
to England. Paid only to the British frontier. London Apr. 5,  
1861. Amsterdam Apr. 7, 1861 - "Via Ostend, Belgium."  
H. Pair 10¢ 1857, Type V. Single 1¢ 1857, Type V.  
In 1861 March 23rd was Saturday correct date for sailings by  
"Amer. Pkt." The official P.O. records show that the "Etna"  
sailed from New York on Mar. 23, 1861 for Liverpool.

July 25, 1956.

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

Dear Em:

Herewith I am returning the covers as per yours of the 24th as follows:

12¢ '57 plus 3¢ '57 from Galena, Ill. I signed this on the back - no fee.

16¢ to Konstadt - 15¢ plus 1¢ Carrier fee - 5¢ 1862 red brown - Konstadt is a town in Prussia in Silesia, 25 miles NNE of Oppeln. I added a few notes - no fee - a nice rate - glad to see it again!

10¢ plus 1¢ - New York to California. To state that only four are known is ridiculous. They charged you far too much for this cover. I authenticated it on the back but there IS NO FEE.

45¢ rate to Venezuela in May 1855 from New Orleans. This is a very rare cover. If they skinned you on any of the others you made up for it on this one. This is the earliest cover to Venezuela in my records. A most unusual U.S. foreign rate cover.

21¢ to Holland - Paid only to England (British frontier - 5¢ plus 16¢). Quite a nice cover.

Em, I am returning your check because I would not think of charging you a fee on the 10¢ plus 1¢ to California. I am charging you for only the two covers.

I note that Dorsey and you plan to have a vacation at Daytona Beach next month and while we would like to join you down there, there is no chance. The only vacation we will get will be this little trip to Norfolk and we are cutting it as short as possible. We have to go up to see Mrs. Stark on what is left in the collection and we have other important engagements next month.


I wrote Fox for that list. I don't think he sent any copies out.

With regards -

Yours etc.,

No 401677

# RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

SENT TO <i>Mr. J. G. FLECKENSTEIN</i>		
STREET AND NO. <i>419 UNION STREET</i> <i>IONIA, MICH.</i>		
CITY AND STATE		
<i>If you want a return receipt, check which</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>7¢ shows to whom and when delivered</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>31¢ shows to whom, when, and address where delivered</i>		
<i>If you want restricted delivery, check here</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>20¢ fee</i>		

POD Form 3800  
July 1955

Replaces previous editions of  
this form which MAY be used.

1. Stick postage stamps to your letter to pay:
  - 15-cent certified mail fee
  - First-class or airmail postage
  - Either return receipt fee (*optional*)
  - Restricted delivery 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.



# GRAVER TANK & MFG. CO., INC.

GENERAL STEEL PLATE CONSTRUCTION

EAST CHICAGO, INDIANA

J. G. FLECKENSTEIN  
SALES REPRESENTATIVE  
IONIA, MICHIGAN  
TELEPHONE: IONIA 267

DETROIT ADDRESS:  
6432 CASS AVENUE  
TELEPHONE: TRINITY 5-5300

Ionia, Michigan.  
July 28, 1956.

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

Dear Stan:

I need #60 on cover. Molesworth sent me the enclosed cover priced at \$100.00. Your signature on the back.

Stan, this cover does not look right to me. In 1861-62 there was no 24¢ rate to Switzerland, and if this cover with a single 24¢ was paid only to England (as I suppose it was as the British marking on reverse side in red reads "SHIP LETTER A FE 21 62 LONDON) where is the due marking covering postage from England to Switzerland? The red "NEW 3 YORK" on face indicates it went to England via American Packet. Give me your opinion on this cover and is it OK? Stamp seems to show a small tear at upper right.

Last few times I have phoned Ruth Stark, there has been no answer. Maybe she is away on vacation somewhere.

When do you plan to come up here? The SPA have a convention and show at Grand Rapids Michigan August 23-26th and I am one of the three judges. Perhaps you could be up here while this show is in session.

Regards.

Sincerely,

*Jack.*  
J. G. Fleckenstein.

JGF/  
Enc:

GRAVER

Aug. 8, 1956.

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

Dear Jack:

On our return from Norfolk yesterday I found your letter of the 28th with the 24¢ 1861 Violet. The cover is okay and I have known it for many years. This was a rate to Switzerland and it went by French mail, that is, Via London - Calais and Paris. It is a cover that cannot be properly classified because the rate by French mail was 21¢ per  $\frac{1}{4}$  oz. and on such a rate the U. S. credit should have been 3¢ French internal plus 6¢ to Switzerland. I note it is routed by the "S.S. Glasgow" and while I have no record that this ship sailed from New York on Feb. 4, 1862, I have reason to believe that she did as I have a record of her sailing in December 1861, and again in March 1862. There was a war raging in February 1862 and it looks to me like this may have been sent as a Ship Letter from New York. A Cunard ship sailed from New York on Feb. 4, 1862 for Liverpool and it may have been sent by that Line, though 17 days between New York and London seems awfully slow for the year 1862.

Krug bought this cover in a sale by Harmer Rooke on April 5, 1944. It was Lot 249 and cost him \$47.50. When I sold the Krug collection of covers in 1949 I suppose I sold this cover to Klep. I notice it was Lot #944 in the Klep sale. The sale price was 4,000 Fr. or about \$92.00 with the 15%. Note the British G.B. marking. This indicates it was not sent to France under the terms of the U.S.-French Treaty as this marking as you well know, was not applied to Treaty mail. I judge the 3¢ credit was to Britain, leaving the U. S. with 5¢ internal plus 16¢ sea. Apparently it was treated as a SHIP LETTER to Great Britain - not to merely the British frontier.

A New York red grid is most unusual to state the least but this is a most unusual cover, handled out of ordinary channels.

You will note my memo merely expressed an opinion re - the stamp. I did not express an opinion on the cover though I certainly believe it genuine. The stamp and color are right for February 1862 and this letter was surely sent PAID. To the right of "Glasgow" is a French pen of "3" - (decimes?) - I suppose this was the French debit to the Swiss. I wonder.

Lawrence C. Sheffield

Dear Stan.

What do you make of these two? The Canin looks good - but smells bad - at least to me. The "SAVANNAH GA" I have never seen in U.S. W. Confeds. I don't know any more of it? I can't figure why a fellow would fool with such a miserable cover! I don't have both for years - in the bottom of the barrel - so to speak

How we did miss you at FIPEX. but your poor health comes first - you are right. My new personal - lady Ceylon is coming slowly - I should move to England, I guess.

Best to you

Larry

July 13



July 18, 1956.

Mr. Lawrence L. Shenfield,  
40 Highland Circle,  
Bronxville 8, N.Y.

Dear Larry:

It was nice to hear from you.

Re - the items you enclosed. Franklin Carrier. I fear that I am not competent to pass on this. While Philadelphia used a red star on this stamp and also on covers I suppose they could have used a red postmark, but merely all copies had red stars and the postmarks on covers were in blue. This copy of yours was in the famous Hermann collection that was sold by Morgenthau on June 7, 8, 9 - 1921. It was described as follows in that sale - "1¢ blue Franklin (#1801) with Philadelphia date cancellation in red, slightly thin. From the Lord Crawford collection. Cat \$75.00". (unquote). The sale price was \$21.00, so I suppose the boys didn't think much of it. I sent for the stamp before the sale and photographed it. I still have the print, hence I know it is the same copy. Old J. C. M. should have known a genuine Franklin and so should Hermann who owned a big collection. I suppose both thought the stamp to be genuine. It is the only copy that I have ever heard of with a red Philadelphia p.m. If anyone tells you it is a fake don't take their word, because with its background I am disposed to believe it is genuine.

Regarding the Savannah. You sent me this cover ten years ago last Friday, but I don't seem to have a memo as to what I thought of it at that time. Yes, my memo states I examined this on July 13, 1946. Rather odd. Larry, I have no record of this postmark in my files, nor do I remember ever seeing a strike like it. The darn thing looks like a fake, but on the other hand the "age" makes it look genuine. If someone had this how did he "age" it? Just because I never saw this postmark before is no indication it might be bad. I would hate to stick my neck out and "guess" this was bad. The stamps are certainly okay for Dec. 1862 and I would think an unused pair of this stamp would be worth more than a used pair. Then again there is that "age." Fakers can fake that feature as far as I am aware. I would be willing to bet that Dietz has no record of a fake Savannah such as this. Why not ask him?

It does seem odd that you are Ceylon collector.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,



July 22, 1956



Stan:

I do not recall the Franklin carrier with red Philadelphia pmk which you mention but shall be very glad to have a photo so it can be illustrated in the Franklin Chapter. I am attempting to list and/or illustrate all the genuinely used copies, but there are a few items that are known to be missing. One is the cover Knapp had. There is also a not-very-fine unused strip of three which was in existence in recent years.

The only Philadelphia pmks in red noted here around the period when the Franklin was used are those including 3cts PAID or PAID 6, for cash prepayment of bulk mail, other mail, or the 3c circular rate.

Franklin stamps used in Philadelphia commonly have the red star cancellation, but the stamp does exist tied to cover with a blue Phila. town handstamp.

I suppose if a letter with a Franklin stamp was handed to a letter carrier with three cents in cash, the cash paid postmark might be used to cancel the stamp, but in my opinion such procedure would be irregular and unlikely because by normal procedure the letter would go thru the carrier dept. first and the red star would be applied there before the letter received any other marking. Whether or not every letter always received normal procedure is not easy to prove. It is conceivable that a stamp could get thru the carrier dept. without being cancelled and be cancelled when the letter was being prepared for the ordinary mail. Such a copy probably would be unique today. The number of Franklins actually sold and used in Philadelphia might have been considerably smaller than the 10,000 which were available.

As ever,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Elliott Perry".

Re Franklin Carrier

August 13, 1956



Stan:

Larry Shenfield's Franklin carrier has been checked with other material and there is no doubt it is one of the last reprints, so the cancellation cannot be correct.

Apparently the cancellation imitates one of the Philadelphia markings which were used for cash prepaid mail, but it does not agree with either of the "3 cts" types. It looks more like the "6 PAID" type illustrated on page 133 in your Vol. II.

The evidence seems to indicate that in the 1850s red postmarks were used for postage (and carrier fees ?) prepaid in cash. The red star for cancelling carrier stamps may have been selected because red showed up better on some of the special stamps. Whether or not the oval carrier postmarks, Types C31, C32 and C33, always showed cash prepayment of the fee when they were struck in red is another matter. If they did, that would be helpful in classifying some of the strikes which occur on envelopes.

As ever,

P.S. I don't know how much Morgenthau or Herrman knew, but I doubt if either of them saw as much material or did as intensive work on the Franklin as has been done here in Westfield. Luff probably did more work than either of them but parts of his story do not agree with the stamps. Whatever his reference ~~book~~ collection may have contained in the past, when I examined it in recent years the only Franklins in it were reprints.

August 18, 1956.

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

Elliott:

Thanks for yours of the 13th with further comment on the Franklin. I made a color slide of this copy which shows up the red marking to excellent advantage. If you would like to have one for reference I will be glad to supply.

Re - the use of red for prepaid domestic mail. There was no Regulation to use red on domestic mail and I have never seen any evidence that red denoted prepayment on such. Certain postal treaties specified red for paid and black for unpaid.

I suggested to Shenfield that he submit his stamp to the P.F. "Expert Committee" for no other reason than to see what they would come up with.

Yours etc.,



Re - Franklin  
Carrier

July 25, 1956.

Mr. Lawrence L. Shenfield,  
40 Highland Circle,  
Bronxville 8, N.Y.

Dear Larry:

Yours of the 20th. It is just possible that the listing of the "red town" was taken from your stamp. I know that at about that time Hugh Clark and Gene Costales were gathering material for a U. S. catalogue so they may have noted your copy in the Herrman sale. I remember that his sale was quite an outstanding affair. The catalogue that I have was one that was used by Chase at the sale and Carroll made various notes in it about a number of lots. Nothing was noted about your stamp. Doc was quite a good authority on the Franklin at that time. Who today really knows the stamp? I wonder? I suppose Elliott Perry but Elliott never impressed me as being really dependable on the Franklin. I wonder if Chase would qualify? Neebham knew the Franklin and had a real showing. Thirty or forty years ago we had real "authorities" who actually knew from first-hand contact many of our leading stamps - but they have all passed away and we have had few to take their place. In the old days when I was puzzled about a stamp or cover I had a number with whom I could consult and I did. Today I have few - darn few - whom I think are competent. Actually it is rather sad to contemplate. Do you not agree?

Let me know what Gus Dietz thinks of your Savannah. What are we to do when he passes on? Well, we have to depend on Mac and Hubbell?

} Savannah  
P.M

Mildred and I are leaving Saturday, July 28th, for Norfolk, Va. to see Stan Jr.'s ship return from their European training cruise. We will probably not be back home before about the 7th or 8th of August. As you probably know, Stan is a Lieutenant on a destroyer and has been all around the world. A marvelous education. He is really a great guy and naturally Mom and Pop are quite proud of him.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,



July 28, 1956



Stan:

Yours of the 26th. Perhaps Larry Shenfield will let me see the Franklin Carrier with red Philadelphia pmk. I incline to believe that ordinary dater postmarks were not used in the carrier dept., so there was no reason for any of them to be there. The C31 carrier postmark was there, and/or C32 and C33 at one date or another.

Luff is the only one I know of who did much work on the Franklin and it was not his best. I don't know what the Franklins in his collection were supposed to be but the last time I examined the collection I saw no genuine original. I would say it is a fair guess that more work has been done on the Franklin at Westfield, and more copies examined than all the others put together, including Dr. Chase.

I don't and cannot question the authenticity of the stamp or cancellation before seeing the original or a photo, but if genuine, the postmark-cancellation appears to be irregular use. The Franklin with Philadelphia town mark in blue which I have seen several times is actually on a mail letter altho it appears to be on a city letter. The red postmark may also be irregular use.

No 1¢ 1851, 1857 or 1861 used for carrier <sup>as</sup> known to me at Cincinnati. Apparently the eagle stamp was used there to the end of the fee system. The 1¢ 1861 appears to be the first "U.S.POSTAGE" stamp used for carrier service at Baltimore, but it seems quite possible that any of the special carrier stamps could also be used to the end of the fee system.

No special or definite regulation concerning the use of postage stamps for carrier fees has yet been found anywhere in the enormous quantity of official records which have been searched. Each carrier department appears to have been a law unto itself as to what stamps, if any, should be used. There was carrier service at more offices where there were no special stamps than there was at the special stamp offices.

If you wish to rate the Cleveland 4c letters as prepaid "WAY" I certainly shall not question your right to your opinion, even tho I believe the weight of evidence favors carrier collection to the Cleveland P.O. To prove WAY service you would have to show closed pouch contract service (not railroad) operating into Cleveland, and that each letter was given to the contract carrier more than a mile from the Cleveland P.O. and also more than a mile from next office beyond (outside) of Cleveland on that route. Or that it came into Cleveland by boat on Lake Erie. You should explain also why none of the known letters are marked WAY. Against that, all I have to do is prove from the records that there was U.S. letter carrier service in Cleveland at the periods covered by the covers. Such proof is on file and will be published in the Cleveland Chapter.

In another chapter is given the explanation for all of them, why it is not possible to determine whether certain letters are WAY or carrier, and that those postmarked in a carrier post office are considered to be carriers unless they show evidence indicating WAY.

As ever,

*Edith C. Cuy*

August 3, 1956



Stan:

Thanks for letter, cover and check \$8.75. O.K.

Wednesday I happened to meet Larry Shenfield in New York and mentioned the Franklin carrier which you wrote me about. It came from him today. On comparing it with other material I am of the opinion that the stamp is not an original and the pmk-cancel is not legit. It does not agree with any Philadelphia pmks I have which are known in red.

As ever,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'David Perry'.

Aug. 14, 1956.

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

Elliott:

Thanks for yours of the 3rd regarding Shenfield's Franklin Carrier with the red Philadelphia postmark. I accept your opinion without question, but I was disappointed because I hoped that the stamp was an original and the postmark was genuine. My guess is that this was a Sam Singer item. I know he put a fake Philadelphia p.m. on pencleaned One Cent 1851.

Re - postmarks on covers that do not belong. I have before me a cover from New York to Washington, D.C. with 3¢ '57 plus a 1¢ '57. At right is a red New York foreign mail postmark with 14 PAID at bottom. This marking was used on mail to Germany forwarded by Prussian Closed Mail - a double 30¢ rate. Thru error it was placed on this cover and not crossed out. Inasmuch as they had red ink pads in the Carrier Division of the Philadelphia P.O. and also p.m. stampers one of the latter could have conceivably been applied in red.

I have carefully noted yours of the 28th.

Re - Prepaid Way Letters. I quote from your letter: "You should explain also why none of the known letters are marked Way." I suppose you refer to the three 3¢ plus 1¢ Cleveland covers. May I remind you that there was no occasion to mark "Way" when the Way Fee had been paid. The word WAY was not only an origin marking but in effect a due marking - thus "Way 1" meaning - Due 1¢ on account of Way origin. When the 1¢ fee had been prepaid, nothing was due and the origin into the mailing office was of no concern. I have seen quite a few Prepaid Way covers and I recall very few that were marked Way.

Yours etc.,



Aug. 14, 1956.

Mr. Lawrence L. Shenfield,  
40 Highland Circle,  
Bronxville 8, N.Y.

Dear Larry:

I have a letter from E. Perry stating that he had examined your Franklin and that in his opinion it is not an original and therefore that the Philadelphia postmark is a fake. Inasmuch as I have never made much of a study of the Franklin Carrier I am perfectly willing to abide by Perry's opinion. Why don't you submit the stamp to the P.F. and get their opinion and in doing so you might request Boggs not to send it to Perry. Who in your opinion is qualified to pass on a Franklin? Do you suppose that Ward is competent? I wonder if Chase could pass on it? He has been out of this field for many years yet he seems never to forget anything he has studied in former years. If the postmark is bad then my guess would be that Sam Singer made it. He "specialized" in fake Philadelphia postmarks.

Re - the Savannah postmark, I was pleased to learn that Dietz thought it could be okay. It sure has the "look" of a genuine marking. We must try and find a duplicate. I wish you would write a little article for "Stamps" and include an accurate tracing. Surely someone must have a duplicate cover.

We had a nice trip East but came home worn out.

My best to you.

As ever yours,



LAWRENCE L. SHENFIELD

Advertising & Merchandising  
Consultant

40 Highland Circle, Bronxville 8, N.Y.  
BRonxville 2-4206

Dear Stan -

Yes Elliot agreed with me that the Franklin was the reprint (2<sup>nd</sup>) with a forged cancel. I did not submit it to the P. F. because we have been simply besieged with work - extra meetings etc.

They are of course perfectly capable to judge Franklins - the reference material is profuse, and we have had many Franklins. The thing that got me on this one was the typical reprint impression - not clear background lines - together with the damaged cancel - an exquisite fake - never seen before - and Hermann's name on the back - a name I was taught to respect.

I know you could solve the cancel. I have added the copy to the Huff Ref. Coll. to watch out for another fake Phila. cancel. Your guess of Singer is a good one. On the Savannah cancel I put it in Stamps a few years ago - absolutely no response. I'll hold it for future watching. Kisses seeing you -

Best

Harry

Aug. 17

Aug. 13, 1956.

Mr. S. C. Cole,  
% The Proctor & Gamble Co.,  
Gwynne Bldg.,  
6th & Main Sts.,  
Cincinnati, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Cole:

Herewith I am returning your sixteen items of the 5¢ 1847. On a separate memorandum herewith I have listed my analysis of each item according to impression and year shade. My fee for the examination is \$16.00.

You will note that I removed the covering from a number of copies in order to examine the paper from the back and also for a better examination of the color. Mounting stamps which were printed on a comparatively thin paper on a black background has a tendency to give a darker shade to the color of the stamp. For this reason I think it advisable to mount stamps against a white or cream paper background.

Your pair No. 11 is a real gem and an exceedingly scarce and valuable item.

Sincerely yours,

No. 1 - Top row single with part of stamp to left. Round red grid - Fine impression. No plate variety. 1848 color of Reddish Brown.

No. 2 - Poor impression - shows deterioration both in impression and color, probably due to exposure to dampness. Round red grid. As is this is just the S.U.S. "Red Brown."

No. 3 - Dirty plate impression - shows deterioration in original color - Black circular grid (not common). I would place this as a use in 1850 and a faded color of the 1850 Brownish Orange.

No. 4 - Fair impression - Sheet to left - First vertical row of one of the panes. Blue town postmark. The color is a bit faded the 1848 Dark Brown.

No. 5 - Somewhat similar to No. 4 but with more red. Good impression, rather faint blue cancel. This is the 1849 Reddish Brown, and somewhat faded.

No. 6 - Fair impression. Black town postmark (scarce). This color shows deterioration and a "washed-out" appearance. My guess is that the stamp was used in December 1850 and that the original color was probably the 1849 Bright Reddish Brown.

No. 7 - Fine impression originally. Light blue round grid. Something has been done to this copy as the paper looks like it has been bleached white. The color of this grid looks a bit suspicious. All of which makes me wonder if this was pencleaned? The color is the 1848 Dark Reddish Brown. A photograph by ultra-violet might disclose whether a former cancel had been removed but this test is not always productive of results desired.

No. 8 - Poor impression - This from the dirty state of the plate. My guess is the use was Apr 6 1850. The color is the 1850 "Brownish Orange," somewhat faded. Canceled by a Boston postmark in black (uncommon).

No. 9 - Fine impression - This is the 1848 "Dark Brown." The stamp has various consistent plating marks such as a dsh across the right frame line to right of the "E." Red grid cancel.

No. 10 - H.Pair. Fine impression. The 1848 color of Dark Brown. Faint orange grid. Stamp to right shows consistent plate marking opposite right "5" on frame line.

No. 11 - H.Pair. Typical cleaned plate impression - fine example. Postmarked in blue Philadelphia, Pa. 19 Apr. This use was surely April 1851. The color is the 1851 "Brownish Orange" (Ridgway "Hazel - 11'k"). This is an exceedingly rare and desirable pair and is probably what the S.U.S. lists as #1C - the "Red Orange."

No. 12 - Fine sharp early impression - Canceled "WAX 5" (?) This is the 1848 "Dark Brown" color.

No. 13 - Typical example of a poor impression from the dirty state of the plate. This color shows quite a lot of deterioration from the original which was doubtless the 1849 Reddish Brown.

No. 14 - Good impression - This is the 1848 "Dark Brown" color. Stamp shows consistent plating mark opposite the "S" in upper right - on the frame line. Red square New York grid.

No. 15 - Fair impression - Canceled with a red numeral "5." This is the 1849 color "Reddish Brown" and quite a good and well preserved example of that color.

No. 16 - V.Pair - red New York square grid - poor faded impression from the dirty state of the plate. This was originally probably the 1850 "Grayish Brown" color.



H. SCHUYLER COLE  
WILLOW HILLS LANE  
CINCINNATI 27, OHIO

August 17, 1956

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

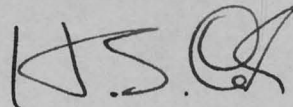
Thank you very much for your letter and your kindness in looking over the material that I left with you. It was very helpful to me in knowing what I have, and in enlarging my knowledge of condition.

I was particularly pleased by the remarks you made about the pair in the brownish-orange shade. Incidentally it came from the Waterhouse sale in London via Ezra Cole.

I'm attaching my check for \$16.00 as per your letter.

Again let me express my appreciation.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'H.S. Cole' with a stylized flourish at the end.

H. S. Cole

HSC:cls



August 18, 1956.

Mr. H. Schuyler Cole,  
4700 Willow Hills Lane,  
Cincinnati 27, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Cole:

Thanks very much for yours of the 17th with check  
for \$16.00.

Re - your pair No. 11, with the blue Philadelphia  
postmark. I was not aware that this came from the Waterhouse  
collection but on looking it up I was pleased to note that  
Dr. Bacher who wrote the catalogue described it as the Brownish  
Orange. Further, I overlooked mentioning in my letter that this  
pair is from the left pane of the plate - the top row and posi-  
tions 9L and 10L, therefore, 9LL - 10LL. And further, that 9LL  
is one of the ten positions with the variety "Dot in S." The  
entire ninth vertical row of the left pane had the "D in S"  
variety but the dot was rather faint on 9L. I believe that this  
vertical row was transferred from bottom to top, that is 19L,  
18L, 17L, etc., etc, because the dot is very pronounced on 19L  
and becomes less strong from bottom to top. Further, this pair  
is surely an impression from the plate after it was cleaned and  
again may I add that the use was surely April 1851. When the  
plate was new and before it became at all worn the "dot" in the  
"S" on 9LL was a bit more pronounced than on this pair.

Sincerely yours,

- 1 1848 Reddish Brown
- 2 Poor Faded Red Brown
- 3 Faded 1850 Brownish Org.
- 4 " 1848 Dark Brown
- 5 1849 Reddish Brown
- 6 " " " (Faded)
- 7 1848 " " (Faded)
- 8 1850 Brownish Orange
- 9 1848 Dark Brown
- 10 " " "
- 11 1850 Brownish Orange
- 12 1848 Dark Brown
- 13 Faded Dirty Plate Reddish Br
- 14 1848 Dark Brown.
- 15 1849 Reddish Brown (Fine)
- 16 V.P. 1850 Grayish Brown

- Nº 1 - Top row single with part of stamp  
to left. Round Red Grid - Fine  
impression. no plate variety -  
1848 Color of <sup>REDISH</sup> ~~Red~~ Brown.

①

Nº 2 - Poor impression - shows  
degradation both in impression  
and color probably due to exposure  
to dampness. Round Red Grid. As  
is this is just the S.U.S. "Red Brown."

- Nº 3 - Dirty, plate impression -  
shows degradation in original  
color - Black circular grid -  
(not common). I would place  
this as a use in 1850 and  
a faded ~~Reddish Brown~~ Color of  
~~1849~~ the 1850 Brownish Orange.

- Nº 4. <sup>FAIR</sup> ~~Good~~ impression - Sheet to left -  
● First vertical row of one of the  
pages. Blue torn Postmark.  
The color is a bit faded of



~~No. 5~~ the 1848 dark Brown.

• No. 5 - Some what similar to No. 4 but with more red. Good impression, rather faint blue cancel. & This is the 1849 REDDISH BROWN, and some what faded. (2)

• No. 6 - Fair impression. Black town postmark (see). This color shows deterioration and ~~wash~~ a "washed out" appearance. My guess is that the stamp was used in December 1850 and that the original color was probably the 1849 Bright Reddish Brown.

• No. 7 - Fine impression originally. ~~But~~ Light blue ruddy red. Some thing has been done to this copy as the paper



looks like it has been bleached  
white. The color of this grid  
looks a bit suspicious. All (3)  
of which makes me wonder  
if this ~~is~~ was pen cleaned?

The color is the 1848 dark  
reddish brown. A photograph  
~~was~~ by ultra-violet might  
disclose whether a former  
cancel had been removed  
but this test is not always  
productive of results desired.

No. 8 - "Poor impression" ~~from~~  
This from the dirty state of  
the plate. My guess is the use  
was Apr 6 1850. The color  
is the 1850 "Brownish Orange",  
<sup>somewhat faded.</sup>  
Canceled by a Boston postmark  
in black (uncommon).

No. 9. ~~Dark~~ Fine impression - This  
is the 1848 "Dark ~~Brownish~~  
Brown". The stamp has various  
consistent plating marks such  
as a dash across the ~~right~~ right  
frame line to right of the "E."  
Red grid cancel. ~~Assurable~~ Cop.

No. 10. H. Pair. Fine impression.

The 1848 ~~shade~~ color of  
Dark Brown. Faint Orange  
grid. Stamp to right shows  
consistent plate marking  
opposite right "5" on frame line.

No. 11 - H. Pair. Typical cleaned  
plate impression - fine example.  
Postmarked in blue Philadelphia  
Pa. 19 Apr. This was  
surely April 1851. The color  
is the 1851 "Brownish

Orange " (Redgway - "Hazel - 11'K").

- This is an exceedingly rare and desirable pair and is probably what the S. U. S. (5) lists as #1C - the "Red Orange".

Nº 12 - Fine sharp early impression - Canceled "WAY 5" (?)  
This is the 1848 ~~color~~  
"Dark Brown" color.

Nº 13 - Typical example of a poor impression from the dirty state of the plate. This color shows quite a lot of deterioration from the original which was doubtless the 1849 Reddish Brown.

Nº 14 - Good impression - this is



the 1848 "Dark Brown"

(6)

Color. Stamp shows consistent  
plating mark opposite the  
"5" in upper right - on the  
frame line. Red Square New York  
Grid.

No. 15 - Fair impression - canceled  
with a red numeral "5".

This is the 1849 Color  
"Reddish Brown" and quite a  
good ~~example~~ and well  
preserved example of that  
color.

No. 16 - V. pair - Red New York square  
Grid - poor faded impression from  
the dirty state of the plate.

This was originally probably  
the 1850 "Grayish Brown" Color.



This Was Lot 46

In A Sale May 23 1950

By Harmer Rooker & Co

of The Frank B Allen

Collection And

Sold @ \$140<sup>00</sup> To Jy Polby

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

August 10 '56

Dear Stan ..

Thanks for your two letters of the 8<sup>th</sup>.  
Quite a coincidence as you say & the proof  
seems perfect. Returns the photo & slide.

Chapter 18 of the Catalogue de  
Estampilles has now been re-written &  
a suffix never will be. The brochure  
you have covers one small part. Quite a  
bit has been written on the subject of  
Chapter 18 but it's scattered all over.  
If I can help on any specific questions  
please let me know. I have quite a bit  
of "dope"

Glad you are back safely from Va.

Best

as ever

C.C.

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

Aug. 8, 1956.

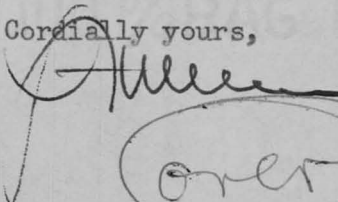
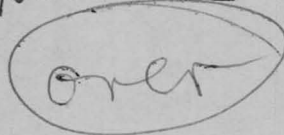
Mr. Willis F. Cheney,  
65 Nassau St.,  
New York 38, N.Y.

Dear Bill:

I am seeking a bit of information.  
In the West Sale in April 1943, Lot 901 was a  
cover purchased by Spence. By any chance, do  
you know for whom Spence bought this cover?  
By any chance, do you know where it is today?  
If so, do you suppose you could borrow it so  
that I could make a photograph?

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

Dear Stan;  
You have hit pay dirt this  
time. This cover which was sold  
to Ipen for \$470 was sold by  
Harmer Rookie 5/23/50. Lot 46  
at \$140 to Sy Colly. I just  
tried to phone Sy, he's away  
until Monday. It is illustrated in  
H.R.'s Catalog though not too well.  
Guess that covers the situation.  
Glad to be of help just once,  
With kindest regards.

Sincerely  
Bill



Aug. 14, 1956.

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

Dear Phil;

Thanks for yours of the 10th.

If you can find any data for me on the Jonesborough, Ind. cover I will appreciate same. Yes, there is no question but what the cover is genuine in every way. I am getting together a little story on this 3¢ variety and this is a key cover.

I will be glad to see the stampless items that you mentioned and the rates indicate these are the "Express Mail" of 1836-1839. Yes, I would also like to see the 3¢ Nesbit. My guess is that the 3¢ did not pay anything.

Hope you had an enjoyable trip to Maine.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

Aug. 14, 1956.

Mr. Emmerson C. Krug,  
% Hotel Floridan,  
Tampa, Fla.

Dear Em:

Chase's reply was short and to the point - no elaboration, quote: "Quite a coincidence as you say and the proof seems perfect." Just that and no more. Now days Doc writes all his letters by pen so I suppose he hasn't the time or energy to go into details.

Under date of Aug. 10th, Phil Ward wrote me that he was just leaving for a vacation in Maine but would write me upon his return and give me any details he could locate. He recalled that he bought the Jonesborough (West) cover in a lot of material and sold it to Sinkler. I did not look it up to see if it was in the Sinkler sale. If so, perhaps that is where West got it. When I get time I will look up the sale.

I also had a letter from Bill Cheney dated the 10th. Fortunately Bill remembered the cover and stated that it came up in a sale by Harmer Rook & Co. on May 23, 1950, Lot 46 and sold at \$140.00 to Sy Colby. Bill wrote he would get in touch with Colby and advise me later. The Harmer Rooke sale was that of the Frank B. Allen collection. I suppose Allen was a customer of Spence. I note that the cover was not sold in the Sinkler sale by Klein in 1940.

Regards.

Yours etc.,

Aug. 14, 1956.

Mr. Willie F. Cheney,  
65 Nassau St.,  
New York 38, N.Y.

Dear Bill:

Thanks very much for your prompt reply  
to mine of the 8th.

I was pleased to get the information  
about the sale of the cover in 1950.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,




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

August 10, 1956

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

Dear Stan:

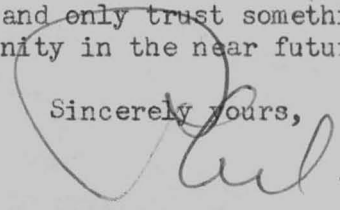


Your letter of the 8th arrives just as I am leaving for Maine. I will be back about ten days. Regarding lot 901, I recall that I purchased this along with quite a few other covers from the same correspondents and sold this to Sinkler. He, of course, would have preferred it unused, but none were available. The cover, in my estimation, and I believe in yours, is as good as gold. You will be hearing from me as soon as I get back.

At that time I will want to send you a little lot of stampless covers that I found from Louisville and Cincinnati. They do not have enclosures, nor are they docketed, hence no dates, but the rates are 75¢, \$1.50, \$2.25, \$3.00, and I think one runs to \$5 and something. They look as if they might be express mail items, but they are not so marked. I have also located a 3¢ Nesbitt envelope cancelled with the large circular British packet postmark. I will send this on if you would like to see it. Someone must have mailed the letter on board ship as it was nearing the American coast. How otherwise could 3¢ pay for anything?

Glad you had a nice visit and only trust something is going to bring you to this vicinity in the near future.

Sincerely yours,



PHILIP H. WARD, JR.



Re - 3¢ 1857  
Part Perf

EMMERSON C. KRUG  
3008 13TH AVENUE SOUTH  
BIRMINGHAM 5, ALABAMA

July 29, 1956.  
Sunday P.M.

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

Dear Stan,

Although I know you are this very moment en route to Norfolk, I wanted to write you this before I forget it. This magazine, the institution organ of his company, shows the lift just as it was when it landed. Em was pinned between the steering wheel and wall. How his wife got him out is still a big mystery to me. Will you send this on to Ez when you have seen it?

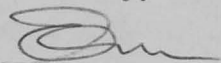
I was looking up something yesterday in the West sale catalog and ran across something familiar. First, you recall no doubt the sending of a cover of mine to Doc Chase recently, a 3¢ 1857 on a cover imperfed horizontally. A single it was and he wrote back to you as follows:—"June 30, 1956, The Jonesborough is more difficult. It undoubtedly came from an original find made by Bartels. The only trouble is that I have seen copies fully perforated with a greater distance between the horizontal perfs. My verdict is "Probably a part perforated stamp but absolute proof is lacking." Do you agree?" Unquote.

You accepted this verdict, signed the cover as such, and I was satisfied and may say I still am. But..

Now, look at lot 901 Ward West sale 4/26/43 which was sold to Spence Anderson for \$470.00. This is a pair on a legal size court house cover, a most undesirable cover to say the least. Yes, this is a pair and makes it, as Chase says, an absolute proof. Yet, nothing is absolute for a pair of imperforates could have been taken off and perforated at the top and bottom. But now the coincidence. I was born and raised in Indiana but I had never even heard of Jonesborough, Indiana. Its a small town up near the gas belt, near Marion and Goshen. The population in 1950 was 1900. I suppose it was much smaller in 1850s. This pair on the Anderson cover from West sale is cancelled by a black Jonesborough, Ind. exactly like my cover. I wonder what Doc Chase would say if he had seen that photo of the West cover. Doesn't it almost prove that the very small postoffice of Jonesborough had a sheet of 3¢ 1857s which were imperfed horizontally? I am sure he has a West catalog. When you write him again, why not ask him to look at the photo and see what his reaction to it is? And I'd like to know yours. Note that the write up in the West catalog says—"Probably unique." My cover rather hurts that statement.

Had a nice letter from Harold Brooks, in which he tells me he had been laid up in the hospital with pleurisy. No wonder no one has heard from him.

Sincerely,



Aug. 8, 1956.

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

Dear Phil:

Just back from Norfolk and quite a hard trip, but we had a fine visit with Stan Jr.

I am writing for some information - West Sale - Lot 901, sold to Spence Anderson at \$470.00. Do you remember this cover and if so, do you know anything about it's history? I ask because I suppose you must have sold it to Sinkler. My inquiry is because a cover has turned up with a single 3¢ '57 with part perf, horiz., tied by the same town, Jonesborough, Ind., thus the West cover indicates the single on cover is genuine and good as gold.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

Aug. 8, 1956.

Mr. Willis F. Cheney,  
65 Nassau St.,  
New York 38, N.Y.

Dear Bill:

I am seeking a bit of information.  
In the West Sale in April 1943, Lot 901 was a  
cover purchased by Spence. By any chance, do  
you know for whom Spence bought this cover?  
By any chance, do you know where it is today?  
If so, do you suppose you could borrow it so  
that I could make a photograph?

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,



Aug. 8, 1956.

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

Dear Doc:

Just back from Norfolk after a long tiresome trip.

No doubt you will recall that several weeks ago I sent you a 3¢ 1857 cover that belongs to Emmerson Krug. It has a single part perf tied to cover by a black postmark of "Jonesborough, Ind. - Aug. 3" - no indication of year use, front or back. Emmerson has just called my attention to a cover that was in the West sale by Ward in 1943. I am enclosing a photo of the West cover which shows a vertical pair - part perf of "Jonesborough, Ind. Oct. 21" (1857). On second thought I am enclosing a color slide that I made of Emmerson's cover. I consider this a most remarkable coincidence and it surely indicates that Emmerson's cover is genuine. He was thumbing thru the West catalogue and happened to note Lot 901.

You can hold the slide against a good light and with a glass you can get a good picture of it. Please return the slide and photo print at your convenience.

Mildred joins me in best of wishes to Jean and you.

As ever yours,



Aug. 8, 1956.

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

Dear Em:

We got home Monday night dead tired. We had a wonderful trip and a fine visit with Stan Jr. We drove up to Williamsburg and saw the outdoor show "The Common Glory" also we took in "The Lost Colony" down at Roanoke Island. We were up late at nights and a lot of day driving, so we came home worn out.

I have yours of the 2nd with the "sample copies" also the Kiplinger. Thanks.

I also received yours of the 29th with the Kiplinger and the "Baggazette" which I will forward to Ezra. Mildred and I both noted this with much interest. We both consider it a miracle that his wife was able to free him and get him and the baby to the hospital. He surely owes his life to that little lady.

Your Jonesborough cover. How very remarkable!!! I have the original photograph from which the page of illustration was made for the West catalogue. The West cover has a postmark of "Oct 21" (1857) - Your cover is "Aug 3." In my opinion the West cover surely indicates that your cover is genuine. This is a most remarkable case. I suggest that you send your cover to me so that I can make a regular photo. I did make a color of both front and back which I have before me.

I am sending you a copy of a letter to Chase.

With best etc.,

Yours,

MADE IN U.S.A.

EK34.-8



EKTACHROME  
TRANSPARENCY



EKTACHROME  
TRANSPARENCY

Wm. W. Watson

Exposition

and G. Spry, admin. of the  
of the Lake State Soc.

Delivered in order and  
of the 19th  
May 20th 1889

Wm. W. Watson



To the Clerk of Potomac  
Pin Castle  
Virginia



Lot 901 West Sale By  
Ward - Apr 27 1943 -

Described - 341857 Dull Recl - Type I  
Vert. Pair, Impert. Horiz. Tied To Legal  
Cover By "JONESBOROUGH Ind"  
Possibly Unique - Very Rare - Ex  
Sinkler - Photo 23 Sold S. Anderson \$470<sup>00</sup>

GEORGE D. CABOT

62 ~~X42~~ KING AVENUE

WEEHAWKEN, N. J.

Aug. 9th, '56

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

You do not know me very well, but I will much appreciate if you will do me a little favor.

Will you be so kind as to identify for me the Type or Types of the enclosed pair of 1¢ 1851-57 ? And tell me the Scott's Specialized price on same ?

If not too much trouble, I would also be rather interested to know if they can be identified to the plate number and the position-- but if this is very difficult, do not trouble.

The cover is for sale, if you care to make an offer.


If I can ever be of any assistance to you on revenues, it will be a pleasure. Thanking you, I am,

Sincerely yours,

George D. Cabot

No 401682

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

SENT TO <b>Geo D. Cabot</b>		POSTMARK OR DATE 	
STREET AND NO. <b>62 King Ave</b>			
CITY AND STATE <b>Wethersfield N.J.</b>			
<p><i>If you want a return receipt, check which</i></p> <table><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> <i>7¢ shows to whom and when delivered</i></td><td><input type="checkbox"/> <i>31¢ shows to whom, when, and address where delivered</i></td></tr></table>			<input type="checkbox"/> <i>7¢ shows to whom and when delivered</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>7¢ shows to whom and when delivered</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>31¢ shows to whom, when, and address where delivered</i>		
		<p><i>If you want restricted delivery, check here</i></p> <table><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> <i>20¢ fee</i></td></tr></table>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>20¢ fee</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>20¢ fee</i>			

POD Form 3800  
July 1955

Replaces previous editions of  
this form which MAY be used.

1. Stick postage stamps to your letter to pay:

15-cent certified mail fee

First-class or airmail postage

Either return receipt fee (*optional*)

Restricted delivery 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.



215 Due

Aug. 14, 1956.

Mr. George D. Cabot,  
62 King Avenue,  
Weehawken, N.J.

Dear Mr. Cabot:

Herewith I am returning your 1¢ 1851 cover - The pair is from Plate 4 and both stamps are Type IIIA, that is, top line broken, bottom line intact. Side ornaments complete. This is the S.U.S. #8A. I believe the value of the pair would be diminished by two facts: (1) pencanceled - (2) design cut into at bottom.

My fee for the above classification is \$2.00 plus return postage of 15¢ (certified).

I could give you the plate positions but the fee would be \$3.00 extra and I doubt if such data would be worth the fee.

I note the cover is for sale. I do not think it is ethical to request a bid. The cover is your property and if you care to offer it at a price in line with the condition of the pair and also of the cover, I will be glad to consider it.

Thanks very much for your offer to assist me in any problems that I might have in revenues. I have not collected revenues for many years and seldom come in contact with them any more.

Sincerely yours,

MEMBER:  
AMER. PHILATELIC SOCIETY  
COLLECTORS CLUB OF N. Y. C.

GEORGE D. CABOT  
62 KING AVENUE  
WEEHAWKEN, N. J.

U. S. STATE REVENUES  
FOREIGN REVENUES  
TELEGRAPHS, LOCALS

Aug. 17th, '56

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Yours of the 14th-- safely returning my  
pair of 1851 1c on cover.

Yours charge of \$2 plus 15c postage is fair  
enough, so herewith. And "thanks", besides.

I realize that the stamps are not tied, and  
not especially attractive. Still, they might be of  
some special interest to someone doing plating.

Will probably be offering them at auction  
this winter. If you would like to be informed  
when they are to 'come up' just drop me a postcard.

Sincerely,

George D. Cabot

Aug. 20, 1956.

Mr. George D. Cabot,  
62 King Avenue,  
Weehawken, N.J.

Dear Mr. Cabot:

Thanks very much for yours of the  
17th with enclosure.

By all means keep me advised re - the  
pair when offered at auction. I will be glad at  
that time to call various friend's attention to it.

Sincerely yours,



Lawrence C. Sheffield

Dear Stan. Your good letter of Jul 25  
was here when I returned from a Holiday.  
Yesterday I met Elliot Perry at Harmer's  
and he mentioned the Franklin - and  
you had written him - and asked to  
see it. So to-day I sent it to him. To-day  
I know of no better authority - even tho' I  
cannot, with you, the small number of people  
who really know Canadian stamps. All of this  
is one to contemplate, I agree. Dietz writes  
that he does not know the Savanahs cancel  
but he thinks it is ok - cannot understand  
why anyone would make such a pretty fella.

What a thrill it is for you and hissed  
to visit the boy! I know some of the finest  
boys in the world who stayed in the Navy.  
We need them there!

It is great. Stan. to resume our contact.  
has nothing new come between us - not even  
the P.F.

Best in the world to you

Lawrence

Aug. 2. 40 Highland Circle.



EZRA D. COLE

*Rare Postage Stamps*

NYACK . NEW YORK

Commissions . Appraisals

TELEPHONE NYACK 7-0964

August 10, 1956

Dear Stan ,

Now what the H\_----- happened here ?

Yours



3457 + 1457 N.Y. to Washington

5x7 made

EK " (EK44)

Aug. 13, 1956.

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

Dear Ezra:

Re - the enclosed 3¢ plus 1¢ 1857 cover.  
I suppose this letter got into the foreign division  
and received a New York marking thru error for a  
double rate letter for Germany by Prussian Closed  
Mail. Sure odd to see this on a 3¢ plus 1¢ cover,  
N.Y. to Washington. They even applied the foreign  
mail, red New York grid to the stamps. If this sold  
at \$17.00 it sure went sky-high.

I am today in receipt of the De La Rue  
Journal from Mr. A. L. Michael. I will write him at  
once and thank him for his kindness and I will also  
send him a subscription to the "Strand Stamp Journal."  
Thanks Ezra for obtaining the copy for me. It is a  
beautiful piece of work.

Regards.

Yours etc.,

# EZRA D. COLE

*Rare Postage Stamps*

NYACK . NEW YORK

*Commissions . Appraisals*

TELEPHONE NYACK 7-0964

August 16, 1956

Dear Stan,

Thanks for reporting on that carrier cover. Maybe I paid too much for it but I never did see anything like it. I wonder if it might not have even been put in the wrong mail sack and perhaps went part way abroad ?

Glad you got the DE LA RUE Journal. They are almost impossible to get over here so keep it. A. L. Michael ( Wingfield & Co) is a nice guy. He might be able to help you sometime in London. Knows only a little about U. S. but something. Anyway he is much more reliable than Bacher.

Some news. Jack Dick got clipped by the bookies again and Siegel has a lot of his material for a fall Auction. Understand he wants to sell the Knapp-Brown Brigham, Daniels- Kelleher 5¢ cover \*\* the one with the 4 5¢ 1951s. He only wants \$4000 but I guess he would take \$3000. I think he paid about \$12500 for it

He is an nice enough guy personally I guess but this in and out buy and sell is something.

Murs,



August 18, 1956.

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

Dear Ez:

Here is a circular from "Willy" - Is there anything in it that would not make it a fit subject for the waste-basket?

Thanks for yours of the 16th.

Re - your 3¢ plus 1¢ cover with the "P.C.M." marking. I think it received this thru error and that it never started on its way to Germany, as there is no indication of such. "P.C.M." was "Prussian Closed Mail," meaning just that - mail that was put in sealed bags and sent thru England and Belgium to "Aachen" where the bags were opened and the mail distributed over a number of routes.

Jack Dick may be a nice chap personally but he must be nuts. He paid Dan \$1,200 for that Brown 5¢ 1856 cover and because Henry Hill payed thru the nose for the Klep cover Dick must imagine his is worth some crazy price. It has been offered all around - Krug - Hill - Rohloff and Lord only knows how many more. I haven't a doubt he would be glad to accept \$3,000, but is anyone crazy enough to pay such a price?

Regards.

Yours etc.,



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

July 15, 1956.

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

Dear Ezra:

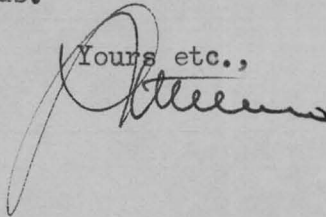
Here is a print of a cover that you  
loaned me some years ago - I wonder if you still  
have this cover?

I find that this cover came over on the  
"Europa" - a Cunard mail ship that brought to this  
country the new postal treaty which was signed at  
London on Dec. 15, 1848.

Please return this print.

Regards.

Yours etc.,



Letter to SBA

8/8/06

IF you still can't work with  
copy of PRINT  
E2

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

# EZRA D. COLE

*Rare Postage Stamps*

NYACK . NEW YORK

*Commissions . Appraisals*

TELEPHONE NYACK 7-0964

July 25th, 1956

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

Dear Stan:

Yours of the 23rd just arrived. This might catch you before you leave. However because you will be in a hurry I will not write you a long letter.

I don't know where Captain Vogeley and his ship are right now. The last address I had is as follows:

SCC  
OVER  
E2

Capt T. R. Vogeley  
Chief of Staff,  
Commander Cruiser Division Four  
United States Atlantic Fleet  
U. S. S Northampton  
Fleet Post-office,  
New York, N. Y.

The owner will have no objection to Perry illustrating that cover in his book.

With reference to the 5¢ 1847 I picked this up in a mixed lot of junk U. S. that I don't usually buy, in an auction sale. I saw the blue "10" on the stamp which is nice and with some other junk I paid a few dollars for it. It looks very "orange" to me, so nobody has made it or anything like that.

I will be glad to send it back to you on your return and you can take it up with Dr. Chase. However I do want to pay you a fee and have one of your little letters of opinion to go along with it so that if I should sell it, your opinion and certificate will go along with it.

With reference to the stampless cover. If you are going to keep it in your collection and want it, I will give it to you. If, however, you sell it I will split with you 50-50. The cover as far as I know cost me nothing.

Drop me a line on your return and I will send the 1847 and the cover at that time. Jean's foot is much better although it bothers her when the weather is bad. Hope you and Mildred have a wonderful time.

Sincerely,

Ezra D. Cole.

EDC:mk1

OVER



HAD A CARD FROM  
BOB VOGLER

30 MAY - 1956

FROM ISTANBUL - TURKEY  
NEXT PORT OF CALL WAS  
SAM RENE ITALY JUNE 4TH  
NOTHING SINCE THEN

July 27, 1956.

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

Dear Ezra:

Yours of the 25th received, and noted.  
I will keep it on my desk and write you upon my  
return.

You know I am still holding a stampless  
that belongs to you - a use in February 1849 from  
England. I may sell it, but will report later.  
Have you any objection?

Okay on the 5¢ 1847.

Hurriedly yours,

EZRA D. COLE

*Rare Postage Stamps*

NYACK . NEW YORK

*Commissions . Appraisals*

TELEPHONE NYACK 7-0964

August 8, 1956

Dear Stan,

This will reach you on your return from Norfolk. Sure hope you had a good time. Don't bother to answer this in a hurry for I know you will be busy catching up. I'm going up with David fishing this week end and will be gone a couple of days.

I am enclosing that stampless cover. Also the 5¢ 1847. No hurry on either, is Doc Chase back from Europe ?

I don't remember what other cover you say you are "holding" anyway its O. K. with me what ever you do.

Em is going to Florida for a couple of weeks I guess. He said he sent you some magazine with a story of EM jr's accident in it. I'd like to see this when you have read it.

Have not heard from the owner of the Cleveland covers so I think he must be away. He is a nice chap, one that I like to help and do thingd for.

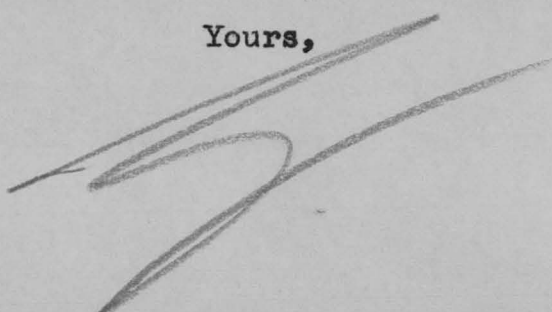
Jean's foot is better but it still bothers her. We should all get away on a vacation but its so much trouble to start and so much to do when we get home we have not done anything.

That Balasse story was a PIP. Maybee it sounds all right in frenck but in English "she is a beaut".

No word from Capt Vogeley. He is probably in that mess somewhere near Egypt. I don't like that situation over there a bit.

No stamp news here but I manage to keep busy. I may have to go to Chicago sometime in September. If I do I may be able to stop off in Cincinnati for a few hours either going or comming home.

Yours,





Aug. 11, 1956.

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

Dear Ez:

Your registered of the 8th received with the stampless cover to New York as per previous advice and also the 5¢ 1847 sheet copy.

First - re - the stampless. I am going to put a price of \$25.00 on this and offer it to a friend. The chances are he will turn it down but if so I will hold it for that price because I think it is worth it.

Re - the 5¢ '47, I want to make a further investigation of this stamp. I want to be darn sure this is not some sort of a chemical changeling. There are certain features I don't like a bit and there are features that are good. I will advise you later.

I note you will be away fishing this weekend with David. I can hardly imagine a finer companion. When I did a lot of fishing years ago Stan Jr. was too young and now I am too damn old. I don't think I could land a two-pounder.

Yes, Chase is back from Europe and has been since the latter part of may. I hear from him about twice a week.

Re - the "other cover" of yours which I have been holding. If my friend takes the one you sent me then I will try him on the "ogher." I will send you photos of each one later.

Yes, Em and Dorsey are leaving by train this afternoon for a little Florida vacation. I mailed you the Company magazine about Em Jr.'s accident several days ago. Please mail it to Em.

Mildred and I were pleased to learn that Jean's foot is improving. Give her our love.

Yes, Em it is nice to get away from stamps for a while but its a lot of trouble preparing to leave and worse cleaning up after one returns. Stan kept us on the go day and night while we were at Norfolk and the long trip home in the heat wore us both out. We were a bit surprised to find Stan Jr. a bit fed up and very doubtful about whether he will stay in. I had a long chat with the Captain of his ship and he wants him to remain in the Service and has recommended him in the highest terms. His time will be up around November 1st. When he looks around and sees his friends married and with nice homes and children, and making good money - well that's the story.

Best regards.

Yours etc.,



Aug. 17, 1956.

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

Dear Ezra:

Yours of the 14th received.

If you make the trip to Chicago it would be nice if you could arrange to come by this way and better still if you could have Gore meet you here. Em Krug has nothing to do and time hangs heavy on his hands. I feel sure he would be glad to run up and join us.

Confidential. I sent your 5¢ '47 up to Les Brookman to see what he thought of it. He was of the opinion it is not an orange nor is it what the S.U.S. calls the red orange, but is, in his opinion, the "brownish orange". He did not think it is a chemical changeling but a natural color. Keep this confidential as it is hardly fair to get an opinion such as this and then to not treat it as confidential.

I am going to send the copy to Chase and get his opinion and then I will send it to Perry. I wonder if I can get two to agree? What did you actually think it is? The S.U.S. lists orange brown and brownish orange. Do you know the colors to which they refer? Also, do you own a Ridgway book? Chase, in his 1916 article, gave orange brown as an 1847 color. He also gave brownish orange as a color of 1850, and as 1851 colors - "Deep Brownish Orange" and "Dark Brownish Orange." He gave the Ridgway readings of all his year colors so with a copy of the Ridgway book one can see the colors that Chase selected as year colors over 40 years ago.

With regards -

Yours etc.,

Brandon, Vt.  
Sept. 11, 1956

Stan:

This will acknowledge receipt of  
your letter containing "orange" 5<sup>th</sup> 1847  
which will be returned to you next week  
when I am back in Westfield.

Yes. I am quite sure the 34 pink  
"pigeon blood" cover from Lee Mass.  
is still in my reference material  
and you may borrow it and make  
any color recording you wish.

Bill Beck was very close to finding  
out what made the pink stamps pink  
but unfortunately he passed on before  
getting all the answers. He had some  
of my reference material for several  
years and later all of it was returned  
to me by his son, together with other  
30 "early birds" etc. and the data he  
had picked up.

As ever,  
Olin Curry

Phil's 5¢  
Belongs To

EZRA D. COLE  
NYACK,  
N. Y.

SEP - 5 1956

51

52

53

54

55

56



Sept. 5, 1956.

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

Elliott:

Here is an 1847 - 5¢ that I thought you would like to see. I never saw a shade quite like this and therefore I am of the opinion that this is not a natural. I am of the opinion this is some sort of a "color changeling." I am aware that there are chaps who can furnish a stamp in most any shade desired. I suppose in this case an effort was made to make a copy of the S.U.S. "Red Orange."

I have a very fine color transparency of the Slater-Ackerman copy and it is almost an exact color reproduction of the shade of this stamp. The color of the enclosed copy is entirely different.

You will recall that Chase stated the 1850-1851 Orange came from his "Plate 2" which was supposedly put into use in the late 1850's.

This copy is what he called a worn plate but what I call a "dirty plate." I believe the plate was cleaned and produced Chase's "Plate 2" stamps.

I enclose stamped addressed envelope for return.

Yours etc.,

Mr Elliott Perry

P.O. Box 333

Westfield - N.J.

Elliott

Here is an 1847-54 that I thought you would like to see. I never saw a shade quite like this and therefore I am of the opinion that this is not a natural. I am of the opinion this is some sort of a "color changing". I am aware that there are chaps who can furnish ~~on~~ a stamp in most any shade desired. I supposed in this case an effort was made to make ~~the~~ a copy of the S.U.S. "Red Orange". I have a very fine color

DO NOT MAKE ENVELOPE

DO NOT MAKE ENVELOPE

DO NOT MAKE ENVELOPE

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You will recall that Chase  
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use in late 1850.

This copy is what he  
called a worn plate but  
what I call a "dirty plate."

I believe the plate was  
cleaned and produced Chase's  
"Plate 2" stamps.

I enclose stamped addressed  
envelope for return  
yours etc

Re - 24¢ 1861

SIDNEY D. HARRIS

United States and British Colonies Stamps

Telephone Prospect 3-8214

EXPERT APPRAISALS  
AND EXAMINATIONS

162 GROVE ST., RUTLAND, VERMONT  
U. S. A.

July 16, 1956

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

If you are still giving opinions regarding United States stamps, will you please advise your charge for the enclosed copy of what appears to me to be a shade of #60 that would emerge as a #70B, steel blue, if it were placed in Benzene for a short time.

Cordially,

*Sidney D. Harris*

SDH:ah  
Enc.

INSURANCE BY  
UNITED STATES FIDELITY & GUARANTY CO.

*All Colours Shade*



July 23, 1956.

Mr. Sidney D. Harris,  
162 Grove St.,  
Rutland, Vermont.

Dear Mr. Harris:

Please pardon this tardy acknowledgement of yours of the 16th, enclosing the 24¢ 1861, which I am returning herewith. I do not believe that this stamp is a changeling (natural) of the 24¢ 1861 violet, that is, what I call the blue violet or the red violet. The steel blue changeling of the blue violet is a distinctive color unlike this stamp. In my opinion, your stamp is "grayish" and I believe fits very closely the S.U.S. 78A. There is no denying the fact that the classifying of the colors of the 24¢ 1861 is in many cases rather difficult.

There is no charge for the above.

With kindest regards -

Sincerely yours,

5¢ C.S. A. ATHENS

Mr Ashbrook.

is this a tied  
cover Both Stamps Used?

in your expert  
opinion is this cover  
worth having at a price

Has the right stamp  
been pressed or what?

Please check and  
Charge me for opinion  
But leave out the slide

yours truly  
K Keister

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

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

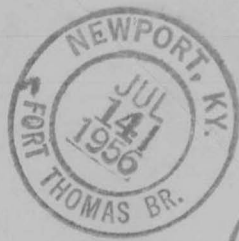


Do Not Fold  
Or BEND

REGISTERED  
271

Stanley B Ashbrook  
P.O. Box 31  
33 N. Fort Thomas Ave  
Fort Thomas  
KY.

Do Not Fold  
Or Bend





July 17, 1956.

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

Dear Mr. Keister:

Herewith your Athens, Ga. cover with the two 5¢ Provisional stamps. I have examined this cover very carefully and in my opinion, the stamps and cover are genuine. The ink pad which was used by the Athens P.O. during the summer and fall of 1861 was of very poor quality and it is not unusual to find very light strikes of the postmark and grid such as are on the enclosed cover. I note that this use was DEC 14 - surely 1861. I believe that both stamps were hit by the grid but the cancelation was so light it has practically faded out.

The right stamp shows a poorly inked impression which gives it the odd appearance but as far as I can see, the stamp is perfectly okay otherwise. This cover shows the two types No. 1 and 2. The rate from Athens to Richmond of 10¢ was correct in December 1861.

The cover while genuine is not very attractive, hence I would not reach high for it. You should be able to buy it at a price.

I have endorsed it on the back and my fee for the authentication is \$4.00.

With kindest regards -

Sincerely yours,

Mr K. E. Keister  
KEISTER

203 Belfield Ave  
ELYRIA Ohio

DO NOT MAKE ENVELOPE

Dear Mr Keister

Here with your Athens Ga  
cover with the two 5¢  
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carefully and in my opinion  
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buy it at a price.

I have endorsed it on  
the ~~back~~ back and my fee  
for the authentication  
is \$4<sup>00</sup>

With Kindest Regards  
Sincerely yours



Jack E. Molesworth

102 Beacon Street

Boston 16, Massachusetts

54 1856  
BLOCK

REGISTERED

840,410

50 50  
Re 1856

VIA AIR MAIL

SPECIAL DELIVERY

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



**Jack E. Molesworth**

Philatelic Dealer and Broker

102 Beacon Street

Boston 16, Massachusetts

Date... July. 3., 1956.....

Mr..... Stanley B. Ashbrook.....

Address..... 33 North Ft. Thomas Ave.....

..... Fort Thomas, Ky.....

Terms:..... Consignment - NET.....

#12	VF-Superb block of 8 (Retail \$1850) Net	\$1750. 00
-----	--	------------

Thanks for your X July 1st letter. I understand your position okay on the Type IIIa vs Ty III problem and for your purposes can think of no better system than that which you have and are using. The source of the problem, I believe is the fact that these have been given a major number by Scott and have not at the same time been given a detailed description on the difference between the types. If Scott were to insert a small note about a good break being necessary it would help to solve the problem. Of course, it would always be best for me to check material on which I bid at auction before bidding, but I bid on so much material and get such a small percentage relative to the total number of bids that it would be impractical to request so many items on inspection and impossible time-wise to examine everything on which I bid before bidding. I probably spend over \$100,000 a year at auction and sales ~~xxx~~ last year were \$250,000 so with material being processed that fast I just don't have time to do more than dash out my bids based on the printed description.

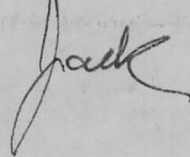
I'm enclosing the 5¢ 1856 block. Glad to give you the low-down. I understand Filstrup paid \$3200 for the block of 11 which I bought in a 1955 sale for \$2000. The top three stamps were defective so I cut them off to make a sound block, still the largest known. I later sold it to Jack Dick. When he had his recent financial set-back (!) he owed me \$2000. He tried very hard to get me to accept this block for \$1600 against that amount which I declined to do as I had offered it to all of my customers when I owned it last year and developed no interest so I told him the most I could allow would be \$1250 which he refused. I then agreed to take it on consignment at \$1600 several months ago and as yet have been unable to sell it at my net asking price (over)

of \$1850. Within the past month of so, Rust has seen it and showed no interest tho I believe it is something he should have, Hill likewise showed no interest, and the reaction of several others to whom I Offered it was the same. I have offered it by letter, subject to prior sale, to several clients who have not yet replied. When I had it originally I sent it to Paul Rohloff at a price of \$2500 but he showed no interest in it. I intended to mention it to him again since I have had it the 2nd time but have not yet gotten around to it. I sent him some material today, but did not mention it so he might be a good prospect for you if you can talk him into buying it.

I have Never sold Mrs. Hanus anything. A Comment or two from you as to the type of material she is interested in would be appreciated.

I'm sending it to you at \$1750 net which leaves me \$150 margin which would about cover the interest on the \$2000 which has been owed me for quite a while now. Good luck and

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jack". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the text "Best regards,".



July 5, 1956.

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

Dear Henry:

Re - that Filstrup block of 8. It seems that Molesworth sold this to Jack Dick and was never paid. Molesworth is holding it against the \$2,000.00. I am wondering if I might be able to get this for you if you really wanted it. What would you be willing to pay for it? Don't you think it would be a buy at \$1,500.00?

With best wishes -

As ever yours,

July 5, 1956.

Mrs. C. Dora J. Hanus,  
R.D. #1,  
Berwick, Pa.

Dear Mrs. Hanus:

I believe the largest known used block of the 5¢ 1856 is one of eight with manuscript cancel. It is 4H x 2V. This was originally a block of eleven but three stamps were damaged and were cut off. I have known this block for many years back to the time it was discovered in St. Louis. By any chance, would you be interested in acquiring it, if it can be had at an attractive price? I will be glad to send you a large photograph.

With my kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

July 10, 1956.

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

Dear Jack:

Re - the 5¢ 1856 block. I wrote one person who should be interested in this item and inquired why he was not a prospect. His reply was that the block is not at all pretty, in fact, not a bit attractive, and that he had no desire to own it.

I wonder if the brown paper is what made it unattractive? If so, I also wonder if the paper was white if it would not look very pretty? I have heard of a way to restore a good part of the whiteness to paper which has turned brown with age. Why do you suppose this paper is so brown? Could it be that it is stained - because it was on a brown wrapping paper.

I tried to restore some 1861 paper that had turned brown with age by soaking the stamp in lemon juice and salt but with little success. Why not inquire of M.I.T. if they can suggest anything. Do you know Dr. Arthur Davis? I believe he is a professor of chemistry at M.I.T. - If you do not know him I will be glad to write him.

Regards.

Yours etc.,



July 24, 1956.

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

Dear Jack:

I am returning herewith the 5¢ 1856 block as I was not able to do anything with it at this time. I did not offer it or mention it to Paul Rohloff but if you would like for me to take it up with him I will be glad to do so.

I wrote Mrs. Hanus about it but received no reply so I judge she is away on a trip somewhere. If she shows interest later I will advise you.

Confidentially I think Henry Hill is the most logical person to own this and perhaps in time maybe I can persuade him that he should buy it. I think it is a much greater bargain than his prize Klep cover. If you know the man in Switzerland who ran him up? It might be that he would be interested. Why not write him. Also how about the Weills?

With kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

REGISTERED



CARLTON HILL  
BENJAMIN H. SHERMAN  
CHARLES F. MERONI  
J. ARTHUR GROSS  
DONALD J. SIMPSON  
M. R. CHAMBERS  
RICHARD J. SCHWARZ  
ANTHONY R. CHIARA  
JAMES VAN SANTEN  
CHARLES M. LINDROOTH  
RICHARD M. S. MANAHAN  
LEWIS T. STEADMAN

FREDERICK E. PAESLER  
EBEN O. McNAIR, JR.  
HERMAN J. GORDON  
JOHN H. SHERMAN  
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VAN METRE LUND  
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HILL, SHERMAN, MERONI, GROSS & SIMPSON

THE FIRM OF CHARLES W. HILLS

ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELLORS AT LAW

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53 WEST JACKSON BLVD.

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FOREE BAIN 1895-1928  
ALEXANDER C. MABEE 1911-1949

PATENT AND TRADE MARK  
LAW EXCLUSIVELY

CABLE ADDRESS-HILLSFORD, CHICAGO  
TELEPHONE HARRISON 7-7160

WASHINGTON OFFICE  
MUNSEY BUILDING  
1329 E STREET, N. W.  
WASHINGTON 4, D. C.

January 23, 1956

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

Dear Stanley:

I have just returned from the trial of a case at Little Rock, Arkansas and note your letter. I recall some article by Mac you refer to but cannot seem to find it. For your information, in the MacBride sale of October 20, 1953, I purchased items 499, 500 and 504. These items were described as follows:

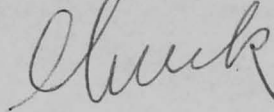
- "499 From Europe to Marion, S.C., postmarked Charleston, S.C. and handstamped "STEAM-SHIP" in oval, and "12" Ms., with notation "BLOCK-ADE", and evidence of burned edges (Photo)
- "500 From Europe to Richmond, Va., postmarked Wilmington, N.C. and handstamped "SHIP", and "12" Ms., with notation "SHIPS LETTER C.S.S. FLORIDA, BERMUDA" (Photo)
- "504 Four covers from New Orleans by "Underground" via Mobile to Augusta, Ga., 1) 5c Green (#1), cancelled Mobile, Ala. Oct. 15, 1863; 2) with 5c (#1) uncanceled; 3) with 10c (#11) cancelled Mobile, Ala. Mar. 29, 1864, endorsed: For'd La. Com. at Mobile, on reverse; 4) with 10c (#11) uncanceled. Very fine rare group from famous Reynes Correspondence."

I have already mounted these items in my collection for exhibition, but if you are interested in seeing any of them, do not hesitate to let me know and I will promptly send the same on to you.

I do not recall purchasing any other blockade cover beside these three items.

With best wishes to you and Mildred, I remain

Very sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Chuck".

CFM/dg

P.S. I expect to leave for Florida the end of the month so I would suggest that you write me as soon as you can.

## More About Confederates

# AN UNUSUAL BLOCKADE COVER

By VAN DYK MAC BRIDE

**W**HILE all Confederate blockade covers are "unusual" in the sense that they are all rare, the one presented in this article is unique in at least one regard. To the best of this writer's knowledge, it is the only one seen thus far on which a Confederate adhesive stamp was used to pay the primary 10c postage rate. To make this feature clear, let us recount briefly the characteristics of Confederate Blockade Covers.

This term is generally applied to those covers which came into the Confederacy from Europe on a blockade runner ship. They were carried as far as Bermuda or the West Indies by foreign ships and there they were transferred to blockade runners which slipped through the blockade maintained by the Union navy, into the ports of Charleston, S. C., or Wilmington, N. C. Letters sent out of the Confederacy to foreign points went by this route in reverse, but as with one or two possible exceptions\* they bore no Confederate stamps or postal markings, practically none of them has been successfully identified. In passing, it might also be noted that letters to and from the Confederate States also occasionally

went through the ports of New Orleans, La., and Mobile, Ala., via Cuba, as well as through Mexico. Such letters succeeded in evading or running the blockade maintained by the Federal forces in the Gulf of Mexico.

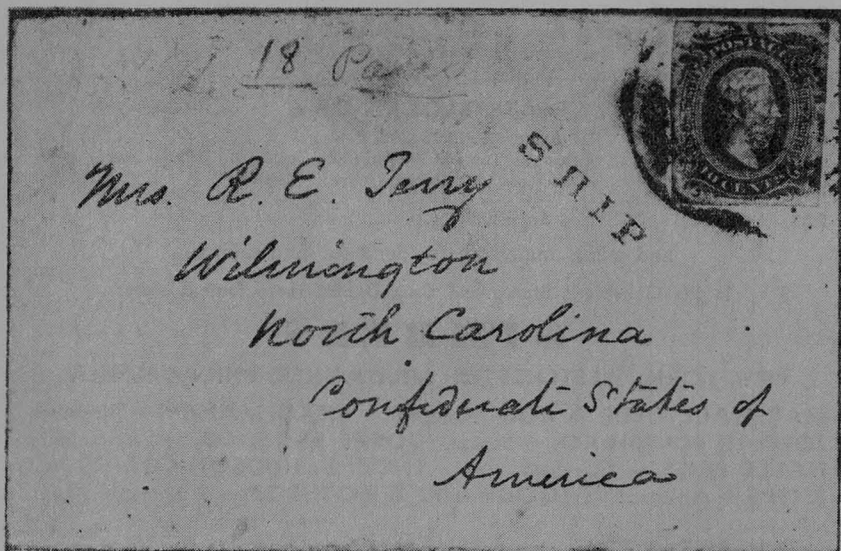
Covers which reached the ports of Charleston or Wilmington from abroad were doubtless originally enclosed in other envelopes bearing foreign postage, which took them as far as the point of transfer to the blockade runners where the enclosures were sent on. The latter bore no stamps and therefore were "postage due" items. When the captain of the blockade runner delivered his bag of mail to the Confederate post office upon arrival, the letters were then handstamped "SHIP" or "STEAMSHIP" to indicate the means by which they arrived. They were then handstamped with the dated town postmark of that place and the postmaster noted on each cover the amount of postage due. This was 10c for the primary Confederate postage rate, plus a 2c fee for the ship captain. Most blockade covers therefore have a "12" written on them, usually in pencil, or, if overweight were marked "22," or "32," and so forth. A very few such

covers have also been seen bearing a Confederate adhesive stamp, but almost invariably that was for payment of extra postage for forwarding the letter beyond its original address.

In the case of the cover which forms the reason for this article, the following points will be noted. The handstamped "SHIP" of the Wilmington post office is there, and the Wilmington town postmark has been used to cancel the stamp. A further indication of its foreign origination appears in that while it is directed to "Wilmington, North Carolina," it also carries the full designation, "Confederate States of America." Also, noted faintly in pencil in the upper left corner appears "Ex Lee-18-Paris." This would appear to indicate that the letter was "Ex" (out of or arrived on) the blockade-runner the "Robert E. Lee," and that the point of origination of the letter was Paris, France. The meaning of the "18" is obscure, but conceivably may have had something to do with the postage rate. This endorsement was doubtless put on the envelope after its arrival, either by the Wilmington postmaster, or possibly by the addressee, to indicate the means by which it traveled, and the point of its origination.

Incidentally this blockade runner was originally the fast British packet "Giraffe." Purchased by Confederate agents in 1862 she was renamed the "Robert E. Lee" and under the famous Captain John Wilkinson she ran the Union blockade safely 21 times in 10 months between December 1862 and October 1863. It was doubtless on one of its later trips that this cover was carried. Captain Wilkinson resigned command of the "Lee," and on a trip from Bermuda to Wilmington under command of a Captain Knox, the vessel was captured on November 9, 1863, by a Union cruiser, the "James Adger" and her daring life as a blockade runner was brought to an end.

The unique element in the case of



Confederate Blockade Cover with 10c Confederate blue engraved stamp (Type I Scott #11), canceled Wilmington, N. C., handstamped "SHIP", from abroad and addressed to "Wilmington, North Carolina, Confederate States of America". (The MacBride Collection)

\* See: "A Confederate Cover to England," Van Dyk MacBride, STAMPS, April 22, 1950.



## Plate Numbers Issued and Sent to Press

*The following is a list of postage stamp plates sent to press for the first time on the dates indicated during September, 1955:*

½c Ordinary, Curved, E. E. C., 1954 Series, 400 Subjects, Sent to Press September 28, Plate Numbers 25263 and 25264.

3c Ordinary, Curved, E. E., 1954 Series, 170 Subjects, Sent to Press Sept. 27, Plate Numbers 25218 and 25220. Ditto Sent to Press Sept. 29, Plate Numbers 25221 and 25222.

3c Ordinary, Curved, E. E. Reversed, 1954 Series, 170 Subjects, Sent to Press Sept. 22, Plate Numbers 25156 and 25159.

3c Ordinary, Curved, E. E. C., 1954 Series, 400 Subjects, Sent to Press Sept. 1, Plate Numbers 25200 and 25201. Ditto Sent to Press Sept. 7, Plate Numbers 25202 and 25205. Ditto Sent to Press Sept. 20, Plate Numbers 25206 and 25211. Ditto Sent to Press Sept. 23, Plate Numbers 25212 and 25233. Ditto Sent to Press Sept. 16, Plate Numbers 25229 and 25230.

3c Ordinary, Curved, E. E., 1954 Series, 400 Subjects, Sent to Press Sept. 13, Plate Numbers 25239 and 25240.

\$1 Ordinary, Curved, E. E. C., 1954 Series, 400 Subjects, Sent to Press Sept. 19, Plate Numbers 25237 and 25258.

\$1 Postage Due, Curved, E. E. C., 1930 Series, 400 Subjects, Sent to Press Sept. 26, Plate Numbers 25243 and 25244.

*The following is a list of numbers assigned to postage stamp plates during the month of September, 1955:*

½c Ordinary, Curved, E. E. C., 1954 Series, 400 Subjects, Plate Numbers 25263 and 25264.

3c Ordinary, Curved, E. E. Modified Design, 1954 Series, 400 Subjects, Plate Numbers 25265, 25266, and 25268 through 25276 inclusive.

3c Ordinary, Curved, E. E., 1954 Series, 400 Subjects, Plate Number 25267.

2c Ordinary, Curved, E. E. Modified Design, 1954 Series, 400 Subjects, Plate Numbers 25277 and 25278.

*The title for six plates assigned for ordinary postage stamps during July and August, 1955, has been modified. In accordance with this change, the following revised data are furnished for the six plates:*

3c Ordinary, Curved, E. E., Modified Design, 1954 Series, 400 Subjects, Plate Number 25236, Number assigned July 1955. Ditto the following which were assigned in August 1955: Plate Numbers 25256, 25259, 25260, 25261, and 25262.

*The following is a list of postage stamp plates cancelled on the dates indicated during September, 1955:*

20c Ordinary, Curved, E. E. C., 1938 Series, 400 Subjects, Plate Number 24060, Certified May 13, 1949, Cancelled September 6, with 967,391 Number of Impressions.

15c Air Mail, Curved, E. E. C., 1947 Series, 200 Subjects, Plate Number 24505, Certified January 9, 1952, Cancelled September 8, with 627,039 Impressions.

3c Ordinary, Curved, E. E. C., 1954 Series, 400 Subjects, Certified May 4, 1954, Cancelled September 15, with Plate Number 24957 having 957,769 Impressions, and Plate Number 24958 with 957,770 Impressions. Ditto Plate Number 24950, Certified May 8, 1954, Cancelled September 23, with 916,244 Impressions, and Plate Number 24952, Certified April 22, 1954. Cancelled September 23, with 749,414 Impressions.

## Pitney-Bowes Marks 35 Years of Metered Mail

THE 35TH anniversary of the metered mail system originated by Pitney-Bowes, Inc., was celebrated on

November 16, 1955, at the annual banquet of the Oval Club, honor society of employes of the company of ten or more years' standing. A production model of the first postage meter was on display, and senior vice president William F. Bernart was the principal speaker.

Special pins were awarded to those whose service records reached a total of 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, or 10 years during the past twelve months. Special recognition was given eight men still actively employed after thirty-five years: Edward H. Brown; Frank Coitrone; James Ginise, Sr.; Alfred G. Kanzler; Carl C. Lund; K. J. Petrowski; Walter H. Wheeler, Jr., president; and James H. Wood.

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A3	Famous Americans, Miscellaneous Foreign.....	20	.....

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B	Standard Block of 4 for U. S. (20th Century).....	10	.....
B2	Standard Block of 4 Commemoratives or Special Delivery.....	6	.....
B3	Standard Block of 4 Famous Americans.....	8	.....
B4	Standard Block of 4 Narrow Airpost.....	5	.....
B5	Standard Block of 4 Pan American, Pan Pacific, etc.....	8	.....

### PLATE BLOCKS OF 4

C	Flag Name Block of 4.....	5	.....
CA	Plate Block of 4 for Standard Single (20th Century).....	8	.....
C2	Plate Block of 4 Commemorative, Special Delivery, Airpost....	5	.....
C3	Plate Block of 4 Famous Americans.....	5	.....

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DA	Plate Block of 6 U. S. Postage, Side Plate (20th Century).....	5	.....
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# BRITISH COMMONWEALTH

## Issues

By F. E. Metcalfe

7 Leather Lane, Liverpool 2, England  
Editor, Commonwealth Catalogue of KGVI and QEII Stamps

SO far as British Commonwealth stamps are concerned it is not often that those of Britain itself take the limelight, but they are certainly in the forefront just now, and it's all as a result of watermarks, those varieties which puzzle the layman almost as much as perforation varieties.

To recapitulate briefly, for the benefit of those who know nothing of what has been previously explained, Queen Elizabeth had intimated that, while she did not want any changes made which would entail extra expense, she did prefer as an emblem the design of the crown known as St. Edward's to that of Tudor.

On British postage stamps, as well as those for most of the colonies, the crown portion of the watermark has been hitherto of the so-called Tudor pattern and as a new dandy roll has become a necessity, owing to the old one wearing out, the shape of the crown has been changed to fall in with the Queen's wishes. Already the ½d, 1d, 1½d, 2d, 2½d, 5d and 10d stamps of Britain have appeared with the new watermark; hence the excitement amongst British collectors, for don't forget, it is not often nowadays that anything new comes our way, so far as the home country's stamps are concerned.

Incidentally any collectors in possession of the latest edition of the *Commonwealth Catalogue of QE Stamps* can see how the designs of the crowns differ if

they will turn to page 84. There they will find illustrations of the two cyphers used on stamp booklets. The first cypher shows roughly the design of the Tudor crown; the second (now in use) that of St. Edward's. The watermarks are not quite like that. For instance, in the case of the latter there is a wavy line running through the middle of the crown, but the outer lines are similar, and the two watermarks can be distinguished if this is borne in mind.

Well, the chase does not begin and end with the changed stamps themselves. As a matter of fact, booklets are providing more of a run, for we are getting combinations of panes of stamps of the two watermarks. Take for instance, the 5/- booklet. This contains two panes of six of the 2½d, and one each of the 2d, 1½d, 1d and ½d values, and already sixteen variations have been found, in the booklets dated September, 1955. All the panes of the ½d stamp are, I believe, of the old "Tudor" watermark, but the rest of the values may be of one or the other of the crowns, and as a matter of fact, in some of the booklets, you can find one pane of the 2½d "Tudor" and the other "St. Edwards."

In the 2/6 booklet dated August, 1955, some have the 1d pane (the one with the three stamps and three labels) with the new "St. Edward," and goodness only knows what other variations will turn

up. My firm alone has examined over 2,000 of each (the great charm of this search is that any booklets not required can be broken up and the contents used for postage, without any loss, for booklets are sold at face by the post office, the cost of making them up being covered by the revenue from advertisements, which they all contain), but that doesn't amount to many when it is considered that millions of booklets are made and sold each month.

As for the stamps of the Commonwealth itself, October has not been a particularly fruitful month. New Zealand issued the yearly "Health" set, this year consisting of three stamps. South Africa had a pair of commemoratives to honor the centenary of Pretoria; North Borneo the \$2 with the Queen's portrait replacing that of the late sovereign (all in time to be included in the new Commonwealth Catalog), and three new printings of colonial stamps, only one of which, that for Bahamas, producing anything new. In the latter case the 2/- is quite a nice shade variety, for the center is of a deeper orange brown, and the 2/6 has the center of a jet black compared with the brownish black or gray of the original.

I received a quite interesting letter recently from the British Colonial Office, the contents of which may be recounted to those who collect British West Indian stamps. It may be remembered that some time ago, that fine little magazine the "West Indian Philatelist" printed a story that supplies of the Jamaica £1 stamp with the portrait of the Queen had been in the island for a couple of years, but owing to the fact that there was a stop on new definitive stamps, unless the corresponding value had been in issue for six years, the new stamps could not be put on sale. That point was manifestly wrong, for if there had been such a rule, there would have been no change when it was authorized in the first place.

However, that was just one tiny portion of the story. It was also told that a sheet of this "QE" £1 stamp was sold in error, but the Post Office got it back, before any were used or got into the hands of collectors, who certainly would not have disgorged, and who could have blamed them, for they would have been quite within their rights to hang on.

Now the Colonial Office admits that such a sheet was sold, but they say that the Post Office recovered it intact. They also make another very interesting comment: "A supply of the current £1 stamp was ordered by the Jamaican authorities with a portrait of Her Majesty replacing the late Sovereign. It was subsequently decided, however, to introduce a complete new issue of postage stamps and since it was considered undesirable to issue a new stamp for a short period only, particularly such a high value (the italics are mine) the stamps with the changed Royal portrait were not released."

The sale to collectors alone would have amounted to over fifty thousand pounds, yet the Colonial Office (which rules all these things and not the Crown

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**E. S. JAMES**

APS  
14814

Rustington—Sussex  
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CPS  
3229

this cover is the use of the Confederate stamp and the omission of the usual manuscript notation of the amount of postage due. How did the stamp come to be there at all, and did the ship captain collect his 2c fee in this case? The answers to those questions must necessarily be theoretical, but here is this writer's opinion. It is known that many letters were personally entrusted to the care of the ship captain and these were not included in the regular ship's mail. Such covers would be posted by the captain upon arrival and thus would be exempted from the 2c "ship fee," and this cover may well have been one of those. Or, it might have been brought in by some friend of the sender, a passenger or a crew member, and in any such case it traveled "out of the mails." Taken directly to the Wilmington post office the 10c stamp might have been purchased there, but probably it had previously been attached to the cover by the sender, from supplies already in his possession. It is well known that many agents and sympathizers abroad had supplies of Confederate stamps, and that others were often sent over to family members and friends. This seems the most likely explanation for this 10c stamp, as otherwise it would have been necessary to buy only a 2c stamp at the Wilmington post office to pay the "drop" rate for a letter to a local address. Therefore when this letter reached the post office the postmaster cancelled the 10c stamp, put on his "SHIP" handstamp, and probably made the notation in the upper left corner referred to above. Then it stayed there in the Wilmington post office until the addressee called and got it.

Truly an "unusual blockade cover," and one more example of the never ending charm and interest to be found in the study and collecting of Confederate covers.

### Stamps Help Finance a Hospital

FIVE years ago Frederick R. Hazard, formerly connected with the Stamp Shop of Providence, R. I., convinced the trustees of the South County Hospital, Saundertown, R. I., that a stamp project could be conducted on a profitable basis and help finance the hospital.

Since that time the project not only got under way but proved to be an enormous success, particularly because the mixtures which they are offering have unusually good contents. In fact, they have not been able to get enough stamps to meet demand, and have had to offer their mixtures as available in limited quantities

only. Such an advertisement appeared on page 326 of our issue of Nov. 19, 1955, with foreign mixtures weighing about seven ounces and from many countries at \$1.00; and U. S. mixtures, with all ordinary 1c, 2c, and 3c removed, also of seven ounces, \$1.00. They also had a special offer of ten U. S. mixtures from two different batches of mixtures for \$8.00. All proceeds go to help finance the South County Hospital.

The stamps in the mixtures are contributed by individuals and firms all over the country. The material is dumped onto a work table and volunteer crews go through it, separating U. S. from foreign, removing precancels, perforated initials, torn and damaged stamps, etc. A number of firms with extensive foreign business furnish exceptionally good foreign stamps, including a lot of air mail issues and stamps that run up into the higher denominations.

However, they are in great need of additional sources of supply, particularly persons located overseas, or who are in a position to receive considerable mail franked with foreign stamps. They have some excellent foreign buyers, wholesale dealers who can actually buy by the ton

if Mr. Hazard can manage to get contributions to meet such quantities. Recently they shipped 1,446 pounds to such an overseas buyer, representing in the neighborhood of four million stamps, but it took approximately six months to accumulate that much.

If you have an accumulation of old stamps, or if you are in a business that has a large correspondence, you would be aiding a good cause by becoming one of the regular contributors of stamps to the Hospital. Send your contributions to F. R. Hazard, Manager, Stamp Department, South County Hospital, Saundertown, Rhode Island.

### Canal Zone Handbook

MEMBERSHIP Handbook No. 3 of the Canal Zone Study Group contains an article by Rudolph B. Weiler which is an original study of the Canal Zone First Issue on Cover, based on the author's outstanding collection which won a first award at the Washington Jubilee Exhibition, October 20-23, 1955.

There is also an article by George W. Brett on Canal Zone Essays and Proofs, which first appeared serially in the *Essay-Proof Journal* in 1951.



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SEE PAGE 456 FOR COMPLETE H. R. HARMER AUCTION SCHEDULE.



Jan. 9, 1956.

Mr. Charles F. Meroni,  
1414 Monadnock Bldg.,  
Chicago 4, Ill.

Dear Chuck:

MacBride in a recent issue of Stamps wrote an article about a Confed "Blocade cover" - Mac wrote me in reply to my query that this was in a Fox Sale (recent) and that "C.M." bought it. I am wondering if you were the buyer and if so will you please loan the cover to me?

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

EZRA D. COLE

*Rare Postage Stamps*

NYACK . NEW YORK

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*Commissions . Appraisals*

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TELEPHONE NYACK 7-0964

January 6th, 1956

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

Dear Stan:

Have you received, or are you going to get any bids for the Caspary sale and what are you going to do about them? Can I help you?

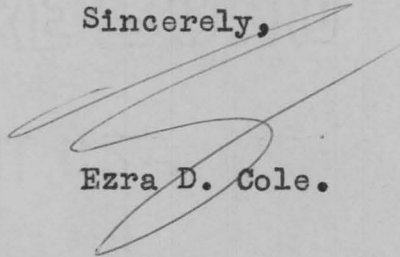
If you look at that copy of the December 28th issue of "Stamps" and read the story you will find that MacBride's explanation is rather lame.

Of course I cannot tell whether that "ship" mark looks good or not. It would only be a question of judgment. Any way I don't like its looks. Add to that the fact that the cancellation on the stamp is messy looking and does not look right, all of which makes three reasons that make me suspicious.

You can tell some things from a photograph but trying to be an expert looking at a newspaper story is something that I don't propose to do. However as you well know a cover may have some one thing that is wrong which does not necessarily condemn it but when there are two or three things which do not look right and don't add up then I just get very suspicious.

Mrs Dale has not answered my letter. She probably will not.

Sincerely,



Ezra D. Cole.

EDC:mk1



From the desk of

**MR. VAN DYK MAC BRIDE**

---

**To** S.B.Ashbrook

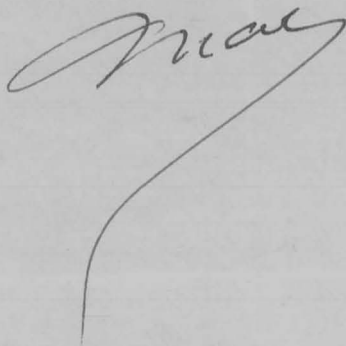
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Dear Stan:

That blockade cover which I wrote up in STAMPS of December 17th, was sold in the John Fox - APS auction at Norfolk, Va. on Sept. 23rd last. According to my notes it sold for \$130. to "C.M.", - who I think is Chuck Meroni. A photo of the cover appears in the Fox catalog of that sale which you doubtless have.

I studied the item a long while before deciding that it was a genuine, if most unusual, blockade usage. I'll be glad to have your further opinions on it, at any time.

Regards!

A large, stylized handwritten signature, likely "Van Dyk Mac Bride", written in dark ink. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends downwards and to the left.

1/6/55

# Jan Byk Mac Bride

744 BROAD STREET

NEWARK 2, NEW JERSEY

January 6th, 1956.

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

Dear Stan:

Its O.K. with me to have you send copies of your reply to my recent letter re Scruggs, to the C.S.A. officers and other interested parties. I agree with substantially all that you say regarding the man, and his conduct is of course wholly indefensible. I just got the idea that it might suffice to accept his resignations as an officer of the C.S.A. and the S.P.A., for the present. Then if there was a recurrence of his misbehavior these societies could instantly expel him ~~from~~ membership.

It is my considered opinion that the S.P.A. should be the one to take the lead in expelling him ~~from~~ membership, as his latest and greatest offense was at the Louisville meeting of that society. Scruggs was careful to conduct himself with the greatest propriety at the Norfolk meeting of the C.S.A., and his only direct offense against us was drunkenness at the Richmond meeting the previous year. Therefore, if the S.P.A. would expel him we would have an obvious excuse and reason to do likewise, for that reason alone.

As it is, further action in the present case is entirely up to the boards of officers of the two societies, and speaking solely for myself let me state that I will go along with whatever the majority may decide to do.

Warmest personal regards.

Sincerely,

MacB/HK

c.c.: G.N. Malpass  
T.W. Crigler, Jr.  
Earl Antrim  
L.L. Shenfield

*Jan Byk Mac Bride*

Jan. 4, 1956.

Mr. Van Dyk MacBride,  
744 Broad St.,  
Newark 2, N.J.

Dear Mac:

I am sending copies of the enclosed letter to officers of the C.S.A. and to such people as I think are interested. I put this on the Ditto machine to save the trouble of making two copies.

Re - your article in "Stamps" of Dec. 17th. I wonder if this is really a "Blocade cover?" Are you sure? Do you own it? If so, can I see it? I believe your are right but there are certain features which disturb me.

Yours etc.,

**EZRA D. COLE**

*Rare Postage Stamps*

NYACK . NEW YORK

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TELEPHONE NYACK 7-0964

December 28th, 1955

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

Dear Stan:

Did you see Van Dyk MacBride's story  
in "Stamps" issued December 17th? I think  
that is a phony cover.

Sincerely,

EDC:mkl

Ezra D. Cole.

Merry Christmas



Happy New Year



TRIE

Lehman  
Cole

July 14, 1956.

Mr. Howard Lehman,  
119 West 71st St.,  
New York 23, N.Y.

Dear Howard:

This will acknowledge receipt of yours of the 11th with return of the Stark covers and checks of \$42.00. Thanks very much. I am sorry there were not more in the lot that you could use.

Howard, believe me when I tell you that I have sold all the fine Stark material, that is, so far as I am aware. I believe that all the fine things were sent down to me in the first lots. Naturally the prices put on all the material are retail prices, not wholesale, consequently if they are too high for you what can I do? I can sell all the material I have on hand, believe it or not.

I am merely repeating the above so that you will thoroughly understand my position. I like to do business with you and only wish that I had nothing but superb material to offer you and at wholesale prices so you could make a lot of money on it.

When you gave me such a sob story as you did over the phone can you blame me if I thought your line of talk was discouraging? You are a darn good salesman but I wonder if that line was good? Honestly do you? Think it over. You know darn well that the bottom of the market is not going to drop out of the philatelic market.

Regards -

Cordially yours,

July 14, 1956.

Mr. Howard Lehman,  
119 West 71st St.,  
New York 23, N.Y.

Dear Howard:

This will acknowledge receipt of the two copies, off cover, of the One Cent 1851, viz., my old 7R1E as pictured in Vol. 1 of my One Cent book, page 119, Fig. 15X and the single type "IB," (?) 8R1E. I don't think much of this copy as it is badly cut at the left bottom and thus the "IB" feature destroyed. I would not recommend a person pay over \$25.00 to \$50.00 for such a copy. The fact is this is an 8R1E but it is not a Type IB but rather it was a Type IB before the scissors destroyed the type. Something that was is certainly not something that is. Any One Cent type must show that type. If the feature has been destroyed thru cuts or perfs the stamp is not longer the type it was. This for your information.

I find that my prospect is on a fishing trip but will be back at his desk by the middle of next week. I will advise you regarding the 7R1E just as soon as I can contact him. In the meantime I am returning the 8R1E. No wonder Mort did not want it.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

# Post Office Department

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119 West 71st Street

NEW YORK (23) N. Y.

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**Mr. HOWARD LEHMAN**

**119 West 71st Street**

**NEW YORK (23) N. Y.**

7 R 1 F

HOWARD LEHMAN

119 WEST 71ST STREET NEW YORK 23, N. Y.

July 11, 1956

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

Dear Stan:

I am very sorry that you misunderstood my conversation with you last night a little bit. I certainly don't want to discourage you from sending me future items, but I did mean to convey that I can sell fine stamps and covers at excellent prices to collectors, but I cannot sell too much of the average material such as you just sent me. The items that you sent are cheap, but even if they were 20% cheaper, my people don't want this grade. They would much rather pay double Catalogue for an item than one-third Catalogue. I hope that this clears the situation and that I have not in any way discouraged you.

I am enclosing two stamps. The original copy which is pictured in your famous book as the only dark shade ~~of~~ the 7R1E which you have ever seen, and the other is a type 1B with a red cancellation.

The price on the 7R1E is \$1100.00 (Eleven-hundred dollars) and the 8R1E is \$150.00 (One-hundred-and-fifty dollars). You can have either or both of these.

I am also enclosing some checks for some covers which I have sold at exactly your price to me and, therefore, I did not make 1¢ profit on them.

I feel very sure that Harold Stark must have had a few more items of a little better grade and, if you find the time, please try and send them to me.

I have quite a few off-cover 5¢ and 10¢ 1847's in varying degrees of condition, and should you need any, or some of your friends, I will be glad to send them to you.

With kindest personal regards, and please give my best to Mildred,

I am,

Sincerely,

Howard

July 23, 1956.

Mr. H. Schuyler Cole,  
% The Proctor & Gamble Co.,  
Gwynne Bldg.,  
6th & Main St.,  
Cincinnati, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Cole:

As per our phone conversation of  
yesterday I am enclosing herewith the One Cent  
1851 - Type I - 7RLE, and I trust that it meets  
with your approval.

My kindest regards.

Cordially yours,

Re 5¢ 47 ORANGE  
Re - STEAMBOAT Covers

July 23, 1956.

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

Dear Ezra:

Re  
Cleveland  
Way  
Herewith the three covers and the 5¢ 1847 as per yours of the 18th. Thanks for another shot at the 3¢ '57 plus 1¢ '57 at Cleveland. I sent Perry a poor photo and he says it is a Carrier. Had I said it was a Carrier he would have insisted that it was a prepaid Way. So there you are and take your choice. Bear the following in mind - Prepaid Way covers - 3¢ plus 1¢ - are rare, because few persons ever prepaid a Way cover. If this was a Carrier cover it would be to the Cleveland P.O. If they had such a system (and Perry says they did) then one would suppose a lot of people put mail in letter-boxes with 3¢ plus 1¢ - Why don't we see more if this was the case? I have never seen but one 3¢ '57 plus 1¢ and only two 3¢ '61 plus 1¢. What do you think? Further, in those days, Cincinnati was much bigger than Cleveland but I have never seen a Cincinnati 3¢ plus 1¢ - either 1857 or 1861 stamps. If Perry wants to illustrate this cover in his book would the owner have any objection?

Re - the steamboat covers. Ez, I have no reason to doubt that both of these are genuine. I have a record and tracing of a cover from Marquette, Mich. in August 1856 to Elyria, Ohio, with two 3¢ 1851 and this same S.B. marking. I feel sure that both your covers are genuine.

Re - the 5¢ 1847. This looks much too good to be true. Of course, the red grid may have some influence but I doubt if very much. I hesitate to pass on this because I wonder if someone made it? If it is okay it sure is a darn good example of the S.U.S. "RED ORANGE." It sure is more red orange than orange. I would like to send this to Chase and find out what he thinks.

Mildred and I are leaving Saturday July 28th for Norfolk, Va. to see Stan Sr.'s ship return from their European training cruise. We will probably not be back home before about the 7th or 8th of August. If you want to return it at that time I will be glad to discuss it with Chase.

Re - the stampless as per print. I think I know a man who would like to have this cover. If you will sell, put a price on it and I will ask him what I think he should pay. I might decide to keep it myself. At any rate, I would like to make a new photo of it and I might use it in my Service Issue.

Re - the 5¢ '47. The blue looks like a blue "10" - maybe this was used at Baltimore.

Re - the Bennington, Vt. It does seem improbable that the P.O. there would use a "67" logo in May, June and August 1868 but Perry says that is the only thing that could have happened. An 1867 use for the three covers is impossible.

Under separate cover, I am sending you a translation of the Balasse article. They charged me \$27.00 to translate this (Cincinnati Berlitz School of Languages). The article is not worth reading - a lot of silly hog-wash, (whatever that is).

Again re - the Cleveland S.B. covers. Apparently not a great deal of



#2. Mr. Ezra D. Cole - July 23, 1956.

mail came in by steam vessels at Cleveland so a metal stamper could have lasted 20 years or much longer. That black ink looks perfectly good to me. An intense black.

If Captain Vogeley is still at Norfolk, I will have Stan get in touch with him so that we can meet him. Did I ever write you that Stan had an awfully nice visit with him last Spring?

With regards -

Yours etc.,

P.S.--How is Jean? Did her ankle get okay? Give her our best.

No 401680

# RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

SENT TO

Mr. L. G. BROOKMAN

STREET AND NO.

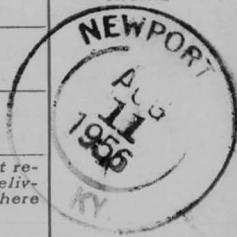
103 Loeb Arcade

5th And Hennepin

CITY AND STATE

MINNEAPOLIS (3) MINN.

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

If you want re-  
stricted deliv-  
ery, check here

☐

20¢ fee

POD Form 3800  
July 1955

Replaces previous editions of  
this form which MAY be used.

1. Stick postage stamps to your letter to pay:
  - 15-cent certified mail fee
  - First-class or airmail postage
  - Either return receipt fee (*optional*)
  - Restricted delivery 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. 11, 1956.

Mr. L. G. Brookman,  
103 Loeb Arcade,  
5th & Hennepin,  
Minneapolis 3, Minn.

Dear Lew:

I am enclosing herewith a 5¢ 1847 that has been submitted to me and before I return it I thought you might like to see it, and study it. You will note that -

- 1) It is a most unusual color.
- 2) It is a dirty plate impression.

Now, here are some queries:

1) Do you think this is a natural color or is it some monkey-business, viz., a chemical changeling? Did some Zareski make this or is it a natural?

2) If it is a natural, how would you class it? Would you classify it as an orange or what the S.U.S. calls a "red orange?"

It is my theory that the plate must have been cleaned early in 1850. For example, I was recently shown a cover used as I recall (offhand) in April 1850. It had a stamp with a fine impression, unlike the stamps we see on covers used in 1847 or early in 1848. The impression was fresh but the design lines were a bit "fuzzy" - In other words, what we both would classify as an impression from the cleaned plate.

The enclosed copy shows a very dirty plate what Chase called a "worn plate." My query to you is this - If this is a natural color, what about this impression? Were any stamps printed in this color before the plate was cleaned? Doc stated that the orange did not appear until the latter part of 1850. Examine this stamp carefully and let me know what you think about it. I may send it down to Doc and put the same questions up to him, and on second thought I may send it down to E. Perry and get his reaction. It would be nice to have the opinions of all four of us - Do you have any objection? I will keep your opinions and comments confidential.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,



# L. G. BROOKMAN

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

103 LOEB ARCADE  
MINNEAPOLIS 2, MINNESOTA

R.D.P.  
A.S.D.A.  
M.C.C.

August 13, 1956

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

Dear Stan:

This in answer to yours of the 11th.

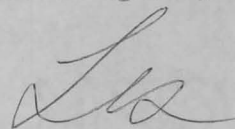
(1) I do not think this is a chemical changeling. I rather imagine that if any color changes have occurred on this stamp they are due to time and would not be a lightening of color but rather would be, if any changes have occurred, tend to have very slightly darkened the stamps. A peroxide bath might brighten it very slightly although I actually do not see any evidence that it is "oxidized" or "sulphated". I do not think it has had any unnatural treatment other than the possibility that it may have had a peroxide bath and this is considered legitimate as far as I know.

(2) I do not think it is either an orange or a red orange--in fact, I say it is not.

I believe this stamp is a brownish orange and that it was printed AFTER the plate had been cleaned but had again become dirty. It would be my guess that this stamp was printed sometime in the last quarter of 1850. The last printings of the stamp were simply terrible, as of course you know, and certainly were not in the shade of this stamp.

I would be glad to have my opinion compared with Chase, Perry and yourself and my only thought in this is that I consider that I am in the fastest company that could be assembled. This is about like putting a 2.20 horse in with Dan Patch but it does give an added starter to the race! Even if my opinions should differ from those of all of you I have no objection to your making them known to the others. I've never had any delusions of grandeur when it comes to my opinion of my opinions!

Sincere regards,



Aug. 17, 1956.

Mr. L. G. Brookman,  
102 Loeb Arcade,  
5th & Hennepin,  
Minneapolis 3, Minn.

Dear Les:

Thanks very much for yours of the 13th, with the return of the 5¢ 1847. I was pleased to obtain your opinion and I am sure it will prove helpful. I was of the opinion that if the stamp is a natural color -(no monkey-business of any kind), that it what the S.U.S. lists as the RED ORANGE, and of course a print from the dirty plate. Inasmuch as I am of the opinion that the plate was cleaned early in 1850, then this (if a natural color) was a print from the dirty plate. Further, for years the S.U.S. listed an orange and had I been shown this copy when such a listing was made, that I would have pronounced this as an "orange," provided it was a natural color. Unfortunately I have no way to prove that a stamp such as this is a natural color and I would hate to go out on a limb and pronounce a faked shade as a natural.

I have a Ridgway book and by referring to it I can obtain a very fine idea of how Chase read his "year colors" of the 5¢ over 40 years ago.

I am today sending the copy to Doc requesting his opinion. Naturally Doc has no reference material but he still has his Ridgway book (I suppose). I am anxious to get his opinion and I will advise you regarding same. I also, (as I wrote you) intend to send it to E. Perry. It is a thousand to one he will not agree with any of us. We never agree on any subject any more. My only chance to ever learn as much as Perry is to live to be at least 200 years and I see little chance of that at present.

Again thanks.

As ever,

5¢47

ORANGE

Aug. 17, 1956.

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

Dear Doc:

Here is a 5¢ '47 that turned up recently which I thought you would like to see. I think the color is most unusual and I doubt if I ever saw a shade that matched it. This made me wonder if this could possibly be some chemical changeling made by some faker. Take a good look at this stamp under a strong glass and let me know what you think. Would you class this as an orange or what the S.U.S. calls the Red Orange, that is, if it is a natural color. I made a color slide of this copy and if you would like to have one I will be glad to supply.

Note the impression - what we used to call the worn plate but such are from a dirty condition of the plate rather than a worn state. It is my belief that the plate was cleaned as early as March 1850 but of course I may be wrong. If perchance I am correct then this stamp must have been printed early in 1850. If it is a natural color then early in 1850 seems a bit out of place for this shade.

With best wishes --

As ever yours,



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

August 20 '56

Dear Sam :-

Thanks for the sight of the  
enveloped 50 & 47. So my mind it is a  
pretty fair orange though they surely  
exist "oranges." The red & blue girds  
don't help any.

The worn plate is unusual for the  
orange - at least that is my recollection.  
I don't believe it has been faked at all.

We agree on everything I guess except  
"worn" plate vs "sixty" plate. I can't  
figure out how cleaning a worn plate  
can restore any of the missing or very  
faint lines.

Why not late 1850 for the stamp  
enveloped?

Beautiful weather except for an  
occasional humid hot day.

Best

as ever

Thanks Sam but I don't believe  
I need a color slide.

C.C.



Aug. 26, 1956.

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

Dear Doc:

Mildred and I were up in Michigan most of last week and I found yours of the 20th on my return. Thanks very much for your comment on the 5¢ '47.

Re - worn plate Vs dirty plate. I have never been able to find more than 8 corner positions - I have plated them all - have never found two different 10L or 10R, hence surely only one plate of 200. You will recall how covers used in the last half of 1850 and in 1851 show stamps with fine impressions. How can we account for such if there was only one plate? I believe the worn plate copies of late 1849 and early 1850 were not worn plate but from a dirty condition of the plate. The brown ink was from a clay base - a sticky substance that filled in the engraved lines and gave the appearance of wear. The plate was never worn but dirty very dirty from the sticky ink. When it was cleaned in 1850 it again produced the fine impressions of late 1850 and 1851. As I value your opinion above all others I do not care to be in disagreement with you upon any subject.

It was positively cold up in Michigan last week and we were glad to return home where we could be warm.

With all good wishes -

Cordially yours,

Aug. 26, 1956.

Mr. L. G. Brookman,  
103 Leeb Arcade,  
5th & Hennepin,  
Minneapolis 3, Minn.

Dear Les:

Mildred and I were up in Michigan most of last week and it was really cold. Probably snow up in your cold spot.

Doc returned the 5¢ '47 and it was his opinion the color was natural and that it is (in his words) - "A pretty fair orange, though they surely exist oranger." He seemed to think the red and blue cancels "don't help any." Do you own a Ridgway Book? I believe this stamp matches the Ridgway reading that Doc gave in his 1916 article of his "ORANGE." My guess is, that at that time, he classified certain exceptional colors as orange but that in the present day, certain of us, would not call such stamps orange.

Doc also mentioned in his letter that he did not agree with our theory dirty plate Vs worn plate. He seems to still believe that what we call DIRTY PLATE copies are from a badly worn plate. In my reply, I attempted to explain our theory. Note my use of "our." It is "ours" by my adoption of your theory and which I believe is 100% correct. However, I am conscious that Chase is a very profound student of "impressions" and I have such high regard for any opinion by him that I go very slow in questioning same. With Perry it is different. His brain surely rattles, as Chase claimed 30 years ago.

I am enclosing a separate letter which please destroy.

With best wishes -

As ever,



Sept. 29, 1966.

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

Dear Ezra:

Perry returned the 5¢ '47 and in his opinion, the stamp is the "red orange." I am still a bit dubious that it is a natural color but Chase, Brookman and Perry are all in agreement it is the red orange so I have signed it on the back as such. I did not pay Perry a fee so I request that you do not mention to anyone that this stamp had been passed upon by the above trio. If you do not sell it send it to me and I will see what I can do.

Regards.

Yours etc.,

P.S.—That 30¢ 1869 in the Herst sale last night in Cincinnati sold at \$180.00 - opening bid by book - no floor bid - This "low price" in spite of the fact it has a P.F. certificate. I'll bet Herst bought this from Zareski and that it belongs to him.

REGISTERED

**EZRA D. COLE**

*Rare Postage Stamps*

NYACK . NEW YORK

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*Commissions . Appraisals*

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TELEPHONE NYACK 7-0964

October 2nd, 1956

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

Dear Stan:

Yours returning the 5¢ 1847.

I have no idea what your fees are for examining stamps like this and no matter what I send you in this case it probably is not enough, but I am enclosing my check for \$7.50 which will at least pay you for your postage.

I do not know whether the man I have been corresponding with will buy this stamp or whether or not he is interested but I am going to send it to him and if he fails to buy it, or returns it for any reason, I will send it back to you. I will not send it to any one else.

Interesting about the Herst cover. No doubt Herst not only got that cover but has some others, and he may get more.

|||||

Sincerely,

EDC:mk1

Ezra D. Cole.







*Dr. S. Ichida*  
Nikkatsu Hotel

TOKYO JAPAN



*Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook* VIA AIR MAIL

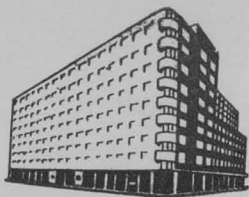
*33. N. Ft. Thomas Ave.*

*Ft. Thomas*

*K.Y.*

*U.S. A.*

*Registered*



*S. Ichida*  
**Nikkatsu Hotel**

TOKYO JAPAN

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Many thanks for your kind letter of Aug 9<sup>th</sup> 1956 and your instructive statements.

Frankly speaking I don't know who was the former owner of my pair *TRIE, 8 RIE*.

I was only told it belonged to a unfamous collector who died recently and his son showed it to Mr. Mozián for estimation with other stamps. Timely I asked the rarity and he purchased it for me.

The pair had no certificate paper so I asked Collector's Club to record it. After many documents, I think the pair exist quite a few numbers say under half dozen.

I am enclosing the cover franked *8141E* which I told you. Please let me have your advice for purchasing it.

I also enclosed three stamps. Two three cents are suspected to be imperf between. Ten sen would be imperf. They were found in old collection for last 10 years.

I thank you for your kind offer of *99RI* perf. which I should like to have.

However, as I have to make too much



# Nikkatsu Hotel

TOKYO JAPAN

foreign currency for my purchase during my trip, I can't accept your offer right now.

But when I finished the procedure for making route of my payment, I'll try to make another for it. please let me know your price of it for my reference.

Among three stamps, ~~so~~ enclosed, I think ten sen would be rarest item and supposed to be genuine ~~ps~~ imperf.

You stated 7R1E. 99R2 imp and perf would be rarest item among 1 cent. But how do you think about wide perf of plate IV v12. Type II and Type Ia?

Awaiting for your kind reply.

Sincerely yours

S. Shida

Aug. 20, 1956.

Dr. S. Ichida,  
245 Shioya,  
Tarumi,  
Kobe, Japan.

Dear Doctor:

Herewith I am returning the 1¢ 1851 cover and the three single stamps.

Regarding the cover - the stamp is the One Cent 1851 - 8111E - Type IIIA - This is the Type IIIA triple transfer listed at the top of page 33 of the S.U.S. 1956 Edition and quoted used at \$85.00. May I call your attention to the fact that this stamp has a paper crease, this crease occurred when the stamp was printed and was due to the dampness of the paper. Because of this defect the stamp is not fine. I do not think a dealer should charge over \$65.00 for this cover. If this stamp was in an auction sale and the defect was mentioned I do not believe the cover would bring \$50.00. While covers with 8111E are not common such a cover is not unique.

Regarding the other three stamps - all are valueless - Perforations have been trimmed - Never buy a part perf unless in a pair. Any dealer who would offer such trash to you is surely a crook.

Re - the 1¢ 1857 - 99R2 - My price for the stamp is \$750.00. Would you like to have a photo print?

My fee for the above is \$3.50 but you need not remit at this time if you have any further items to send me.

Sincerely yours,



Dr. S. Ichida  
245 Shioya  
Tarumi  
Kobe Japan  
August 2nd, 1956

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbook  
33N Ft. Nomas Avenue  
Ft. Thomas Ky  
U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Ashbook:

I am very happy to have a privilege to write this letter to you; I was introduced by Mr. M. Neinken whom I met while I was staying in New York recently. He advised me to inform you for your reference I just obtained the pair of 7R IE and 8R IE which is now recorded by Philatelic Foundation.

As you know probably, I can't find any U. S. 19 century collector here in Japan. I started 19 century U. S. after the war and furnished the general collecting and got in the study of 1cent and 10cent 1851-57.

I fortunately obtained your 1cent books and Mr. Neinken gave me 10cent book.

During my last world round trip, I got several copied of 1cent beside the pair above mentioned and I am trying to plate them and intending to ask Mr. Neinken's checking.

I also got 99 RII imperf. about two years ago.

Would you kindly let me know the number of 7R IE, the pair and strip including it and 99 R II perf. and imperf?

I am just offered Scott 8 A type III A 81 IE on cover. Owner said it might be unique cover. Please let me know your idea of the cover and the price which I am to pay.

Awaiting for your kind reply soon.

Sincerely yours,



Dr. S Ichida  
245 Shioya  
Tarumi-ku  
Kobe Japan



Mr. Stanley B Ashbook  
33N Ft. Nomas Avenue  
Ft. Thomas Ky  
U.S.A.

PAR AVION  
航空郵便

Aug. 9, 1956.

Dr. S. Ichida,  
245 Shiota,  
Tarumi - Kli  
Kobe, Japan.

Dear Doctor:

I am in receipt of your kind letter of the 2nd, and am pleased to note that you are interested in U. S. 19th Century stamps, and especially in the One Cent of 1851-57-60 and the Ten Cents of 1855-57.

I note that you recently obtained a pair of the One Cent '51, 7R1E - 8R1E. Can you give me any information as to the source of this item? Who was the former owner, from what auction sale, etc., etc.? I assume it is an off-cover item.

I note that you own a 1¢ imperf 99R2, which, of course, is a very excellent and safe investment. As stated in my One Cent Book, (2 Volumes), I have been recording in my records for many years the owners of copies of the 7R1E, and at present I have a record of some 62 copies. However, the chances are that there are some duplications in my records. I have never attempted to make a record of the existing copies of the imperf and perforated 99R2.

In recent years I have become convinced that of the three rare 1¢ - viz - the 7R1E, the 99R2 imperf, and the 99R2 perf, that the scarcest is the latter, the 99R2 perf. I doubt if there are actually 20 copies of this stamp in existence today. It is rarely offered at auction and a study of American auction catalogues extending back for 35 years discloses very few copies offered. At the present time I have quite a fine copy off-cover which I could offer you if interested.

I note you have been offered a cover with a copy of 811E. What is the value? Well, of course, that would depend entirely on the condition. If you care to do so you can have the owner submit it to me and I will advise you what the item is worth.

May I offer this advice to you? Philately is beset with a horde of fakers, cheats and crooks, so please be most careful what you purchase. If any U.S. dealer offers you an item you can inform them to submit it to me first and I will then advise you if it is authentic and if the price tag is correct. I charge a reasonable fee for such service.

One more bit of advice. Be very careful in buying copies of the 10¢ 1855, Type IV. Someone is making fakes which are extremely clever. Only a few - a very few students can distinguish the genuine from the fraudulent.

Sincerely yours,

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



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

34  
1861

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

August 17, 1956


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

Dear Stan,

Many thanks for your efforts on the 5¢ 1856 block. Paul Rohloff returned the last selection I sent him with comment that he was out of the market for awhile. I did not mention this block to him, but believe it might be worthwhile for you to do so if you happen to be corresponding with him. I agree 100% that Henry Hill is the logical person for the block and it is a hell of a better buy than a number of items which he has bought at auction recently including his prize Klep cover and also several items he bought in the Caspary sale. I don't know who ran him up on the Klep cover but could probably find out from Bob Lyman who attended that sale in my behalf if you would care to have me do so. Bob Lyman has seen this block, but indicated that his European customers would not go for it due to the pen cancellation which apparently is looked upon with much greater disfavor in Europe than it is here. One of his customers is the Swiss dealer who executed the under bid on the cover which Hill bought on behalf of a client whose identity is undisclosed.

Enclosed is a 3¢ 1861 on which I would appreciate your opinion as to the possibility of its being a "pink". It doesn't seem to me to quite have full enough color, yet it does have a pinkish tint so I would appreciate your opinion. Incidentally, the customer of mine who purchased the beautiful mint pink I sent you several months ago and had turned down by the P. F., when in New York recently consulted with Boggs who showed him the reference copies in the Luff collection and together they put under the ultra-violet lamp several other copies of pinks which I had sent this customer to take along with him for that conference. The copies I sent him which in my opinion were not as nice as the one they turned down all apparently compared very favorably with the copy in the Luff reference collection and fluoresced the same. Therefore, apparently it is not a "pigeon blood" which they are using for comparison. Rather, their inconsistent opinions must be due to the complete lack of inherent philatelic knowledge on the part of the people who are rendering them since I believe you will agree rendering an expert opinion solely based on comparing every copy submitted with a reference copy and turning it down if it doesn't appear to be the same is utterly ridiculous.

With best regards,

  
Jack E. Molesworth

JEM/mlw



**Post Office Department**

Received from: **STANLEY B. ASHBROOK**  
P. O. Box 31

33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.  
FORT THOMAS, KY.



One piece of ordinary mail addressed  
to **Mr. Jack E. Molesworth**

102 Beacon Street

**BOSTON (16) Mass.**

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

Aug. 20, 1956.

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

Dear Jack:

Yours of the 17th received. I agree with the remarks in the first paragraph of your letter. I believe there is one person who should own the Filstrup block, that is, if he has any intention of retaining his whole collection of that stamp. Of course, if a person puts a collection together for resale then it might be a different story.

Yes, I would like to know if the run-up bid was on the level. I cannot imagine that two people were willing to pay such a price. I would refuse to believe anything in confirmation that such was the case. I do not know the answer and don't care especially but I believe someone pulled the old army game.

Re - the last paragraph. Jack, I have a Hanovia Lamp - It is a large affair with a transformer and cost me \$160.00. Do I put 3¢ 1861 under this lamp to determine if they are pink. The answer is an emphatic NO. I consider such stuff a lot of tommy-rot. It is my opinion that much of the expertizing at the P.F. is done by Boggs. If I am right - then there is the answer to many of the wrong certificates that are constantly being issued by the Committee. Please keep the following strictly confidential.

Several months ago Boggs sent me a photo of a cover to Guatemala with a 30¢ 1869 and asked my opinion. In reply I informed him that in my opinion, the cover was a fake, that a 10¢ Bank Note had been removed and a 30¢ '69 substituted. He replied that in his opinion I was wrong, that he considered the cover genuine. Imagine!! I understand Herman Herst, Jr. is offering this cover in a sale to come up in the near future with a P.F. certificate.

In the face of such stuff as this why should a person spend a lifetime making an intensive day-by-day study of our postal history and postal markings - stamps, etc.?

That Committee makes a joke of serious philatelic research work.

Re - the stamp you enclosed and which I return herewith. This is a ROSE.

Note the enclosed. I see in the press that this crook recently donated valuable philatelic material to Boys Town.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

August 17, 1956



Stan:

When the dummy mounting for Mr. Millard Mack's cover #14 was being made it was compared with the paragraph in your letter to him of Aug. 2, 1955, of which that page is enclosed. Data here happens not to agree with your interpretation; it shows the rate to Italy by direct steamer to Germany was 14¢, and was 19¢ by Prussian Closed Mail via England. Also the red British Transit postmark is the same as is found on other covers carried by P.C.M.

The P.C.M. rate was higher because the service across England and the North Sea or English Channel to Belgium was more expensive and was faster. Yet in the last paragraph on the same page of your letter you mention a 15¢ rate to Italy in "Closed Mail Via England" and that "the 19¢ rate above was thru Hamburg and German mail and was 4¢ higher."

I don't know what you mean by "Via North German Union." There was a German-Austrian Postal Union and a North German Postal District, which appears on German stamps of 1868-69 as "Norddeutscher Postbezirk."

It is my understanding that the North German Lloyd and the Hamburg-American Line ships did not unload mail in England, but carried it to Bremen or Hamburg "direct" - hence the lower rate.

It occurs to me therefore, that this letter did not leave New York on the Hamburg steamer of October 26, 1869, but did go on another ship which happened to leave New York on the same date, and that the rate was 19¢ because the letter was in the P.C.M. via England.

Regarding the 3¢ plus 1¢ cover New York to Washington, with incorrect foreign mail postmark, the inference I get is that the F.M. postmark was applied incorrectly in the Carrier Dept. I would say not. The F.M. postmark would not be in the Carrier Dept. because there would be no use for it. After the letter left the Carrier Dept. it got into the foreign mail by mistake and was struck with the F.M. postmark in the Foreign Mail Dept. before the clerk noticed that it "didn't belong."

Yes, there were red stamping pads in the main section of the Philadelphia Post Office, and also in the Carrier Dept. But in my opinion handstamps for marking unpaid postage rates on collect mail, either incoming or outgoing, if both kinds were so marked, would be found where they would be used, i.e., in the main post office and not in the carrier dept. The facts do not eliminate the possibility of accidental or irregular use, as is shown by the N.Y. Wash. cover.

As covers with a WAY fee prepaid by stamp usually were not marked WAY, unless they bear other evidence indicating WAY service, I am obliged to assume that any which bear the postmark of a post office where carrier service was in operation are 3¢ plus 1¢ carrier collection. The reason is being covered briefly in one paragraph in the Carrier Book, so the reader may put any cover in whichever class he chooses.

\* from your letter

As ever,  
Airt. Perry



Aug. 25, 1956.

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

Elliott:

Replying to yours of the 17th, re -- the Millard Mack cover No. 14th. I do not know what your records show but I have the official sailings and rates for October 1869 and they were as follows:

A ship of the Harmburg Line sailed on October 26, 1869 and was listed as follows, quote: "From New York by Hamburg Line Via Plymouth and Hamburg." The official rates were as follows:

ITALY	(Direct closed mail Via England .....	15¢	per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.
"	Via North German Union direct .....	14¢	" $\frac{1}{2}$ "
"	" " " " (closed mail via		
	England .....	19¢	" $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.
"	" French Mail 21¢ per $\frac{1}{4}$ oz. - 42¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.		

I assume that the writer overpaid the rate and that the letter was sent by direct mail to Hamburg. In the official list the Line is listed as the "Hamburg Line." At the moment I am not quite sure what the Company name was. There was only one mail ship that sailed from New York on Tuesday Oct. 26, 1869, with U.S. mail for Europe. As you are aware, mail for Europe was postmarked the date of departure. I, therefore, assume that this letter was dispatched on that date.

The only photo of this cover that I can locate at the moment is the illustration in the Gibson sale and it does not disclose all the markings.

I see no cause for argument over the 3¢ plus 1¢ cover with the New York foreign mail marking. Is it not sufficient to conclude that the marking was applied thru error? What does it matter how it got there?

Yours etc.,

P.S.--I have been up in Michigan all week, hence this tardy acknowledgement.



August 21, 1956



Stan:

Your letter of Sept. 18, 1955 to Mr. Mack is enclosed. I am puzzled about the 10¢ 1869 on front cover to France, from San Francisco June 3, 1870.

The U.S. domestic rate S.F. to New York at that date was 3 cents. Hence, if the 10¢ stamp paid postage only to the French mail ship, the U.S. got 7 cents for putting the letter on that ship. But if the letter had gone by U.S. mail ship, 10 cents would have paid the postage across the U.S. and the Atlantic Ocean, to a port of arrival in France, and only French internal postage would have been due.

The 16 decimes marking (nearly 31¢ U.S.) was the equivalent of the rate for a half ounce letter at 15¢ per quarter ounce, and I suppose it represented the sea postage plus the French internal postage. It brought the total postage up to 41 cents, which seems high. More than ten years earlier letters were going for 15 cents and show no decimes marking, i.e. 30¢ per half ounce. Less than three years later I note covers up to 1/3rd ounce going via England for 16 cents, and no decimes marking.

Replying to yours of the 18th, I recall no instructions in the PL&R regarding the color of ink to be used with handstamps for post-marking domestic mail, and had no intention of inferring that they did. Each post office had its own system - or lack of system - probably according to the whim of the p.m. or the assistant p.m. or the chief clerk. Sometimes a new postmaster may have made a change just because he had authority to do so.

Here or there a pattern may appear. Probably there was a reason beyond mere happenstance. The Philadelphia handstamps for 3 cents or 6 cents paid in cash may have been used at a certain window or by a certain clerk as a means of identifying that class of mail, or the clerk who took in the money. The "1 PAID" in blue may have been the preference of the clerk who handled cash paid circulars.

Sometimes such facts are useful, either in determining <sup>uncertain</sup> dates more closely, or perhaps, as the English say, "spotting a wrong 'un.'" No claim is made that they have greater importance, regardless of how interesting some collectors may find them.

As ever,

I do not question the cover, nor your solution. I just don't understand why the rate should be so high, even if the letter weighed more than a quarter ounce, as I suppose it did.

Aug. 25, 1956.

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

Elliott:

Upon our return today I found yours of the 21st.

Re - my letter to Millard Mack of Sep. 18th, 1955 which you enclosed and which I return herewith, I can assure you that the information that I gave him is correct in every respect.

After Dec. 31st, 1869 we had no treaty with France. Mail sent from this country direct to France required the Steamship Rate of 10¢ per  $\frac{1}{2}$  ounce. This rate applied whether the letter was carried by a U. S. mail steamship or a French mail steamship. In France such a letter was rated at 8 decimes due if not over  $7\frac{1}{2}$  grammes, and 16 decimes if not over 15 grammes.

I am sure Frank Hollowbush can show you a number of covers carried by French Mail ships from New York in the first half of 1870 with the 10¢ steamship rate as above as well as similar covers carried by U. S. mail packets. If you would like to see photographs of such covers I will be glad to loan them to you from my files. By this I mean, not one but a number. It has been my experience that the French crooks have used such covers to fake, by removing a 10¢ 1869 or a 10¢ Bank Note and substituting a 30¢ 1869. They have manipulated such covers in such a clever manner at times that they appeared most convincing. However, the inconsistency was a 30¢ rate in the U. S. direct to France with 8 decimes due, but this in 999(?) cases out of a thousand apparently means absolutely nothing to a U. S. collector. They go on the assumption that if a cover looks good it certainly must be good.

Re - color of postmark. It is my recollection that the U.S.-British postal treaty was the first treaty that mentioned red markings for prepaid mail and black for unpaid. This system was adopted by subsequent important treaties, but I have never noticed any real evidence that the system of red and black was followed on domestic mail. Naturally Jan. 1, 1856 was the dead-line so we only have to consider the prior period.

Yours etc.,

P.S.—Re - the 10¢ steamship rate. For example, consider the official table of April 1870. To France was listed as By Direct Mail - 10¢ per  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. By Open Mail Via England - 4¢ per  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. This 10¢ steamship rate applied to many countries - as for example Cuba - Also East Indies Via San Francisco - as well as China and Mexico (Direct), etc., etc. As you are aware it was a rate fixed by Congress.

S.

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

8/20/56

Stan-

Enclosed is what appears  
to me + my wife Violet Lamp to  
be a Super Unmus #34. Before  
paying for this at price agreed  
on Friday next I'd like to have  
your opinion as to its unused  
status. My agreement to buy is  
based on your o.k.ing it as I hope  
you will. With best regards, Jack (over)

P.S. In interest of speed,  
please return unregistered  
in enclosed env. at my  
~~own~~ risk. Thanks.



Mr. Jack E. Molesworth  
102 Beacon Street  
BOSTON (16) Mass.

Re - 10d 1857

Type IV.

Uncanceled

86 L 1

Aug. 26, 1956.

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

Dear Jack:

I wired you last night as follows, quote:  
"After a very thorough examination it is my opinion the  
item is genuine and shows no evidence of cleaning in  
other words an unused eighty six." (unquote)

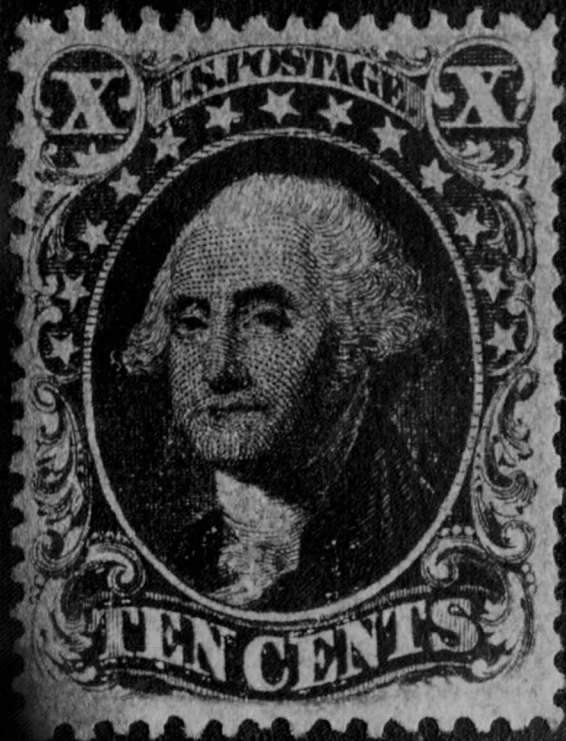
Herewith the stamp, a 10¢ 1857, uncanceled,  
Type IV, position 8611. This position shows a secret mark  
which I feel quite certain is unknown to any faker and  
this copy shows that marking. I merely mention this fact  
to show that I am quite positive that this is 8611. I  
made two exposures by ultra-violet, prints herewith, which  
speak for themselves.

My fee for this examination is \$10.00.

Sincerely yours,

C355 86L1 ALSO SEC354

AT 13-QUARTZ - F64 - 30 MIN



BY MOLESWORTH AUG 25-56

C355



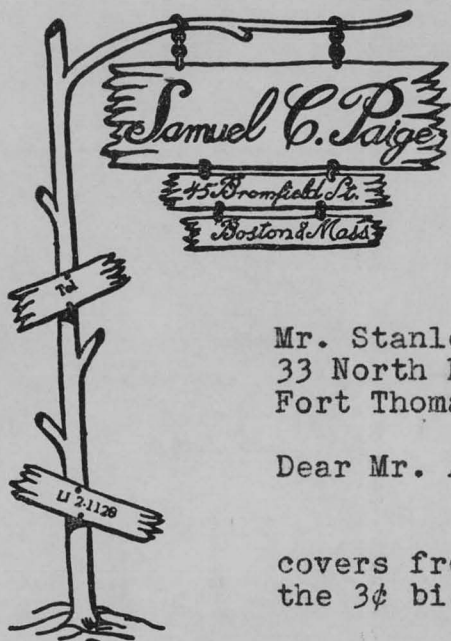
AT 13 QUARTZ FG4 - 30 MIN - 20 MIN C354

86L1 C354  
SEEC355 BEST

BY MOLES WORTH AUG 25-56

C354 - QUARTZ - AT 13 - FG4





August 24, 1956

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Please find enclosed two 3¢ 1869 covers from Atlantic, Iowa, one of which shows the 3¢ bisected and used as 1¢.

I would value your opinion on these and would ask that you sign the bisect if you believe it to be genuine. As far as I know they came out of original correspondence and probably the cover is okay.

In this connection I have been meaning to ask another question of you which has to do with my auction catalogs. As you are well aware, your name in philately means a great deal when it has been used to expertize any item. There are many times when writing an auction catalog I have wished that I felt you would not be offended to have your name mentioned as expertizer in the catalog itself. Naturally, I would not do so without your express permission, and if you prefer will continue to merely say "Authenticated" without using your name. However, I would much appreciate it if you could see your way clear to allowing me to use your name when the item bears your signature or is accompanied by a letter from you.

Trust you are having a very pleasant summer. With my very best regards.

Sincerely yours,

*Samuel C. Paige*  
(HA)

Samuel C. Paige

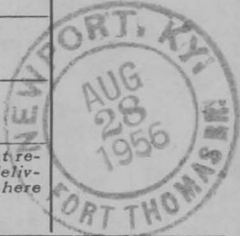
SCP:HA

Member

A. S. D. A.      A. P. S.  
U. S. ENVELOPE SOCIETY  
COLLECTORS CLUB OF N. Y.  
U. S. CANCELLATION CLUB  
3c 51-57 UNIT  
R. I. PHILATELIC SOCIETY  
NEW BEDFORD STAMP CLUB

No 401683

# RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

SENT TO <b>Mr Samue C Paige</b>		POSTMARK OR DATE  	
STREET AND NO. <b>45 Bromfield St</b>			
CITY AND STATE <b>BOSTON (8) Mass</b>			
<p>If you want a return receipt, check which</p> <table><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> 7¢ shows to whom and when delivered</td><td><input type="checkbox"/> 31¢ shows to whom, when, and address where delivered</td></tr></table>			<input type="checkbox"/> 7¢ shows to whom and when delivered
<input type="checkbox"/> 7¢ shows to whom and when delivered	<input type="checkbox"/> 31¢ shows to whom, when, and address where delivered		
<p>If you want restricted delivery, check here</p> <table><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> 20¢ fee</td></tr></table>		<input type="checkbox"/> 20¢ fee	
<input type="checkbox"/> 20¢ fee			

POD Form 3800  
July 1955

Replaces previous editions of  
this form which MAY be used.

1. Stick postage stamps to your letter to pay:  
15-cent certified mail fee  
First-class or airmail postage  
Either return receipt fee (*optional*)  
Restricted delivery 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. 28, 1956.

Mr. Samuel C. Paige,  
45 Bromfield St.,  
Boston 8, Mass.

Dear Mr. Paige:

Herewith the two covers as per yours of the 24th.

Regarding the one with the bisected 3¢ stamp. I suppose this could be genuine, that is, that it went thru the mail as it exists today. However, if it did I consider such things as freaks and that they do not represent what they appear to be, viz., a provisional use. I suppose by 1869 that there were many thousands of stamp collectors and things like this were made. I do not approve of such material and prefer not to have my name associated in any way with such items. I trust that you will appreciate my position.

Consider this item - If the writer had a 3¢ stamp ~~why~~ would she(?) cut it in two and use it in this manner? Why didn't she use it without the 2¢ B.J.? The P.M.G. issued an order in 1853 to postmasters not to recognize for payment of postage any pieces of stamps or stamps cut out of stamped envelopes. I doubt if that order was ever ~~rescind~~ed.

Re - the use of my name in auction catalogues. I do resent such use without my permission especially when the use is by gyp concerns and I enter a protest in such cases because on occasions they have used my name on items that I never laid eyes upon. What can one do in such a case? If a valued friend like Dan Kleeher would use my name I would consider it an honor and I certainly would have no objection to such use by you.

With every good wish-

Cordially yours,

(40-58)



# 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 Samuel C Paige

45 Bromfield St

BOSTON (8) Mass

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



Aug. 27, 1956.

Mr. Samuel C. Paige,  
45 Bromfield St.,  
Boston 8, Mass.

Dear Mr. Paige:

I was away from home all of last week and found yours of the 21st with the eight covers on my return. I regret to state that none of these are the Express Mail of 1836-1839 but just ordinary slow mail covers. I believe all mail to go by the "Fast Mail" had to be marked "EXPRESS MAIL," otherwise all mail went by the regular mail.

Incidentally, the Service was inaugurated in November 1836 and was discontinued in June 1839.

As ordinary stampless covers with no special features do you not agree that the enclosed lot has little if any value?

Sincerely yours,

MARCHANT  
CALCULATORS, INC.

MEMO FROM OFFICE OF GENERAL MANAGER

40-59

TO Dear Stan DATE Aug 1. 1956

the?? One thing I cannot get out of  
my mind.

Thank 12d bi-sect Gordon sold  
some time ago - and which I  
asked you about - but you  
said it missed you.

It's up again illustrated  
on cover of 107th Public Stamp  
Auction June 6th 1956 - the  
Chicago Auction Service

It's June 1st and we've never  
seen one before July 15th -

Can it be ok? Sure sketches the  
period of use

Egan

August 29, 1956.

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

Dear Edgar:

Re - yours of "Aug 1" mailed Aug. 21 and the 12¢ bisect. This is a 12¢ bisect on a piece of cover, tied by a S.F. p.m. of "JUN 1." I do not recall how they arrived at the "1853" use. My records give no explanation on this point. It came up in a sale by Harmer Rooke Jan. 13, 1953 and was Lot 49. I have a regular photo of it, also a color slide. It came up again in a sale by "STAMP AUCTION SERVICE" (Henry Kuhlman June 6, 1956 as Lot 96). Henry stated it had a P.F. certificate. I doubt if the P.F. sent it to me. How could they issue a certificate stating such a thing - a piece - was genuine? As you are aware we have no record of a 12¢ bisect used from S.F. as early as June 1, 1853. Would you like to see a print or my slide? Unless I have data to the contrary my guess is that it could be good but not 1853.

Yours etc.,