

Scrapbook No. 42 November 7, 1956 -February 19, 1957

1.	E.C. Krug Re: covers in Daniels sale
2.	P.H. Thorp Re: bleached envelopes
3.	Sidney D. Harris Re: Rutland, Vt
4.	Re: Boy's Town
5.	Jack Fleckenstein Re: SPA exhibition and convention at Milwaukee
6.	John L. Norbeck Re: 3¢ 1857 cover from Richmond, May 30, 1861
7.	Dr. W.S. Polland Re: Jessup
8.	C.C. Hart Re: Eastern RR cover, 3¢ 1857 Old stamp not recognized
9.	C.C. Hart Re: 10¢ 1847 cover with 2¢ Honour's stamp, Wilmington, & Raleigh RR stamp, cancel, Re: cover to Virginia, CSA 1863 Baltimore cover
10.	Ezra D. Cole Re: 2¢ 1875 Vermillion, Bisect cover
11.	M. Fortgang Re: 5¢ rate to France, 10¢ 1857 Portland to Kansas
12.	E.C. Krug Re: Various covers from Caspary sale
13.	Dr. S. Ichida Re: 42¢ cover to Prussia
14.	E.D. Cole Re: two 3¢ 1861 covers
15.	B.D. Harmer Re: 3¢ 1861 covers
16.	Jack Molesworth Re: 3¢ 1861 pink? Also 10¢ 1861 Type I, earliest?
17.	C.C. Hart Re: 1847 order book
18.	Millard Mack
19.	Jack Molesworth re: 1¢ 1851 Type II Plate 2, 3¢ 1861 not a pink
20.	Ed S. McConnell Re: 10¢ 1856 trimmed
21.	C.W. Christian Re: 3¢ 1861 odd color
22.	Raymond Weill
23.	C.C. Hart
24.	E.C. Krug Re: Hawaii cover
25.	Raymond Weill
26.	Raynor Hubbell
27.	B.D. Harmer Re: Fake 30¢ 1869 cover Castroville, Texas
28.	J.R. Hughes Re: 12¢ Bisect Boston to S.F.
29.	Geo W. Linn Re: Baltimore cover is this a P.M.P.?
30.	E.C. Krug Re: Brunswick, Me, criss cross grid
31.	Alex S. Juliard Re 5¢ 1847 Dot in "S"
32.	E.D. Cole Re: two 3¢ 1861 covers
33.	Jack Molesworth Re 3¢ 1861 Pink, Herst, Lehman
34.	C.C. Hart Re: Augusta, Ga 5¢ 1847 cover
35.	E.C. Krug Re: various covers, Castroville
36.	Karl Jaeger Re: cover from Peru
37.	Geo W. Linn Re: Baltimore cover
38.	M.C. Blake Lot 49 Caspary sale
39.	M.C. Blake re: 15 Letters
40.	Morris Everett Re: Charleston S.C. Confed Cover
41.	Herman Herst Jr. Further Re: Fake 30¢ 1869 cover
42.	Dr. W.S. Polland Re: Honolulu cover
43.	Philatelic Foundation re: Hawaii

44.	Dr. O. Bacher Re: Packet cover
45.	(blank)
46.	Morris Fortgang
47.	B.D. Harmer
48.	C.C. Hart
49.	M.H. Judd Re: Double grid 5¢ 1847
50.	Millard Mack Re: 15¢ to France
51.	Jack Molesworth re: SM. Cover and Pettigrew cover
52.	C.E. Cummings Re: Redlands Calif 10¢ 1857 type II
53.	Paul Rohlott Re: various covers, 5¢ 1856, 8X 3¢ rate
54.	B.D. Harmer 24¢ 1861 faded lilac
55.	E.D. Cole 3¢ 1861 Pink? Two Pairs?
56.	Leon Hyzen Two 1¢ 1857
57.	Wendy Westholm Re: 3¢ 1869 cover
58.	Walter I. Evans, Re: 2¢ 1867(?) B.J.
59.	H.S. Cole Re: Two 1¢ 1851

EMMERSON C. KRUG

3008 13TH AVENUE SOUTH
BIRMINGHAM 5, ALABAMA

Wednesday, November 7, 1956.

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

Dear Stan,

I know how happy you and Mildred must be to have Stan, Jr. Back home and out of the Navy in the trouble that might develop abroad.

I am naturally happy about the results of the election, but it certainly indicates that, unless something radical happens to the Republican party in the next four years, the Democrats will swamp them in 1960 in every branch. That is brought out most vividly in Oregon where that turncoat won out over a previous governor, cabinet member, and where DDE and the rest of the party gave their all to defeat him. If they, the Republicans, keep up with the old Conservatives, the two party system will be just a joke, and continually in the hands of the Demos who of course are the Laborites. I am convinced that no one else, not even Bob Taft, could have got them out in 1952 nor this 1956. I agree that Stevenson was and is a louse. I heard his remark that the President would not live out his term, etc. He was desperate at the time and shows therein how terrible it would have been to trust the country to such a person. Enough of politics.

I note you have sent for six covers in the Caspary sale. I looked over the entire lots in a special showing to me and noted these six of course. I intend to bid on them unless you say to lay off. If I get any of them I will want a color slide but not if they go elsewhere as they probably will. Nothing to die for among the whole collection No. 6. Nothing outstanding for me like this Hudson Riv Mail cover was. I would not trade that cover for any one of the six you are to look at altho some of them will bring several times what this cover cost me.

You say that you would like to see these three covers from the Daniels sale. So I am sending them up with comments. I also enclose another #99 which cost me \$22.50. In it is a question.

Sincerely, 

Enclosed

Cover 138	BD 11/2/56	65.00
Cover 309	"	330.00
Cover 319	"	33.00
Cover 99	"	22.50
		<hr/> 450.50

P.S. I appreciated the nice write-up of my Canadian cover in the Special Service.

P.P.S. I feel sure you would like to see Daniels lot 81 which I imagine is unique in tying the stamp on. Lot 112-35-131-132-161 might also interest you. I have always thought that Tuscaloosa Star was sort of a precancel as did John Fox. Neither he nor I had ever seen a use where it tied the stamp on, confederate or otherwise. But lot 355 from this Daniels sale does tie the stamp on.

Nov. 9, 1956.

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

Dear Em:

I hasten to return the enclosed 5¢ to France. These are not "Ship Letters" but the ordinary 5¢ internal to France. I have referred to it numerous times in my Service. The best advice I can give you is to let Fortgang have all you bought, even if at a discount. Why don't you ask Bruce why he described these as "Ship Letters?" Ask him what he meant.

Yours etc.,

EMMERSON C. KRUG

3008 13TH AVENUE SOUTH
BIRMINGHAM 5, ALABAMA

November 10, 1956.
Saturday P.M.

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

Dear Stan,

I just thought you might get some information out of my copy of the Daniels sale which I made of the sale. That is if you can read the figures made in the heat of the sale. I have copied the prices in another copy for myself so you need not return this to me. Hope it is useful. I note Fox quite a buyer.

To answer some of your letters: No, you did not send another print of my Jonesborough cover but it is not necessary. I offered my copy to Bruce but he said it was of no use to him.

While on the subject of prints- Have you any objections to me loaning my photo- Special Service No. 48- Tables of Postage Foreign Rates- to Bill Fox, the assistant in Bob Siegel's office. He asked me to give him some idea of foreign rates and I promised him I would do so when I came back and had time. He is very nice to me and just as nice a fellow as Joe is at Fox's. Maybe you have an extra one you would let me do that with. If this is not 100% agreeable with you don't hesitate to tell me so.

I am returning to him, Bob Siegel, the 10¢ 1869 cover. My you went to a lot of trouble when you are already so busy. There was no hurry in this case. Also as you suggest I am advising Mr. Fortgang he can have the three covers from the Daniels sale(ship-letters??) if he takes all three of them. I appreciate the tip.

You made no comment as to whether my check was satisfactory or not. If not please don't hesitate to say so. When you give me no lead I just have to guess. And I don't like to do that.

Regarding the 3¢ 1861 at the P.F., I have paid no advance fee, never do. I thought at the time I turned it in it was a most unusual color and while I had only memory to compare it did look like a used #74 Scarlet. I, like you, doubt that the P.F. will give you any dope worth while.

I know you haven't time to read and I am not good at writing, but when I see you I can tell you a lot about my trip and more particularly that which concerns Edgar. Ez & I really took him over the coals at lunch one day, just the three of us. Of course Ez is unusually bitter about the FIPEX altho he did have a successful sale at his booth. Fortgang told me at Boston that Edgar "cried" not "pried" some covers away from him at his home with the old gag that they belonged in his collection. I told MF he was a damn fool for letting him talk him out of them, that he tried that old stuff on me but got nowhere.

After you see the Caspary lots I would like your ideas on the four 90¢ 1861 covers.

Sincerely,



Nov. 22, 1956.

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

Dear Em:

Your air special came Sunday morning and my thanks are yours for the Daniels catalogue. I sent Bruce \$2.00 for the prices early last week but they have not come in as yet, so if you want me to return the one you sent me, let me know.

Re - a duplicate print of a table of foreign rates. Em, I am sorry but I find I do not have a duplicate print. This was an enlargement from a microfilm and I searched thru all my enlargements this morning and no duplicate. I have a print of a table of 1861 - quite a large one - I can send this print to you if you wish. Let me know. Sometime when I have my enlarging outfit working I will make a print for you if you let me know what year you want.

Re - the 3¢ plus 1¢ covers. Let me know if Fortgang took you up on your offer.

Yes Em, your check was perfectly satisfactory. Thanks very much.

Thanks also for your comment on Jessup. No one knows him any better than I do and as I wrote you previously, I was disgusted with the way he acted when he was here week before last.

I note that the Caspary sale is next Monday. Of course, the 90¢ 1861 covers are all beautiful (in my opinion) and I also liked the 5¢ '62 red brown - a V.P. to Guatemala. Very fine color - a rare cover. It has no due (?) marking.

If you want to see the slides before the sale let me know. I will be glad to loan them to you.

Regards.

Yours etc.,

Nov. 12, 1956.

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

Dear Em:

I am holding your three covers as I ran out of color film. I will photo them tomorrow and return them. It is a holiday today, no mail.

I agree 100% that the Heard cover with the pair of 90¢ 1860 was a very great bargain. When one buys a cover he buys it to show the full history of the use. Of course, it is wonderful to obtain stamps in superb condition but what appeals more to me is the use, the rate, route and markings. To me this is a wonderful cover - to me the condition of the pair is secondary - This cover is perfect aside from the condition of the 90¢ pair. I do not advise any fixing - leave it as is. Any fixing would alter the original condition and would detract rather than add anything. Of course, the cover is genuine and you stated you felt sure it is because the rate seemed okay to you. Can you explain why? Can you explain why the rate was \$1.80? I'll bet it is not as you thought.

Re - the 30¢ 1860 cover from La Porte, Calif. I wondered why you paid so much. Do you mind telling me? Just a bit curious. The 12¢ '51 looked to me a bit below your standard of condition. I wondered why this required 4 x 3¢? The weight would have to have been over $1\frac{1}{2}$ oz.

Re - the Caspary lots. Those that I examined are okay except that I do not go along with what they call a steel blue. I note in the Daniels Sale a "Steel blue" cover went to Keffer at \$62.00. Would you pay \$62.00 for a gray lilac on cover?

Of course, I agree 100% with your remarks on the 10¢ '47 Hudson Riv. Mail cover. You were lucky.

Re - the following Daniels lots:

81 - I do not know which one this is. Can you give me the answer?

112 - Yes, I would like to see this.

35 - I have a color slide.

131 - I would like to have date of use - don't bother to send the cover.

132 - Ditto

161 - I would like to see this.

Re - the Tuscaloosa Star. I never heard any suggestion this could have been a precancel. I think the object was to cancel the stamp rather than to tie it to the envelope. In my Nov. 1st Service I described the Albany precancel. Here was a reason for a precancel. Did you not think that cover was wonderful?

With regards -

Yours etc.,

Nov. 13, 1956.

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

Dear Em:

Yours of the 11th received.

I note that Lot 58 in the Fox sale of Oct. 16 was a 5¢ '47 on a Hudson River Mail - You stated it was a 3¢ '51. Surely a 5¢ '47 would not sell at \$16.00. Why did you pay the P.F. a fee when I would have been glad to tell you what I thought free of any fee. In the future I suggest we adopt this plan - On any covers you send me you can state -
1) On this cover I want to pay a fee and have you sign it on the back, because I believe the value of the cover will be enhanced to the amount of the fee.

2) On this cover I do not wish to pay a fee and do not think it necessary to have it signed.

What say?

Okay Em, on the 3¢ 1861 - I will write the owner and I am sure it will be okay with him. I suspect that stamp is a chemical color changeling, because it is so very unusual. The Scarlet is nothing like it but I suppose Boggs would recognize this fact even if the rest of the "Experts" did not.

Re - the Stark cover 828. By all means submit it to the P.F. but if you do rub out my name - if it is signed, and in such an event I will re-sign it for you. I can hardly imagine Boggs giving an adverse opinion on that cover.

Re - Mildred's collection. She wouldn't know what she needs and Lord only knows I could not advise her. I do save plate numbers for her but she don't know what she has or what she needs. Please don't take her philatelic activity seriously. Thanks just the same.

How about coming up after Thanksgiving and help me get out my December 1st Service Issue? I will let you be a guest editor. Wouldn't Dorsey enjoy the grip?

With regards -

Yours etc.,

*3 covers returned in
this letter*

REGISTERED

NOV 13 1956

894



SCRAP BOOK

No. 951

**For Extra Sheets Ask For
FILLER No. 951-F**

MADE IN U. S. A.



THE PHILATELIC FOUNDATION

22 EAST 35TH STREET

NEW YORK 16, N.Y.

MURRAY HILL 3-5667

No. 7000.....

August 15th 1956..

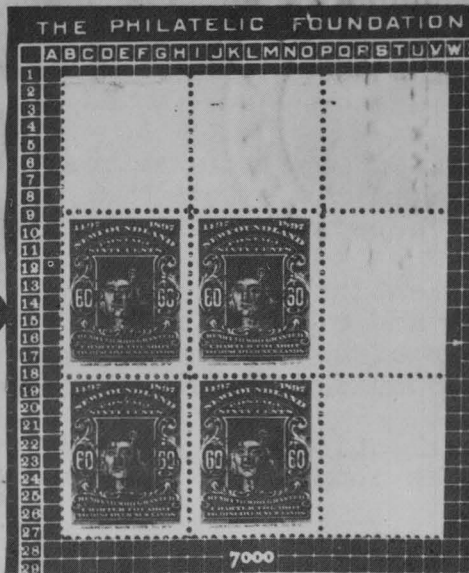
THE PHILATELIC FOUNDATION

22 EAST 35TH STREET

NEW YORK 16, N. Y.

EXPERT COMMITTEE

We have examined the enclosed Newfoundland 1927
60c., black, Scott C4, "De Pinedo" mint block
of four -----
submitted by George B. Sloane -----
of which a photograph is attached and are of the opinion
that it is genuine in all respects -----



For The Expert Committee
Chairman

THE PHILATELIC FOUNDATION EXPERT COMMITTEE.

The Philatelic Foundation Expert Certificate which frequently accompanies a stamp is a familiar document to most stamp collectors, as is the legend often included in an auction catalogue description"With Philatelic Foundation Certificate". How many fully realize all the processes through which the items pass, that are sent in for expert examination, before the Certificate is finally issued ?

The first thing that happens to every item sent in to the Philatelic Foundation Expert Committee (and, of course to most any other competent expert committee), is that it is given a reference number. From then on every item is known by number and the stamp or cover, is entirely separated from its owner or its source. At no time through the various stages of examination, is the ownership or source of any item disclosed to anyone but the recording staff who keep all such information strictly confidential.

All items sent in must be submitted on a specially prepared Application blank, (quantities of which will be freely provided), the owner indicating the identity of the stamp or piece, as to Country, Issue, Denomination, Catalogue number and value, whether unused or used, and finally the specific requirements on which the Expert Committee is asked to express opinion. An official receipt is sent to every owner, the duplicate, prepared as "The Control Sheet" being retained. The stamp or piece is then affixed to a "Work-Sheet" on which in due course the various examiners will note their opinions.

At the same time, full details of each "patient" is recorded in the "log" book, showing date of arrival, description, owner, reference number, catalogue value and a column left blank in which the ultimate opinion is recorded.

As the records of the Application form, Control sheet, Work-sheet and Certificates are kept in numerical order, and the "log" book is maintained under countries, an easy cross reference is thus established.

Each day, the material received is examined as it comes in, by the resident staff, under whose direction, if necessary, certain items are forwarded for consultation, to individual experts in their respective fields, who assist the Expert Committee in their work.

One week before the Foundation Expert Committee meets, the Trade Advisory Panel sits, and examines every item, noting their opinions on the work sheets in respect of every "patient".

It is not out of place to mention here, that all the members of the Foundation Expert Committee and of the Trade Advisory Panel, and all consultants give voluntarily of their time, knowledge, experience and studies - the time given amounting to many hours work each month.

The extensive Reference Collections and records owned by the Foundation form the basis for the comparison and research in respect

of the material sent in for examination. These include the "John N.Luff" Stamps of the World, (contained in over two hundred volumes), the "Peplow" Japan, the "John H.Hall" Spain, the "Samuel Israel" Cuba, specialized Argentina and U.S.A. Pre-cancels etc., in addition to the thousands of photographs, all carefully annotated and filed, of genuine and faked material, overprints, surcharges, watermarks, grills and actual stamps, many enlarged to several times normal size for the purposes of study.

The records of the life-time's researches of Stanley B.Ashbrook, have been acquired. These thirty-two filing cabinets house thousands of index cards, meticulously classified, so that all data on United States and Confederate States postage stamps prior to 1870 is readily available.

Finally, the "John N.Luff" philatelic library which occupies over two hundred feet of bookcase shelving, to which additions are constantly being made.

The scientific instruments used by the Expert Committee in their intensive examination include the Analytic Lamp, the Fluorescent Lamp, the Micrometer, various finely adjusted Microscopes, a powerful comparison Microscope, the use of ultra-violet ray and specialized camera work. Do not imagine that precision instruments and scientific devices can in any way replace expert philatelic knowledge. The latter can only be gained by years of experience and intensive study. The apparatus merely extends the orbit of one's senses, enabling measurements and analysis to be made more accurately.

Even so, in order to arrive at an accurate report on every item, the Expert Committee goes to infinite pains to consult well-known authorities, particularly in the case of difficult items. The Committee does not confine its consultations to the United States and Canada. Frequently the respective Expert Committees of the Royal Philatelic Society of London, and of the British Philatelic Association of London, are consulted. This will give some idea of the painstaking care and patience exercised in an endeavour to get together all possible criteria on every item submitted, before the actual Expert Committee sits down to its regular monthly meeting.

Then, with all the reference works at hand, the members of the Expert Committee carefully examine every stamp sent in that month, in the light of their own knowledge and the information that has been recorded on the work sheets by the various consultants. If any item presents unusual aspects which preclude the Committee coming to a satisfactory conclusion, then that is held over for even further research, until the next meeting.

After the final conclusions have been drawn, and the opinions recorded, each item is photographed in triplicate - one for the original Certificate, one for the duplicate Certificate and one for the Foundation's cross-reference file. The Certificates are then prepared in the respective names of the owners, the photographs affixed and sealed with the seal of the Philatelic Foundation Expert Committee. They are then passed to the Chairman of the Expert Committee

for signature. Only then, when the job has been completed, does the Committee Chairman have the opportunity of seeing the names of the owners of the stamps that have been submitted.

The next step is to "marry up" all the records relevant to each item, i.e. the original Application form, duplicate Receipt which has become the Control sheet, Work-sheet (or sheets), duplicate Certificate and any other data, all of which is filed in numerical order. Thus the complete dossier on every item submitted, is on file. At the same time, the "log" book records are completed, with the report.

That leaves but the preparation of the necessary bills and envelopes, so that everything can be mailed back under registered cover to the various owners within five or six days from the date of the Expert Meeting. The nominal fees for all that is entailed in expertizing barely cover the cost of insurance, stationery, photography and mailing.

At the time of writing over SEVEN THOUSAND AND ONE HUNDRED items have been expertized, the accompanying Certificates being recognized by collectors and professional philatelists throughout the world.

Arrangements have also been made whereby the Philatelic Foundation Expert Committee will now handle the more difficult material for examination that hitherto passed through the S.P.A. and C.S.A. Expert Services.

Some Members (and others) wonder why they cannot call in and have an expert opinion and certificate arranged "while you wait"; perhaps some of the detail work described above will help those who were hitherto "in the dark" to understand why there is a regular monthly meeting, and that in order that the machinery will run smoothly and efficiently, it is necessary for the items for examination to be received, at the latest, ten days before the scheduled Expert Meeting. In view of the heavy volume of material flowing in it is sometimes necessary to hold over items that arrive on the deadline, in order that adequate time may be spent on them, that is essential, and the necessary research done.

There are other Expert Committees for stamps in America, but none meets in person as a full body of recognized authorities, and representing every specialized branch of philately, on a regularly monthly basis. Further, none has available the fine reference collections, library and other reference material, and in addition has the access to the private collections and resources of other national expert committees on a reciprocal basis, as has the Philatelic Foundation Expert Committee.

The services of the Expert Committee are available to all - to members and to non-members, (although certain classes of membership secure privileges in respect of the scheduled fees) - and more and more "patients" are arriving from all over the world for Philatelic Foundation Certificates - a tribute to the reliable and responsible service given, of which all members may be justifiably proud.

PRESCOTT HOLDEN THORP

NETCONG, NEW JERSEY

October 19, 1956

Dear Stanley;

This a belated answer to yours of
Sept 17th last.

I really know very little about the
Grinell episode and, of course, my conversations
with John befor he died are not only hearsay, but,
also, quite cloudy. But I do recall that John
made a point of stating he and someone else plotted
in some way to get the stamps from Grinell. I am
aware, of course, that John did business directly with
Grinell but my memory of the conversation I had
with John was that there was someone else in the
background.

However, this is all "irrevelant etc."
as the Lawyers would say.

Now as to the bleached 6c and 3c Post
Office envelopes.

I8ve had occaison to change my thinking about
these and I am inclined to believe presently that you
may be on the right track.

A Reason? When preparing the auction
catalogue of the Barkhausen collection there were two
envelopes on white paper which have always been
considered as "unique." These would be Thorp-Bartels
Nos 6059 (Size 3) and 6064(Size 7). Indeed, in all
probabilities these would be the two envelopes on which
the catalogue listing was based.

In all probabilities they would have
come from John Klemann.

Now I find that these two envelopes are
bleached (and, of course, withdrawn from the sale).

This leads me to believe that non of these
bleached cut squares or entires are of recent origin.
It may very well be that they come from the source that
you indicate and, prehaps, are in fact connected with
the source you indicate.

Keep your friends, both new and old - the first are silver, the last are gold.

PRESCOTT HOLDEN THORP

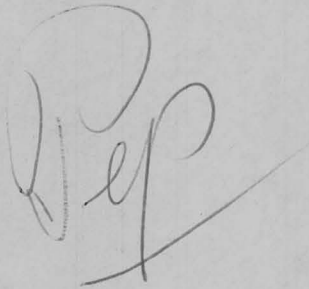
NETCONG, NEW JERSEY

It would be interesting to develop this idea and pin it down.

My own opinion is that the old time dealers were not adverse to "taking" a wealthy collector for anything they could - and backing up their machinations with listings in catalogues they controlled.

Perhaps I am naive - perhaps these fellows knew how to make money. But there is always the problem of how does one sleep well at night?

Regards

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

Nov. 13, 1956.

Mr. Prescott Holden Thorp,
Netcong, N.J.

Dear Prescott:

I have delayed replying to yours of Oct. 19th last thinking perhaps I would have some new development to report.

I strongly suspect a certain person but I have nothing more than a suspicion. I believe he is smart enough to have made several things of which the source is unknown - that is to me.

I believe he is the type who would have considered it amusing to bleach certain envelopes. I doubt if he is the type who would have done it to actually profit. Now I do not know if he is, or was, such a skilled craftsman as to have been capable of making the Grinnells but I think it possible.

If anything develops I will advise you.

I have been familiar with the Grinnell case since it happened years ago and I have never heard anyone express an opinion as to who made the counterfeits. Is that not most remarkable? Who made them? I wish I knew.

I was greatly interested in your remarks about the unique bleached envelopes in the Barkhausen sale. How remarkable.

I am wondering if you intend to publish the facts?

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

PRESCOTT HOLDEN THORP

NETCONG, NEW JERSEY

Nov. 28, 1956

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

Dear Stan:

Thank you for your note of the 17th.

No, I had not intended to publicize anything concerning the two bleached envelopes I found in the Barkhausen Collection. I did, however, believe you would be interested in knowing about these.

P.H. Thorp
Cordially yours,

PHT/m

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.

November 13, 1956

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

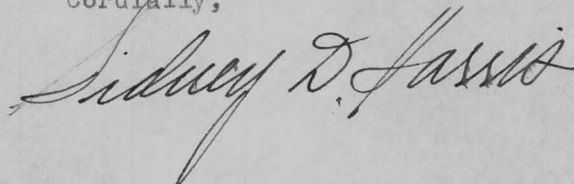
Will you please verify the position on the enclosed 1¢ 1851 issue, which I believe to be 59R4, Type IIIA. It will be quite satisfactory to mark the position on the back, with your signature, and send me a statement for your service to include postage.

It isn't often that I get a scarce stamp in sound condition, as I purchase about 99% of my material through European sources, so I have to contend with many defective and repaired stamps which I sell as such at a greatly reduced price. It would be surprising to many collectors and dealers if they realized the enormous percentage of collectors who want this material at the lower prices.

About 6 months ago, I found a copy of 7RIW that fortunately was sound, and was described and illustrated in a German auction as a Type IB, catalogued at \$60.00. I paid \$20.00 and gambled that from the illustration it may have been a 6 or 8R, the better examples. I never expected to be shocked with a 7RIW. So you can record for your records another copy that was previously unknown to exist.

With kind personal regards,

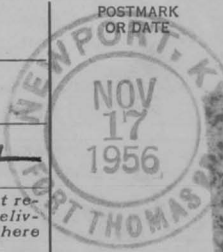
Cordially,



SDH:ah
Enc.

No 401688

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

SENT TO <i>Sidney B Harris</i>		POSTMARK OR DATE 	
STREET AND NO. <i>162 Grove St</i>			
CITY AND STATE <i> Rutland VT</i>			
<p><i>If you want a return receipt, check which</i></p> <table border="0"><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 border="0"><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.

Nov. 16, 1957.

Mr. Sidney D. Harris,
162 Grove St.,
Rutland, Vermont.

Dear Mr. Harris:

Herewith the One Cent 1851 as per yours of the 13th. I have signed it as such on the back. You will note that I signed it: "This was a Type IIIA." This, because the top is cut off - a Type IIIA shows the top line not broken, hence this is not a IIIA but rather it was a Type IIIA originally. You are quite correct, this is from plate position 59R4. There is no fee for the above but you can refund to me the return postage.

I was much interested in your story about the 7RLE and I would like to record the copy in my records if you still own it, and can send it to me so that I can make a photo record of it. I have to do this so as to keep as accurate records as possible and avoid duplication. Just think - I started this record in 1916 which was quite a long time ago.

With kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

SIDNEY D. HARRIS

United States and British North America Stamps

ESTABLISHED 1931

MEMBER: BPA - APHV - APS - BIA - SPA

162 GROVE STREET - RUTLAND, VERMONT, U. S. A. - TELEPHONE PROSPECT 3-8214

January 2, 1957

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

I am sorry to hear about your recent illness,
but pleased to know that you have recovered.

I wrote to Mr. Robinson again and told him it
would be quite satisfactory to send the stamp
to you if you wrote. I hope he will not turn
out to be one of those collectors who can't seem
to allow himself to have any of his stamps out
of his possession even for a short time.

In anticipation of this, I suggested to him that
if he does not wish to send the stamp, it is possible
you may be satisfied with the information available
from a blown-up photograph. I believe that Mr. Robinson
will be in a position to supply you with an excellent
photograph as he controls one of the larger printing
plants in New York City where they undoubtedly do
much photographic work.

With every best wish to you and yours for a healthy
and wonderful New Year.

Cordially,

SDH:ah



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.

November 20, 1956

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

You have embarrassed me again. Everytime you have done me a favor, you have refused to accept anything in return. This has been going on now for about 20 years. I wonder if you recall our correspondence when we were known as R.W. Harris Company in Brooklyn and for a short time at 116 Nassau Street.

My copy of 7R1W was sold to Mr. Elliot Robinson, 34 Auerbach Lane, Lawrence, New York. I wrote to him today, advising him to let you borrow the stamp for your photo record. I mentioned that you would write him.

With kindest personal regards,

Cordially,

Sidney D. Harris

SDH:ah

Dec. 12, 1956.

Mr. Sidney D. Harris,
162 Grove St.,
Rutland, Vt.

Dear Mr. Harris:

Re - your letter of Nov. 20th, this is the first time I have been able to acknowledge same because about the time it was received I became ill with what turned out to be an attack of virus pneumonia. I thought it was just a bad cold and neglected to call my doctor with the result it got quite a good start. I am pleased to report that I am okay again but a little the worse for wear.

I want you to know that I appreciated your kind letter. Whenever you send me anything for examination you can rest assured I will charge you a fee, only, provided same is justified. Otherwise the pleasure will be all mine.

I have not heard from Mr. Robinson but I would appreciate the favor if you could persuade him to let me record the 7RLE.

Because of my recent illness we are not sending out any Xmas cards but we do wish you A Very Merry Xmas and A Healthy and Prosperous New Year.

Cordially yours,

Nov. 15, 1956.

Father Wegner,
% Boy's Town,
Boys Town, Nebraska.

Dear Father Wegner:

Under date of August 20th last, I addressed the following letter to D. O. Barrett of your Philamatic Center, quote:

"I note that one J. H. Scruggs, Jr. has donated philatelic material to your Philamatic Center. I enclose some facts herewith regarding this man.

It is my opinion that the Center should have investigated this man before you accepted any gift from him.

At the S. P. A. Convention last August in Louisville, this drunken bum got gloriously drunk and spread a lot of baseless lies about me. He had been elected a V.P. of the Society but because of his disgraceful conduct he was forced to resign. Is this the kind of a man you wish to accept anything from?"

Barrett did not do me the courtesy to reply to my letter.

This man mentioned in my letter is notorious and if he made any donation to Boys Town it was for some ulterior purpose, no doubt a tax dodging scheme which should be investigated by the Federal authorities.

In the past I have been a strong supporter of Boys Town but may I request that you remove my name from your mailing list and do not send any further communications to me.

Very truly yours,

Aug. 20, 1956.

Mr. D. O. Barrett,
Curator Philamatic Center,
Boys Town, Nebr.

Dear Mr. Barrett:

I note that one J. H. Scruggs, Jr. has donated philatelic material to your Philamatic Center. I enclose some facts herewith regarding this man.

It is my opinion that the Center should have investigated this man before you accepted any gift from him.

At the S.P.A. Convention last August in Louisville, this drunken bum got gloriously drunk and spread a lot of baseless lies about me. He had been elected a V.P. of the Society but because of his disgraceful conduct he was forced to resign. Is this the kind of a man you wish to accept anything from?

Sincerely yours,

Ionia Michigan October 16, 1956.

Dear Stan:

Thanks for your letters of October 1st and 13th. Will try and answer. Hope you read the "Pony Express" bulletin I sent you - it contains some most interesting information - especially about the end of the huge buffalo herd on the great plains - you might want to mention parts of it in the "Special Service."

Don't forget me on the slides.

Re the SPA Jury at Grand Rapids. Stan - this was a mess. Please keep this confidential tho. At our first meeting of the Jury - before any judging started - I made the remark that I had looked over the exhibits and that while I knew absolutely nothing about foreign stamps or covers - IN MY HUMBLE OPINION THERE WAS ONE EXHIBIT that was so far ahead of anything else that it deserved the grand award without any judging and that was the Meroni Confederates. Apparently my enthusiasm was not shared by the other three judges and I was asked what I knew about Confederates and I had to honestly admit I knew very little. I further had to admit that perhaps Meroni had used poor taste in entering a stake horse in a county fair race, as was actually the case, as his exhibit was so far ahead of anything else I saw that there was no competition. The end result as you know was that Meroni not only did not get the grand award but did not even get a first - only a second in competition with what to my mind was very mediocre material. Perhaps I was prejudiced! This I could well admit as later on, when it came to judging "Topicals" I eliminated a collection of so-called "Rooseveltiana" by recording my vote as a big zero. How anyone could enter such trash in a philatelic exhibition is beyond me anyway - pictures of this paralytic imbecile on stamps. But actually Stan, this judging was no worse than the wretched judging handed out at FIPEX where first awards were given to several airmail exhibits that could be duplicated at any stamp dealers office for \$1.50 and no research of any kind indicated. There were four judges at this SPA Exhibit - Steve Rich, Henry Kraemer of N.Y. (whom I have a great deal of respect for but who admitted he knew nothing about U.S.) and Henry Meyer. Steve Rich dominated the judging as you can well believe. In conclusion, if this judging was lousy, I still maintain it was no worse than the FIPEX judging, where prejudice ruled to an even greater extent. All the above, Stan, is very confidential. Please do not quote me. And while on this subject, I might add another interesting side-light - my very good friend Jim Bulkley of Detroit (whom you may recall has perhaps the outstanding collection of early Austria) told me the other day at one of the DPS meetings that he had been in New York and had lunch with his friend Henry Goodkind (I think that is the name - he is editor of the Collector's Club Philatelist) and Goodkind told him that the only reason I did not get a gold medal at FIPEX was because all my album sheets had your name mentioned in connection with items and covers, such as "In my opinion etc Stanley B. Ashbrook" and the New York bunch eliminated my exhibit from competition because your name was mentioned on the album sheets - something that Neinken and Fortgang apparently were cognizant of and were careful not to do. So it goes!

Now re yours of the 13th. I never heard of Newell E. Collins of Algonac, Michigan, but will check at the DPS meeting tomorrow night and see if anyone in Detroit knows of him and will drop you a line. The Herst cover is more of a caricature than anything else - it ought not to fool even those wise jokers that make up the P.F. Expert Committee. Regards.

Sincerely,

J. G. Fleckenstein
J. G. Fleckenstein.

JGF/



Detroit Athletic Club
Detroit

Wednesday evening Oct 17-56

Dear Stan -

Re yours of the 13th on Herst & the fake 30x
1869 cover that is supposed to belong to Newell E.
Collins of Algonac Michigan.

I showed your letter to Fred Schmalzgeist at
the D.P.S. meeting tonight. Fred says he has known
Collins for many many years & was a very close
friend of his father - who used to work as a clerk
in the Detroit post office years ago. Fred said
that Newell E. Collins of Algonac died some six or
eight months ago & Herman Herst is selling his collection
for his estate. Fred said that Collins never had any
money and he doubts if Collins would have ever had
an opportunity to acquire a 30x 1869 cover unless he
accidentally found it somewhere & acquired it for
nothing. Fred thinks Herst is using Collins name
because Collins is dead & cannot talk - and is
"salting" this Collins collection with other material
that Herst owns himself. Fred would be glad to
write you direct re Collins if you want him to - I'm
sure. Hope this information is of help to you in
eliminating this fake cover - that ought not to even
fool those idiots that make up the P.H. Expert Comm.
Regards Jack.

Oct. 23, 1956.

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

Dear Jack:

Thanks very much for yours of the 16th and 17th with information about Newell E. Collins. I do not know positively that Herst is telling people that the 30¢ 1869 cover belonged to Collins but he is apparently giving that impression. I do not think that there is the slightest doubt but what it belongs to him. He is just another dirty greasy Kike whom I wouldn't trust for a second. Several people have told him there is no question but what the cover is a fake but he has a P.F. certificate and no doubt he will go ahead and try to sell it. Some crook will buy it because of the certificate. Is it not an outrage that a bunch of damn fools would issue a certificate stating that this thing is genuine? Something should be done - They should fold up and quit. Because I find so much fault with their certificates I feel sure that they are bitter against me. I think the one most at fault is Louise Dale. She runs the P.F. and the "Expert Committee" and I suppose she puts up the money to keep it going.

I note that the New bunch who run the Collectors Club plan to raise the dues for out-of-town members to \$10.00. Just imagine - I intend to resign as I am sure not going to pay any such a sum to belong to this Kike outfit.

Also thanks for the dope on the S.P.A. Convention at Grand Rapids. You will recall that I advised you not to have anything to do with that outfit. I think it is a disgrace to even associate or be a member of that outfit and I plan to resign as an Honorary Member. I do not want my name associated in any way with the sons of bitches who head this lousy organization. That fellow Henry Meyer is as yellow as they come. There are too many nice people in philately with whom one can associate without coming in contact with any of that S.P.A. crowd.

I know Henry Goodkind quite well - He is a Yid and one of the Kike gang that run the Collectors Club and the Philatelic Foundation.

I do not like my name mentioned on album pages or in auction catalogues so if they penalized you for any such infraction I think they were in their rights so I cannot sympathize with you in this case. I know they dislike me down there because I do not cater to them and yes them. I don't give a rap what they think of me as I am quite sure that my opinion on a cover carries far more weight with the collecting public than a P.F. certificate.

How is Rene? Our regards to you both.

As ever yours,

JOHN L. NORBECK

5828 Halifax Avenue South
MINNEAPOLIS 24, MINNESOTA

CC of NY - EPS - APC - APS - WCS - 3¢ '51-'57 - BNAPS - PLA - TMPS - TCPS

Dear Stan:

Nov 14, 1956

I hate to bother you with my sending items down to you as I know you are quite busy. Here is a beaten up cover that you may enjoy seeing, however, as it is right down your alley.

With reference to your informative article in the Emerald book, I think this cover is:

1. Confederate patriotic used with U. S. stamp on May 30, 1861 from Richmond, Va.
2. Evidently the postmaster had not received the directive order from Blair as to the suspension of service in the seceded states - or could he have let it go thru because it was addressed to Tenn. - still in the Union?
3. 10 Star Flag - quick work on the Conf. printers part - N.C. seceded only on May 21st.
4. I rather assume that the very small "5" in ms. to the left on the cover has no postal significance. Still, ???
5. Would a cover like this be called "Independent State Usage"? Actually, no government was responsible for carriage during these 4 days.

I enclose return postage, Stan. If the cover isn't worth your time to comment just drop it in the mail to me. Sincerely, John

No 407441

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

SENT TO

John L Norbeck

STREET AND NO.

5828 Halifax Ave South

CITY AND STATE

Minneapolis (24) Minn

If you want a return receipt, check which

☐

7¢ shows
to whom
and when
delivered

☐

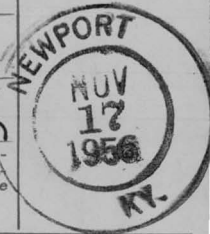
31¢ shows to whom,
when, and address
where delivered

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.

Nov. 17, 1956.

Mr. John L. Norbeck,
5828 Halifax Ave., South,
Minneapolis 24, Minn.

Dear John:

It was nice to hear from you and to see the 3¢ 1857 cover which I am returning herewith.

I have carefully noted your remarks about this item and I see no reason to question it in any way. It is in that category that is properly classified "use of a U.S. stamp in the C.S.A. prior to June 1st, 1861."

I do not think the Blair order had any influence on postmasters in states that had seceded, and especially upon one in the capitol city of the Confederacy. The Blair order really applied to postmasters in the loyal states. All postmasters in the seceded states were bound by the orders of the C.S.A. P.O.D. Such included all members of the postal service then in operation, contract mail routes, etc. The C.S.A. P.M.G. fixed June 1st as the date to take over, and on and after that date U. S. stamps were not to be recognized.

When this letter reached its Mulberry destination, the P.M. there permitted it to go thru in the regular way. Had it been addressed to some town in New England a P. M. might have done the same thing but he could have obeyed the Blair order and sent it to the Dead Letter Office. I seriously doubt if many postmasters did such a thing at that period. Bull Run had not been fought.

I note that there are ten stars in the flag, which is an interesting feature of the cover.

I have an indistinct recollection that I photographed a cover from Richmond on May 31, 1861 but at present I cannot locate the print.

Later

Searching my records I found that I have a photograph of a cover used from Montgomery, Ala. on May 31, 1861 with a U. S. 3¢ 1857. It had a Confed flag at left with 10 stars. It was addressed to Statesville, N.C.

In a sale by B.L. Drew on March 31, 1924, Lot 106 was a U. S. 30¢ 1860 off cover canceled Mobile, Ala. May 31, 1861. Too bad this was not a cover. I also have a photo of a cover from New York City postmarked May 29, 1861 addressed to Jackson, Miss. It has a 3¢ 1857 - Type II. Also, a record of a cover from Philadelphia on May 28, 1861 to Alabama. No photograph.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

~~The 3c 1851-57 Unit No. 11~~
~~OF THE~~
~~American Philatelic Society~~
~~SALES DEPARTMENT~~
~~W. SCOTT POLLAND, MGR.~~
~~ROSS CALIFORNIA~~

11-15-56

Dear Mr Ashbrook:-

Thanks very much
for yours of the 10th. Yes Edgar is
full of beefs these days about me
and certain covers. The Pioneer Express
being only one of them. He has many
duplicates in his collection which I
could use in mine, but refuses to budge
an inch when it comes to a trade, but
would like to unload only his junk
upon me, and this I do not need.
I am therefore in his displeasure
on many items, but really have the
laugh on him, because of his real
frustration about not having his
own way. Edgar is wonderful
and happy only when he is in complete
control, but acts like a spoiled little

American Philatelic Society

SALES DEPARTMENT

W. SCOTT POLLAND, MGR.

ROSS

CALIFORNIA

Boy when one crosses him, He is very much disliked by collectors and dealers alike in this area, because he takes great advantage of them, whenever the occasion arises. At times he does not pay a dealer for many months, or even then returns the covers, if he finds another one more to his liking. However, I am very fond of him, in spite of these difficulties, because I never give in to him, nor trust him for a second; hence we have a mutual admiration for each other. I really enjoy him for his great knowledge. I could tell you many stories about him and his way. He never learns from me where my covers come from. Kindest regards, Scott

Reserve Plan Inc

TRADE MARK REG.

SUITE 1020 COMMERCE BLDG. 922 WALNUT ST.

KANSAS CITY 6, MISSOURI

November 12, 1956

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Enclosed find two covers, which I would like for you to opinionize. The '47 cover came to me from the stamp department of ~~the~~ Hospital in Rhode Island, which I assume was sent to them with a bunch of old correspondence that some interested person donated.

Last Friday I gave a talk before the Iowa Philatelic Society on the 35 areas that officially received supplies of ~~the~~ '47. There were about 40 collectors present and they seemed to be interested in what I had to say. I wish I had also taken along with me some of my off cover '47 collection, which I think might have interested them more. I should have known, but failed to remember, that most collectors still only see the stamp when they look at a cover and their interests are principally limited ~~to~~ this field of collecting.

I met a Clarence Brown who says that he has about 25 covers and some time soon I hope to return to Des Moines and have a look at them.

Horace Poole was out of the city, but after the meeting was over, we all gathered and Mr. Poole called long distance to express his regrets for not being able to attend. I talked to him and told him I was sorry he was not present and that you had sent your best wishes. Maybe on my next trip to Des Moines, I will be able to meet him.

See
EK 82
1-2

(1) Eastern R.R.

(2) 34 57
OLD STAMP

SEE
EK 82-3
4 -

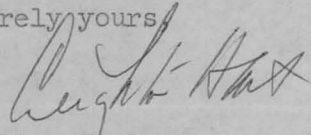
Mr. Stanley Ashbrook

-2-

November 12, 1956

Thanks very much for the two slides demonstrating the
before peroxide and after of ^{the} "black and brown."

Sincerely yours

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Creighton C. Hart". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Creighton C. Hart

CCH:mc

enc. 2

Nov. 21, 1956.

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

Dear Mr. Hart:

Herewith the two covers as per yours of the 12th. I regret the delay in returning them but I wanted to be awfully sure the Eastern R.R. cover was okay before I authenticated it, hence I make an exhaustive examination of it. I am charging you a fee on this cover, but I am not charging any fee on the 3¢ 1857 "Old Stamp" cover.

I was interested in the account of your Iowa visit. You are quite right - the class of collectors one would meet out in the central-west are apt to be more interested in stamps off cover than on. They are not sufficiently educated in the better things in philately.

I never have met Clarence Brown but I hope he can show you some nice covers.

Since writing the above I am in receipt of the two covers from the recent Harmer Rooke Sale. I will return these to you this weekend. I want to examine both very carefully.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

P.S. I have just received a list of some of the prices realized at the Caspary sale of last Monday and they are truly amazing.

Nov. 23, 1956.

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

Dear Mr. Hart:

I overlooked the fact that Lot No. 7 in the Harmer Rooke Sale was from the same correspondence as Lot 11 which you bought. Today I received a letter from my friend Emmerson Krug, stating that he purchased Lot #7, so I am writing him to please send the cover to me so that I can examine it and make a photograph. If cover #7 is okay, I suppose we could be safe in assuming that your cover is also okay and this would not require that you send it to Perry. However, on this course, use your own judgment.

Sincerely yours,

My thanks to you at this
time to be thankful -

Reighton Hart

1956

CREIGHTON C. HART

PRESIDENT
RESERVE PLAN, INC.

COMMERCE BUILDING
KANSAS CITY 6, MO.
HARRISON 4143

M e m o

Reserve Plan Inc
TRADE MARK

922 WALNUT STREET

KANSAS CITY 6, MO.

11-19-56

Mr. Ashhook -

Please opinionize -

Thanks -

Aug 16 Hart

Nov. 22, 1956.

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

Dear Mr. Hart:

Re - the face of the cover with the 10¢ '47 that you sent me this week. I am a bit suspicious of this item. I have no record that the cancel on the stamp - a four-petal killer was ever used in conjunction with the R.R. marking, "Wilmington & Raleigh R.R." but, of course, it may have been. All the examples I have been able to locate in my files of such R.R. covers show a round grid in blue.

Holding this face to a strong light there appears to be a thin spot in the stamp but it may be in the brown piece to which the stamp is attached. I suppose the local stamp could have been used on this face as we see it but there is no actual evidence and inasmuch as I am no student of the Charleston, S.C. Honour Carrier stamps I am not prepared to state whether the Honour stamp is genuine or am capable of expressing an opinion as to whether or not the stamp actually originated on this face. I note the S.U.S. states that the stamp was not issued until 1851, and the postmark is "JUN 7," so if this face is genuine, the use must have been June 7, 1851.

I suggest that you request an extension from Harmer Rooke pending authentication of this item. Then I suggest you send the item to Elliott Perry and inquire of him

- 1) Is the Honour stamp genuine?
- 2) Does he think it was used on this face?
- 3) Did he ever see this killer used in conjunction with this R.R. marking?
- 4) Does he think the stamp has a thin spot?
- 5) Does he think the stamp was pen-cleaned?

I may be 100% wrong on my preliminary examination but I must confess that I do not like any part of this item except the R.R. marking. Covers going north from Charleston, S.C. are known with this R.R. marking.

I might suggest that you request Perry to give you as early a report as possible.

Herewith I am also returning the P of W cover which is genuine and I have signed same on the back.

It was indeed most kind of you to send us the Thanksgiving Turkey and maple syrup and Mrs. Ashbrook and Stan Jr. join me in thanks and appreciation. The express package arrived yesterday afternoon and as I write these lines Mrs. Ashbrook has the Turkey in the oven. Stan Jr. was released from the Navy this month and is home for Thanksgiving with us.

Again our sincere thanks.

Cordially yours,

NOV 22 1956

INSURED

SPECIAL DELIVERY

R. P. I.

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



VIA AIR MAIL

CERTIFIED MAIL
No 908613

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

Nov. 22, 1956.

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

Dear Em:

First many thanks for the various Kiplingers which you sent me in recent weeks.

I certainly did appreciate your kindness in giving me an early report on the Caspary sale of last Monday. These prices convinced me of one thing, viz., it is foolish to even attempt to guess what any lot in a Caspary or any other big name sale will bring. I was advised that Rust did not attend the sale, so maybe some of those "Order" buyers might have been for him, though I suspect the "silly high" were for the Swiss collector named Fontaine. He seems to be running hog-wild and the "dope" that I get is that the Harmer firm is taking him for quite a ride. I understand he "entrusts" his bids to Buck. Just imagine paying \$975.00 for a 3¢ 1861 Pigeon. I understand this went to Fontaine. Incidentally he is the one who ran Henry Hill up to such a silly price on that 5¢ 1856 V.S. of 3 on cover.

Of those 90¢ covers I think you obtained the most desirable cover, even if the price was not cheap. I note Caspary #148 sold at \$525.00. Nuts. You bid all it is worth. I hope Ez did not buy this for Gore. I think we made a good guess on Lot 186 - Just imagine it selling at \$2,700.00. I doubt if Howard bought it for himself - He must have represented some client. I will ask him. Jack M. also must have represented a client on Lot 187. I think your bid of \$600.00 was plenty. Same applies to Lot 188.

I think you were very lucky in having Morris take those 3¢ plus 2¢ covers. He must have an idea they were "Ship" letters of 3¢ plus 2¢ but they are not - You were lucky to ditch them.

I note that you got lot #7 in the Harmer Rooke Sale of the 13th. How odd!!! My friend Creighton Hart got Lot #11 and he sent it to me to authenticate. I did not seem to have any record of the filler on his cover. I note your cover is from the same correspondence. Will you please send it to me so that I can examine it and make a record of it? Would you say this killer is the same as Caspary Lot 52 and Brown sale No. 50?

I also note you got Lot #28. How very odd!!! This cover was wanted by my good friend Millard Mack of Cincinnati, a very fine chap. He makes a specialty of the 1869 issue and especially likes the 4¢ rates. Apparently he was the runner-up. I think he told me he bid \$28.00 and it sold at \$29.00. Is that correct? Incidentally I made a slide of Lot 28 - would you like to have one if I have a duplicate?

Thanks Em for your check for the slide and return of the other five as per mine of the 15th.

I sure appreciated advice on the prices of Monday's Caspary sale.
Regards. Yours etc.,

EZRA D. COLE

Rare Postage Stamps

NYACK . NEW YORK

Commissions . Appraisals

TELEPHONE NYACK 7-0964

November 20th, 1956


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

Dear Stan:

Enclosing a copy which the P. F. refused to pass on.
In this case I want your opinion for a fee.

Caspary prices through the roof again.

Sincerely,


Ezra D. Cole. L.

EDC:mk1

Nov. 24, 1956.

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

Dear Ezra:

Herewith the 2¢ vermillion Bank Note cover - a stamp and a half. It is seldom - very seldom that I never agree with the P.F. but in this instance I do. I do not think they should authenticate items such as this. I am sure I would not do so. Their okay on this item would not make it worth any more and I am sure mine would be the same. It is nothing more than an "as is" article and should be considered in that category. Your guess on this would be just as good as mine. There is little if anything to go on. I suppose it is possible that this could have been used as we see it but I suppose most any faker could make one just as good. When I state that in my opinion an item is genuine I am generally prepared to give sensible reasons why it is good. What could I state in a case such as this? I would be guessing and anyone can do that.

Borry.

Regards.

Yours etc.,

I suspect that Mort's conscience (?) is bothering him. More about this later. However, he has given me three items to submit to you for your opinion. Please do not ever advise him that I informed you these items were his; but I feel I would be unfair to you if I did not give you this information

1. Cover, Portland, Or.. to Kansas, Via Los Angeles. How do you suppose this letter traveled.? Why the 10c rate? How do you ~~xxxx~~ suppose Howard Lehman knows (?) the year is late 1858 or 1859 as per his notation on back?

2. Cover with 5c U.S. internal to France from the Payen correspondence, with 26 decimes due. Where do you suppose the numeral "7" was applied to cancel each stamp and has this numeral any significance?

3. Block of four of the 1c Type V 59L10 - 60L10
69L10 - 70L10

Mort suspects he has discovered a great rarity while I suspect this block has been reperfed at right.

Our best to Mildred and the Stens.

Sincerely,

Morris.

Mr. Morris Fortgang
114 East 84th Street
NEW YORK (28) N. Y.

Nov 19

1956

Nov. 24, 1956.

Mr. Morris Fortgang,
114 East 84th St.,
New York 28, N.Y.

Dear Morris:

Yours of the 19th received.

First, I want to set you straight on a remark in my last letter. You paid me a very high compliment - to my ability, etc. What I meant was this - I know my limitations. I am fully conscious that I am quite ordinary, etc. I did not want you to think that I took your compliments seriously. I didn't want you to think that I believe I am all that you attributed to me. Had you pursued the same line over as many years as I have I am sure you could have done a far far better job. In other words, I regard myself more of a failure than anything else and I am very serious in that statement.

Now for the three items you enclosed. First, the 10¢ Type V from Portland, Ore. to Clinton, Kansas. Howard was wrong - this use was not in "late 1858" simply because the 10¢ 1857 Type V is unknown used before May 1859. Second, hence this use was between May 1859 and the fall of 1861, when it was demonetized. During that period there were two mail routes to the East - (1) Via Panama - (2) Via the Overland Stage Via Los Angeles. If a person desired his letter to go the latter route he had to route it and that is what this writer did, "Via Los Angeles." Thus this letter went by steamer to San Francisco where the Overland Mail was made up. Had it not been routed "Overland" or "Via Los Angeles" it would have been sent "Via Panama," (easier conveyance). By stage it went to St. Louis and from there to Kansas. I doubt if a distribution was made before the bag reached St. Louis. Had this letter originated at San Francisco, the rate would have been 3¢ but because of the long distance from Oregon the rate was 10¢. The rate was 10¢ for distances of 3,000 miles, under it was 3¢. By the Overland, S.F. to St. Louis was less than 3,000.

Re - the Payen cover with the 5¢ internal payment. The "7" canceling the stamps was a rating stamper used at the New York P.O. and has no signifiante on this cover except to cancel the stamps. For example, it was used on ship letters into New York during the 1845-1851 period for distances of 300 miles or less - for example - a letter unpaid - to within 300 miles of New York 5¢ postage due plus 2¢ ship fee, rated "7" due. Such stampless covers are not scarce.

Re - the 1¢ 1857 block of four. I must confess that I am a poor judge of perforations. I note you think this has been re-perfed at right but you are probably a better judge than I am. Also Morris I did not check your plating as I was not much impressed with this item. I am miserable with a bad cold and no doubt I am seeing things upsidedown.

Best wishes -

Cordially yours,

EMMERSON C. KRUG

3008 13TH AVENUE SOUTH
BIRMINGHAM 5, ALABAMA

November 22, 1956.

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

Dear Stan,

The 10¢ 1869 cover came today back from Siegel and I am sending it back to you even before you have had a chance to answer my query about it. Since the P.F. meets Dec. 3rd and must have any item by today, Nov. 22, I enclose a slip made out that if you want to send it you may do so direct. Register for \$55.00.

I also enclose the four lots I got Monday at the Caspary sale each of which has a note inside. I hope they are all O.K. No slides needed.

I also am sending a 10¢ 1869 cover to be signed as well as the Daniels 30¢ 1860 cover to transfer the signing. Notes inside each envelope.

When you return please advise charges.

Sincerely,

No letter from Edgar as yet.



Enclosed:

Cover lot 88 Caspary sale	\$440 & 5%	\$462.00
" " 149 " "	70 & 5%	73.50
" " 157 " "	42 & 5%	44.10
" " 189 " "	1150 & 5%	1207.50
" " 309 Daniels "	330.00	330.00
" EDCole 1954 Castroville		
	35.00	35.00
" R.A.Siegel on loan	55.00	55.00

Registered For 2207.10

Nov. 24, 1956.

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

Dear Em:

Your Air Mail Special came last night and this is to advise that I am perfectly satisfied with the Siegel cover to France and there is no need to send it to the P.E. I have a full explanation and I will guarantee it is genuine. I will return the covers next week.

I am half-sick with a very bad cold and quite miserable. Down to 16 here this A.M. and quite a lot of snow yesterday.

Regards.

Yours etc.,

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

Dr. S. ICHIDA
GOTO APARTMENT
ROPPONGI MINATO
TOKYO JAPAN

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

The cover included herewith was offered to me from a dealer in Europe.

Would you kindly give me your explanation about it as well as your estimation.

Though I know the cover adresses, Prussia is scarce, I can't value it. I think it has type II III & V of 10 cent and type III A & V of 1 cent perf.

Awaiting for your kind information.

If it worths considerably please let me have your certificate.

Sincerely yours.

Dr. S. Ichida

Nov. 24, 1956.

Dr. S. Ichida,
Goto Apartment,
Roppongi Minato,
Tokyo, Japan.

Dear Mr. Ichida:

Herewith I am returning the cover contained in yours of recent date. I regret that I cannot authenticate this for you. The markings show that this was conveyed by Prussian Closed Mail, that it was a single rate of not over $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce. Such required 30¢ in postage. I suspect that this cover has been "fixed" in some way, and stamps added. I doubt very much if it is as it was when used.

I am enclosing a diagram of the types of the stamps on the cover and have numbered them A - B - C - D - E & F. The pen-cancels on B - C - D, appear similar and this makes me wonder if these three stamps were the original payment? Stamps E and F appear ccanceled entirely different and with different (?) ink.

My fee for this examination is \$3.50 which includes the forwarding postage.

My advice is - be very careful of U. S. covers purchased in Europe.

Very truly yours,

EZRA D. COLE

Rare Postage Stamps

NYACK . NEW YORK

Commissions . Appraisals

TELEPHONE NYACK 7-0964

November 29th, 1956

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

Dear Stan:

Thanks for the return of the four covers I sent you. I thought you would find them interesting in one way or another.

As I wrote you I just like to see Colson's bulletins. I will promise to read them and send them right back to you. He certainly is what Percy Doane used to say under great duress "a noble character" which is as near swearing as Percy ever came.

Will you look at the enclosed stamp carefully? I think this is a better color than it looks at first glance. The color of the envelope kills it a little bit so look at the stamp itself very carefully.

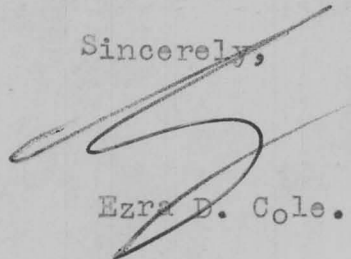
If you think this is as good as I do will you please sign it on the back and I will pay you your fee.

Priced catalogues of the last two Harmer sales are going forward today to Em. He will copy up all the information and mail the catalogues to you. When you are finished with them please send them back to me.

Read Morris Fortgang's story in "Stamps". I think he is correct about the New York Postoffice. It did not occur to me before. I will check my covers and see if I can find anything interesting on this score and either send it to you or to him if I do.

I am enclosing another 3¢ cover which I think is just one of those things that old timers used to call "early birds".

Sincerely,



Ezra D. Cole.

EDC:mkl

Nov. 5, 1956.

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

Dear Ezra:

The doctor says I have had virus pneumonia. I believe I am on the mend.

Re - the two 3¢ '61 covers. I will hold these until I am able to examine them unless you wish them returned at once. I am so full of dope at present I couldn't tell a blue from a black.

Regards.

Yours,

Stan

EZRA D. COLE

Rare Postage Stamps

NYACK . NEW YORK

Commissions . Appraisals

TELEPHONE NYACK 7-0964

December 6th, 1956

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

Dear Stan:

Thanks for your memo. No hurry on anything as far as I am concerned. Take your own time and get well quickly.

Howard Lehman did phone me. I have seen Morris Fortgang and will see if I cannot check with him and show him some of my covers and perhaps add a little to his knowledge.

Sincerely,


EDC:mk1



Ezra D. Cole.

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

No 407465

SENT TO		POSTMARK OR DATE 
EZRA D. COLE		
NYACK, N. Y.		
STREET AND NO.		
CITY AND STATE		
<i>If you want a return receipt, check which</i>		
<input type="checkbox"/> 7¢ shows to whom and when delivered	<input type="checkbox"/> 31¢ shows to whom, when, and address where delivered	<i>If you want re- stricted deliv- ery, check here</i>
		<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.

Dec. 10, 1956.

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

Dear Ezra:

At long last I managed to get to your two 3¢ '61 covers today and return these herewith together with a cover from my reference collection of probably the same Boston date. This is a different color but somewhat similar. There is an old saying about a pink - when in doubt it ain't. That is certainly true because a PINK hits you right in the eye.

I am definitely on the mend but a bit weak.

Regards.

Yours etc.,

TELEPHONE
PLAZA 7-4460

APPRAISALS FOR SALE,
PROBATE & INSURANCE

DIRECTORS

H. R. HARMER B. D. HARMER
F. T. BUCK MARGARET MAHONEY

H · R · HARMER, Inc.
INTERNATIONAL STAMP AUCTIONEERS

6 WEST 48TH STREET
NEW YORK 36, N.Y.

ALSO AT 41 NEW BOND STREET, LONDON, W.1.
AND 25 CASTLEREAGH STREET, SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

ESTABLISHED OVER 50 YEARS

CABLES
HARMERSALE, NEW YORK

LEADING AUCTIONEERS OF
RARE POSTAGE STAMPS

AUCTIONEERS OF THE
"PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT" COLLECTION

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

7th
December
1956

Dear Stan:

I am enclosing a "pink" 3c from our auction of December 3rd and would appreciate your opinion on this.

If you care to remove any other comments or guarantees on the reverse this is satisfactory.

Sincerely yours,

H. R. HARMER, INC.

Bernard.

Director

BDH:E
Enclosure

Dec. 10, 1956.

Mr. Bernard D. Harmer,
6 West 48th St.,
New York 36, N.Y.

Dear Bernard:

Herewith the 3¢ 1861 cover as per yours of
the 7th.

I signed it on the back as an "early rose"
not a pink, and I did not remove any of the other memos.

Incidentally I made a side-by-side comparison
with my reference material.

Sincerely yours,

Dec. 10, 1956.

To

Mr. Bernard D. Harmer,
6 West 48th St.,
New York 36, N.Y.

For opinion on 3¢ 1861 cover

"Early Rose"

from Portland, Me. Nov. 5, 1861 \$3.50

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



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

Jack E. Molesworth

Philatelic Dealer and Broker

102 Beacon Street

Boston 16, Massachusetts

November 28, 1956

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

Dear Stan,

Enclosed is a truly beautiful appearing 90¢ 1860 on which I would appreciate your opinion with respect to the authenticity of the cancellation. I fear it is too beautiful to be good and personally know of no way to justify the "7" with any rate that would require 90¢ or more. If this is bad, as I suspicion it is, have you seen any others like this? If bad, would you say it is painted in? Your usual prompt reply will be especially appreciated on this item since I picked it up in an auction about 3 weeks ago and have been quite delinquent in getting it off to you to be checked, before making payment for my purchases.

I recently heard from Herst with respect to the withdrawal of the 30¢ 1869 cover from his Florida auction. He made no direct reply to my question as to whether the Philatelic Foundation had withdrawn their certificate, but merely indicated that it was withdrawn since the 2 good book bids he had of over \$500.00 each were withdrawn prior to the sale. Presumably both of these bidders got wind of your feelings with respect to it, though Herst did not make any reference to that himself. He further indicated the cover had been returned to the owner and if the owner wished to take any legal action it was up to him. From his comments, I would wonder if the Philatelic Foundation did make any further inquiries with respect to the cover or withdraw their certificate. Do you think that was the case?

With best regards,

Jack E. Molesworth

JEM/mlw
encl.

Nov. 29, 1956.

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

Dear Jack:

Herewith the 90¢ 1860 as per yours of the 28th. In my opinion, there is no question but what the red marking is fraudulent, and I believe that it is a paint job rather than from any handstamp. In fact, it has every appearance of the former and none of the latter. I know of no marking that is anything like this.

Sincerely yours,

Nov. 29, 1956.

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

Dear Jack:

Re - the enclosed 90¢ 1860, there is no fee
but you can refund the return postage.

I have carefully noted your remarks re - Herst.
My impression is that if he was on the level and
100% honest he would not be evasive but would be
glad to give you or me, or anyone else all the
facts in the case. I think he is a damn liar that
he did not have any \$500.00 bids on that cover and
further that it belongs to him. About suing me
that is a lot of damn tommy-rot, he wouldn't dare.

Why do you let this fellow fool you?

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

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

Dec 10, 1956

Dear Stan,

Thanks for your prompt reply on the items recently submitted. Sorry my enclosing the #58 and supposed #64 covers in the same folder caused you to overlook the former which is returned enclosed as you requested.

Also enclosed is your postage in returning as you so kindly waived any fee. Are you sure you were looking at my 3¢ 1861 cover when you concluded it was a Rose and not even a "near pink"? I was positive this was Pink and sent it along since ~~xx~~ I felt it might even be the "pigeon Blood". It appears to me to be a better pink than another in stock which you previously okay'd and therefore wonder if it might have been mixed up with another cover which you were examining at the same time. Will answer your Herst & Hughes comments in letter tomorrow. Best regards *JK*

Dec. 12, 1956.

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

Dear Jack:

In Linn's Weekly, Issue of Dec. 10th, George had an editorial, part of which was headed, "Published by Request" - This referred to a letter from Herman Herst Jr. to George in reference to the 30¢ 1869 fake cover. Did you read this? If not, let me know and I will send you a copy.

Yours etc.,

Dec. 12, 1956.

Mr. Jack E. Molesworth,
102 Beach Street,
Boston 16¹ Mass.

Dear Jack:

Herewith the 10¢ 1861 Type I cover. Who can say what day date this is. I suppose it could be 13 - 15 - 16 or 18, but more likely 13 or 15. However, I can only list this in my records as a possible, not as an actual earliest. As you know, the earliest known use is the 17th and three covers are known used on that date. This surely is not the 18th, so it could be the 16th, 15th or 13th. I only wish I could list it as the earliest. I have endorsed it on the back for you and if you think the notation is worth the fee you can send me a check for \$3.50.

Re - the 3¢ 1861 ROSE cover. Bernard sent this cover to me last Monday and I again made a careful examination of it just to be sure, in good light, side-by-side with my reference copies and saw no reason to change my opinion. I can show you a near pink - a rose - that looks more like a PINK than the stamp on the cover you sent me.

I suppose by this time you have my December Service and noticed my remarks on the Herst cover and the Hughes cover. Naturally I will welcome your reaction to both.

Because of my recent illness we are not sending out any Xmas cards this year but we do wish you A Very Merry Xmas and A Healthy and Prosperous New Year.

No. 407467

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

SENT TO		POSTMARK OR DATE
STREET AND NO.		
CITY AND STATE		
If you want a return receipt, check which		
<input type="checkbox"/> 7¢ shows to whom and when delivered	<input type="checkbox"/> 31¢ shows to whom, when, and address where delivered	If you want re- stricted deliv- ery, check here <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.

#2. Mr. Jack E. Molesworth - Dec. 12, 1956.

Thank you Jack, for the postage.

Sincerely yours,

(EK 87)

fee \$4.00

Dec. 17, 1956.

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

Dear Jack:

I have yours of the 14th returning the 3¢ 1861 cover of Portland, Me and also your check for \$3.50 for which my thanks.

I am always pleased to reverse an opinion when I find I was in error and I was in error on the enclosed cover. My only excuse is that doubtless I was full of dope at the time I examined your cover because of my illness. As I recall, I probably did not make a side-by-side comparison with my reference copies nor did I make a color recording of your cover or stamp. I did remember it was a cover from Portland, Me. and in my opinion at the time just a 3¢ 1861 cover with an "early rose" and not worth a color recording. Several days later I received a cover from Bernard Harmer, also from Portland, Me. and I assumed it was your cover and that you had returned it to Bernard and he had sent it to me for verification. All of which proves that in this game nothing must be taken for granted. I try to follow that rule but perhaps find it difficult never to deviate.

As stated above, I am delighted to reverse my opinion on your cover - the stamp is a PINK - no question about that, but it is not a pigeon blood - in good daylight I laid it side-by-side with my pigeons today and the difference is positive. I also made color recordings and I have signed it as a PINK on the back for which I am charging you a fee of \$4.00.

Further, I am enclosing three color slides of the Harmer item (Portland, Me.) which kindly return at your convenience. These are as follows:

EK87 - 13 - The Harmer cover - apparently in one of their auctions and returned to them as "NOT A PINK."

EK87-10 - The stamp on this cover.

EK87 - 14 - The back of this cover with my notation.

I am also enclosing for your examination a cover with a 3¢ '61 from Bridgewater, Ms. on Sep 20 1861. The stamp is what I call an "Early Bird" - 3¢ pink rose of Aug - Sep 1861. It is on white paper. I thought you would like to see what I call an "Early Bird" - not a pink. Return at your convenience.

Re - Herst and the 30¢ '69 cover. The following is confidential. As you know, he was in New York this past fall - He is very thick with Louise Dale and her prince consort. He left New York and flew out here and spent a day with me. He told me that the night before he left New York that John Dale met him downtown and showed him the 30¢ 1869 cover - said Louise had sent it down and wanted to ask Edgar's opinion. That he told Dale if Ashbrook said it was bad then in his opinion it was bad. That is how I knew it was still in the hands of Louise at the time of the Herst sale in Florida. Of course it is possible that Jamet or Zareski may have given the cover to Herst to sell but I think he is a liar - I firmly believe he bought this cover himself in Paris - "as is" - and that is the reason he owns it today - I do not believe "the owner" gave it to

No. 407472

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

SENT TO		POSTMARK OR DATE			
STREET AND NO.					
CITY AND STATE					
<p><i>If you want a return receipt, check which</i></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><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
<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			

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5. Save this receipt and present it if you make inquiry.

#2. Mr. Jack E. Molesworth - Dec. 17, 1956.

him after the sale. That is a lot of tommy rot. If Herst was absolutely in the clear on this cover he would come clean with you and lay all the cards face up on the table, but he does not dare to do this. I intend to write Janet but I wonder if it will do any good? The chances are that they are all a bunch of crooks over there.

Thanks Jack, for your remarks on the 90¢ 1861 Caspary covers. Lehman was here about two weeks ago today and he had his 90¢ cover with him - Caspary Lot 186. Before that I doubted if he bought it for himself. I have always trusted Howard but something came up last week that caused me to do a little thinking. Then today your letter came with your remarks about him. Rather an odd coincidence and I will watch my step. I have done quite a bit of business with him in the past year and got so I trusted him implicitly. I now wonder if I have had him wrong.

Re - the Caspary pigeon blood cover. You will recall I wrote this up in my Service before the sale. I suspect that Buck sent a copy and got a buy bid on the strength of my remarks. Looks like they worked the old Army Game on the buyer. That is why I apologized in my current Service Issue. I will never do such a thing again. I believe that Bernard and Cole work very close together so Cole could have been bidding for Bernard against Buck's buy bid. Ezra never told me that he was the runner-up. His right hand never knows what the left is doing. I suppose this is very smart - perhaps brilliant.

With Christmas Greetings

Sincerely yours,

Reserve Plan Inc

TRADE MARK REG.

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

November 26, 1956

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

I have your letter of November 22nd returning the two lots that I purchased recently at the Harmer Rooke sale.

At your suggestion, I am sending the 10-cent 1847 cover to Elliott Perry, and I have also asked for an extension of time from Harmer Rooke.

As you know, I have subscribed to your special service for about two years now, and frequently you refer to items that were written up in past issues. I miss not having these past issues, and would like some day to acquire them. If you know of anyone who has the first 3 or 4 years of your special service, and who would like to sell them, I would appreciate their writing me, or you giving me their names, so that I can write them.

Lot 58 in the Caspary sale, the "deep pigeon blood" cover, sold for \$975.00. I knew it was a rare item, and placed a bid for almost \$600.00, and felt sure that I would get it. If you have a colored slide of this cover which does justice to the color of the stamp, I would appreciate having it.

I am glad to know that the turkey arrived in ample time for your Thanksgiving dinner. I wanted it to arrive early enough so that it would not be a second turkey at the Ashbrook household.

It must have been a real day of thanksgiving for you, to have Stan, Jr., there with you. My older son, Creighton, enters the Coast Guard OCS school at New London on February 25th, so he will be with us this Christmas, and it will probably be the last one for several years.

Sincerely yours,



C. C. Hart

CCH:jm

ESTABLISHED 1928

Reserve Plan Inc

TRADE MARK REG.

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

November 27, 1956

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

I have your letter of November 23rd, in which you say that Em Krug purchased Lot No. 7 in the Harmer Rooke sale, and that his cover is similar to my 10-cent cover which you returned.

I have already sent my cover to Elliott Perry, and we'll see what he has to say, and then I shall send it back to you.

I, too had a bid in on Lot No. 7, which was a 5-cent pair on cover that matched the cancelation on a single stamp that I purchased in the Caspary sale, and which I sent you.

From time to time I am going to send you various covers from my collection to be opinionized, and I would appreciate it if you would give me the color on the 5-cent stamps, providing they are good examples of colors recognized in Dr. Carroll Chase's color chart. I do not have Ridgeway's color nomenclature, and do not know where I can acquire one.

Will you please send me three photographs of the 5-cent Augusta cover used during the Confederacy?

Sincerely yours,


C. C. Hart

CCH:jm

*P.S. Enclosed 5- 54'47 covers
1- 104 " " for your opinion*

Dec. 5, 1956.

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

Dear Mr. Hart:

I have been out of commission for over a week with an attack of pneumonia but I am now on the mend.

I have your covers and will write you as soon as I am able.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

Stanley B. Ashbrook

Dec. 11, 1956.

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

Dear Mr. Hart:

At long last I am now able to return the six covers contained in yours of the 27th of Nov. I made color transparencies of these and later I will forward slides to you and you can retain those you wish to keep. I have also signed each cover on the back. I was a bit reluctant to endorse the 5¢ cover from Harrisburg as it seemed possible at first that this could have been a stampless sent "5" collect to which someone added a 5¢ stamp with a blue grid but after I very carefully examined it from every angle I am of the opinion the cover is genuine and I have signed it as such. I enclose a memo of my fees for the examination.

Re - your letter of Nov. 26. I note you sent the 10¢ 1847 cover to Perry. Please advise me of his report.

Re - back numbers of my Special Service. I have never heard of anyone wishing to dispose of their back numbers. I believe all feel that because of the very limited issue that they are good to keep, and are a good investment. I am going to make up sets of back numbers for two new subscribers just as soon as I am well enough and I will be glad to make up a third set for you. The charge will be the regular rate. I suggest you advise me the back volumes you require - I believe offhand it is the first four. Is this correct?

The pigeon blood cover in the Caspary sale. Please note my remarks regarding this cover in my December Service, now in the mail. Your comment on the subject will be much appreciated. The pigeon blood is a difficult color to record accurately on a color transparency but I am enclosing a slide that I made of the stamp which is a little too pale but a fairly good copy.

Re - the Wilmington & Raleigh cover that Krug purchased in the Harmer Rooke sale (Lot No. 7). Would you like to have a transparency? I believe I have a duplicate.

The Ridgway book. I imagine it would be rather difficult to find a copy but if I ever hear of one I will advise you. The last one I had was a copy I obtained for Mr. Rust at a cost of \$50.00.

I believe I have some slides for you and I will send them just as soon as I can find time to pick them out.

I note you would like to have three photographs of your 5¢ 1847 cover with the double circle postmark. Inasmuch as I do not have duplicate prints I will have to dig out the negative and make prints for you. I am making a note to do this.

Due to my recent illness we are not sending out any Xmas cards this year

#2. Mr. C. C. Hart - Dec. 11, 1955.

but we want to wish you and yours a Very Merry Xmas.

Cordially yours,

ESTABLISHED 1928

Reserve Plan Inc

TRADE MARK REG.

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

December 11, 1956

Mr. Stanley Ashbrook
Box 33
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

I was recently in Washington and looked at the order book which is on display there giving information in regards to the 1847 issue. In Manna Hahn's book, he lists the date that supplies were sent to the various post offices, but he does not list the date of receipt, which I consider vital.

I want to get permission to look at the book in detail but this time I saw only the first page. In several instances, the date on which the first supply was sent and the date when the first supply was received is several days later. For example, New Orleans was sent their first supply on July 29, but according to the records, they were not received until August 27. Chicago was sent its first supply on July 30, but they were not received until August 5. I want to look up St. Paul and see what the sent and received dates are for the supplies there.

Occasionally you have sent me a mimeographed copy of one of your Special Service without the photographs. If you have a mimeographed form of your issue No. 56, I would appreciate having one or two extra copies.

When I was in New York recently, my older son came to the apartment with the girl he dates, Phyllis Rahm, and with her was her room mate, Holly Slegeman of Fort Thomas. I told her that you were a valued friend of mine and she said that she had gone to school with your son, Stan.

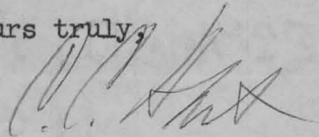
Stanley Ashbrook

-2-

December 10, 1956

I heard from Elliot Perry in regards to the 10¢ 1847 with the Wilmington and Raleigh post mark and he tells me he is to be out of town for a while, but expects to return the cover shortly. From what he says in his letter, I believe he is going to find the cover genuine, but we will wait and see.

Yours truly,



C. C. Hart

CCH:mc

Dec. 12, 1956.

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

Dear Mr. Hart:

Further referring to yours of the 11th,
I am forwarding to you, under separate cover, two copies
of my Service Issue No. 56 of November 1955. These with
my compliments.

Yes, this is a small world. Stan Jr. went
to school with Holly Stegeman and knew her quite well.
Her grandparents Mr. & Mrs. Al Stegeman were quite good
friends of ours. The Stegeman family of several branches
are an old and prominent family of this community.

I note that you heard from Perry that he
will give you a report later. I now feel sure that it
will be favorable.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

Cordially yours,

Dec. 12, 1956.

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

Dear Mr. Hart:

Yours of the 11th received.

Regarding the 1847 Order Book that you saw in Washington recently. Some years ago there was a collector and student of the 1847 Issue located somewhere down East. Offhand I do not recall his name at present and incidentally, I never had any correspondence with him. Rather than a student he was more of a scrap book compiler, that is, he cut out and put in scrap books all the published data he could find on the forty-sevens. What articles he could not acquire he had photostats made such as data in Perry's "Pat Paragraphs."

Eventually his collection came up at auction by Sy Colby and included all his scrap books and reference material. My good friend, the late Saul Newbury, purchased all of this reference material and presented it to me. As I recall, it cost him around \$500.00. Included in the lot was a photographic reproduction of the 1847 Order Book, page by page. Also a complex card index of each item. In other words, Mr. X had card indexed this entire book listing the dates supplies were sent and received. Thus I can refer to any office and in a few minutes have a complete record for that office of all the receipts.

Because the photographs were not carefully made, the prints (all bound) are gradually fading out. A few months ago I obtained special permission from the Washington P.O. Department to have the old Order Book microfilmed. Because of its value it required a special messenger to take it over to the photoduplication division of the Library of Congress for the microfilming and eventually I received the film. I regret to state that up to this writing I have not had the time to make enlarged prints, but I hope to get at this at an early date. Such work requires time because an exposure has to be made of each page - the print developed, washed and fixed - then thoroughly washed and dried.

When I am unable to buy a rare book I send down to the Congressional Library and have it microfilmed as above. What I want is the data rather than possession of the actual book. In this respect my greatest trouble is the lack of time to do all the things I would like to do.

Whenever you wish any data on any office that received the forty-sevens let me know and I will be glad to furnish same with little trouble on my part.

I find that the name of the man referred to above was Dr. J. M. Coopersmith. I do not know what became of him. Apparently he was very

#2. Mr. C. C. Hart - Dec. 12, 1956.

methodical and careful in his compiling, and all his work was very neatly done, etc., etc.

I believe that my good friends, Theo Core and John Pope would be interested in the contents of this letter so I am sending copies to them.

Cordially yours,

3930 Red Bud Ave.
Cincinnati, Ohio

Wednesday

Dear Mr. Ashbrook -

Enclosed is a heat up cover bearing a copy of S.V.S. 69 L 3 (Frazer and Company). This has been offered to me at a rather attractive price.

I would like your advice as follows:

① Is this a desirable item for a Cincinnati collection? and if so,

② Is this a genuine usage?

If your answer is affirmative to both questions I would appreciate your signing it and authenticating it as such.

3930 Red Bud Ave.
Cincinnati, Ohio

page 2 -

Let me know what I owe you
and I'll remit immediately.

Cordially

Millard H. Mack

61

Re - cinnate

"Fraser"

Local

Nov. 28, 1956.

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

Dear Millard:

I have been laid up with a very deep cold all week and yesterday I was entirely out of commission. I am back at my desk today for a short time.

I apologize for the delay in returning the enclosed cover. My advice on this item is not to add it to your collection, no matter how cheap it is offered to you. I am no authority on Locals so I am not prepared to state positively whether the Frazer stamp is good or bad. The cover seems quite odd - Why Rome, N.Y. and the Paid and how did it get into the hands of Frazer for delivery? I imagine one would have to do quite a bit of guessing to explain this item.

I will acknowledge your other letter later.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

A.P.S.
S.P.A.
C.C.N.H.



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

Jack E. Molesworth

Philatelic Dealer and Broker

102 Beacon Street

Boston 16, Massachusetts

December 4, 1956

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

Dear Stan,

Many thanks for your note confirming my doubts on the 90¢ 1860. Enclosed is your return postage. This item came from a Stolow auction which of course is not the most reliable source!

Enclosed is one stamp, on which I would appreciate your opinion as to whether or not it has a plate crack at the top and if so what position, and 3 covers. One is a deep rich pink which I thought might have a chance of being a pidgeon blood. The other is a #58, 10¢ August, used in September of 1861 on either the 15th, 16th, or 18th. Under a strong glass I am convinced it is the 15th and if so it is the earliest known usage. Your opinion and comments on the reverse if you should agree will be appreciated. The third cover, the large one, is I believe quite rare with a block of 3 of the 15¢ 1869's. A customer of mine has asked me to send this to you and ask you the question as to what you feel this cover should be worth at retail. I know you are generally most reluctant to suggest prices on such items though of course will appreciate it if you would care to suggest a figure on this item. He has offered to pay your charge for such appraisal.

I note your comments with respect to Herst, but I am convinced that he has not deceived me as you imply. There is no doubt but what he has his failings the same as the rest of us, but I would trust his word implicitly. In fact, he was in Boston Friday for an auction and we had dinner together. At that time he assured me that the cover was owned by a customer of yours and that the cover had been returned to that owner. At the time I did not inquire as to the identity as I did not feel it was any of my business. However, after receiving your letter, I have asked him if he would care to mention the name of the owner and if so I shall be glad to forward it to you so you can check as to the ownership. I don't believe he intended to evade the question I asked him a letter or 2 ago as to whether the Philatelic Foundation had withdrawn their certificate, and I forgot to ask him about that in our conversation Friday. However, I have written him asking what action the Philatelic Foundation did take and am sure he will answer the question with an honest response.

As I previously mentioned, he has never at any time considered suing you, or anyone else for that matter, as any legal action is strictly against his policy regardless of the situation. Anyone who informed you that he intended to sue you or was considering such is a liar, and I would suggest you question the integrity and possibly the purpose of whatever your source may be for that erroneous information. I personally believe that the owner of the cover is probably the real culprit in that he either had the cover turned down by you or was aware of your negative opinion on it before he sent it to Herst. He probably was just as surprised as anyone else when Herst upon receiving it, knowing it was a controversial type of item, sent it to the Philatelic Foundation and secured a certificate* on it before putting it in his sale. That he is naive, there is no question, but he did attempt to do right by having it checked by the P. F. in which a good many naive people still have some confidence.

With best regards,

Jack (over)

*This is in Herst's name not the owners.

P.S. In a J. R. Hughes auction in San Francisco last Thursday, there was a 12¢ bisect cover used from Boston to California. I submitted a bid through my San Francisco agent, but made the reservation that such bid was subject to your okay of the cover. Hughes refused to accept the bid under those conditions and implied that you would not okay the cover. Therefore, my agent did not execute the bid which was in excess of the \$470.00 which the cover realized. Your comments on that cover will be appreciated.

Jack E. Molesworth

102 Beacon Street

Boston 16, Massachusetts



REGISTERED

844288

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook

P.O. Box 31

33 North Ft. Thomas Avenue

Fort Thomas, Kentucky

VIA AIR MAIL



Dec. 6, 1957.

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

Dear Jack:

I returned the three items to you today, the 6th, by Air Registered. Here are some comments:

One Cent 1851 - a Type II from Plate 2. This is not a crack. Probably a paint job by some fixer. Positively not a plate variety.

3¢ 1861 - not a PINK, but a rose. This is what has been called for years, "An early bird," that is, "an early bird rose." I would not even class this as a "near pink."

15¢ 1869 cover. With all the crazy prices at auction any opinion by me would be valueless. Your opinion would be much better than mine - You attend auctions and keep posted. I do not. Tell your friend I would rather have your opinion than a guess by me. Also thank him for the compliment. Values are entirely out of my field.

Re - Herst. I may be wrong but I believe he bought that cover in Paris for a song and that it is his property. Of course, Zareski or "a Zareski" may have given it to him to sell, but that I doubt. If he has nothing to hide why don't he tell you who it belongs to? If he was clean he would lay all the cards on the table before he and then ask me if I thought he was honest. A person who is 100% on the level - honest - never has anything to hide. This is not the only time I have had occasion to question certain stunts of his. Writing a book with Zareski was something that no honest person would do.

Re - the Hughes cover. I know all about this - I wrote Hughes about the cover before the sale at his request. I am giving this quite a write-up in my December Service Issue. I had Jessup request Hughes to read my letter when the lot came up. Hughes refused. Bear the following in mind: "When is a bisect not a bisect?" My answer is, "When it did not pay the rate." Boston marked that cover as UNPAID. A tobacco tag would have served the same purpose. I think you were lucky that you did not get it. Why was Hughes afraid to read my letter?

Am still away from my desk but believe I am on the mend.

No fee for the above three items but you can refund the postage.

Sincerely yours,

Stanley B. Ashbrook.

STAMPS, ALBUMS & ACCESSORIES
U. S. AND WESTERN COVERS
COLLECTIONS AND OLD
CORRESPONDENCE PURCHASED
APPRAISALS FOR BANKS & ESTATES

AMERICAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY
WESTERN COVER SOCIETY
BUREAU ISSUES ASSOCIATION
COLLECTORS CLUB OF NEW YORK
AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

ED. S. McCONNELL

— STAMPS AND COINS —

2189 BANCROFT WAY
BERKELEY 4, CALIF.

THORNWALL 5-3021

November 26, 1956

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

A copy of the U.S. 10¢ green stamp of 1855-57 is enclosed.

Would you please tell us your fee for your examination and opinion as to whether this stamp is Type I or a trimmed Type V.

As you will see from the other enclosures, the Philatelic Foundation's expert committee is of the opinion that the stamp is Type V trimmed.

With all respect for the excellent work of the Foundation's committee, we are inclined to the belief that the "fuzzy" side details are the result of a somewhat dry printing. Our amateur belief that it may be Type I is based on these factors:

1. That it does not show the "Die Guide Line" at upper left that can nearly always be found on Type V.

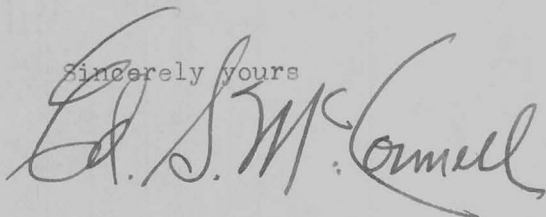
2. Despite the dry printing and fuzzy details, the stamp seems to us to conform to Relief C.

3. The rather adequate margins.

4. The NEW PAID YORK cancellation in red.

While I have not as yet attempted to correlate the Oct 5 date to the probable year of useage, I have a sort of a strong feeling that this particular cancellation was largely used prior to the perforated stamps.

Sincerely yours



Enclosures:

US 10¢ green stamp of 1855-57
Philatelic Foundation Cert. #7249
Retainer check \$2.50
Return envelope, registry postage.

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

Nov. 30, 1956.

Mr. Ed. S. McConnell,
2189 Bancroft Way,
Berkeley 4, Calif.

Dear Mr. McConnell:

Herewith the 10¢ 1857 as per yours of the 26th together with the P.F. certificate. I can assure you that this is a trimmed Type V stamp.

The stamp came from Plate 2, and all the 200 positions on the plate were Type V. No stamps from this plate were ever issued in imperforate condition so far as known as there was no reason for such.

The earliest known use of a Type V stamp is May 1859, about two years after 10¢ were issued with perforations. Regarding the red postmark. During the period of use of the Type V there was quite a large correspondence from New York to Cuba and the Type V is well known on such mail with the red New York postmark. I enclose with my compliments a typical example.

For many years back it has been a favorite sport for the "fixers" to make imperforates out of Type V stamps.

May I thank you very kindly for your check.

Sincerely yours,

Federated Philatelic Clubs
of Southern California

14364 E. Rosecrans Ave.
La Mirada, California
October 18, 1956

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

You may recall me from our previous correspondence regarding a P O W cover from my One Cent 1861 collection. I have since extended my interests to include the 3¢ 1861 and would like to submit the enclosed copy for your opinion.

I have the opportunity to buy this from a local estate but can not classify it to my satisfaction. The only knowledge we have is the #74 pencilled on the back. I can't believe this number is correct for it does not compare with any scarlet that I am familiar with. If #74 is correct would it not have to be a finished proof which somehow became cancelled? Also, I suppose that at some time the color could have been tampered with or the cancel faked.

If you can shed any light on this unusual color for me I will be very grateful. Enclosed return envelope with registration postage for your convenience.

Sincerely,

C. W. Christian

C. W. Christian

Oct. 23, 1956.

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

Dear Mr. Christian:

I am in receipt of yours of the 18th enclosing the 3¢ 1861. This is indeed an odd shade but you are quite right -- I agree that this is not the #74 "Scarlett" which was a trial color and was not issued to the public. There are people who indulge in the "sport" of chemically changing the colors of our early stamps and sometimes it is difficult to positively determine whether an odd shade is an original color or one that has been chemically treated.

I would like to have your permission to submit this copy to the "Expert Committee" of the Philatelic Foundation of New York City and see if they could come up with a sensible opinion regarding it. Further, before sending it to them I would like to make a further examination myself. My impression is that it is possibly okay and is merely a scarce shade of the 3¢ 1861 -- I hope it is the latter because if it is -- it is quite rare.

I do not know if peroxide would affect the color but if it is a genuine shade it would not, on the other hand, if it has been chemically treated a peroxid bath might restore the original.

I will hold the copy pending your reply.

Sincerely yours,

Federated Philatelic Clubs
of Southern California

14364 E. Rosecrans Ave.
La Mirada, Calif.
October 25, 1956

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Thank you very much for your preliminary opinion regarding the 3¢, '61. You may feel quite free to submit the copy to peroxide or any examination necessary to establish identity. I have permission from the "estate" to have it thoroughly checked with an option to purchase if it proves to be genuine.

I am certain it will be okay to send it to the Foundation committee if you feel it adviseable. I do not recall their charges for expertizing but if you will keep me advised I will, of course, assume the expense.

I hope your first impression holds true and that it has not been a changed copy for it is a beautiful shade and certainly stands out among the other shades of #65.

Again, my appreciation for your help and hope the findings will prove interesting.

Sincerely,

E. W. Christian

Monday Noon
Oct. 29, 1956.

Mr. Emmerson C. Krug,
% Hotel Commodore,
42nd St. at Lexington Ave.,
New York 17, N.Y.

Dear Em:

Your registered letter with the five (5) covers arrived safe and sound this A.M. I note it is postmarked New York Oct. 26 - (Friday) and Newport Oct. 27 (Saturday). I suppose it got out here too late Saturday for delivery as the office closes promptly at noon.

Re - the cover from Mexico Via New Orleans to Paris. The strip is the "Indian Red" (Henna) and the cover is genuine. I have only glanced at the other covers but they seem to be okay. Covers to Belgium with the 27¢ rate are good - the 24¢ looks like a brown lilac at first glance. A use in Oct. 1864 for this color would be right.

I letter today from Fortgang mentioned he had seen you. Now Em, will you do a favor for me? I am enclosing a 3¢ 1861 which belongs to a "client" in California. Will you please submit this to that "Expert?" Committee of the Foundation and request the following information. Do not intimate that this came from me, please. Request the following information:

- 1) Is this color genuine?
- 2) What is the color?
- 3) Is this a canceled copy of the #74 Scarlet?
- 4) Is the postmark genuine?
- 5) If so, what is it?

Request answers to all five (5) questions and if they cannot answer 1, 2, 3 and 4, do not pay any fee - have that understood. If they agree to answer these four, pay the fee and advise me and I will reimburse you. If they are any sort of an Expert Committee they should certainly be qualified to furnish the answers, but I doubt if they can. What do you think?

Incidentally, what do you think of this stamp? Inasmuch as it does not belong to me please handle it carefully - show it to Ezra or anyone else if you care to do so, for example, to Bloch or any other "Expert" at both Harpers. In fact, anyone you think would be capable of giving any sort of a worth-while opinion. Incidentally, did you ever see a color to match this? Do not let Ezra know its source, let them all think it belongs to you. If none of the "restrictions" are perfectly agreeable to you it will be okay with me, what I am especially interested in is answers to the above queries from the Experts at the "P.F."

I hope you had a fine breakfast with Edgar Sunday morn. It was nice to have talked with you Saturday night. Beautiful weather out here. Dorsey and you were here just about a year ago - Do you remember?

With best wishes -

As ever,

Nov. 5, 1956.

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

Dear Mr. Christian:

Yours of the 25th received and thru a friend I submitted your 3¢ 1861 stamp to the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Foundation, New York City. I did this so that they would not suspect that it came from me. I doubt if they will pass on it until sometime in December but I assure you that I will advise you promptly.

With kindest regards -

Sincerely yours,

SESCAL

PERMANENT EXHIBITION COMMITTEE

FEDERATED PHILATELIC CLUBS OF SO. CALIF., INC.

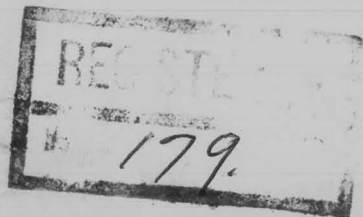
C. W. Christian

14364 E. Rosecrans Ave.

La Mirada, Calif.



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



AIR MAIL



Dec. 15, 1956.

Mr. C. W. Christian,
14364 E. Rosecrans Ave.,
La Mirado, Calif.

Dear Mr. Christian:

Herewith your 3¢ 1861 and the opinion by the P.F. Expert Committee. I had this submitted by my friend E. C. Krug of Birmingham who happened to be in New York at the time (in October) when I sent it to him. He never intimated it came from me nor did he inform them that it was suspected to be a chemical changeling of color. The cost of the certificate was \$2.50 for which you can reimburse me if agreeable. I never made any chemical test of the stamp or immersed it in peroxide because of fear that it might change it to some extent.

Note the postmark. It seems to me that its rather faded and fuzzy appearance might be due to a chemical that changed the color of the stamp. I am disposed to believe the Expert Committee is correct in their opinion though I am not 100% convinced.

There is a person in Chicago who is an expert in making rare shades of 19th U. S. I do not know his name but I intend to make inquiry. If successful I would like to submit this copy to him and ask him if he believes this is a chemical changeling. I am a member of the Chicago Philatelic Society and it is possible that he is a member.

I have a faint recollection that years ago I saw a 4¢ Columbian error of color I thought would fool most any expert.

If agreeable would you mind returning the stamp to me for the above purpose.

With Christmas Greetings

Sincerely yours,

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

Philatelic Dealers

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

407 ROYAL STREET
NEW ORLEANS 16, LA.

December 13, 1956

Stanley B. Ashbrook
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan:

Emmerson Krug was in here yesterday and told us that you had not been in the best of health lately. We hope that this letter finds you much improved and that you and Mrs. Ashbrook will enjoy a very Merry Christmas.

I am enclosing a cover face which we have just acquired from Willy Balasse in Brussels. Will you please give us your opinion as to its validity.

With kind regards from Raymond and myself.

Yours sincerely,


Raymond H. Weill Co.

By 

rgw:lc
enc.
airmail

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

No 407471

SENT TO		
STREET AND NO		
CITY AND STATE		
If you want a return receipt, check which <input type="checkbox"/> 7¢ shows to whom and when delivered <input type="checkbox"/> 31¢ shows to whom, when, and address where delivered		
If you want restricted delivery, check here <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.

Dec. 15, 1956.

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

Dear Roger:

Herewith the item contained in yours of the 13th. Just a face - no evidence of actual year use - always a bad feature which covers up a lot of monkey-business. This use must have been, that is, the face as late as August 1873. I do not like anything about this cover and doubt if any of these stamps were actually used on this face. I would be surprised to find that New York used this exact type of killer in the seventies.

The above is just my opinion - no fee.

I have been laid up for the past three weeks with an attack of virus pneumonia. At first I thought I merely had a bad cold and did not think it necessary to consult our physician. As a result the germ got a good start. I am pleased to report that I am now okay again and am back at my desk, a little the worse for wear.

Because of my illness Mrs. Ashbrook and I are not sending out any Xmas cards this year but we do wish you and Raymond A Very Merry Xmas and A Healthy and Prosperous New Year.

Cordially yours,

ESTABLISHED 1928

Reserve Plan Inc

TRADE MARK REG.

SUITE 1020 COMMERCE BLDG. 922 WALNUT ST.

KANSAS CITY 6, MISSOURI

December 14, 1956

Mr. Stanley Ashbrook
P. O. Box 31
Ft. Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

I received your letter returning my 1847 covers and I am glad to have them back and to know that you have recovered from your recent illness.

Re: Issue No. 56. I received the two copies of this issue and I am sending one to Dr. Edward West of Atlanta who is interested in Confederate Postal history.

Re: First four series. You are correct I am missing the first four series and when you republish them, I would like very much to ^{have mine} ~~make my series~~ completed.

Re: 1847 order book. When I spoke at the Iowa Philatelic Society, I gave out a mimeographed lists containing some information about 1847 issue. I will send you one of these and at your leisure I would like you to list the date of receipt of the 1847 stamp at the 35 various post offices. I have obtained a list of the date the supplies were sent from Mannal Hahn's book, but no where have I been able to find the date of receipt except from the order book at the philatelic agency in Washington.

Re: Ridgway. I would like very much to have a copy of Ridgway's color dictionary and if you come across one any time, I would appreciate you buying it for me.

Re: 10¢ cover enclosed. Please opinionize.

Mr. Stanley Ashbrook

-2-

December 14, 1956

Re: Your discussion about items to be offered in future auction sales. I have noticed that the few items you discuss in your Special Service before they are sold in auction, invariably bring quite high prices. Your comments influence my bidding and because I consider myself an average individual, I expect it influences most of your subscribers. I also suspect that most of your subscribers are among the bidders who bid in three or four figures.

I have thought about your practice of discussing various lots and I do not know the solution. I have the following three suggestions:

1. That you call your subscribers attention to several interesting lots, but do not make any comment. If this practice is followed, I think at least 10 lots should be enumerated and preferably more.

or

2. Do not discuss any lot until after a sale.

or

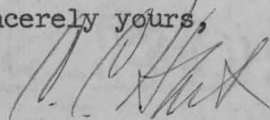
3. Let each subscriber inquire directly to you about lots that interest him.

There are advantages and disadvantages to all three but I believe any one of them ^{is} ~~are~~ better than your present practice of discussing only a few lots in a sale. Personally, I like to have your comments before a sale, and I'd like for you to continue it if you can spread it broadly enough so as not to influence the bidding or if you influence it, only to a limited degree.

As yet I have not had a reply from Elliott Perry. When I do, I will advise you.

With best Christmas wishes to you, Mrs. Ashbrook, and Stanley, Jr., I remain,

Sincerely yours,



C. C. Hart

CCH:mc
enc.

P.S. I think I have the auction catalogue of Dr. Coopersmith's 1847 collection. If you do not have one I'll be glad to give you mine.

Dec. 18, 1956.

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

Dear Mr. Hart:

Replying to yours of the 14th, I am returning herewith the 10¢ 1847 cover from Charleston, S.C. to Boston which I have signed on the back. I note that this is quite a nice item.

I note that you sent one of my Service Issues, No. 56, to a Dr. Edw. West of Atlanta, Ga. I wish that you had informed me of this intention because I have no use whatsoever for that man. He is a very close friend of J. H. Scruggs of Birmingham and perhaps in the same class as that crook. Note the enclosed memo.

Re - the 1847 Order Book. I will be glad to give you the data you wish at any time.

I have carefully noted your suggestions re - items that are due to come up at auction. I suppose the best policy is to avoid any mention.

Re - the \$975.00 pigeon blood cover in the recent Caspary sale. I have it on reliable authority that the cover was purchased by a Swiss dealer whom I suppose represented a very wealthy Swiss collector. The story goes that the dealer sent a "buy bid" for the cover. This makes me wonder if the Harmer firm sent them a copy of my Service remarks? I also understand that our good friend Ezra Cole was the runner-up.

Re - the Coopersmith sale. When I wrote you recently I was not able to find my copy of the catalogue but later I located it. Thanks for your offer to loan me your copy.

I am also enclosing some photo prints. Return any or all that you do not care to have and I will give you credit for same.

Mrs. Ashbrook and Stan Jr. join me in wishing Mrs. Hart and you and your family a Very Happy Christmas Season and a Healthy and Prosperous nineteen fifty-seven.

Cordially yours,

EMMERSON C. KRUG
3008 13TH AVENUE SOUTH
BIRMINGHAM 5, ALABAMA


December 17, 1956.
Monday A.M.

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

Dear Stan,

Of course the mails are slow but I have had only a small box registered with some Stark covers in it, no letter accompanying same. I thought it might be the return of the covers I sent last Wednesday. I am therefor wondering if they have been delayed. I sent you the 3¢ 1861 stamp together with a 5¢ 1847 cover of mine that had come back from the P.F. on Wednesday last and then on Thursday some covers from a Pelander sale. I hope they finally get thru this Xmas rush. Until I get a letter I will not report on the Stark covers, assuming they are that.

Yes, I read the article in Linn's of Dec. 10th. Of course I agree with you in the whole affair. Here is an item cut from this week's Linn's, which I think requires some attention. I attended this MISERABLE convention at Tampa, miserable because of the heat. No doubt somebody had an axe to grind in getting the thing held at the hotel where it was. I cant write the APS President because I only just met him and I know you know him well. Besides I cant take sides because I have a big cafeteria there and dont want the ill will of any hotel and also because some might think I was trying to drum up business, since our place is almost across the street. Candidly we have so much business as it is we could not take care of much more. So that's not the angle. But the APS convention should be held in not only an air-conditioned hotel but one where they have an airconditioned convention hall. I think the Floridan can furnish both. I know it is airconditioned in the rooms for I have stopped there for years. You must know Florida in August is HOT. I think maybe you will want to tell Mr. Shoemaker about this.

Sincerely, 

P.S. Since starting this letter the mails brought the enclosed cover from John Fox. He asks \$50.00 for it. What is your opinion? Can you figure out this 13¢ Hawaiian plus 12¢ U.S. rate? I cant. If you think it worth the price, and if it is O.K., will you sign it for me, after which I will remit to you and to him.

Dec. 19, 1956.

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

Dear Em:

Herewith the Hawaii cover. This cover is genuine in all respects and I have not only signed it on the back but I gave an explanation of the rate. Em, I think this is quite a nice cover and will worth the price. For some reason or other, covers from Hawaii to the U.S. during 1872, 1873, 1874 and 1875 seem to be quite scarce. I suggest you read the Harris book for the period 1870 and later. Further, this is a nice combination - a double to Canada Via the U.S. - My opinion is, most unusual for this period.

In the Sinkler sale by Klein on May 17, 1940, Lot 17 was a cover with a 6¢ Green Hawaii plus a pair of 3¢ green Bank Notes. I suppose this use was 1871 to 1874. This cover sold at \$77.50 and that was 1940 not 1956. Do you not think that I am right - that this cover is well worth John's price? I am making a photo and I will probably give this a write-up in a Service Issue.

Sometimes I wonder if the average dealer could explain the rate on this cover. John offers this cover to you at \$50.00. May I suggest this - Why not write John and tell him you like the cover and will take it, but you do not understand the rate and will he please explain it to you - that you are taking his word that it is genuine. Do you mind doing this? It is the same old story - Just because a dealer thinks a cover looks good he assumes it is good - and for this reason the Zareski's do their utmost to make them look good. Why should you have to pay a fee to find out if property belonging to Fox and offered to you is genuine. Such a system is all wrong. The burden should be on the seller not on the buyer. The chances are that John could explain the rate on this cover but I have a doubt about that. Do you think Ezra could? I don't, and yet Ezra would have everyone believe he knows all the answers. Is this an unjust accusation?

Re - Linn's of Dec. 10th. You referred to the wrong item - What I referred to was Herst's comment on the fake 30¢ 1869 cover that he attempted to sell in a sale at West Palm Beach last Nov. 2. He illustrated the fake in a full page ad in Stamps last September. Just in case you missed it I am enclosing a photo print. Herst is not only a crook but he is a liar if he claims he had two bids of over \$500.00 for that fake. He accuses me of putting the "Kiss of Death" on the cover. Honestly Em, can you imagine such a brazen unscrupulous rat?

I will convey to Larry Shoemaker the ideas expressed in your letter, but I have little interest in the A.P.S. - or any other philatelic organization. The people who run such groups are small potatoes - small 2 x 4's who are far more interested in Philatelic politics than serious philately. I have known Larry for many years and while he is quite a nice chap he is a typical philatelic politician.

WITH CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

As ever,

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.

December 19, 1956

Stanley B. Ashbrook
Ft. Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan:

Please accept our thanks for your expert opinion on the cover recently submitted you.

Here is another one. When returning, please be sure to include a bill for both items - this one and the above mentioned piece.

Kind regards.

Yours sincerely,

Raymond H. Weill Co.

By 

rgw:lc
enc.

Dec. 21, 1956.

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

Dear Roger:

Herewith the cover as per yours of the 19th. I am pleased to report that this cover is genuine in every way and I have explained and authenticated it on the back. No fee for the previous cover but I am charging you a fee of \$5.00 on the enclosed. This is quite a nice combination.

Mrs. Ashbrook joins me in wishing Raymond and you a Very Joyous Holiday Season and may 1957 be very kind to you both.

Cordially yours,

Raymond H. Weill Co.
Roger G. Weill-Raymond H. Weill
407 Royal St.
New Orleans 18, La.

Dec. 26, 1956

Stanley B. Ashbrook
Ft. Thomas, Ky.

Your letter dated 12/21/56

\$ 5 00

Check enclosed

5 00

PAID
DEC 31 1956

RAYNOR HUBBELL

SPECIALIZING IN CONFEDERATE STAMPS



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

BOX 573 GRIFFIN, GEORGIA

Dec. 20th, 1956,

MRS. RAYNOR HUBBELL, SECRETARY

Mr. Stanley B. Asgbrook
Box 31,
Ft. Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stanley:

There has not been correspondence between us for some time due to the letters which I understand you disclaimed. If that understanding is correct, I would see no reason for letting that matter further interfere with the pleasant relations which I always thought existed between us, especially during this Holiday Season. And I would like to have some correspondence with you on the old footing, about the enclosed covers, as that might be the best way to start some friendly correspondence again.

Was this a circular letter from Port Lavaca, Texas, to Saguine, Texas, and is the post mark January or June 1861? Then was it turned and reused from Seguin Texas (?) in March 1863 to Virginia, previous to the 40¢ Trans-Mississippi rate?

I would appreciate all of the information applying that you can give me and of course will, as promptly as ever, pay the fee.

~~Also please tell me whether this cover is a frame line.~~

Sincerely,

Raynor Hubbell

RH:grh

Dec. 23, 1956.

Mr. Raynor Hubbell,
Griffin, Ga.

Dear Raynor:

I return herewith the turned cover as per yours of the 20th. I am of the opinion that your analysis is quite correct and I know of nothing that I can add to same, except a few remarks. This was, of course, a piece of circular mail unsealed from Portlavaca, Tex. to Seguin, Tex. The month and year is not legible but rather than June 1861 I am inclined to believe that the use was January 1861. Of course, it is possible the use could have been June 1861 and the clerk permitted it to go thru because only one cent was involved. I am unable to judge whether the postmark tying the 10¢ rose is that of "SEGUIN TEX" but it surely must be because of the first address and memo at left end of the turned cover. I see no reason to question this in any way, and as stated, no fault to find with your analysis.

There is no fee.

Sincerely yours,

NO PHOTO

TELEPHONE
PLAZA 7-4460

APPRAISALS FOR SALE,
PROBATE & INSURANCE

DIRECTORS
H. R. HARMER B. D. HARMER
F. T. BUCK MARGARET MAHONEY

H · R · HARMER, Inc.
INTERNATIONAL STAMP AUCTIONEERS

6 WEST 48TH STREET
NEW YORK 36, N.Y.

ALSO AT 41 NEW BOND STREET, LONDON, W. I.
AND 25 CASTLEREAGH STREET, SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

ESTABLISHED OVER 50 YEARS

CABLES
HARMERSALE, NEW YORK

LEADING AUCTIONEERS OF
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AUCTIONEERS OF THE
"PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT" COLLECTION

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

18th
December
1956

Dear Stan:

I am enclosing a 30c 1869 on cover on which we would appreciate your opinion
as soon as possible.

With thanks in advance and with very best wishes for Christmas and the New
Year.

Sincerely yours,

H. R. HARMER, INC.

Bernard

Director

BDH:E
Enclosure

Dec. 21, 1956.



Mr. Bernard D. Harmer,
6 West 48th St.,
New York 36, N.Y.

Dear Bernard:

Herewith the 30¢ 1869 cover as per yours of the 18th received this A.M. and back by return Air Registered.

In my opinion, this cover is fraudulent, that is, this 30¢ stamp was not used on this cover originally. Further, the use was not 1870 but probably 1873 or 1874 - all the year dates of "70" have been altered. Further, the original rate was 10¢. Further, as far as I am aware New York did not use a postmark with "6" as early as February 1870. Further, a rate of 10¢ with credit to Britain of 6¢ was not regular for February 1870. If you will refer to the second Knapp sale - 1869 section, you will note covers from this same source - Castroville, Texas - with 10¢ 1869 - some of those in the Knapp sale were faked.

My fee for the above is \$5.00

I am just recovering from an attack of virus pneumonia. I caught a bad cold and neglected to call my physician and as a result the germ got a good start.

May I take this opportunity to wish you A Very Enjoyable Holiday Season and A Healthy and Prosperous New Year.

Cordially yours,



DEC 21 1956

Dec. 24, 1956.

Mr. Bernard D. Harmer,
6 West 48th St.,
New York 36, N.Y.

Dear Bernard:

Further referring to the faked 30¢ 1869 cover which you sent me last week, by referring to my records, I find that this cover was Lot 1779 in the second Knapp sale of November 5th, 1941. It is illustrated. It was sold to Cole at \$210.00. Further, I am quite sure that originally it had a 10¢ Bank Note and that the actual use was unquestionably February 1874.

Years ago I made an extensive study of the New York type of postmark on this cover and a search for covers having it are scarce. My earliest record of its use at New York is December 1874. When the new treaty with France went into effect on August 1st, 1873, it is my belief its use was discontinued on mail to France. Thus we can account for its scarcity - in use in all probably less than a year.

Further, I apparently advised Cole after the Knapp sale that this cover was a rank fake and he advised me that he had returned it to Souren. Later this fake came up in a sale by the "Cosmos Stamp Co." of New York on March 23, 1945 as Lot #84. I overlooked mention that originally Cole bought the cover for Moody. This same cover was submitted to Mr. Saul Newbury in the middle forties and he sent it to me for my opinion. I advised him it was fraudulent.

Do you suppose that Committee of "Experts" at the Philatelic Foundation could have given you such a report? I feel sure they would have expressed an opinion that it is "genuine in all respects."

I would like to give this cover a write-up in my January Service Issue. I have a photo of it that I made years ago. If you have any objection will you please advise me by return mail.

Sincerely yours,

TELEPHONE
PLAZA 7-4460

H·R·HARMER, Inc.
INTERNATIONAL STAMP AUCTIONEERS

CABLES
HARMERSALE, NEW YORK

APPRAISALS FOR SALE,
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ALSO AT 41 NEW BOND STREET, LONDON, W.1.
AND 2b CASTLEREAGH STREET, SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA
ESTABLISHED OVER 50 YEARS

AUCTIONEERS OF THE
"PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT" COLLECTION

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

26th
December
1956

Dear Stan:

Many thanks for your letters of December 21st with the faked 1869 cover and of December 24th, both of which arrived yesterday.

I am enclosing my check for \$5.00 for your opinion and appreciate the very complete information supplied in the two letters.

CASTROVILLE COVER

As concerns your request to write up this cover in the January Service Issue, this is of course your privilege and I am quite happy to go along with the idea. However as this cover was sent to us by a vendor and in view of some of the information which you gave me in your letter, I would very much appreciate it if you could refrain from mentioning that the cover had just been submitted to you. I was thinking that possibly you could have been running through photographs of your 1869 covers and discovered this one as worthy of an interesting story and report."

Naturally this is only a request on my part, merely to prevent any possible screaming on the part of the vendor.

Sincerely yours,

H. R. HARMER, INC.

Bernard

Director

BDH:E
Enclosure - Check

CASTROVILLE

Dec. 24, 1956.

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

30¢ 1869

Dear Ezra:

No doubt you remember the fake 30¢ 1869 cover - of Castroville, Texas that you bought for Moody in the Knapp Sale - Lot 1779 - \$210.00, and which you returned to Souren. Later it came up in a sale by the Cosmos Stamp Co. in March 1945. Buyer unknown. Last week it was sent to me by Bernard Harmer for my opinion. I made a color slide and a good photo. As you will recall, the actual use was Feb. 1874 but some faker removed a 10¢ Bank Note and changed the year-dates from "74" to "70." In the Cosmos Sale you bought the Castroville with the 10¢ 1869. Do you remember?

Yours etc.,

Copy to E. C. Krug

Dec. 24, 1956.

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

Dear Ezra:

I enclose a copy of a letter to Bernard which please treat in confidence. He sent me at my request a photo of the cover - the 10¢ '69 to France which sold at \$210.00. I wonder if anyone in the Harmer office can explain the rate? Of course, the illustration in the catalogue is incomplete but do you know why a 10¢ '69 is on this cover? If you wish I will send you a photo print of it, made from his photo. Who wrote the catalogue descriptions for the last Caspary sale?

Re - your letter of the 20th. Yes, there was an error in my letter re - the odd 3¢ 1861. It should have read that the stamp was sent to me for my opinion. The owner wanted to know if it was a used "scarlett." You are quite correct about "cancelled" copies rather than used copies. I am quite sure that no such "color trials" were ever issued.

Thanks Ez, for your remarks on the \$975.00 pigeon in the Caspary sale. Someone told me that they were positive that you were the runner-up. This was right after the sale and I regret that I am not sure who it was as I was feeling lousy at the time. I made a memo in my catalogue, "Cole was runner-up." I thought there was some funny-business somewhere because I figured there were actually not two damn fools in all the world who would actually compete for that cover over \$900.00. I still refuse to believe such a fairy tale.

I note you read Herst's remarks on that fake 30¢ 1869 cover. What an 18 K he really is. Such lice should be barred from decent philately. He is totally unscrupulous.

Again re - the 3¢ '61 slide I sent you. This was a very accurate color copy of the stamp which I suppose is a chemical chanceling. However, I am not unmindful of the possibility that the stamp may be a "natural" and a very rare shade. I never saw such a color before. I am sorry you were not able to form an opinion from the slide.

Re - yours of the 19th. Thanks for the stampless cover. This is quite interesting and I have inscribed on the back, "Compliments of Ezra Cole - Dec. 19, 1956." From Buenos Ayres July 27, 1863. Nice to have the enclosure. Into New York Sep 12 1863. From the Argentine Via England to New York - with a debit in gold from Britain of 80¢. This was a double rate of 2 x 45¢ with 90¢ in gold due from the addressee or if no gold then \$1.11 in currency. I like these depreciated currency covers. I note that gold was quoted at 128 on Sep. 12, 1863 on the "New York Gold Exchange." It looks like the P.O.D. collected at the rate of only 123.

It is too dark and overcast today to form a definite opinion on the two 3¢ '61 covers you enclose, so I will wait until later to examine them.

Regards -

Cordially yours,

Dec. 31, 1956.

Mr. Bernard D. Harmer,
6 West 48th St.,
New York 36, N.Y.

Dear Bernard:

This will acknowledge receipt of yours of the 26th with check for \$5.00 for which please accept my thanks.

Re - the faked 30¢ 1869 Castroville cover. I do not know if I will be able to include mention of this cover in my January Issue but if I do you can rest assured that I will not give any hint that it was submitted to me in recent months, but rather that it is a cover of record in my files.

Referring to yours of the 28th and Lot #337 in the November Caspary sale, I can assure you that the cover is genuine in every respect but why such a price? Please note the last paragraph of my letter of the 23rd, and again why 10¢? This cover cost the buyer \$210.00. What was there about the cover that caused him to pay such a price? I know, but does he know?

Cordially yours,

Dec. 17, 1956.

Mr. J. R. Hughes,
68 Post Street,
San Francisco 4, Calif.

Dear Mr. Hughes:

Thanks very much for your kind letter of the 12th which I read with much interest.

Inasmuch as I never saw the cover it was impossible for me to form any definite conclusion regarding the genuineness of the bisect. I never questioned it, still I have so much fake material submitted to me that I no longer take things for granted. I much prefer to make my own examination and draw my own conclusions. And I might add that I do not place too much confidence in "background" evidence. If it is easy to fake a cover it is also easy to fake a background. Do you remember the Grinnell case? What a beautiful background was built up around those Hawaii Missionary stamps.

I mention the above for this reason - the Titcomb cover was regular in every way, except the presence of the bisect. In other words, a stampless cover - 10¢ collect from Boston - I thought it suspicious that the half stamp was placed where it was on the envelope. As for the cancel - well such markings are very easily counterfeited and the Boston "PAID" in grid is no exception.

Please do not get the idea that I question the cover - my sole criticism was based on the fact that Boston did not recognize the half stamp, hence sent the letter collect. May I also mention that I have to be very careful in condemning an item or in giving an opinion that an item is genuine. A mistake either way would be most unfortunate.

Finally I believe your conclusion is correct - that the elder Titcomb fixed the envelope as some sort of a prank - copying such a use as his son had employed.

I believe that a cover with a bisect that was recognized at both receiving offices and delivery offices is the most desirable. Second best is a cover where the bisect was recognized at the office of mailing but marked Due at the office of delivery.

When is a bisect not a bisect? When its use was not recognized at either office. In the case of the Titcomb cover have we any evidence that San Francisco collected 10¢? How do we know whether or not they permitted it to go thru as fully paid?

With Christmas Greetings

Cordially yours,

P.S.--I am sending copies of this letter to Edgar Jessup and Dr. Pollard.

GEORGE W. LINN
PRESIDENT
CARL P. RUETH
VICE PRES. AND
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

GEORGE W.

LINN
INCORPORATED

COMPANY

LEWIS F. TURLEY
SECRETARY-TREASURER
ADVERTISING MANAGER

PUBLISHERS OF
INN'S WEEKLY STAMP NEWS



PRODUCERS OF
LINN PHILATELIC PRODUCTS

119-121 EAST COURT STREET

Sidney, Ohio, U.S.A.

OFFICE OF
GEORGE W. LINN
EDITOR

PLEASE ADDRESS REPLY:

HOWEY-IN-THE-HILLS
FLORIDA

Dec. 25, 1956

Dear Stanley:-

I m snowed under. If you noticed my mixture advt. in Dec. 24th paper I can tell you that to this morning I have had 790 orders at \$5.10 each and I had but 100 lots to sell. Imagine my having to return remittance for perhaps 1000 orders more than I can supply. Already 690 and more coming every mail. Does advertising pay.... It does in Linn's.

I am swamped now and trying to dig out but something has come to me that I think you will like to see. I enclose a cover. It looks real enough and may be. It certainly should be a forerunner of the Buchanan stamp.

I want to picture it in our paper and run an article on it in search of a duplicate if in existence. I think you will want a photo of it, so if you do, please make one extra and charge me for it and I will not have to send the cover to Sidney. If you care to comment on it will be glad to print your remarks.

Anyhow, please return it and the two Foundation papers with it. Here is one that they had to pass up.

Merry Christmas, Happy New Year and everything, but I got to close and get to work.

Cordially,

Dec. 29, 1956.

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

Dear George:

Thanks very much for yours of the 26th with the Baltimore cover. I made a regular photo of it and I will send you a print later. I also return the P.F. certificates and I note the Committee declined to pass on it. That is good - when in doubt - refrain from guessing. George, on an item such as this I charge a fee of from \$5.00 to \$10.00 but if the cover belonged to you I would not charge you anything. When you write up the cover you could mention that the Committee declined to give an opinion which was the sensible thing to do. You may be able to turn up a duplicate but I would be very much surprised if you did.

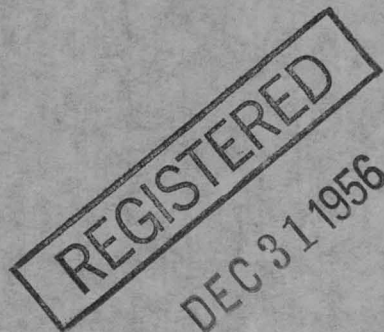
Congratulations on the success of your advertisement. Most amazing.

Strictly confidential. I enclose a copy of a letter that I received from Herst. Please compare this with the letter he wrote you and which you quoted in a recent editorial. What do you think? What would my friends think if I enrolled him as a subscriber to my Service? How could anyone imagine that a 30¢ 1869 cover that cost \$30.00 could possibly be genuine?

With all good wishes to Mrs. Linn and you for A Happy & Prosperous New Year.

Cordially yours,

P.S.--I am sending you herewith, with my compliments a color transparency that I made of the enclosed cover. I charge \$1.50 each for making such slides.



Re - the Baltimore stampless, submitted by George Linn - his letter Dec. 26, 1956.

Is this a Postmaster Provisional?

This is a dark brown envelope with nothing on back - the postmark dated "APR 9" with no evidence of the year use (see photograph).

Most noticeable is the following feature - the postmark is in a faint blue, whereas the handstamped "PAID" and encircled "5" are in a very dark blue. In my opinion, all three markings are genuine. There is no actual evidence apparent to me that this is other than a prepaid stampless cover with the postage charged to Box 258. The manuscript "Paid - 258" is surely in the same handwriting and also in the same ink as the address, hence this meant, charge the 5¢ postage to Box 258.

There is no evidence that is apparent that the "J. M. B." "PAID 5" was actually put there by Postmaster J. M. Buchanan or a clerk in his office. If this notation "J. M. B. Paid 5" is genuine, one wonders why it was put there? Surely the hand-stamped "PAID" and encircled "5" was sufficient.

A P.M. Provisional is an item that was prepared and sold by a postmaster indicating the postage had been paid in advance. Is there any evidence that this envelope is in that class? Was this envelope handstamped in a very dark blue "PAID" and "5" (encircled) and did Postmaster Buchanan sign it "J.M.B. - Paid 5" as further evidence of payment received by him? And was this unused envelope then sold to? for future use? The only bit of evidence that might indicate this is the fact that the handstamped "PAID" and "5" are in a very dark blue, whereas the postmark is in a very faint blue. This might indicate that the postmark was not applied at the same time as the "PAID" but later. However, if such was the case, why did the addressor put on the face "Paid - 258." In other words, "Paid - charge postage to Box 258."

One can take their choice of the two solutions but it is my opinion this is merely a Paid stampless and not a Postmaster Provisional.

Dec. 29, 1956

Stanley B. Ashbrook

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Dec. 29, 1956

Stanley B. Ashbrook

FROM THE DESK OF

Michael Miller

26 S. CALVERT STREET

Dec 26

Dr. Mr. Ashbrook :

I have been going over some
300 covers of 3¢ 1869 which I had been
accumulating over, and have tried to find
one from a different. One cover struck
me right in the eye. I want your
opinion if it is a changeling ~~one~~ or was
really issued in that color.

Stamped ~~envelope~~ for reply.

I don't make the town Durham, N.C. as
some who wrote cannot read. The state
is certainly not N.C. more likely Pa - or Va.

Thank you.

Sincerely

Michael

Re 3¢ 1869 (Color-Dark Blue)
Re - Baltimore Stampless

Jan. 1, 1957.

Mr. Michael Miller,
26 South Calvert Street,
Baltimore 3, Md.

Dear Mike:

Re - yours of the 26th. To all my old friends, and I surely class you as one, I am "Stan." I note you addressed me as Mr. Ashbrook. It was, as always, nice to hear from you.

I return herewith the 3¢ 1869 cover. This is an unusual shade, but it is, in my opinion, a very dark blue, no doubt the color that the S.U.S. lists as dark blue. I believe the shade is much scarcer than the catalogue indicates. The S.U.S. lists the 3¢ 1869 as "ultramarine" with a quotation of 40¢ used and the dark blue at 50¢. Surely the stamp on your cover is not an "ultramarine" nor a dark ultramarine, but it is blue and a dark shade of blue. I note the use was "May 29" - no doubt 1869 - so an early shade in all probability. I see no reason to suspect that this is any sort of color changeling - natural or chemical.

Re - the postmark, it does appear to be Durham but who can figure out the state. I have before me an 1874 official list of U. S. Post Offices but no such office was listed in North Carolina. However, Durham offices are listed in the following states: Ark., Calif., Conn., Ill., Ky., Maine, Mo., N.H., N.Y., Pa. There was a "Durham's, N.C."

The enclosed stamp was in your envelope, perhaps by error.

Recently I had a Baltimore, Md. stampless cover submitted to me for my examination and opinion. The questions asked were -

- 1) Is this cover genuine?
- 2) Is it a Buchanan Postmaster Provisional?
- 3) Was the initials put there by Buchanan?
- 4) Is the handstamp encircled "5" genuine?

That you may have a good reproduction of this item I am enclosing a color slide that I made. It is an excellent color reproduction. Hold this slide to ~~the~~ strong light and view it with a good magnifying glass.

Incidentally, the owner submitted it to the P.F. Expert Committee and they refused to give an opinion. Kindly return the slide - no hurry. What do you think of the cover.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

POOR, BOWEN, BARTLETT & KENNEDY
INCORPORATED
INSURANCE
26 SOUTH CALVERT ST.
BALTIMORE-3
MARYLAND

ASSOCIATE:
MICHAEL MILLER, C. L. U.
ESTATE ANALYST
INSURANCE COUNSEL

January 7, 1957

Mr. Stanley Ashbrook
4 Thomas Avenue
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Stan:

I was delighted to hear from you and thank you very much for your cooperation in connection with the 3-cent 1869.

I received your negative and took the trouble of having a print made so that I could study it more. The town post mark and the rating mark seems to be O. K. ^{*} Now the trouble is, why should there be a manuscript notation! The intent of the provisional stamps is to provide for prepayment and if the sender brings it to the post office it is sufficient for the Post Master to ^{apply} ~~fix~~ the rating stamp, ~~and~~ the town Post Mark and stamp it paid. In this case, why is it necessary for James Buchanan to put his manuscript initial! I cannot see any reason for it.

miss
Paid was
subscribed
by sender
also.
who perhaps
had a
box
no
and put
acc't
could be
charged

Enclosed you will please find a few of my covers for your inspection and I think some of manuscript notations are mostly in the handwriting of the sender. Enclosed please find "franked" envelope for there return.

With kind regards, I am.

Sincerely yours

Mike
Michael Miller

Encl.

Jan. 13, 1957.

Mr. Michael Miller,
26 South Calvert St.,
Baltimore 3, Md.

Dear Mike:

Thanks very much for yours of the 7th.

Herewith I am returning your five stampless covers and I am also sending you for your future reference, a photo print of the cover that was submitted to me. Accept this with my compliments.

I am in agreement with your comment on this cover. It is my opinion, that the cover was nothing more than a prepaid stampless.

With all good wishes -

Cordially yours,

EMMERSON C. KRUG


3008 13TH AVENUE SOUTH
BIRMINGHAM 5, ALABAMA

December 20, 1956.
Thursday A.M.


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

Dear Stan,

Cole has just sent me these three lots which came from the Siegel sale of the 18th. Lots 47 @ \$140.00 being the 5¢ 1847 Brunswick, Me. cover. The Black Jack was \$7.75 and the 30¢ 5¢ 1861 was \$9.00.

 - Re BRUNSWICK Mc Criss Cross In Red

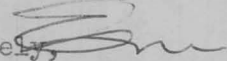
My purpose in sending them is this.. He writes that the 10¢ 1847 cover-and I quote-"You will note there is a figure 10 under the postage stamp in lot 47 but I think this was just struck on the envelope before the stamp was stuck on it by the postmaster. The cover is good as gold." Unquote.

 CRISS CROSS In BLACK

I send with it a similar cover bought from you August 5, 1955 for \$250.00 and signed by you from the Stark collection. I do this to help you decide about this cover for it is the same handwriting, note the "New York City". I want this new one signed also if you say it is good and before I pay off. I had this one out here to see but still dont see the "10" he is talking about. My check for that signing is attached.

Since it costs nothing to enclose the other two I am doing so. Nothing to sign there but the B.J. one looks like another Stark cover for the "Prattville, Ala" on back looks like his mediocre printing. Maybe another one of Howard's entries you sold him?? Ez thinks the 5¢ brown on the other may be the red brown. Do you?

Yes

Sincerely, 

Enclosed Lot 1414 Stark collection \$250.00
Lot 47 Siegel sale 12/18/56

Lot 331	"	"	"	\$147.00
Lot 339	"	"	"	8.00
				9.50
				<u>\$414.50</u>

Dec. 27, 1956.

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

Dear Em:

Herewith the seven Stark covers which I signed on the back.
Thanks very much for your check for \$118.00 for those you kept and the
return of the balance.

I sent the 34¢ rate cover down to P.R. but he returned it.
I enclose his note which you can destroy. I will hold this cover and
try several others.

I am also returning the other covers sent me last week.

Please note

5¢ 1862 red brown - I made a note on back -NO FEE

10¢ 1847 - Brunswick, Me - red p.m. - Cole was correct - this was first
rated at 10 collect - (unpaid) - then the charge box 89 was noted and the 10¢
stamp was put over the rate marking and the 10¢ charged to Box 89 - This is a
wonderful cover showing the criss-cross grid and its early use - also early
use of a 10¢ 1847. Rub out my pencil notes on face, if you wish.

10¢ 1847 - Brunswick, Me. cover In black - Ex-Stark - #1414 - I changed my memo
on back - This grid is not a double strike as I supposed but a regular criss-
cross killer and in my opinion very rare.

Prattville cover. I do not recognize this as a Stark cover - no number,
etc. However, it may be Ex-Stark.

Again re - the Brunswick covers. These make a wonderful pair, and very
valuable. Do me a favor. When you have time look thru auction cats and see if
you can find any Brunswick, Me 1847 covers.

Again re - the Prattville cover - Note the Aachen is in blue. Up to
a certain time in the early 1860's this marking on P.C. Mail was always applied
in red. After a certain date - always in blue - Look up my remarks in a Service
Issue about a fake Waterhouse cover about a year and a half ago.

I sure was delighted to see this pair of Brunswick Me covers.

Regards.

Yours etc.,

Dec. 29, 1956.

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

Dear Em:

Re - the Brunswick, Maine grid - Perry in
Pats - No. 3 - page 37 - Aug-Sep. 1931 described a
cover - 5¢ '47 - as "invisible postmark" fine stamp
tied with uncommon form of red grid, the characteris-
tic Brunswick grid." (unquote)

I have searched a lot of records but so far
the above is the only reference I have found to this
"criss-cross grid." Chase did not mention it in his
1916 article and after going thru a number of auction
catalogues I failed to find such a cover or an off-
cover item, so it is up to you to locate such an item
or items for me. Good luck.

Yours etc.,

Dec. 31, 1956.

Mr. Robert A. Siegel,
489 Fifth Ave.,
New York 17, N.Y.

Dear Bob:

If you are busy don't take the trouble to answer this.

Re - Lot 47 in your sale of Dec. 18th, the grid on this cover is what I call the "criss-cross" of Brunswick, Maine, and as far as I am aware it is exceedingly rare. In the Stark collection there was a cover with this grid struck in black and the use was very early, viz., September 1847. I note you stated that the stamp on Lot 47 was tied by "unusual red grid," and so it was. Do you not think that this was considered as a double strike of a ringless grid? I suppose if this cover had been in a Caspary sale it would have sold at a thousand or more.

With best wishes for the New Year -

Cordially yours,

Copy to Krueg
" " C.C. Hart

Dec. 31, 1956.

Mr. Hugh J. Baker,
3907 Washington Blvd.,
Indianapolis, Ind.

Dear Hugh:

Re - the eighteen forty-sevens and a rare cancel used on
the stamps from

BRUNSWICK, ME.

This office used what I call a criss-cross grid - ringless - I believe
that this "killer" has at times been classed as a double strike of a
grid - In the few examples I have seen in red, the impression was
lightly struck in a rather pale red. It is also known in black and used
as early as September 1847. By any chance, do you own such a cover, or,
in fact, a Brunswick, Me. cover with an 1847 stamp?

I feel quite sure that the criss-cross grid used at Brunswick
is very rare. I intend to give it space in an early Service Issue.

With best wishes for 1957 -

Cordially yours,

Dec. 31, 1956.

Mr. M. Hubert Judd,

Dalton, Ga.

Dear Judge:

Re - the eighteen-forty-sevens and a rare cancel
used on the stamps from

BRUNSWICK, ME.

This office used what I call a criss-cross grid - ringless -

I believe that this "killer" has at times been classed as a
double strike of a grid - In the few examples I have seen in
red the impression was lightly struck in a rather pale red.

It is also known in black and used as early as September 1847.

By any chance do you own such a cover, or in fact, a Brunswick,
Me. cover with an 1847 stamp?

I feel sure that the criss-cross grid used at
Brunswick is very rare. I intend to give it space in an early
Service Issue.

With best wishes for 1957 -

Cordially yours,

Dec. 31, 1956.

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

Dear Phil:

Re - the eighteen forty-sevens and a rare cancel
used on the stamps from

BRUNSWICK, ME.

This office used what I call a criss-cross grid - ringless -
I believe that this "killer" has at times been classed as a
double strike of a grid. In the few examples I have seen in
red, the impression was lightly struck in a rather pale red.
It is also known in black and used as early as September 1847.
By any chance do you own such a cover, or, in fact, a
Brunswick, Me. cover with an 1847 stamp?

I feel sure that the criss-cross grid used at
Brunswick is very rare. I intend to give it space in an early
Service Issue.

With best wishes for 1957 -

Cordially yours,

Dec. 31, 1956.

Mr. Theodore Gore,
400 Brown Bldg.,
Wichita, Kans.

Dear Mr. Gore:

Re - the eighteen forty-sevens and a rare cancel
used on the stamps from

BRUNSWICK, ME.

This office used what I call a criss-cross grid - ringless -
I believe that this "killer" has at times been classed as a
double strike of a grid. In the few examples I have seen in
red, the impression was lightly struck in a rather pale red.
It is also known in black and used as early as September 1847.
By any chance do you own such a cover, or, in fact, a
Brunswick, Me. cover with an 1847 stamp?

I feel sure that the criss-cross grid used at
Brunswick is very rare. I intend to give it space in an early
Service Issue.

With best wishes for 1957 -

Cordially yours,

Re
Brunswick Me
Killer

Jan. 1, 1957

Mr. John D. Pope, III,
818 Olive Street,
St. Louis 1, Mo.

Dear John:

Re - the eighteen forty-sevens and a rare cancel
used on the stamps from

BRUNSWICK, ME.

This office used what I call a criss-cross grid - ringless -
I believe that this "killer" has at times been classed as a
double strike of a grid. In the few examples I have seen in
red the impression was lightly struck in a rather pale red.
It is also known in black and used as early as September 1847.
By any chance to you own such a cover, or, in fact, a
Brunswick, Me. cover with an 1847 stamp?

I feel quite sure that the criss-cross grid used at
Brunswick is very rare. I intend to give it space in an
early Service Issue.

With best wishes for 1957 -

Cordially yours,

Jan. 12, 1957.

Mr. John D. Pope, III,
818 Olive St.,
St. Louis 1, Mo.

Dear John:

I am today forwarding to you Volume One of my Special Service - Issues 1951-1952, this by insured parcel post.

Thanks very much for yours of the 6th, re - the Brunswick, Me. grid. I was reasonably certain that this cancel was actually a ringless criss-cross grid and I believe that it has been considered as such by some students for many years past, however, after studying three different covers I am now convinced that all are double strikes of a ringless grid. Two are rather faint, hence a bit hard to study. I intend to write this up later in a Service Issue.

Re - your mention of the grid on a Boston & Albany R.R. cover, I am enclosing a photo print of a cover in the Krug collection - You will note that this is in red and very faint. I believe this is also a double strike and incidentally it is quite similar to the Brunswick, Me. I note that you are of the opinion this is a single strike. Would it be too much trouble to send me the two covers you mentioned and also the single so that I can make color slides of each? I would also like to illustrate them in a Service Issue.

Mildred joins me in kindest regards.

Cordially yours,

Alex S. Juliard

"Green Acres"

Narberth, Pa.

12.25.1956

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

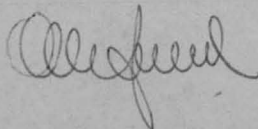
Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Thank you for your letter of December 11, and
your kind offer to check my stamp.-
As the dot is quite heavy for a bottom row
stamp I enclose the item herewith, and thank
you for your examination.

Do you have some items that could be sold in
my mail sales? I am looking right now for some
US #1 and 2 for a customer, could you submit me
some copies of these ?

With my best wishes for 1957,

Sincerely,



encl.

Dec. 31, 1956.

Mr. Alex. S. Juliard,
Narberth, Pa.

Dear Mr. Juliard:

Herewith the 5¢ 1847 as per yours of the 25th.

I made an error in my last letter in stating that the Dot in the ninth vertical row of the left pane of the plate was more pronounced from top to bottom. The fact is, it was just the reverse, i.e., from bottom to top, proving that the order of transfer in this row was from bottom to top.

Your stamp appears to be 99L1 but I did not make a careful examination of it, as a positive examination would require time and I would have to charge you a fee of \$5.00. However, the guide dot at left appears to match the dot on 99L1. Because the color of the cancellation is somewhat similar to that of the color of the stamp, I would have to make a microscope examination to be sure that some faker did not put that dot in the "S". I am sure you understand. You can rest assured that the crooks have not overlooked such a trick.

Sincerely yours,

EZRA D. COLE

Rare Postage Stamps

NYACK . NEW YORK

Commissions . Appraisals

TELEPHONE NYACK 7-0966

December 19th, 1956

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

Dear Stan:

I did not see that story in Linn's.

I am behind in my reading. However I will
dig it up and read it.

Sincerely,

EDC:mk1

Ezra D. Cole.

P.S. Enclosing a stampless cover. Please accept it
with my compliments. Rather interesting this.

Cast your eagle eye over the enclosed two covers
and tell me what they are.

Merry Christmas



Happy New Year

8817
107.9-37

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 EZRA D. COLE

NYACK,

N. Y.

THIS RECEIPT DOES NOT PROVIDE FOR INDEMNIFICATION

Dec. 29, 1956.

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

Dear Ez:

Herewith your two 3¢ 1861 covers.
Today for the first time in a week the sky cleared
and I was able to carefully examine these two
stamps. Definitely they are not PINK, but merely
the early rose of 1861 - what Lyman Seely used to
call - "an Early Byrd." Always bear this in mind, about
a PINK - "when in doubt - it aint."

A HAPPY NEW YEAR to you all.

Cordially yours

A.P.S.
S.P.A.
C.C.N.H.



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

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

December 21, 1956

Re-3461 PINK
Re Herst
Re-Lehman

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

Dear Stan,

My thanks for your December 17th letter returning my #64 cover. I was rather sure that you had apparently mixed it up with the other cover as it is in my opinion an excellent example of the true pink, such a nice example in fact that I had some hope it might be the "Pigeon Blood". Enclosed is my check for \$4.00 to cover your fee for signing the reverse, etc. I am also returning the color slides which you sent on the Harmer cover. Since both were used from "Portland, Maine" I can understand how you confused them.

Re - Herst and the 30¢ 1869 cover, I was quite interested in your comments that the cover was in the hands of the Philatelic Foundation shortly before his auction in Florida. He has never mentioned to me one way or the other whether the cover was at any time prior to the sale back in the hands of the P.F., though from the comments he has made I would not have suspected that such was the case. The next time I write him, I shall ask him if the cover was ever returned to the P.F. without making any reference to your comments which I shall, of course, keep completely confidential. I note that you still feel Herst is concocting a cock and bull story with respect to the cover. Though this may be so, I still believe his comments myself as I have never in the past once found him to state something that was not the truth. If I am gullible, my further correspondence with him should bring that out. I am looking forward with interest to the reply you may get from Jamet on the cover. There is always a great deal of material of this nature floating around Paris and you may recall some months back when I sent you a beautiful 24¢ 1869 on cover that I also enclosed with it two bogus 30¢ 1869 on cover. These all came from Paris and it is quite possible that the two 30¢ 1869's after being returned by me to my source who had picked them up in Paris, were later resold to someone else who again returned them for sale in this country, etc.

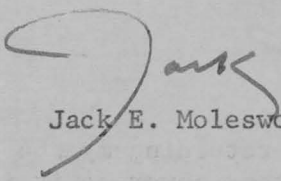
I was most interested in your comments with respect to Lehman. There is no question about what he has money and is a constant ^{auction} buyer, frequently at very high prices, of extremely choice U. S. stamps and covers. However, I have always found him quite disgusting as an individual and one who would cut any corners he could without necessarily violating the law, etc. I know he would have no qualms about moving some questionable item to an unsuspecting buyer if he thought he could get away with it without being detected. I know of no specific instances to back up that feeling but have in general always considered him one, from rather extensive personal contact with him over the past few years, that I could not trust any further than I could throw him. There have been several times when I could have like to have attempted to throw him, but have resisted that temptation.

I personally cannot agree with the critic who disapproved of your writing up the Caspary Pigeon Blood cover as I see nothing whatsoever wrong with that. Also, I would

(over)

have considerable doubts that the European buyer, quite possibly it was Burras^{u?}, had any knowledge of your comments before the auction. There were a number of other covers in that sale that, relatively speaking, went even higher than this one, as this was quite possibly a \$500 cover and merely went for about double what it was really worth. However, there were in the sale a number of other nice appearing but not particularly scarce U. S. covers worth anywhere from \$25 to \$50 that went for \$200 to \$300 each, an utterly ridiculous level. I doubt Buck and Bernard were operating the old Army game, as I know Buck was most reluctant to execute his bid on that item and was most disturbed at the price he had to pay for it. I believe both would have been much happier to have seen it realize only about \$500 as the additional commission was insignificant and quite insufficient to compensate Buck for the embarrassing situation in which he found himself.

With best regards,


Jack E. Molesworth

JEM:mr

enclosure

ESTABLISHED 1928

Reserve Plan Inc

TRADE MARK REG.

SUITE 1020 COMMERCE BLDG. 922 WALNUT ST.

KANSAS CITY 6, MISSOURI

December 26, 1956

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

I have your letter of December 18 and since I wrote you, Dr. West has returned the copy of your Service No. 56 which I sent him. ~~He~~ wrote ~~him~~ and I enclose his letter. From what he says the year logo was in use in Augusta on March 23 1861 and I expect that is the last year that Augusta had a year logo.

I wrote Raynor Hubbell asking him if he had any Augusta covers used in 1861-62-63 and he sent me one cover apparently used in January 1862 without the year logo. Obviously I am trying to obtain some collateral material to show that my Augusta cover was used in 1862 or later, rather than 1861.

When I wrote Dr. West I had no reason to suspect that he was a very close friend of J. H. Scruggs, Jr.. To me he was a friend of Mr. Hubbell's and being an M.D., I thought he must be a man of standing. I really should have told you what I intended to do with the extra copies of the Special Service and in the future I will tell you whom I intend to send them to before I send them out.

I enclose two covers which I would like for you to opinionize at your leisure. One is from Wheeling, Virginia and does not have the famous Wheeling grid. For some time I have wanted a cover from Wheeling without the grid to go with my 10¢ cover with the grid. I do not know whether or not Wheeling covers without the grid are common, but it is an interesting item to go with my 10¢ with the Wheeling grid.

Mr. Stanley Ashbrook

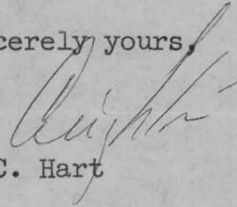
-2-

December 26, 1956

Unfortunately the envelope is damaged in the upper right hand corner and I am considering having it restored. Do you think this would be a good idea?

Best wishes for 1957, I remain,

Sincerely yours,


C. C. Hart

CCH:mc
enc.

12 Augusta
3457 Covers

Dec. 27, 1956.

Enclosed

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

Dear Mr. Hart:

Yours of the 20th received with enclosures as stated. I have carefully noted the letter from Dr. West and I am returning it herewith. I am also enclosing twelve covers numbered 1 to 12 with 3¢ 1857 Type II stamps. These are all from the same correspondence and were mailed from Augusta, Ga. in the spring of 1861 - many in May of that year. You will note that none have a year logo. Bear in mind that the Confederate P.O.D. took over on June 1st, 1861 so that all of these covers were mailed prior to that date. These are what I call "Use of U. S. stamps in the Confederacy in 1861." If you wish to retain any of these the price is \$2.50 each. These show that the Augusta Post Office did use a stamper without a year logo in 1861. The office may have had more than one stamper and in another they did use an 1861 year logo.

Incidentally, Dr. West is an intimate friend of Raynor Hubbell and both are friends of the drunken renegade counterfeiter, J. Hubert Scruggs, Jr. of Birmingham, Ala. It was because of Scruggs that I received from this same Dr. West one of the most scurrilous letters I have ever received. No gentleman or a person with any breeding could have written such a letter. You can, therefore, imagine my opinion of this man West.

Herewith I am returning the Confederate cover with the 5¢ 1861 green litho postmarked Augusta, Ga. Thanks.

I am also returning the Wheeling, Va. cover with the 5¢ 1847 pair - You will note that I authenticated this on the back and fixed up the upper right corner of the envelope. My fee for the authentication is \$3.00 (in this case).

I am also returning the 10¢ 1857 - Type II cover from Doaksville, C.N. to Candace West. This is indeed quite a nice item.

We trust that you and your family had a most wonderful Christmas and that 1857 will bring health and abundant prosperity.

Happy New Year

Cordially yours,

C. M. WEST, M.D.
Edward M. West, M.D.
Candler Building
Atlanta 3, Georgia

23 December 1956

Mr. C. C. Hart
Suite 1020 Commerce Building
922 Walnut Street
Kansas City 6
Missouri

Dear Mr. Hart:

Thank you for your most interesting letter and please pardon my delay in answering, but it seems that the week-ends are my only opportunity for working on the stamp situation. Mr. Hubbell sent me your foundation certificate with the picture of your most interesting cover and I actually took it back to Griffin with my opinion so far as the Augusta cancellation is concerned, but he was so upset about his wife's sickness that I suppose that he did not give you this.

I have a number of Augusta covers with the double circle cancellation and only in one of them does the date show (year date) This is March 23, 1861 with a U. S. #26 on cover. Incidentally there were several other George Towns using the double circle canceller---I have Talbotton, Ga. and Marietta, Ga., showing it. I will attempt to describe the other covers that I have in hopes that it will be of some help.

U.S. #26 on cover double circle cancellation May 23 The date does not show---proved by letter enclosed.

Handstamped paid: Paid 5 dated July 9 (no year)
Paid 5 dated June 25 (no year)
Paid 5 dated Oct. 12 (no year)
Paid 5 dated Sept. 2 (no year)
Paid 10 dated July 28 (no year) used over 3¢ star
die which was apparently ignored.
Paid 2 dated Dec. 12 (no year)

Express covers:

Paid 10 dated July 27 (no year) Also with adams
Express company round cancellation

Also used on 5¢ green: 2 covers with indefinite months---day of month clear, but no year date

5¢ blue Jan. 24 (no year)
5¢ blue London print, single rate June 6 no year.

Now, there was another type of Augusta canceller used which was a so-called Balloon type----I have 6-8 of these and in no case is the year date shown. In other words, I have only one cover which actually shows the year date. Also, in every case I have cited above with the double circle cancellation the logos are arranged so

that there is no room for the insertion of the year.

Further, I would like to say that in none of the other double circle Confederate Georgia towns---Marietta, Eatonton, Macon is there a year date noted. In my Talbotton Provisional there is a double circle cancellation used which is Dec. 15, 1864! However, I cannot tell why they might have the "4" that late, but I do know why they were using the provisional that late---for the simple reason that Wilson's calvary of Sherman's army went through Talbotton and destroyed the post-office and that was all that the postmaster had to use.

One more point. I would take some exception to the statement that envelopes were not scarce even in 1861. The Dalton provisionals, so far as I can tell, are all or nearly all on homemade envelopes and they were made in 1861.

I appreciate your letting me know about this most interesting cover as it certainly does bring up some interesting points. I would favor an 1862 date, though, as Georgia did not secede until about the 18 of Jan. 1861.

I am sure that this is a controversy that could go on and on, but I hope that I have been able to give you a little ammunition.

Sincerely,

(signed)
Edward M. West, M.D.

EMMERSON C. KRUG

3008 13TH AVENUE SOUTH
BIRMINGHAM 5, ALABAMA

December 27, 1956.
Thursday.

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

Dear Stan,

First, before answering your letter of the 24th. further,
I may have found an earlier dated than what the catalog shows on SUS#38.
The date shown there is August 10, 1860.

I enclose three covers of mine of this stamp. Note that No. 2 is dated inside as July 24th. This cover as well as the others puzzle me. In the case of No. 2 the backstamp of the New York Br Pkt is dated Aug. 21 altho the letter is dated as above July 24th. In the case of the No. 1 the letter is dated Nov 23 while the backstamp of the New York Br Pkt is dated Dec. 22nd.

Here we have:	Letter inside	Backstamp	London	Buenos Ayres
No.1	Nov. 23-1860	Dec. 22, 1860	Jan. 1861	Feb. 26, 1861
No.2	July 24-1860	Aug. 21, 1860	Sep. 3, 1860.	Oct.- 1860.
No. 3	Not shown	Nov. 24, 1860	Dec. 6, 1860.	Jan 26, 1861

Haven't I given you enough evidence above to show that No. 2 is a use of July 24, 1860 for the 30¢ 1860 stamp?

I am pleased to see the slide of the 3¢ 1861 scarlet. It looks even more colorful than the stamp itself. I really think this stamp had some doctoring or color changing somehow or other. A stamp as brilliant as this would have been spotted long ago had there been others.

About the letter from Ezra and the pigeon blood cover. This is in line with what he told me over the phone that some crazy person had outbid him and that he had a crazy bid himself.

Re Castroville Cover

In re Lot 1779 2nd Knapp sale, I sat with Ezra at that sale. I knew he bought it at the time for Moody. You however had warned both of us to lay off all the 24¢ & 30¢ 1869 covers in that sale. He has always contended that that cover was good. Do you recall my 10¢ 1869 cover from Castroville which was lot 1715 in the same sale and dated 1872. It is illustrated in the catalog. I passed up all the lots of Knapp of those two issues. In fact Teddy Bear told me to do so.

Lot 377 Caspary Sale

In regard to lot # 377 Caspary sale No. 6, I can't of course explain the rate but it looks to me like a duplicate rate of the cover from San Francisco to Paris which I just have bought from Bob Siegel and which had the very unusual cancel of Frisco on it. You must recall it for you wrote Jessup et al about the cancel before you approved it last month. Isn't it the same rated cover as lot 377 above? I imagine you have a photo.

I hope you had a nice Xmas at Lexington. We had all our family here together and a fine time was had by all of them.

Sincerely,



Enclosed

Cover lot 9 Mercury	5/26/55	69.30
" "	from EDCole 7/8/55	75.00
" "	36 Harmer Rooke 7/11/56	36.00

180.30

Re
Supposed
Early
Date
30¢
1860

3¢ 1861
Scarlet

EMMERSON C. KRUG

3008 13TH AVENUE SOUTH
BIRMINGHAM 5, ALABAMA

December 27, 1956.
Thursday A.M.

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

Dear Stan,

Yours of the 24th just came today. I hasten to reply in part. That is in regards to Hawaiian cover I am returning it herewith. I doubt if I will ever hear from Fox.

As you suggested I have read the Harris book about this period, the twelfth. I note that he says the covers with the 6¢ Hawaiian and the U.S. forwarding are rather rare. I am sending you some covers from my collection that may help you in your write-up in the Service next month, I mean the next month you intend to do so.

One you have seen before, the registered one with the 12¢ Hawaii and the pair of 5¢ Tylers. This cover and the other two are from a sale by Kelleher of the Robert F. Chambers collection held 12/4/54. The above cover was lot 182 @ \$107.50. Lot 181, the 6¢ Hawaii plus the single 5¢ Tyler to Hanover Germany was sold at \$67.50. Then lot 183 @ \$78.00 is the 18¢ Hawaii plus the pair of Tylers to Philadelphia. (Note on the back in pencil that this is the only known copy of the 18¢ used on cover to U.S.) I wonder! I also include a cover with a strip of three 12¢ Hawaii I obtained from a Fox sale for \$16.50.

I am rushing these to you and will answer your letter later in the day. I want them to get to your office so if they are useful you can have them.

Sincerely,



Enclosed:

Cover lot 181	DFK 12/4/54	70.88
" "	183 "	81.90
" "	182 "	123.13
" "	714 JF 5/10/55	17.33
" "	No lot JF12/11/56	55.00
		<hr/> 348.24 ✓

Dec. 28, 1956.

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

Dear Em:

Re - the three 30¢ 1860 covers which I return herewith.
Consider No. 2, dated July 24, 1860. This was not the original of that date but a duplicate sent a month later. Due to the many shipwrecks of those days - duplicates of important letters were forwarded later to be sure that the addressee received the advice contained in the original. Note the heading of this No. 2 letter,

Cover No. 3 may have been an original rather than a duplicate.

Cover No. 1 was a duplicate of an original forwarded on Nov. 23, 1860.

The reason the duplicates were sent about a month later was no doubt due to monthly sailings from England to B.A.

Happy New Year.

Yours etc.,

P.S.--Em I will answer yours of the 27th which accompanied the above covers later.

Dec. 28, 1956.

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

Dear Em:

Thanks for sending the Hawaii cover and also the others, all of which I am returning herewith after making copies in color.

I want to get these right back to you, hence I have not encased them as you sent them - my apology.

I will write later.

Happy New Year

Yours etc.,

Karl Jaeger
Re Cover From
Peru

Jan. 2, 1957.

See
8x10
A867

Also
Color
EK 93
1 - To

4

Inc

Mr. Karl Jaeger,
2106 Ellington Road,
Columbus 12, Ohio.

Dear Karl:

I apologize for this tardy acknowledgement of yours of the 20th. I have still not fully recovered from my recent illness and I took it a bit easy during the holidays.

I am returning the cover which you enclosed and also the photostats. First, let me state that I think the Robson Lowe price is ridiculous. No stamp on this cover has any particular value and the only thing about the cover is the combination of stamps from three countries. However, covers from Peru to the U. S. in the seventies are not in the rarity class.

Re - this cover - The U. S. rate to Peru in 1872 was 22¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce - This rate was to the frontier and did not include Peru internal. W. S. share 10¢ (to Panama) - 12¢ British (6 pence). I am not sure but I suspect the Callao postmark on the back was British rather than Peruvian - thus this letter did not go thru the Peruvian Post Office, but was all British handled. It appears that the writer had a supply of U. S. stamps and applied the 10¢ though it could have been put on at the U. S. postal agency at Panama. I suppose this was first rated as entirely unpaid with 22¢ due at S.F. and a British debit of their share "12" - or 6 pence, which was crossed out when they discovered the full 22¢ had been paid.

I do not recall that I have any slides of such a combination as I did not make slides of all items that passed thru my hands until within recent years. I may have some black and white photos.

Re - the photostats - the "10" on two of these indicate the U. S. rate was not prepaid, hence 10¢ due at S.F. One one the 3¢ did not pay anything - it was the full rate - no partial payments.

I regret that I apparently have no record of the marking on the Peru green stamp, but this stamp was surely used on this cover.

And lastly may I thank you very kindly for your check for \$20.00 for the two covers enclosed in mine of the 14th.

I will send you a color slide of the enclosed cover later. One more word - Note the S.F. Carrier p.m. on back and the S.F. address across the 10¢ stamp put by the Carrier - "36 Market St."

With New Year Greetings

Cordially yours,

Dear Stan

I am enclosing a cover for your inspection and pictures of two similar items from the same correspondence. I would like a color slide of the cover and any information that you could give me about it. I assume the 10¢ Barkrot was applied in the U.S.? What about the "12" "32" "3"? Do you recognize the oval "Pacific (Mail Steamship) Company" cancel? What are the exact words; do you have a photo of such a cancel? Was it U.S., British, or private post? The cover is priced at \$180⁰⁰, do you think it's worth that much? I would like to buy slides of any covers from Peru such as the one. Do you have a slide of the strip of 3 10¢ '47s used from Peru? (or was it Panama?) I will be happy to pay for any research you care to do on the cover or for any information that you can give me on these multiple franking covers.

Thanks

Karl

Brussels, 13 Aug. 56

Dear Stanley, :- Maybe the enclosed cover will interest you. See the writers remarks, checked with red pencil. Need not return.
GWL

Dear Mr. Linn,

I allow me to introduce my-self to you. I am a student of 19th century U.S. fancy cancellations till over the last 20 years. I have exposed parts of my collections at the Norwex and the Stockholmia and other exhibitions and have earned silver-guilt medals.

I have read with great interest your book about PAID-markings on the 3c and I come to gratulate you for the wonderful work you have wrote.

As I said before, my collection is specialized in cancellations, but not specialized enough in p.i. PAID'S to compete with american specialists. The cause of it is the lack of material in Europe.

Nevertheless, I have some PAID-cancels. They are not all on the 65 but they range on the same issue, i.e. between 63 and 101. (I apologize for my small knowledge of English.)

As I bought my stamps from oversea sources, I have other material in hand, then you.

- 1° - Please find append a rough drawing of a PAID 12 cancel from which I have a cover tiing a 65 from Norwich, N.Y. and addressed to Darlington, Wis., La Fayette Co. The Towncancel is datet from the 21/10/61. Shurly a postal error, but very nice piece. The cancel is black.
- 2° - I have on a 63 a Roman PAID cancel in red like your type X. The mine is on a stamp off cover mesuring from the P to the I : 17mm x 9mm high. From the "D" they are only the serifs on.
- 3° - On the 65 I have another red cancel, your Ionic type I, but the mine is smaller about from the A to the D 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ mm with 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ mm high. I am absolutely shure that this will be not not a PAID ALL cancel, as the space to the right of the stamp is to big.
- 4° - On the same 65 I have PAID in Oval. But this Oval is very particulary. Indeed its measures 19mm in length and the high varies between 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ mm in the middle at 6mm at the ends. The PAID measures 13x4mm. Black and off cover.

- 5°- Further on, always on 66, like your type VI circle, with two bars below and above, my cancellation is blue.
- 6°- Your Fancy Paid type II, I have a similar on the 65 but the Paid is between two parallel lines having no side-lines the sides are open. The serifs touch the lines below and above.
- 7°- Your Town-State-Date-Types, I have on cover a 65 from Northampton, Mass. The cancel is red and arranged as following: Above Northampton then PAID 3 in a straight line and below Jan. 30. in two lines. Like the cancel illustrated by Chase in his 3c book on p. 332 fig. 190, but with the difference that the Paid 3 in this illustration is on the bottom of the circle and myn shows the Paid 3 above the date and is red.

Further I have some paid's in Roman and Gothic letters all in red but on 65's off cover, so I am not shure that there are not PAID ALL's. I think that red Paid All's are easier to find then red Paid's.

I have to some circular New-York PAID'S with triple slugs instead of a date in the center.

I told you all this, thinking that it may be of interest to you to hear some comments of abroad.

May I ask you a question off all other kind. As you has so a nice Paid collection, I think that you will know much more than I regarding cancellations in general.

I found recently a cover from which I enclose a photo-copy. I know that it was verbiidden to cut out the die of an envelope but some times the postclerks tolerated it. As per the cancels, they are black. The numerals on the top left are in red pencil, the 18 in red pencil to, the 20 and the 22 in black ink and the crossings above the 20 & 22 as well the big 22 are in blue ink. I want to know, wy the New-York Exchange Office wrote on first a 20 and then a 22.

This letter was intended to be send by Prussian Closed Mail paying 30c rate and then changed by Bremen Mail paying 22c Rate. The Exchange Offices has only to mark the credit and/or debit portions against the foreign country. If the postclerk tolerated (no mention is made from the contrary) the 6c, then the debit portions would be 16c and if a double rated letter 38c, but never 20 or 22. If the postclerk charged by error the rate by Prussian closed Mail, i.e. 30c, then the debit would be 24c or 54c. Can you give me an explication. If you can't it do please show this piece to a specialist in order to get an information about the different markings on this cover.

Thanking you in anticipation,

Yours sincerely

X. J. W. J.

P.S. Just I see that below the Bremen mail is an outcrossed 60. So this cover was doubled. There lacked first 4c US inland Port and further 20c Seapostage, it is a total of 24 but not as mentioned.



13
By Bremer mail

AMERICA
ÜBER BREMEN



Gen. Dir. Post

E. Nobel

Noesen a. S.

St. Petersburg

Russia



Geo W Linn

Re- 34 1853 Envelope plus
Cut 34 Env To PRUSSIA

Jan. 1, 1957.

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

Dear George:

Last month when you sent me the letter from Robert de Wasserman of Brussels together with the photostat copy of a cover, I was feeling so miserable I laid it aside until such a time as I could examine the photostat. I also noted your mention that I need not return letter or photostat. However if perchance you wish me to do so, please advise. Perhaps you will recall that the cover was a 3¢ U. S. envelope - issue of 1853, addressed to Prussia - It had the 3¢ stamp of a similar envelope cut out and pasted to the left.

As the writer stated, the letter was originally routed "Via Prussian Closed Mail," the rate for same being 30¢ per single ($\frac{1}{2}$ oz.). It was changed to go by the Bremen Mail.

I think the most important feature of this cover was that it was sent as an unpaid letter - The postal treaty with Bremen and the treaty with Prussia did not permit any partial payments - It was all or none - Therefore, the stamps on this cover served no purpose - tobacco tags would have answered the same purpose. In other words, just a stampless unpaid letter. I judge that the crossed out "12" was the U. S. debit to Bremen of 12¢ U.S. for the U.S. share of the rate (collected at destination).

With New Year Greetings -

Cordially yours,

Lot 49
Caspary

NOV 1956

Sale

Dec. 11, 1956.

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

Dear Maurice:

At this late date I wish to thank you for yours of the 16th and 21st with comment on the 24¢ 1861 cover, Lot 317 in the Daniels Sale of Nov. 2. I agree that I believe we are safe in assuming that the stamp was not used on the cover. I note that Dan had a bid of \$85.00 on the cover. This seems odd, or rather should I state rather crazy. Why should a person throw money around in such a fashion? What sort of an age is this? That 12¢ '51 bisect cover bringing \$475.00 and a 90¢ 1861 cover in the Caspary sale selling at \$2,700.00.

I enjoyed yours of the 7th and know you must have had a most enjoyable trip to England. Yes, I read about your visit and Dr. Bacher was kind enough to give me some interesting details.

I am pleased to report that I have about recovered but am still a bit weak. The mistake that I made was that I delayed calling the doctor because I thought I had just a head cold and would lick it in a few days.

By the way, in the last Caspary sale I thought Lot 49 was a most interesting Boston cover. What did the Due actually mean? Did it mean that the 1¢ Star Die was not recognized or that a carrier fee (to Boston P.O.) had not been paid? Or third was the "1" (due) crossed out and "2" substituted, meaning both were due? How can we ever know the answer?

I have a color slide I will be glad to send you if interested (EK85 - 50).

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

MAURICE C. BLAKE
11 MASON STREET
BROOKLINE 46, MASSACHUSETTS

December 19, 1956

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

Dear Stanley:

I am glad to know by yours of the 11th that you have recovered and are regaining strength.

Shortly before the London meeting I was told that a Dr. Barker (as I understood it) wanted to meet me, so I was surprised when Dr. Bacher came along when my exhibit was being mounted on their racks which display 12 album pages each in three rows at about eye level. He was evidently not so much interested in postal history, -being inhibited regarding all stampless covers, -as in fine U.S. adhesive stamps of which I showed comparatively few. He is something of a psychologist, as well as an expert in United States and foreign stamps.

Why Caspary Lot 50 should go for \$50., but Lot 49 for only \$22. is a mystery to me. I should like to see a color slide of Lot 49 (EK85 - 5), before trying to solve the ms "2" over "1". I assume this was the Due 1 cent. (BPM, Pl. 38:670) which was always for unpaid carrier collection fee in Boston, surely not indicating that the 1¢ Star Die was unrecognized, as this was regularly recognized for carrier collection when used with 3¢ other postage. Color of the "2" not mentioned may be black, in which case I guess it was so changed at Providence, 1¢ Boston fee due plus 1¢ delivery for Providence carrier to show total to be collected.

I have had a virus cold the past week, but penicillin has overcome it, so instead of a Christmas card this year, I send here my best wishes to you and Mrs. Ashbrook for the season and for 1957.

Yours sincerely,

Maurice C. Blake

Blake
Re - Lot 49 Caspary
Sale

Jan. 1, 1956.

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

Dear Maurice:

Please excuse this tardy acknowledgement of yours of the 19th.

→
Note
Slide
Enclosed
Regarding the Boston cover in the Caspary sale, Lot #49. I am enclosing herewith a color slide of this cover. In the "Due 1 Cent," the "1" seems to be crossed out with a blue pencil. What do you think of this? The slide looks like the "1" was crossed out but the cover itself looks like the "1" was crossed out and a "2" substituted. I wonder? This was the way the catalogue description read.

^{ED} I do hope you got over your virus cold and that it did not get worse as mine did. I have not been able to fully recover from my attack, some days I feel almost normal, then on others I feel most miserable. I suppose my doctor recognizes this as he still continues to call.

Thanks very much for your holiday greetings.

Mrs. Ashbrook joins me in wishing you a Very Happy and Healthful New Year.

Cordially yours,

EZRA D. COLE

Rare Postage Stamps

NYACK . NEW YORK

Commissions . Appraisals

TELEPHONE NYACK 7-0964

November 23rd, 1956

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

Dear Stan:

Yours of the 19th. I sure will be careful with Edgar. I always have been. Edgar is always for Edgar, first, last and always.

You could do a favor for me. Will you send me Colson's latest bulletin? I would like to show it to Bernard Harmer. I will return it. Would it be too much trouble for you to send me Colson's bulletins when you get hold of them? I would just like to read them. I have not found a way to get on his list.

I don't want to write about Colson for fear the letter would burn up in the mail before it got to you but you know how I feel about him. I certainly don't agree with what Colson said about Caspary although I know that Caspary had some faults, at least in my opinion he did.

I am enclosing three covers I bought in the Mozian sale; also one I bought in the Caspary sale. I cannot figure out the reason for the "Due 1¢" It looks like it was crossed out at the end but do you suppose someone tried to work some sort of a Carrier business here.

Will send Em the Caspary dope as soon as I can get to it and he will send you his or my catalogue to copy.

Sincerely,

Ezra D. Cole.

EDC:mk1
Encls

Nov. 26, 1956.

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

Dear Ezra:

Herewith the covers as per yours of the 23rd. Quite an interesting lot and I made a notation on each one.

You are quite right about Edgar.

I sent you a copy of Colson's remarks about Caspary, also one went to Bernard. That an L&K S.O.B. that House really is. He is just another damn pervert who hates everyone including himself.

If you wish to see the original I will be glad to send it to you. I do not get this regularly but Karl Jaeger gave me this copy.

Re - the Star Die - It is possible the clerk at the Boston P.O. thought this envelope had been demonetized and rated it due on that account. Deficient postage was charged double, hence that might have been 2¢ due. Thus two possible solutions to this cover, but in my opinion it was an unpaid carrier.

Am quite miserable with a bad cold.

Regards.

Yours etc.,

Jan. 3, 1957.

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

Dear Maurice:

Again re - Lot #49 in the Caspary Sale.
Do you suppose the P.O. clerk thought the 1¢ Star
Die had been demonetized and rated this as Due 2 -
double deficient postage? As I recall, the cover
did not show a year use so it might have been sub-
sequent to the Act of March 3, 1863. If earlier
and an unpaid box letter why was the "1" crossed
out?

Regards.

Cordially yours,

File
S1342
p.38

MAURICE C. BLAKE
11 MASON STREET
BROOKLINE 46, MASSACHUSETTS

January 4, 1957

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

Dear Stanley:

This Caspary Lot 49 is a puzzler. The BOSTON MASS concentric postmark of JUL/25 in red seems to tie the pair of one cent 1861 stamps, so the year cannot be earlier than 1862.

July 25, 1862 is an out-of-regular-period-of-use for Due 1 cent., which has been recorded as an indication of unprepaid carrier collection fee in Boston from August to October in 1860 (BPM, Pl.38:670, pp.138-9). After 1860 until June 30, 1863 letters with unpaid carrier collection fee at Boston were regularly held until addressee had been notified, or 'held for carriers' fee and sent to dead letter office (BPM, p.113), so no logical reason for use of the handstamp Due 1 cent. in July 1862(or later)is clear to me. Framed PAID (BPM,Pl.61, pp.202-3) in black is now recorded PAID (631) to 9/19/63 and PAID (632) to 12/17/63, which makes usage on July 25, 1863 a possibility.

How soon after the 30th of June 1863 it became widely known that the carrier collection fee was not longer required is a question. For example, I have three folded letters of a correspondence from D.F.Faulkner in Boston to Francis T. Faulkner,Turner, Maine re: wool etc. sent to Turner Mill. Each clearly dated in 1863 and with red concentric postmarks BOSTON MASS(BPM, Pl.60:992) of JUN/17, JUL/4, and AUG/8, respectively, each with 1¢ and 3¢ 1861, the latter two 1¢ being unnecessary after June 30, 1863. This raises the question whether the Boston P.O. clerk on July 25, 1863 had a mental aberration, laid his hand on the old Due 1 cent. , which seems to have been out of use since about October 1860, and then realizing that carrier fees had ended over three weeks ago, crossed out the amount due.

Now that I see this crossing out in blue pencil, I feel reasonable sure it was done in Boston, where blue pencil was in use

for corrective markings at that time. However, as you favor reading the marking on the cover as Due 2 cent. and as no handstamp to this effect is known at Boston in 1863, the clerk could choose between all manuscript Due 2, large 2(BPM, No. 597, Pls. 33 & 39), changing Due 3 cents. to 2, or what he seems to have done change Due 1 cent. to a 2 by blue pencil. But what could the meaning be ?

Of course the 1¢ star die was issued gummed for drop letters and ungummed flap for unsealed printed circulars(Thorp, p. 28). Let us suppose that this cover contained four, five or six printed circulars. By the Act of March 3, 1863 that would mean prepaid 4¢, at the rate of prepaid 2¢ per 3 Circulars, so the clerk thought let's use the Due 1 cent. handstamp; but having applied it he recalled that by the same Act unprepaid domestic mail was to be charged double the prepaid basis, so he corrected the Due 1 cent. to read Due 2 cent., allowing three cents prepaid of the total 4¢ and charging double for the unprepaid remaining 1¢.

This has run into a great length of speculation and does it arrive anywhere ?

Here's hoping for your gradual but steady full recovery and much happiness in 1957.

Sincerely yours,

Maurice C. Blake

Jan. 8, 1957.

To the Postmaster,
Boston, Mass.

Dear Sir:

I am enclosing herewith an envelope sent to me by registered mail from your office which contained valuable enclosures. To remove same I had to release two wire clips that had been used by some irresponsible post office clerk to attach a return receipt. Kindly note these wire clips and also the piece of the return receipt.

I am also enclosing copy of an order issued by the Washington Department forbidding the use of such wire clips.

The use of these clips in this case damaged the contents of this piece of registered mail and may I respectfully inquire of you why such wanton disregard of the contents of a piece of valuable mail is permitted at your office.

For your information I am forwarding a copy of this letter to the Postmaster General and request that some action be taken in this case.

Very truly yours,

MAURICE C. BLAKE
11 MASON STREET
BROOKLINE 46, MASSACHUSETTS

December 29, 1956

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

Dear Stanley:

Several months ago you asked to see the front of a wrapper with single 5¢ and single 10¢ 1847 postmarked in red at Boston May 31, 1848 with brownish-red pencil "unpaid 5" and large "15" following sender's direction "15 letters for the S. Russell", addressed to "Messrs. A.A. Low & Brother New York".

At that time I was occupied with correcting the erroneous tracing and description of this item illustrated as Figure 3 on the twelfth page of my brochure SCHEDULE OF MAILS AND POSTAGES IN 1849, and also in preparing the exhibit for the Society of Postal Historians in London for last October 10th.

Now I have the printed corrections to be applied at the bottom of the eleventh and top of the twelfth pages in the brochure, as in this extra copy enclosed with my compliments. The insertions may be stuck down completely, if so desired, to eliminate my previous rather unfortunate errors.

It is my supposition that the "15" was marked at Boston in accordance with Sec. 34 of the Act of March 3, 1825 and current Postal Regulations in 1848, and that in addition to the regular postage "unpaid 5", Messrs. Low & Brother had to pay 15¢, 1¢ for each of the letters to be sent by the private ship S. Russell to which the New York Postmaster was legally entitled when such letters were forwarded by the U.S. mails to his office for such despatch. Do you agree that this is the probable explanation of the large and most interesting "15" ?

I trust you have been in good health for the holiday season and that 1957 will be a happy and prosperous year for you.

Yours very sincerely,

Jan. 8, 1957.

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

Dear Maurice:

Re - your registered letter of Dec. 29th, enclosing the 5¢-10¢ 1847 face, and which I am returning herewith. I note that the Foundation sent this item to you in March 1951 and my files show that they submitted it to me on April 10, 1951. In substance, I reported to them that I did not like to pass on an item where there is so little evidence to prove that the two stamps did originate on this piece of cover. I stated that the "Unpaid 5" and the "15" could indicate that "15" was paid on a 4 x 5¢ rate and that 5¢ was due. And further, I suggested that they send this to you for your opinion as to the genuineness of the brown pencil markings. I note that they had previously sent it to you. I am enclosing a photo print of the item that I made at that time and which you may retain if you wish.

Here is the way I see this face - It was from Boston, addressed to the Low firm in New York City and enclosed were 15 letters to be sent to China by the ship S. Russell within a few days. Apparently these enclosures caused a quad. rate of 4 x 5¢, of which 15¢ had been short paid and 5¢ was therefore due. I fail to see why there was a due of 15¢ at New York from the Low firm for these 15 letters. Would this not mean that the New York office was collecting 15¢ on delivery of this letter, before it had been opened and before the enclosed 15¢ letters had been mailed? Was it not a mere coincidence that the "15" which had been paid by the 5¢ and 10¢ '47 happened to be the same number of cents as the "15" letters enclosed?

Maurice I am quite frank in stating that I fail to see any connection with the penciled "15" on this face with the Act of March 3, 1825, Sec. 34.

I suppose that when the Low firm mailed the 15 letters in June 1849 they paid the regular shore-to-ship postage but do you believe that they had to pay in addition 1¢ on each letter? That I doubt. Did Sec. 34 mean that the postmaster was entitled to a fee of 1¢ each on letters sent - this being an expense of the Department - not a charge to be paid by the public? It was a remuneration to him for placing such letters on a packet sailing from his port. Why should the Low firm be taxed with this fee and why - in this case - should it have been a postage due before the Low firm had mailed the 15 letters?

I will welcome your comment on my interpretation as above.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

MORRIS EVERETT
R. D. 3, FAIRMOUNT BLVD.
CHAGRIN FALLS, OHIO

1-6-57

Dear Mr. Ashbrook -

I am here enclosing a Confederate coin that I've owned a long time and about which I've planned to write you for years. I don't know why I now sent it to you before - I guess it is just a matter of "not getting to it".

I am wondering at the significance of some of the markings. I understood the changed rate of the "Paid 10" to "10" in black. I think it merely a change from a "soldiers letter" to a Paid one (or visa versa).

The little red "10" (with pencil marks over it) and the crayon "2" are what baffle me and I therefore turn to you for your ideas.

as to how this letter was handled. There
is, of course, a listing of the same ^{small} 10
under Savannah, Ga in Dutiz (W.S. Paid section)
but it is in black. Red seems never to have
been a color used by that post office.

As I am not sure of your rates for
"expediting" items like this, I enclose a $\$1.00$
bill to come along with a 3-cent stamp
to cover return postage. Let me know if I owe
you more, please.

I will be looking forward with real interest
to your comments about my little ones.

Wishing you and yours a prosperous and
happy New Year.

Sincerely
Mavis Lovell.

Jan. 9, 1957

Mr. Morris Everett,
R.D. 3,
Fairmount Blvd.,
Chagrin Falls, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Everett:

Yours of the 6th received and carefully noted. I am herewith returning the cover that you enclosed. I believe that the following features are correct:

Small envelope from Charleston, S. C.
Dec. 2, 1862 addressed to Savannah, Ga.

The encircled "PAID 10" and "10," (over) both Charleston markings. Both in black. Handstamped "10" to left of postmark in red(?) and apparently crossed out in black pencil(?). At center bottom a red pencil "2." In upper left - "A.C. Less - Rebel trooper. Envelope addressed to a Lt. Colonel at Savannah.

It is my belief that this letter was first handstamped "Paid 10" at Charleston but this was an error and was corrected by stamping it out with the large 10. I doubt very much if it was first rated as unpaid with the large "10" and then over this was applied the encircled "Paid 10". It seems possible that when the letter reached Savannah it was handstamped with the small "10" to emphasize that 10¢ was due on the letter.

Regarding the red penciled "2." This appears to be a "2" but it may not have been. It is my belief that 10¢ was due from the addressee but I doubt very much if any additional postage was due, that is, 2¢ additional. An advertised letter was charged 2¢ but it was customary to mark such as advertised or "ADV" and the 2¢ was added to the "10" and 12 given as the total sum due. A Ship fee was 2¢ but if addressed to a port of entry it was 6¢ (as I recall). In December 1862, the blockade was in full force so I do not believe this letter was carried by water from Charleston to Savannah.

Finally, I believe that this was merely an "unpaid" letter sent by a "rebel trooper" from Charleston, S.C. to Savannah, Ga. with 10¢ due. We have no proof that the red "2" was actually postal applied or if the crossing out of the small "20" has any postal significance.

May I thank you very kindly for the dollar bill enclosed. I do charge higher fees but in this case the sum is sufficient.

With kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

Re 30 d 69 Herst Cover

H. L. LINDQUIST

PUBLICATIONS

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

42-41

October 5, 1956

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

Dear Stan:

I read with interest your bulletin which you enclosed to me in your letter of the 2nd, and of course, was particularly interested in the comments on the 30c 1869 cover recently advertised in STAMPS by Herst.

As I previously wrote you, I got in touch with Herst on receipt of your previous letter, and suggested that he check very carefully before offering it for sale. As I advised you, he replied that he had submitted it to the Philatelic Foundation and had their certificate of genuineness.

Herst writes that the cover belonged to a big collector in this country who may have received it through the original owner, or maybe from Jamet himself. I don't know whether or not Herst plans to withdraw the cover from the sale, as he did not express himself on that point.

File 30¢ Fake Herst Cover

Jan. 13, 1957.

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

Dear Win:

Yours of the 10th received.

Yes, I had an attack of virus pneumonia and I was quite miserable for weeks. All the result of catching a bad cold and thinking it would clear up and no need to consult a doctor.

I am returning, under separate cover, the Hawaii #7 together with my report.

Enclosed herewith is a photo print of the fake 30¢, 1869 cover that the Committee authenticated and as I understand, later withdrew the certificate. It is a lot of damn foolishness to charge a fee for an examination of a cover such as this and then to use guess-work in arriving at an "opinion." I use the term "guess-work" advisedly because, if anyone on the committee had been at all competent to pass on this cover, they would not have authenticated it. I have just purchased the cover from Herst for \$30.00 and have removed the stamp so that no one will be swindled by this "Zareski" in the future. Accept the enclosed print with my compliments and file it with your report on the cover. The Committee could have sent the cover to me and paid me the full fee you received from Herst and this would have saved the Committee a lot of foolish guess-work and several of us a lot of trouble.

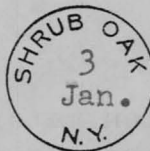
With kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

Postage Stamps for Collectors

TELEPHONE
LAKELAND 8-8331

EXPRESS OFFICE
PEEKSKILL, N.Y.



1957



*Norman Herst, Jr.
Shrub Oak, N.Y.*

I was very glad to have your letter of recent date and thank you for the news contained therein. I certainly don't want to prolong this discussion especially since it is now approaching an amicable conclusion so I will not answer a couple of questions in your letter. However, when we next have the opportunity to chat, we can perhaps discuss the matter a little further.

I naturally do not know what was in the mind of the buyer of that cover when it was offered to him for \$30. Naturally, he accepted it. I know the name of the dealer from whom it was bought but I have promised him that I would not divulge it to anyone nor that I would divulge his name either. He is just as sorry about this whole thing as everyone else is and he would prefer that his name not be mentioned in connection with it and for that reason, I have to honor his request.

I don't have the cover handy now as I just came back late tonight from ten days in Bermuda. I believe it is in the bank vault as I locked up



A.P.S.

YOU HAVE A FRIEND IN THE BUSINESS

S.P.A.

all of my auction material there and I will not go there for a couple of days. However, you have bought yourself the cover at \$30 as agreed and I will send it along within the next week or so as soon as I have it. Whatever disposition you wish to make of it is yours but you will at least get almost your cost out of the stamp if you take it off the cover.

I will be glad to see copies of your service if you would care to send some past numbers along. Meanwhile if you find that you can accommodate a new subscriber, don't bother to remit but let me send you the difference between the \$30 and your annual fee. You will hear from me shortly just as soon as I can forward the cover.

Pat



HERMAN HERST; JR.

SHRUB OAK, N. Y.

Jan. 7, 1957



to put it briefly . . .

In accordance with my promise of last week Stan, I am sending along the 30c 1869 that was the subject of so much correspondence between us. It is the last that I hope I will have seen of the cover for a good long time and I gladly entrust it to your hands to assure that it never makes any more trouble in the future. With all best wishes, I am

Herman Herst. Jr.

Jan. 13, 1957.

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

Pat -

I am in receipt of yours of the 7th enclosing the faked 30¢ 1869 cover. Under separate cover, I am forwarding to you sample copies of my "Special Service" for October, November and December 1956. Kindly return at your convenience.

I have very carefully noted your remarks of the 7th, and I am accepting your word that you regret very much ever having offered the 1869 cover. In my October Service Issue I explained in detail why this cover was originally a stampless cover and how the markings prove that fact. You will note some comments in these issues which are not highly complimentary to you but when you associated your name with one of the worst criminals in philately you certainly laid yourself wide open.

It was my guess that on your last trip to Paris you purchased this cover from M. Jamet. I recall that you stated that the owner was a friend of mine. If Jamet was the owner, I would hardly class him as a friend but rather as a Paris dealer who has in the past submitted items to me for my opinion. I can hardly believe that a friend of mine here in this country would buy a 30¢ 1869 cover without consulting me first regarding it.

In my February Service Issue I intend to again refer to this cover and mention that you very kindly sold it to me and that I have canceled it so that it will never be offered again - further, that correspondence with you indicated that you were innocent that anything was wrong with it, that you offered it because you had a P.F. certificate stating it was genuine and further that the real culprit in the case is the Expert Committee of the P.F. for issuing such a silly certificate.

If perchance, I did you an injustice, the above should throw a different light on the case. However, to be perfectly frank, I do think that you should have laid all the cards face up on the table and given me every fact in the case. I believe that you owe it to yourself to do this and that this obligation is more important to you than the word you gave to the owner not to divulge his name. You could explain the situation to him and notify him that you will no longer regard it as an obligation on your part to keep his name confidential.

I am enclosing herewith my check for \$30.00 for the cover. After you have read the three Service Issues, it is possible you may not care to subscribe and further as long as any question regarding this cover remains a secret I believe I would be severely criticised if I accepted your subscription, so Pat it is entirely up to you. If you can remove every bit of suspicion surrounding this case, I will be more than glad to have you as a subscriber because I would much rather have you on my side than in the camp of Zareski. Further, I believe

#2. Mr. Herman Herst, Jr. - Jan. 13, 1957.

that the good that you would derive from the Service would prove invaluable.

Because Jack Molesworth has taken an interest in this case I am sending him a copy of this letter.

Sincerely yours,

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



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

Jack E. Molesworth

Philatelic Dealer and Broker

102 Beacon Street

Boston 16, Massachusetts

January 2, 1957

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

Dear Stan,

My thanks for your December 28th letter enclosing a copy of the letter which you received from Herst.

I think Herst's letter is a very fine gesture and sincerely hope that you may decide to accept it as such yourself. If he has failed to lay all the cards on the table, I do not believe he has done so purposely except as he may understandably desire to maintain the name of the owner in confidence. This is the first I had heard that the owner paid \$30 for the cover and based on that, it would appear that my original suggestion that the owner may be the real culprit has some evidence to support it. Anyone who paid \$30 for such a cover should know damn well that it is no good as you implied yourself. I believe the best point in his letter is that you are both working for the same ultimate goal and it would be a shame for you to continue to be at odds with each other. Also, in an indirect way he seems to evidence regret at ever having associated himself with Zareski which is a healthy admission.

He also quite frankly indicates that he is not informed when it comes to such things as rates on covers, etc., which is the reason that he was not automatically suspicious of this cover as I was myself. Though you might be reluctant to allow him to subscribe to your service, I would urge you to accept his offer as I know of no other way he can become educated and prevent such an incident as this happening again except as he may be able to educate himself through your service. If you were to accept his subscription I don't see that any of your friends would have good cause to criticize that action. Especially, since it involves your ending up with the controversial cover yourself. I personally would be most gratified if you were to wipe the slate clean with him and accept his subscription to your services as I feel such would be in the definite best interest of Philately.

I did not recall myself who was the runner-up on the Pigeon Blood Cover though believe I did mention to you I thought it might have been Cole. However, if he was not the runner-up my next best guess would be Lehman. Have you asked him about it? I checked my catalog and find that I made no note of the under-bidder myself.

Hoping that the New Year will be one of health and prosperity for you and yours,

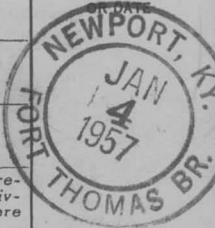
With best regards,

Jack E. Molesworth

P.S. I'd appreciate your opinion as to authenticity of enclosed Supp. Mail Cancels. Like first 2, but not 1238 one myself.

No 736261

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

SENT TO		<div>POSTMARK OR DATE</div> 
STREET AND NO.		
CITY AND STATE		
<i>Mr. Jack E. Molesworth</i> <i>102 Beacon Street</i> <i>BOSTON (16) Mass.</i>		
<div><div><i>If you want a return receipt, check which</i></div><div><input type="checkbox"/> <i>7¢ shows to whom and when delivered</i></div><div><input type="checkbox"/> <i>31¢ shows to whom, when, and address where delivered</i></div></div> <div><div><i>If you want restricted delivery, check here</i></div><div><input type="checkbox"/> <i>20¢ fee</i></div></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.

Jan. 4, 1957.

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

Dear Jack:

Yours of the 2nd received and carefully noted.

I wrote to Herst and requested him to send the fake cover to me and I would gladly pay him \$30.00 to cancel it and remove it from circulation. I think he should lay all the cards face up on the table and give me all the facts. He can have my word that I will treat the name of his client as confidential. Until this is done I do not see how I could enroll him as a subscriber to my Service. I believe that I would be severely criticised if I did. I have little doubt that he sorely regrets that he had any dealings with the criminal Zareski but one has to admit he should have investigated the man before he associated his name with him. That louse Konwiser surely must have known the reputation of Zareski, yet he did not hesitate to write a glowing foreward to the book. I have known about Zareski for over 20 years.

Herewith I return the three stamps with the Supplementary Mail markings. The 3¢ appears to be a Type II with perfs trimmed. Incidentally I never saw or heard of a 3¢ 1851 with the S.M. marking but several copies are known of the 3¢ '57. See my article in the "Stamp Specialist." The 24¢ 1860 looks like it might be good but before giving any opinion on it I would have to make a photo by ultra-violet and this would cost you \$5.00 and not worth it. This also applies to the 24¢ 1861.

I will keep you advised re - my correspondence with Herst.

Re - the pigeon blood Caspary cover. Lehman was not the runner-up as he himself told me when he was here last month that he thought Cole was. This Ezra informed me was not true.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

Jan. 13, 1957.

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

Dear Jack:

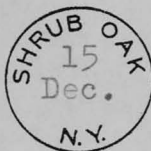
I am enclosing herewith a copy of a letter
that I have today written Herst regarding the faked
30¢ 1869 cover.

Sincerely yours,

Postage Stamps for Collectors

TELEPHONE
LAKELAND 8-8331

EXPRESS OFFICE
PEEKSKILL, N.Y.



*Norman Herst. Jr.
Shrub Oak, N.Y.*

Dear Stan:

At the end of the year the Chinese cancel all their debts and start clean. Maybe it isn't such a bad idea.

I don't like feuds, and I can't hold a grudge. I always considered you a friend, and I'd like to keep on that way. Maybe I ruffled you a bit on this cover matter, and there's no question that you unruffled me. But my feathers are now back in place, and I'd like yours to be.

If you don't want it the way that I propose, so be it and that is that, but I don't think that either of us can gain much out of it. I'm sure we both want the same things in philately. I'm as interested in keeping the crooked boys out of the hobby as you are, and though you have been in the game much longer than I have, in almost 25 years no one can point a finger at me and state differently.

The owner of the cover bought it in good faith, as you know. It wasn't mine. I do not believe that Zareski had anything to do with it. As I told you, I have not had a word from him in over three years. We have done no business in that time. In fact, I'm not particularly



A.P.S.

YOU HAVE A FRIEND IN THE BUSINESS

S.P.A.

interested in doing any -- not at all interested, in fact. I don't even know if he is alive. If he isn't, you'll agree that it is no loss to philately.

The owner of the cover is a customer of yours. He has full confidence in your ability, as do I. He tells me that if I agree with you that it is no good, he doesn't want to see it again, but would be glad to have for it the \$30 that it cost him from a dealer of repute. I asked if he knew the story of the cover before he bought it; he did not.

I still have the cover. I voluntarily surrendered the certificate to the Foundation when Molesworth and I discussed it, and I became convinced that it was no good. I withdrew it from the sale, as I would not sell anything questionable. I'd be glad to send you the cover if you want to mark it on the back in indelible ink FAKE so that it will never trouble anyone else. It should have been marked years ago. This whole nasty business which did no one any good could have been avoided.

May I have details on your \$100 a year service? Maybe if I had subscribed earlier; my own knowledge might have prevented this incident. I don't claim to be an authority on rates and early covers. I do know 20th century. I prefer to turn to others, whose ability I respect; that was why when I first obtained the item I turned to the Foundation. They made a mistake; all of us have at some time or another.

Maybe you'd like the cover for your files for the \$30 I'm sending the owner, and I'll send you my check for \$70 for the difference on the service. One way or the other I'd like to wash up this whole thing, which isn't making me any happier. New Years seems a good time to do it. What do you say?

*And Happy Holidays
to you & Mrs. U.*

Sincerely,

Pat

PLEASE NOTE

May we impose on your good nature to ask that no correspondence be sent us between December 24th and January 2nd?

We will be taking the children on their first Southern winter excursion between those dates and since there will be no one in the office to take care of mail and orders, your honoring this request would do a great deal to assure the safety of mail.

Thank you for your co-operation, and we hope that your Christmas holiday will be as pleasant as we hope ours will be, and that the New Year will bring you all that you hope for in the way of good health and happiness.

HERMAN HERST, Jr.
Shrub Oak, N. Y.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Herman Herst, Jr.", with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Dec. 31, 1956.

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

Pat -

Yours of the 15th arrived when I was just recovering from an attack of virus pneumonia and noting that you would be away this past week, I delayed acknowledging receipt of your letter.

First permit me to state that I am not the type who nurses a grudge and I accept the statements made in your letter as true and am perfectly willing to wipe the slate clean. However, a few remarks might be in order. When I saw your advertisement in "Stamps" illustrating the faked 30¢ 1869 cover I believed you had purchased the cover from someone in Paris - the seller being perfectly aware that the cover was bad. I was disgusted that the P.F. had passed the cover as genuine. Such a certificate makes a perfect mockery of serious philatelic research work. When "Experts" have to resort to guess-work they should quit kidding themselves that they are "Experts." Of course, it is possible that an Expert Committee can make errors once in awhile but the P.F. Committee, in my opinion, make entirely too many.

Further, your remarks that was published in Linn's Weekly did get in my hair. I cannot recall a single instance where I put the "kiss of death" on an item that was genuine. If I have ever done such a thing I will be only too glad to make a public acknowledgement and apology.

Pat, please bear this in mind - when I state that in my opinion a stamp or a cover is bad I am prepared to furnish all the evidence that I have that led me to arrive at such a decision. Then it is up to anyone who disagrees with me to furnish facts that would prove me in error. The P.F. Committee merely expresses an opinion but no explanation that led them to arrive at same. Any schoolboy collector could do the same.

Would it be asking too much to ask you to reveal to me the name of the person who placed this cover in your hands to sell? I will give you my word to treat same as confidential. If it only cost him \$30.00 how could he have imagined the cover to be genuine? My God - 30¢ 1869 covers - if genuine - are surely worth more than \$30.00. I can hardly believe such a person could be classed as a friend of mine.

I would like to have the cover and suggest that you send it to me so that I can cancel it. I will gladly pay you the \$30.00.

Give me a bit of time to consider whether I care to take on an additional subscriber to my Service. This Service is not open to the public and so far subscriptions have only been accepted upon special invitation. All who receive it are close personal friends and the subscription list is relatively small. If you so desire, I will send you samples ^{les of the issues in which I discussed} copies

#2. Mr. Herman Herst, Jr. - Dec. 31, 1956.

the 30¢ cover. Perhaps after reading these samples you might wish to change your mind.

Sincerely yours,

SAN RAFAEL PHYSICIANS BUILDING

1540 FIFTH AVENUE
SAN RAFAEL, CALIFORNIA

GLENWOOD 4-2451

GENERAL SURGERY

MATTHEW E. HAZELTINE, M. D.
ARNOLD A. NUTTING, M. D.

OBSTETRICS & GYNECOLOGY

HOWARD HAMMOND, JR., M. D.
AUSTIN W. LEA, M. D.

INTERNAL MEDICINE

W. SCOTT POLLAND, M. D.

PEDIATRICS

GRACE D. KLEISER, M. D.

GENERAL PRACTICE

ROGER W. HEDIN, M. D.

Dear Mr Ashbrook: -

1-4-56

Thanks very much for yours of the 2nd. I don't know who bought the Hughes 124 box, but know that it went east, and suspect Boston as its destination.

I certainly agree with you; there is more money than brains in some of the recent philatelic purchases, particularly those from the Caspary sales. What amazes me is where does it all come from. Certainly my few philatelic friends are not guilty of such wild buying. Who are these individuals that are skyrocketing prices, and who has induced them to such crazy ideas? I wonder if we will ever find out. Certainly the magic name Caspary cannot be the whole story.

I am inclined to agree with Edgar about the influence you have in philatelic circles, when you express your opinion. After all most of us look upon you as the dean of philately. When it

OF THE
American Philatelic Society

SALES DEPARTMENT

W. SCOTT POLLAND, MGR.
ROSS CALIFORNIA

Comes to certain types of material, and when you praise a certain stem, it certainly increases its value, as far as we are concerned. Also when you condemn an stem, none of us would think of buying it. I know of a number of stems that Edgar might well have bought, if he had not known that you refused to approve them, or had condemned them. I think your praise of certain stems has either cost Edgar a few dollars, which he can stand, or barred him from buying some, because the price went too high.

Edgar is in New York today and the papers say that Marchant is being listed on the N.Y. Exchange and Edgar made the first purchase of 500 shares of stock. I don't think you have hurt him too much, although he may cry loudly. Incidentally I had lunch with Tracy Simpson today, and he says that Marchant, because of some new patents

OF THE

American Philatelic Society

SALES DEPARTMENT

W. SCOTT POLLAND, MGR.

ROSS

CALIFORNIA

is actually worth 35 a sheet, and that it no longer is a one man organization. Apparently they have brought into the firm some good vice-presidents to help Edgar.

Did you know that our friend A Jay Hertz recently came out here and bought the Wells Fargo collection of Star Herbichs of Pasadena for \$4,000 +. This was a collection of about 500 Wells Fargo covers, three of them in my opinion being unique. Since about 75% of the collection came from me, I know about what Star had put into it, in the last three years, and that was from \$7500 - 10,000. He reached the point finally, of finding it very difficult to add to his collection. Jay was delighted to purchase it, although Star did not offer it to anyone else. It was nice, but the price very high, but I understand Bob Sigel offered Hertz

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SALES DEPARTMENT

W. SCOTT POLLAND, MGR.

ROSS

CALIFORNIA

4
 Go, and for it. At any rate Jay seems
 to have lots of money to spend on
 Westons and now in particular, unusual
 Wells Fargo.

Enclosed is the Honolulu to San
 Francisco cover. I would appreciate your
 comments. I have never seen a cover
 from Honolulu to San Francisco prepaid
 by postage prior to April 1, 1855, unless
 this is the one. The stamps look like
 postmarks of 1854-1855 period. It was
 my understanding that the H + 2
 local rates ^{at post of mailing} was always a collect rate.

Could you help me on another cover I
 just obtained? In the year 1867, what was
 the rate from San Francisco to New Zealand.
 The cover originated at Victoria and has
 the blue oval post office frank of Butte
 Columbia also a Panama July 23, 67
 in small black circle, and receiving mark
 on back of the New Zealand town. One of
 the stamps originally on the cover has

The 3c 1851-57 Unit No. 11

OF THE

American Philatelic Society

SALES DEPARTMENT

W. SCOTT POLLAND, MGR.

ROSS

CALIFORNIA

been removed. The other stamps are a
10¢ 1861 and a black ink. What was
the value of the third stamp.

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,
W. Scott Polland

Jan. 8, 1957.

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

Dear Doctor:

Thanks very much for yours of the 4th with the Honolulu cover to S.F., which I am returning herewith. I believe that this classifies as a prepaid Ship letter to S.F. - with a 3¢ over-pay. In other words, a S.F. "Drop" such as this would require but 1¢ postage and the ship fee was 2¢. I cannot imagine why any more postage could have been charged. I have no record of such a cover from Hawaii to S.F. and if I ever saw one I have no recollection of it. I wish you would question Edgar about this cover - ask him why 6¢ and if he has a prepaid Hawaii to S.F. prepaid by stamps. I suppose the writer was not aware of the proper rate and put two 3¢ stamps on his letter when one would have been sufficient.

I enclose two photo prints herewith which you can retain if you wish. Note the 3¢ 1861. The letter enclosed was dated, "Ship Island - Mar 10 1861." I suppose this was carried privately and mailed as a New York Drop - but if so, then 1¢ would have answered. On the other hand, it is in effect a prepaid Ship Drop letter - 1¢ Drop - 2¢ Ship fee. I doubt if any "Ship employed in carrying the U. S. mail" brought this letter to New York. Note the 3¢ 1851- This from S.F. - a bootleg letter - carried privately and mailed at New York and addressed to New Hampshire. The N.Y. P.O. clerk should have noted the memo at top and marked this letter "Due 7." Had this been addressed to New York City it would have been in effect a prepaid Ship letter - S.F. to N.Y. City - because it was brought in by a non-contract mail ship. The enclosed cover would have been wonderful if it had a single 3¢ 1851. I believe it is true that prepaid ship letters were not marked "Ship" - whereas those not prepaid were marked Ship - thus to explain origin and why postage was due. This was not necessary when the postage was paid.

Perhaps you will recall a cover I illustrated some time ago in a Service Issue - a cover with a 3¢ 1851 plus a pair of 1¢ 1851 - (Type IV). A use in 1855 - as I remember - from Savannah, Ga. into New York City and beyond. A very rare prepaid Ship. The writer paid the postage from New York City and also the Ship fee of 2¢. No ship marking on the cover. The writer intended his letter to go by the ship "Mississippi" but I note that no such a ship is listed in the Harris book nor is any trip of Nov. 9 - Nov. 21 listed. I will greatly appreciate any comments on the above.

I found your letter most interesting.

Re - the Hughes bisect cover. I have not heard anything further regarding it and doubt if I will. I rather suspected that the Bakers of Indianapolis bought it but I guess I was mistaken.

Edgar wrote me before he departed for New York and last Friday night he called me by phone. He was due to fly back early the next morning and be back in

#2. Mr. W. Scott Pollard - Jan. 8, 1957.

S.F. that afternoon. I never cease to marvel at the miracle of New York for breakfast and S.F. for dinner. How could our forebears of 1857 consider such a thing even remotely possible. Edgar deserves great credit for the success of Marchant. I remember when he took over in 1930 and how he worked round the clock in the years to follow. He ran every man's job in the organization. He should retire and take life easy, but I wonder if he will ever do such a thing?

Thanks very much for the information about Jay Hertz. He sure loves postal history and is a very competent student. More power to him. I wonder if Edgar knows about this latest addition to the Hertz collection?

Re - rate from S.F. to New Zealand in June - July of 1867, Via Panama - 22¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. On such a letter we credited Britain with 12¢, for their carriage from Panama to destination. I suppose the missing stamp was another 10¢ 1861.

With my kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

P.S.--Again re - the enclosed cover - I note below the NOV in the S.F. postmark a pencil "2" - My guess is that the year was 1854.

S.B.A.



THE PHILATELIC FOUNDATION
22 EAST 35TH STREET
NEW YORK 16, N.Y.
MURRAY HILL 3-5667

January 10, 1957.

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

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LAWRENCE L. SHENFIELD
THEODORE E. STEINWAY

Re # 7486.

Dear Stan:

Through our mutual friend Morris Fortgang I have been kept informed as to your recent "indisposition", and I was pleased to hear the other day that you were much improved. Hope by now you are back at the desk working on stamps.

The Committee has asked me to send you the enclosed with the query as to whether in your opinion the San Francisco Cancel on it was used as early as 1857.

Anticipating hearing from you at your convenience, and with kindest personal regards, I remain

Sincerely

Win.
Win.

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ESTABLISHED 1921
The WESTMINSTER STAMP CO.
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THE SPECIALISTS IN U.S.A. STAMPS

OB/B

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

Stanley B. Ashbrook, Esq.,
Fort Thomas.

Feb. 4, 1957

- - Reg. Airpost.

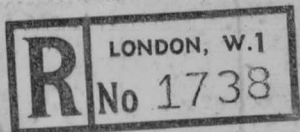
Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

I would like to ask a favour of you.
Being not much conversant with your internal
STEAMER covers and markings, I wonder whether enclosed - coming,
as you will note, from a famous correspondence - may be one of
the rarer ones. I also cannot decipher the name of the steamer
and failed to find anything similar, ending with "...zon", in
Klein's or Konwiser's books.

I should be most grateful for your assistance
and enclose a "mixture" for expenses.

With best personal wishes and kind regards
yours sincerely

O. Bacher
O. Bacher



Stanley B. Ashbrook, Esq.

33 North Fort Thomas Avenue

Fort Thomas

Ky.

USA

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



Feb. 11, 1957.

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

Dear Doctor:

Herewith the packet cover as per yours of the 4th. This was an unpaid carried from Minden, La., into New Orleans b the "Steamer Amazon," a river steamboat. I note such a boat is not listed by Chase or Klein. I do not recall that Konwiser ever published any list of our inland river steamboats. The marking "Steam 10" was applied at New Orleans and indicated that it was "Contract Mail" - that is, brought in by a boat with a U. S. mail contract. This was not a Mississippi river boat, hence covers with this marking are scarce. I judge it would probably bring between \$15.00 to \$20.00 at a New York auction.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

MORRIS FORTGANG
114 EAST 84th STREET
NEW YORK 28, N. Y.

Jan. 18, 1957.

Dear Stanley,

Your letter of Jan. 14 arrived bright and early this morning, just four days in transit. Do you suppose it could have gone by way of Panama or possibly around the Horn? Nevertheless I was delighted to hear from you; your letter brought back the good old days. Our enthusiasm seems to wane whenever Ashbrook isn't available for the moment to share with us our findings and our problems. I knew your correspondence piled up during your recent engagement with the virus and so I thought it best to phone you now and then rather than write and add to your problems. I realize full well that many of your letters require hours of work and research and your head would have to be much larger than it is to carry all the required data.

Your inquiry regarding my 5c letter to France late in 1859 reveals that you are back to par. As long as Ashbrook's interest in philately does not wane, neither will he. Ashbrook will live as long as his enthusiasm in stamps and postal markings lives.

1. Herewith is that cover to France. The letter inside as per pencil notation, was addressed Dec. 10, 1859. The cover has the red postmark of Newton, Dec. 16, and the black Boston Dec. 17 and "9" our charge to France. Boston also applied the handstamped "Short Paid". "Unpaid" probably would have been the correct word as the 5c payment was not recognized. The cover arrived in France on Dec. 29, 1859, rather fast time, as per French receiving, and was handstamped 8 decimes. The cover also shows the manuscript notation "poste restante" (hold in post office till called for). Does the marking in black that resembles a "6" just N.W. of the French receiving bear any significance? Here is an attempted use of the 5c U.S. internal more than two and a half years after the French treaty! Imagine. This is the third cover of this kind in my collection, and the second one that I obtained from Robert Siegel. Cost \$5.00

2 Herewith is another cover that may prove interesting. A blue letter sheet dated inside August 30, 1847 and ~~has~~ postmarked Philadelphia, Aug. 30, 5 cts. in blue. The cover bears a 5c 1847 showing a very dark or black brown shade and an extremely fine engraving, and is tied by two strikes of the blue Philadelphia grid in circle. The cover was misssent and forwarded and also bears the black postmark of Middletown, Pa. Sep. 1.

This cover apparently shows several things.

A. that in early impressions the 5c 1847 comes in really fine engravings.

B. that this dark shade was among the earliest if not the earliest shade issued.

C. that the Middletown Pa. postmark used with a 5c 1847 is possibly unique, even though this is a forwarded cover.

D. A use in the second month of issue which I believe is quite early for this stamp.

E. Cost \$15.00 and found in a box of junk in a second rate stamp shop and apparently ~~rescued~~ rescued from oblivion. The ~~stamp~~ stamp shows only three very large margins but this is no reason for rejecting the cover.

3. Here is a cover that I did not buy, I merely borrowed it because it looks like a Speratti. The cover shows an improper rate etc. although you will admit that the New York foreign mail cancellation is very clever if fraudulent.

4. Herewith is another cover that I borrowed. This is one for the birds, (don't you think?) These two covers were not offered for sale. I found them in a dealer's stock and I inquired whether I could borrow them and promised to return them just as I received them.

I received a note from Ed. Jessup after he returned to the Coast. He wrote that he contracted a bad cold and would probably remain home a day or so before returning to his office. That man works entirely too hard but he seems to thrive on hard work.

Nice of Emmerson Krug to spend a weekend with you. He most assuredly can be counted as one of your most loyal friends.

I'm sure the big Texan enjoys his work. My son-in-law also works on transistors with R C A. at Sommerville, N.J. He says the Texas Instrument Co. is a very fine and well known organization.

Please do pardon the quality of this typewriting. Ann is out and I and my typewriter are both out of condition.

Will phone you tomorrow, Jan 19, re our visit with you.

Our best regards to your girl friend and you.

Sincerely,

Morris.

January 22, 1957

Mr. Morris Fortgang,
114 East 84th Street,
New York 28, N.Y.

Dear Morris:

Just a line to acknowledge yours of the 19th with the various covers. I have made a preliminary examination and I suspect that the 24¢ Bank Note cover is a very clever fake. The 5¢-10¢ '47 cover is apparently a piece of a cover or wrapper which required a prepaid rate of 48¢. I suppose this means there was 50¢ in 1847 stamps - It appears the two stamps were used on this "piece." The 5¢ cover to France is okay - a "short pay" sent unpaid. The 5¢ '47 is an "oxidized" copy. I feel sure a bath in peroxide would restore it to its "brown-orange" original color.

Okay for next Tuesday for Mort and you - keep me advised.

More later.

Cordially yours,

Jan. 23, 1957

Mr. Morris Fortgang,
114 East 84th St.,
New York 28, N.Y.

Dear Morris:

Someone reported or showed to me a cover to California with a 10¢ '55 or '57 tied by a railroad postmark. I cannot locate the photo or my reference regarding it. By any chance, do you own such a cover? Please let me know.

Herewith I am returning the covers contained in yours of the 18th, and Morris, I wish to thank you for all the good words in your letter. Here are some comments on the enclosed covers:

No. 1 - 5¢ to France in 1859. Your analysis was quite correct. The letter with a 5¢ payment was "Short Paid" and inasmuch as no partial payments were recognized by the terms of the treaty the 5¢ pay was disregarded and it was sent as entirely unpaid. The "8" due or 8 decimes, shows it did not weigh over $7\frac{1}{2}$ grammes ($\frac{1}{4}$ oz.), hence 15¢ should have been paid in the U. S. Paid letters were postmarked by the New York P.O. Foreign Division in red, unpaid in black, and here we have a black New York with a debit to France of 9¢ U.S. She was to collect 8 decimes (15¢) of which, our share was 9¢ - Why? Note the French postmark which reads, "From the U.S. by Amer. Packet A.C." - This meant by Amer. Pkt. to England, hence the U. S. charged France on this letter - 3¢ U.S. internal ($\frac{1}{4}$ oz.) plus 6¢ sea to England. This left France with 6¢ - 3¢ was her internal and she had to pay Britain the other 3¢ to convey the letter to Calais. All very simple - do you not agree? Your other covers may be in a different category.

No. 2 - 5¢ 1847 from Philadelphia on Aug. 30, 1847. As I advised, I feel rather certain the stamp is "oxidized" - It should be very carefully removed - put in hot water - then in a fresh solution of peroxide. I believe it would be restored to a very beautiful brown-orange.

Re - your A-B-C-D-E notes. I agree 100% with A-C-D and on "E" congratulations. I seriously doubt if your "B" is correct so far as concerns this particular stamp.

No. 3 - 24¢ Bank Note - New York to Bordeaux. First, the year dates appear to be 74 but I think they have been changed - The use appears as Sep 13 1874 from New York. This was Sunday and no mail ship departed on that date. Second - there was no such a rate as 24¢ in September 1874 to Holland. The rate per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. was 10¢. Commencing on Oct. 1, 1874 the rate by Direct Mail (not through England) was 6¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. Third - There was a pen memo of the year of use, but it was torn away. This is a favorite stunt of Zareski. I am always suspicious of such destruction. Fourth. I suspect a 10¢ Bank Note was removed and the 24¢ stamp substituted. The chances are that the cancel on the stamp is genuine, but that part on the cover is a paint job.

The 5¢-10¢ '47 cover - I wrote you about this yesterday. The chances are

#2. Mr. Morris Fortgang - Jan. 23, 1957

this was a larger piece and had more 1847 stamps as the "38" shows the rate that was paid was 48¢ - 2 x 24 - The red credit 38 or 2 x 19.

Jessup. Yes, he works entirely too hard and he should retire and devote all his time to his family and his collection. He is well fixed financially and could well afford to do so. He has been threatening to do this for several years.

Emmerson Krug wishes to wait until about the 5th of February before he comes up for his visit. We have been very close friends for over 20 years.

Stan Jr. is most enthusiastic about his new work - the people and Dallas. On the 1st he will enter S.M.U. for a course - four nights a week - to get his Master Degree. Well in these days one cannot have enough education and that is his ambition.

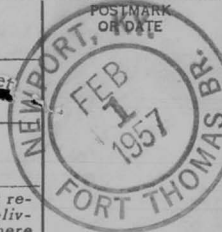
Our best to Ann and all the family.

We are looking forward to seeing you next week.

Cordially yours,

No. 736255

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

SENT TO				
STREET AND NO.				
CITY AND STATE				
Mr. Morris Fortgang 114 East 84th Street NEW YORK (28) N. Y.				
<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
<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.

Jan. 31st, 1957.

Mr. Morris Fortgang,
114 East 84th St.,
New York 28, N.Y.

Dear Morris:

Herewith the 1¢ 1851 cover to Halifax from Philadelphia on "Aug 21." Surely the year use was 1852, and if so, the first class rate to Halifax was 10¢, and the circular rate was to the border only, viz., 1¢ if not over 500 miles - and over 500 miles but not over 1500 miles, 2¢. On circular mail there was Canadian postage due, but on this piece there is no evidence of such. If this was a piece of first class mail, sent sealed, of which there is no evidence, then full postage would have been due at Halifax of 6 pence. I do not think this went Via Boston and ship to Halifax as such mail bore a Boston marking. There must be some explanation for this but what it is I do not know. Surely 3¢ did not pay the postage to the addressee.

Re - your R.R. cover to California. Apparently I did not make a photograph as I do not seem to have one. Can you give me the date you acquired it? If so, this might help me locate a photo, if I made one. My filing system requires too much time to be even 75% efficient.

Thanks very much for the information about the three lots in the Caspary sale last Monday. All three lots came from the Worthington sale by Morgenthau held on Aug. 22, 1917.

Lot 251 was Lot 1533 in that sale.
" 265 " " 1535 " " "
" 276 " " 1536 " " "

I do not have any record of the prices realized in the 1917 sale and I am wondering if you could get the information for me. The Collectors Club Library has a copy of that sale and perhaps you could call Boggs by phone and ask him to give you the prices at which the three lots sold. I would like to mention these three items in my March Service Issue and to state that they were the above lots in the Worthington sale and sold at such and such prices. Naturally I will not mention Colson or you or give any hint of the source of my information. Is this agreeable to you?

I had a letter from Mort this morning re - the 1¢-3¢ Unit Convention.

I am also in receipt of the Kentucky slides. Thanks. Most miserable weather out here - thick fog and drizzle - and it has been this way all week.

Mildred joins me in best wishes to Ann and you.

Cordially yours,

TELEPHONE
PLAZA 7-4460

APPRAISALS FOR SALE,
PROBATE & INSURANCE

DIRECTORS
H. R. HARMER B. D. HARMER
F. T. BUCK MARGARET MAHONEY

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NEW YORK 36, N.Y.

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AND 26 CASTLEREAGH STREET, SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA
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CABLES
HARMERSALE, NEW YORK

LEADING AUCTIONEERS OF
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AUCTIONEERS OF THE
"PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT" COLLECTION

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

29th
January
1957

Dear Stan:

Replying to your letter of January 19th, I enclose the original
Caspary photograph of the cover, Lot 204, Caspary Sale Six.

I imagine this is good enough from which to take a photograph.

Please return in due course.

Sincerely yours,

H. R. HARMER, INC.

Bernard.

Director

BDH:E
Enclosure

Lot 162
" 204

Jan. 31, 1957.

Mr. Bernard D. Harmer,
6 West 48th St.,
New York 36, N.Y.

Dear Bernard:

Thanks very much for yours of the 29th with the photo print which I am returning under separate cover.

Re - the Caspary Seventh Sale of Last Monday, I understand that -

Lot 251	sold at	\$11,500.00
Lot 265	" "	21,000.00
Lot 276	" "	18,000.00

I believe these three items were acquired by Caspary in the Worthington sale, held by J. E. Morgenthau & Co. on August 22, 1917. In that sale Lot 251 was Lot 1533, Lot 265 was Lot 1535 and Lot 276 was Lot 1536. Is this correct?

With kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

TELEPHONE
PLAZA 7-4460

APPRAISALS FOR SALE,
PROBATE & INSURANCE

DIRECTORS
H. R. HARMER B. D. HARMER
F. T. BUCK MARGARET MAHONEY

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ESTABLISHED OVER 50 YEARS

CABLES
HARMERSALE, NEW YORK

LEADING AUCTIONEERS OF
RARE POSTAGE STAMPS

AUCTIONEERS OF THE
"PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT" COLLECTION

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

5th
February
1957

Dear Stan:

Many thanks for the return of the Caspary print.

As concerns the three Sardinia blocks, your "good friend" Colson tells us that he sold these items to Caspary for he believes \$650 in 1907. This of course does not coincide at all with the fact that they were in the Worthington sale of August 22, 1917 and somebody's memory is at fault.

Do you have the realizations on these three lots in that auction as if so, we would be interested as to whether they total approximately \$4,000, which is another story we heard.

With kind regards.

Sincerely yours,

H. R. HARMER, INC.

Bernard,

Director

BDH:E

Feb. 11, 1957.

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

Dear Bernard:

I now have the facts on the three lots in the recent Caspary sale.

Lot #251 Caspary was Lot #1533 in the Worthington sale - sale price \$235.00.

Lot #265 Caspary was Lot #1535 in the Worthington sale - sale price \$85.00.

Lot #276 Caspary was Lot #1536 in the Worthington sale - sale price \$336.00.

There can be no doubt that the above is correct, and if you wish to verify, no doubt you will find a priced catalogue of the Worthington sale at the Collectors Club. The sale was by J. C. Morgenthau & Co. and was held on Aug. 22nd, 1917.

The effeminate one "OF BOSTON" is probably mixed up due to all the vinegar in his system and senility. It could be that he sold the three lots to Worthington in 1907 rather than to Caspary.

I have a faint recollection that Colson mentioned these three blocks in a book that he wrote years ago but at the moment I am unable to lay hands on my copy of the book.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

ESTABLISHED 1928

Reserve Plan Inc

TRADE MARK REG.

SUITE 1020 COMMERCE BLDG. 922 WALNUT ST.

KANSAS CITY 6, MISSOURI

January 24, 1957

See SB 42 - P. 9

See
Color
EK 82
17-18-19

Also
Color
EK 100
8-9

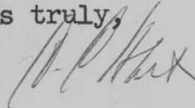
Mr. Stanley Ashbrook
P.O. Box 31
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Enclosed find a 10¢47 cover which I would like for you to opinionize and I also enclose a letter from Elliott Perry and a copy of your letter on which he has made notations.

Is there any way to tell whether or not there is a thin spot on the stamp without removing it?

Yours truly,



C. C. Hart

CCH:mc
enc.

P.S. I have sent you two books under separate cover which I'd like for you to autograph.

Jan. 28, 1957.

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

Dear Mr. Hart:

Just a line to acknowledge yours of the 24th, with check for \$300.00, for which please accept my thanks.

This will also acknowledge the 10¢ 1847 cover together with the correspondence. I wish to study this further and will return tomorrow.

Did you notice a single 10¢ in the Fox Sale of Jan. 31st next?

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

• • • • M. HUBERT JUDD

Walton, Va.
Jan. 16th, 1957

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook,
Fort Thomas, Ky;

Dear General Ashbrook:

As requested in your letter of Jan. 14th, enclosed please find the 5¢ 1847 canceled with a type of "criss-cross" grid. Mr. Judd says it is a "waffle grid" and a collector friend says that it is a "lattice grid." You keep your money and takes your choice. Trusting the enclosed item will be of some practical aid and with very best wishes,

Sincerely,
Col. Judd

Jan. 23, 1957

Mr. M. Hubert Judd,
Dalton, Ga.

Dear Judge:

Herewith the 5¢ 1847 as per yours of the 16th. Thanks very much for your kindness.

I think that Mrs. Judd's name for this grid is exceedingly good - the "waffle grid." "Lattice" is also quite descriptive.

I think most of the ones that I have seen are double strikes and especially is this true of the ones originating at Brunswick, Me. At first I thought an example that was loaned to me was actually a criss-cross single strike. I suppose this was because there was no outer ring and the second strike was applied very carefully and accurately.

I note that John Pope uses the term "rhomboid grids" when two strikes are applied to form diamonds rather than squares or rectangles.

It was up in the sixties here yesterday but this morning it registered 24 but the sun is shining and there is no snow on the ground.

With all good wishes -

Cordially yours,

3930 Red Bud Ave.
Cincinnati, Ohio

Thursday evening

Dear Mr. Ashbrook -

I am enclosing the cover we discussed this evening - 15¢ to France - 8¢ credit. Also included is your letter to me of August 2, 1955.

I would appreciate your letting me know if this is one the scarce "8" covers you mention in this months copy of your service.

With best wishes, I am,

Millard Mack

Feb. 2, 1957.

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

Dear Millard:

Herewith the 15¢ rate with "8" credit to G.B. cover as per yours of the 31st. I also return the letter that I wrote you about this back in 1955. I note that I was under the impression at that time that Cole had charged you too much. Had he known the correct analysis of the cover, I suppose he would have charged you twice your cost. You will note that I revised my notes on the back and listed further data. This is a scarce cover and needless to add I am much better informed on this rate than I was a year and a half ago.

I also return the two 3¢ 1869 covers. These are just the regular shade. The rather scarce shade is a very dark blue. I suppose it is OK to call the 3¢ 1869 - ultramarine but to me it is just blue.

With regards,

Cordially yours,

3930 Red Bud Ave.
Cincinnati, Ohio

Saturday
Dear Mr. Ashbrook -

Enclosed is another 4¢
partial rate to France. If it is
OK would you sign it as such
on the back?

Let me know what I owe
you and I'll remit immediately.

Many thanks

Millard H. Mack

Jan. 22, 1957

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

Dear Millard:

Herewith the cover to France with the 4¢ payment. This is indeed quite a nice item and is genuine in every way. I have signed it on the back and there is no fee.

New York put everything on this, even -
"Paid only to England," which was not always added on such mail. Sometimes we see the marking, "SHORT PAID" but this did not mean that the 4¢ had been "Short Paid," but rather a whole rate to destination.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

The Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company

MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

MILLARD H. MACK, C. L. U.

Special Agent

ROE WALKER, C. L. U.
GENERAL AGENT

2133 LURAY AVENUE AT EDEN PARK

TELEPHONES { WOODBURN 1-1820
AVON 1-4061

CINCINNATI 6, OHIO

March 4, 1957

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Enclosed is a Partial Rate to France cover
for your authentication.

If it is okay, would you sign it on the back
and let me know what I owe you and I will remit
immediately.

Cordially yours,

Millard H. Mack

Millard H. Mack

MHM/vel
Enc.

*Home address
3930 Red Bud Avenue
Cincinnati 29, Ohio.*

March 6, 1957.

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

Dear Millard:

Herewith the 4¢ 1869 cover to France as
per yours of the 4th.

This is quite a pretty little cover, a
nice combination and genuine in every way. As
requested, I have authenticated it on the back.

I have been quite ill but am much better
and hope it is all behind me.

With kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

Jan. 29, 1957

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

One color slide
EK97 - 21 \$1.00

March 6, 1957.

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

For authentication of
4¢ 1869 cover
to France from New Orleans
May 1870 \$3.50

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



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

Jack E. Molesworth

Philatelic Dealer and Broker

102 Beacon Street
Boston 16, Massachusetts

January 11, 1957

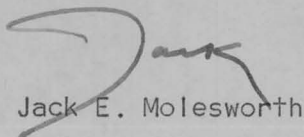
Mr Stanley B. Ashbrook
Box 31
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Stan,

Many thanks for your letter of January 4th. I hope that you will be able to work the situation out with Herst and that you will decide to accept his subscription to your service. I also hope he may decide to send you the name of the owner of the cover which I have personally concluded without his telling me is someone located abroad, most likely Jamet of Paris who would fit the description of being a customer of yours. Did you write Jamet as you had indicated you would? If so, I would be interested in knowing his reply.

Thanks for your comments on the Supplementary Mail items. Enclosed is one on cover which I gather is quite rare from reading your article in the Stamp Specialist. This is one of those listed but not photographed so I thought you might like to see and photograph it. I would also appreciate your signing the back, etc. for which I shall be glad to pay your usual fee.

With best regards,


Jack E. Molesworth

JEM:mar

enclosure

Jan. 15, 1957.

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

Dear Jack:

Herewith the Supplementary Mail cover as per yours of the 11th. This is the first time I ever saw this cover but I have a poor photostat of it that was sent to me by the late Dr. Babcock about 20 or more years ago - He also sent me a complete description of it at that time and I listed it in my Stamp Specialist article. I was pleased to see it and make a photo for my records. Of course, it is as good as gold and I have signed it on the back for you and I am not charging you any fee.

Further regarding Herst. He has told a number of conflicting stories about the 30¢ 1869 cover. For example, he wrote Lindquist that the cover belonged to a prominent U. S. collector who was a personal friend of mine. That is hard for me to believe. He wrote George Linn that he had two bids in excess of \$500 for the cover. Inasmuch as he had a P.F. certificate why didn't he accept the highest bid? It is hard for me to believe any such a statement.

Why don't he come clean and give me the exact facts in the case? He claims he has not had anything to do with Zareski for several years. If he would lie about the real owner of this cover, would he hesitate to lie about Zareski? Please treat this letter as confidential as I have no desire to mistrust the man. I do want to give him every benefit of the doubt but I do not want anything to do with anyone who would knowingly try to sell faked material.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

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



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

Jack E. Molesworth

Philatelic Dealer and Broker

102 Beacon Street

Boston 16, Massachusetts

January 22, 1957

Mr. Stanley Ashbrook
Box 31
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Stan,

Many thanks for your January 15th letter and your signing of the supplementary mail cover. Incidentally, I note that you frequently put pencil comments on the face of the cover before photographing it for your records and of late I have had a little difficulty erasing this from a couple of the covers. Therefore, I wonder if it might be possible for you to use a somewhat softer pencil or possibly put these comments on a small separate piece of paper and hinge them to the cover for photographing purposes? I recently had a customer inquire as to what the writing was that had been erased from that 10¢ 1847 cover with "Steamship" cancel and it required a little correspondence to explain to him that they were comments you had made when photographing the cover and not something that was on the cover when it was originally mailed, etc.

Enclosed are three off-cover items on which I would appreciate your opinion. Two are 1¢ 1851-7 type problems and the other a #12, is a question of its being unused. I purchased this stamp in a recent Fox auction sale of the Huber collection. It has just been returned by the Foundation as a lightly cancelled stamp, though I notice it has your signature on it on the back and I would be interested in knowing whether this was intended to indicate that the stamp is unused. The other two items are covers on which I would appreciate your explanation of the rates. The one with 2 10¢ 1869's on it really stumps me as I cannot explain it by reading the comments in your last Special Service which referred to this period.

I shall be glad to hold in confidence your comments with respect to Herst in your January 15th letter as you requested. I can well understand your feeling that he has told a number of conflicting stories about the 30¢ 1869 cover, but I am sure that such is the result of several factors, among which is not his intent to purposely deceive or mislead anyone. For instance, on the two cases you noted, it is quite possible he did write Lindquist that the cover belonged to a prominent U. S. collector who was a personal friend of yours and if so, such would not be inconsistent with any statement that he has made to you or to me to the best of my knowledge. It is quite true I have gathered the impression that the cover belonged to someone abroad but that was entirely due to the fact that Jamet apparently had the cover in his hands at one time and my assumption that he probably sold it to someone in France who was one of Herst's contacts. At no time has Herst told me that it belonged to a foreign owner and in fact, when I asked him if the owner was abroad or in the United States, he declined to answer on the basis that he felt such would tend to violate his agreement with the owner to keep his identity confidential. However, it is also possible that Lindquist in writing you did not make a direct quote from any letter of Herst but rather gave you his general impression as if it were a quote, as the statement which he claimed Herst made to him would have been my general impression in the early stages of this discussion, based on what Herst had told me, but at no time did Herst designate the owner as an American resident though he did refer to him as a friend of yours. However, he mostly likely would assume anyone who has sent you covers for expertization or done any business with you was a "friend". Herein I see no conflict.

(over)

Jan. 25, 1957.

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

Dear Jack:

Herewith I am returning the various items as per yours of the 22nd. The following are some comments -

10¢ 1869 cover to Lyon, France. I wrote you about this yesterday. Quite an unusual cover and you will find a description of this "15¢ prepaid rate to France Via England" in my February Service Issue. As far as I am aware, this rate was only in effect during March, April and May 1870. I have only seen covers in this class used during those three months. Your cover was despatched by the S.S. Idaho of the Guion Line. I did not sign it because you did not request same.

Cover with 10¢ '61 - 2¢ and 3¢ 1869. This is just a face - no back stamps, etc. I prefer not to comment on it as I am not at all sure as to just what actually is the correct solution.

Regarding the two One Cent stamps. I have marked these on the card as "A" and "B."

Regarding "A". This comes from Plate 4, Type IC, because the design is cut away at bottom, but could have been a IC before the cut destroyed the type. To be sure it would have to be plated.

Regarding "B". 1¢ '57 - Also Plate 4 but not Type IA. This stamp is from the 6th row of the plate - relief "F," hence it was never a Type IA - but rather a III or IIIA before the bottom perforations destroyed the type.

Regarding the 5¢ 1856. I went back thru my records to 1848 and I was unable to find any record that I had signed this for E.J. Huber, but I may have done so without making any photo or record. I feel confident that I did not sign this as an unused copy, because had I done so, I would have put unused on the back. He was in the habit of sending me stamps to identify. I judge I signed this merely as a 5¢ 1856, Type I. I am positive he did not buy the stamp from me. It does look like there are traces of a removed cancelation but to be sure I would have to make a photo by ultra-violet - and the charge would be \$5.00.

No fee on these items but you can refund the return postage.

Pencil marks on covers. Okay Jack, I will not make any on anything you send me in the future. I can see your point.

Re - Herst. I have carefully noted your remarks. I had a letter from him and he was kind enough to send you a copy. I have nothing against him and I am willing to give him the benefit of the doubt. It was my impression that he made conflicting statements, but you seem to think I was wrong. I suggest we let it at that. I would not request Lindquist to send me the letter that he received from Herst as I

#2. Mr. Jack E. Molesworth - Jan. 25, 1957.

would not care to involve Harry. My reaction is that I would be severely criticised by a number of my friends if I accepted Herst as a subscriber to my Service. First, because of the Herst-Zareski book and second, because of the 30¢ 1869 faked cover. I am, however, grateful to him for turning over to me the fake cover so that I could destroy it. I think most any disinterested person would agree with me that Herst should have laid all the cards face up on the table. He should have insisted that the owner of that cover give him permission to divulge all the facts to me. I suggest we consider the matter closed.

You will note that I sent him sample copies of my Service Issues of last October - November and December. I believe he stated in his last letter that he had been shown copies of these. No doubt he referred to you, and if so, may I respectfully request that you do not show copies to anyone. The issues are intended to be confidential, and intended only for the subscribers. I would like to have it that way.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

Jan. 24, 1957.

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

Dear Jack:

Your air registered arrived today and I was quite pleased to see the cover with the two 10¢ 1869 to France.

What a coincidence that you would send this to me at this time!! I purposely omitted mention in my January Issue of what I call the 15¢ rate with 8¢ credit, as I wanted to obtain more data on such a rate for my February Issue. As far as I am aware, your cover is a 5¢ overpay on the rate and my February Issue gives the explanation. Covers showing the rate with the "8" credit are very rare as the rate was only in use in March, April and May 1870. My February Service Issue will include a photo of such a 15¢ 1869 cover. Quite a coincidence.

More on your letter later.

Sincerely yours,

A.P.S.
S.P.A.
C.C.N.H.



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

Jack E. Molesworth

Philatelic Dealer and Broker

102 Beacon Street

Boston 16, Massachusetts

January 29, 1957

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

Dear Stan,

My thanks for your January 25th letter and your comments on the various items submitted. I appreciate your charging no fee for those comments and am happy to refund your postage which is enclosed.

Am returning two of these items for more detailed study. First the item you marked "A" and indicated could have been a IC before the cut destroyed the type. I would appreciate your plating this item to determine its position and type before the cut destroyed it. The other is the 10¢ 1869 cover to France overpaying the 15¢ rate. I would appreciate your signing the reverse of this cover and charging me accordingly. Incidentally, I seem to have a recollection that the right hand stamp was upside down when I sent the cover to you originally though it now is right side up! Did you perchance remove that stamp from the cover to examine underneath it and inadvertently put it back right side up? As it now stands it almost looks as if this stamp might have been added to the cover while if it is inverted I believe the cancellation will jibe with the lefthand stamp. If this is the case, I would appreciate your reversing the stamp so that cancel on the righthand one ties in well with that on the left even though your signature on the reverse would remove any question of its having been added.

I am returning the 5¢ 1856 stamp to Fox. It is beyond me why these auctions which are obviously in preparation several months before the sale date do not send such controversial items as unused 19th century without gum off for a certificate before the sale is held to preclude the extreme inconvenience caused such buyers as myself in attempting to get them expertized after they are purchased and then having them turned down as this one was, with all effort put into it being completely wasted. Probably I'd do better to forget and not even bid on such items, but I have customers demanding them so feel I have to try and stock such.

I appreciate very much your understanding with respect to pencil marks on covers. I do realize that you photograph a great many items and like to put notations on them to show up in the photograph, but believe that could be accomplished just as well by putting such notations on a small piece of paper and hinging that piece of paper to the cover for photographing purposes.

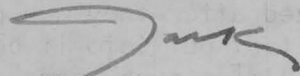
I understand all right with respect to Herst and that you would prefer not to pursue further my offer to attempt to reconcile any further conflicting statements that you feel may have been made. The only reason I suggested you attempt to get Lindquist to send you the letter that he had received from Herst, was to definitely establish that Herst was quoted directly and exactly, since I believe you will agree that word of mouth transmittal

(over)

frequently results in considerable unintentional distortion and for that reason so called "heresay" evidence is not even permissible in court in a lawsuit. In such an instance as this "heresay" evidence is about all that is available. Though I can well understand your feeling that you might be severely criticized by a number of your friends if you accepted Herst as a subscriber to your service, I must respectfully disagree with that conclusion. That his collaboration with Zareski on the book is to be criticized there is no doubt, but he has himself admitted that that was a mistake and would certainly never make that same mistake again and I believe we have all made mistakes in our life, though possibly not quite as ill-advised as that one. As far as the 30¢ 1869 cover goes, he was asked to offer it by a very good client of his and it was okayed by the Philatelic Foundation so he did have good cause to offer the item even though he was doubtlessly naive in feeling the item was genuine merely because the P.F. said so. Also, I don't see how any of your subscribers would know that he was accepted if you did, since I assume your list of subscribers is not public knowledge. If it is, I would most like to receive a copy myself as it would be a very nice mailing list! I also can well understand your feeling, based on the conflicting and in my opinion somewhat inaccurate reports which you have received from other sources that he has not laid all the cards face-up on the table, though from my knowledge of the other side I strongly feel that he has gone about as far in that regard as he could be expected to go without violating his word to the owner not to reveal his identity. With these final words I shall be glad to consider the matter closed as you suggested.

You are correct that Herst in his last letter to you, a copy of which I received, indicated that he had already seen copies of the special service issues that you sent him, but if you will re-read that letter you will see that Herst specifically states that "several of his friends in New York" had forwarded their copies for him to read. This definitely does not include Boston and I have at no time sent or shown him a single copy of your service or for that matter, anyone else since I have received it. I have always considered it to be of a semi-confidential nature, as you indicated. Also, it was my strong desire throughout this discussion to bring the two of you together and I could only expect that showing him those services would have had directly the opposite result. If you wish to criticize that action, I suggest you peruse rather closely your New York City subscribers as that is the source and not yours truly. I would imagine that Fox would be one of them if he is a subscriber to your service as I deduce he is. Who the others are, I would not know. In that regard, from my personal experience with certain of these New Yorkers who are probably subscribers to your service, I would personally consider Herst to be a much better bet from the angle of honesty, integrity and trustworthiness than most of these other New Yorkers!

With best regards,



Jack E. Molesworth

JEM:mar

P. S. - I have always wondered whether to put both your street and box number on your address and whether the manner of delivery is dependent on the way it is addressed, or whether it all goes in your box regardless. Please advise to satisfy my curiosity.

JEM

* In letter rec'd today from Mrs. Harper, she mentioned that they have with drawn + reversed the opinion on that item!

Jan. 29, 1957.

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

Dear Jack:

Yours of the 29th. I am herewith return the two items.

Re - the 10¢ 1869 cover. I was surprised that you would think that I would do anything to a cover without obtaining full consent from the owner. I can assure you that I would not even think of doing such a thing. I, therefore, can assure you that I did not remove either stamp from your cover and it is just as it was when I received it. Naturally I noticed the difference in cancel on the stamp to left and the light strike on the stamp to right and also that the ring of the Chicago postmark on the left stamp did not extend on the right hand stamp, but I concluded that both just happened as they are at present. The rate on this cover was surely 15¢, so if the right hand stamp was not used as we see it, then the question arises what stamp was there originally. Of course, it could have been a 6¢ or a 12¢, for example, but would anyone substitute a 10¢ for either value? I think the cancel on the right stamp matches to a certain degree the cancel on the left stamp. In other words, I feel quite sure this cover is genuine and I have signed it as such on the back. If there is any doubt in your mind there is no obligation on your part to pay the fee I am charging you for the authentication.

No doubt by this time you have my February Service Issue which fully explains the 15¢ rate with the "8" credit.

Re - the 1¢ 1851 herewith. I regret to stat that I cannot plate this copy - It is too badly cut into and heavily canceled. It has some resemblance to 41R4 but I cannot state positively that it came from that position. My book lists 41R4 as a Type IIIA - "Relief "E" - 5th row - right pane.

I have carefully noted your remarks re - Herst, and also about my "Special Service." I was pleased to learn that you had not shown him any of my "Service Issues." I do not mind telling you that the only subscribers I have in New York City are Fox, Bennard Harner, Fortgang, Neinken and Jack Dick. Who among these do you think could have shown copies to Herst? Is it your opinion that Fox and Herst are close friends? I do not think that Neinken or Fortgang would show anyone copies. Do you? How about Jack Dick?

Regarding the letter that I received from Harry Lindquist. Harry wrote me under date of Oct. 5th, quote:

"As I previously wrote you, I got in touch with Herst on receipt of your previous letter, and suggested that he check very carefully before offering it for sale. As I advised you, he replied that he had submitted it to the Philatelic Foundation and had their certificate of genuineness.

Herst writes that the cover belonged to a big collection in this country who

#2. Mr. Jack E. Molesworth - Jan. 29, 1957.

may have received it through the original owner, or maybe from Jamet himself. I don't know whether or not Herst plans to withdraw the cover from the sale, as he did not express himself on that point." (unquote)

Jack, I appreciate the interest that you have taken in the Herst case, and I thank you for same. I will be glad to keep you advised of anything that develops.

Re - my address, for regular letters my box number is sufficient but for special delivery, the street number is required.

I have signed the 10¢ cover to France and I am charging you a fee of \$3.50.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

Feb. 12, 1957.

To

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

For Fee

Cover with 10¢ 1847

tied by "Steamship 10" \$5.00

Jack E. Molesworth

Philatelic Dealer and Broker

102 Beacon Street

Boston 16, Massachusetts

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

February 21, 1957

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

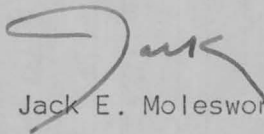
Dear Stan,

Enclosed are two covers which I recently picked up in a London auction on which I would appreciate your comments and signature on the back if they are both genuine. The one with block of 10¢ 1856s is not in as nice condition as I expected from the description, so I shall probably have a difficult time moving it. I presume it is a double 24¢ rate cover.

If the 10¢ 1847 cover is genuine, I presume it is a rare one, as I don't recall having seen but one or two other 10¢ 1847s used abroad during the entire time I have been in business. I am quite curious as to how it ever got to England with the very brief address which it has. How do you explain that factor? I shall look forward with interest to your comments on this cover.

Enclosed is a carbon of another letter which I have written to Mrs. Dale after hearing from Ezra Cole. I thought you might be interested in having it to keep up on my correspondence with her. It is quite all right to keep these carbons for your files if you wish.

With best regards,



Jack E. Molesworth.

JEM:fc

February 21, 1957

Mrs. Louise B. Dale
Chairman, The Philatelic Foundation
22 East 35th Street
New York 16, N.Y.

Dear Mrs. Dale,

As I wrote you on February 15, I have contacted the party who had informed me that he knew of over one hundred errors made by the Philatelic Foundation, presumably over the past few years. He has just replied that he would prefer not to be quoted, and also that he would not care to serve in an advisory capacity to the Philatelic Foundation under the conditions and organizational set-up now prevailing. He apparently would not object to so serving under somewhat different conditions. I gather from his comments that he seems to feel the Dealers Advisory Committee does not have much real influence on the opinions of the Philatelic Foundation, and is set up more to let the dealers think they are having some say when actually they are not. Whether this is, of course, the actual case I do not believe either he or I really know, though you should.

I believe the main point which bothers him, and one which I must admit concerns me also, is the policy which prevents dealers from serving on the official Board of Experts. Since it is my firm conviction, as outlined in my past letters, that the only real experts on United States stamps living today happen to be dealers, unless and until dealers are admitted to full membership on the Board of Experts it will be incapable of rendering expert opinions in all areas of United States stamps. If the opinion of a dealer is so essential and valuable, why should he be barred from serving on the official Board of Experts merely because he happens to be a professional? Some of the best expert committees abroad include dealers in their membership, in spite of the more common feeling there that dealers are for some reason an inferior class of people.

As it now stands, from my observations, there appears to be sufficient resentment among those dealers who are experts against the policy of the P.F. of allowing only collectors to serve on their official Board, that it will be extremely difficult to secure the services of the leading dealer experts in an advisory capacity under this set-up. However, if this set-up were to be changed and dealers were to be eligible to serve on the official Board, I rather believe you would be able to find a number of extremely well-qualified ones who would serve in that capacity with no pay and be most willing to donate their time. I believe under those circumstances such dealer experts would feel an obligation to philately as a whole to render such a service. Under the present restrictive practices, no such obligation is felt.

I shall look forward with interest to your comments on this situation.

Faithfully yours,

Jack E. Molesworth.

Feb. 23, 1957.

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

Dear Jack:

Herewith are the two covers as per yours of the 21st.

Regarding the 10¢ 1847 cover. I do not think an item such as this is especially rare and I am quite sure that you have seen similar items heretofore. Look in the Green sale or the Moody or the Meroni and I am sure you will find 1847 covers to England. This cover was from Norfolk and the 10¢ merely paid the postage up to New York or Boston where the letter was put aboard a Cunard Mail Ship. On reaching England it was rated with British Packet postage due of 1 shilling. This was the postage from the U. S. frontier to British destination. You will find this same marking on similar covers with uses prior to 1849. My good friend Emmerson Krug of Birmingham, Ala. likes such covers as this and if it is for sale I suggest that you send it to him.

With kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

Feb. 23, 1957

To

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

For

Authentication of 10¢ 1847 cover,
Norfolk, Va. to London in Aug. 1847 \$4.00

Authentication of cover from
Brooklyn, N.Y. to England
Double rate of 48¢ in Jan. 1856 \$4.00

A.P.S.
S.P.A.
C.C.N.H.



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

\$4.00
PAID
MAR-8-1957

Jack E. Molesworth

Philatelic Dealer and Broker

102 Beacon Street

Boston 16, Massachusetts

March 6, 1957

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

Dear Stan,

My thanks for your March 1 letter and your endorsing of the Chicago Perf cover. Enclosed is my check for \$4 to cover your fee. I was quite interested to learn that it is the second earliest known. I have mentioned that to my client, and am sure he will be interested in such information.

I sincerely hope that Jessup may be able to help some in ironing out the situation at the P.F.

I appreciate very much your sending along the photograph of the 10¢ 1847 cover used abroad. I have also noted Lot #86 in the Waterhouse sale of June 27, 1955, which you called to my attention. That cover certainly was a beautiful one that, at least in retrospect, appears to have sold most ~~recently~~ ^{reasonably}. It of course has it all over the one I sent you, though if these two examples are the only ones to come up at auction over the past few years, I would consider them to be rare. I would agree with you that \$500 for my cover is possibly a bit high, though this is based on my cost, which may have been unduly influenced by my inability to recall having seen any other such covers offered for some time. I overlooked checking Waterhouse.

As you requested, I am quite happy to return the unusual Brown-Orange shade on the 5¢ 1847, and shall look forward with interest to the consolidated opinion of you and your close friend. Also enclosed is the vertical pair of 1¢ 1857s which would appear to me to be Type III, and quite possibly in unused condition. I am not particularly concerned about having the type confirmed, but rather am most interested in your opinion with respect to its being in unused condition. When observed under my ultra-violet lamp it shows some odd spots, but no direct evidence of pen-lines, etc. It was originally in a vertical strip of 3, with the top stamp having a light town cancellation, with the implied conclusion that these two stamps missed being cancelled. This may or may not be so, which I hope your detailed examination, with ultra-violet photos if you consider such necessary, will reveal.

Also enclosed is a very interesting Confederate cover which has me rather stumped. It is obviously a soldier's letter from General J. J. Pettigrew, which was mailed on June 27, but which has a Confederate #3 tied to the cover by the signature of same General, and the date "June 22," neither of which are in the same handwriting as the endorsement in the upper right corner. I wonder if this 2¢ stamp was on the cover at any time during its original usage or whether it may have been added later, as no other explanation would seem to be entirely consistent with the markings and usage. I shall look forward with interest to your comments. Please sign the reverse if you feel the stamp was originally on the cover, and not added at some later date.

With best regards,

Jack E. Molesworth.

JEM:fc

March 8, 1957.

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

Dear Jack:

Yours of the 6th received with check for \$4.00 and enclosures. Thanks very much for the former.

You sure put one over on me on the 5¢ '47 which is returned, but I was feeling quite ill last Friday and all I saw was the color. I do not think I would have taken a second look had I been feeling okay. Why not call it a superb orange? When you wish to kid me please wait until I have fully recovered from this illness.

Re - the One Cent 1857 pair which I also return - The top stamp is Type III and the lower is a Type IIIA - the plate positions are 46L4 - 56L4. If you will refer to my Vol. 1, page 234, I believe you will find that the above types are listed on the chart as the types given. I have photographs of these positions but none of them show markings that are found on these two stamps. For example, marks (diagonal), in lower left-hand corner of the top stamp.

Jack, I am just recovering from my recent illness and am still rather weak and under Doctor's orders. As a result I am not doing any photographic work, so I cannot make a photograph of this pair by ultra-violet. In an examination under my microscope the diagonal marks, and others mentioned above, are in the same blue ink as the stamp and are what I call ink varieties in printing - not consistent plate varieties. A brief examination under the microscope failed to impress me that any cleaning had been done and my guess is that this is an unused pair that escaped cancelation.

Pethigrew
cover
Regarding the enclosed cover. In my opinion the 2¢ green was not used originally on this cover. Further, the description of a "free frank" is absurd - this was a soldier's letter" and the postage had to be paid either by the sender or receiver. A soldier's letter could be forwarded unpaid but with the postage due. Even Gen'l Lee had to pay postage as you will doubtless recall. This was mailed at Winchester, Va. and the "Due" and "10" was applied there. It was addressed to Summerville, Harnett Co., N.C. and apparently forwarded from there, without extra charge, to Raleigh, N.C., which is in the adjoining county of Wake. There was no 2¢ rate between Summerville and Raleigh so the 2¢ stamp does not make sense. If this use was actually JUN 27 1863 then I think it is quite an interesting and historical cover and was sent just 20 days prior to the death of the General. If 1863, then the General was at or near Winchester, Va. with his troops enroute to Gettysburg, where he was wounded in Pickett's charge on July 4th. Later he died near Winchester, Va. on July 17, 1863 - age 35 years. I advise you to check on these notes.

Jack, I am charging you a fee of \$4.00 for the opinions, data, etc., contained in this letter.

I am also enclosing a face of a cover that I thought you would like to see. I do not know if it would be possible for some crook to take such a stamp off an item such as this and apply 12½ perfs. This stamp came from a plate that could have produced

#2. Mr. Jack E. Molesworth - March 8, 1957.

the 12 $\frac{1}{2}$. Look down the right side. I wondered at one time if this stamp might have been a genuine Chicago perf and the user cut off the perfs. What do you think? I would not want this to fall into the hands of Mr. Zareski. Please return at your convenience.

I am also enclosing a letter that I received from Jamet some time ago re - the fake 30¢ 1869 cover. Please note and return.

No word from Jessup up to this writing.

Re - that 10¢ '47 cover in the Waterhouse sale. There is some doubt in my mind that the cover is genuine. So be careful.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

No 736307

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

SENT TO	
Mr. Jack E. Molesworth	
102 Beacon Street	
BOSTON (16) Mass.	
CITY AND STATE	
<i>If you want a return receipt, check which</i>	<i>If you want restricted delivery, check here</i>
<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

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.

Aug. 9, 1957.

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

Dear Jack:

Re - the Pettigrew cover herewith. It is my opinion that the writing at left end is merely a notation regarding the letter that was enclosed - It is as follows:

1862
Oct 31
Gen. J. J. Pettigrew

In other words, the letter enclosed was from Gen. J. J. Pettigrew and dated Oct. 31, 1862. I do not think this is anything other than that. The address is in blue ink and was probably written by the General, whereas the end notation is in black ink and looks like a female hand.

Apparently the letter was mailed on Nov. 1 from ? to William S. Pettigrew, Raleigh; with a pair of the 5¢ Typo. It was forwarded from Raleigh on Nov. 5 with a H.P. of the 5¢ green Litho. I don't think anything more can be said about it.

It is my opinion that the "frank" on the Winchester cover is in the handwriting of the General and that the address on this envelope is in the same handwriting. The end notation on this cover appears to be in a female hand and very similar, if not the same as on the 1862 cover. I don't think the 2¢ stamp makes sense on this cover. It could have been put on years after the war and the notation made at that time.

I return both covers herewith. Can you make out the town on the V.P. of the 5¢ Typo?

Re - the 1¢ Chicago perf. copy. I have no record that this stamp was sent to me by Fortgang - at least I have been unable to find any such record. I make a color slide of every item of any importance that crosses my desk and keep a description in a special book day by day. During December of 1956 and January of 1957 I did not make a photo of any 1¢ Chicago perf for Fortgang. There is no necessity for taking the matter up with Mr. Alter as I examined the stamp for him and charged him a fee. Why not write Fortgang and inquire if he is sure he showed the stamp to me. The 1¢ Chicago is a rare stamp and I believe I would have made a photo record had such an item been submitted to me. Now I am not stating he did not send such a stamp. I was ill in December and it may have arrived at that time and I may have informed Fortgang it "looked" perfectly good.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

January 27, 1957

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

I am directing this letter to you to ascertain if you are still working on the reconstruction of Plate One of the ten cent green issue of 51-60. If so, I have a stamp that may be of interest to you since I can find no mention of it in Scott's specialized catalogue or your very fine volume published in 1926.

This particular stamp is Scott No. 32, being of the "A" relief from Plate One and has a shift in the top label similar to 20R1 but it also has a large shift in the bottom label downward quite different from 100R1 being in the label and the letters "Ten Cent" only. It looks as if it might come from the late worn condition of the plate.

If it would be of interest to you I should gladly forward it for your inspection. I have enclosed a self-addressed, stamped envelope for your convenience.

Very truly yours,

C.E. Cummings

C.E. Cummings, APS # 32326

Mr. C.E. Cummings
817 Church Street
Redlands, California

Jan. 29, 1957.

Mr. C. E. Cummings,
817 Church St.,
Redlands, Calif.

Dear Mr. Cummings:

Replying to yours of the 27th. I am always interested in anything unusual in the 10¢ 1855-1857, and if you care to forward the stamp to me I will be glad to look it over.

Please pardon my negligence in acknowledging your registered letter of the 2nd with return of the 3¢ 1861. I suppose I have done about all that I can with the stamp and to those of my friends who are students of the 3¢ 1861, it is their unanimous opinion that the stamp is a chemical changeling of some sort.

Thanks very much for your check.

With my kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

C.E.Cummings
817 Church st.
Redlands Calif.

Feb.1, 1957

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook

In reply to yours of the 29th. I am inclosing the 10¢ green Scott# 32 For your inspection.

Let me know what the charges will be, and I will forward you a check to cover.

In your letter you referred to a letter of the 2nd. and a 3¢ stamp of 1861, I'm sorry but I'm quite sure you have mistaken me for another correspondent, possibly with a similar address.

Hoping you the very best,

I remain

Yours truly

C. E. Cummings

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 C. E. CUMMINGS

817 CHURCH ST

REDLANDS

THIS RECEIPT DOES NOT PROVIDE FOR INDEMNIFICATION



Feb. 12, 1957.

Mr. C. E. Cummings,
817 Church St.,
Redlands, Calif.

Dear Mr. Cummings:

Herewith I am returning the 10¢ 1857 Type II
as per yours of the 1st.

It is my opinion that this stamp does not show
a double transfer in the top or bottom labels. Please
note the top label and the fine vertical lines at each
end - these are very fine and do not show any doubling.
If the letters in either label appear to be a trifle
large it could be that the paper when printed was a bit
too damp. It is my opinion that your stamp is normal
and could not be classed as a double transfer.

I apologize for the inclusion of the last para-
graph in my letter of the 29th, which was intended for
another correspondent in California.

There is no fee for the above comment.

Very truly yours,



HOSKINSON • ROHLOFF & ASSOCIATES
studio

9 EAST ADAMS STREET CHICAGO 3, ILLINOIS PHONE HARRISON 7-4788

February 6. 1957

Dear Stan;

Sorry to hear that you have been laid up but glad to hear that you are on the road to recovery.

Things have been pretty hectic for us. We buried my mother just before Christmas, she had been living with us for the last few years.

Stan, I am sorry I haven't written sooner but with the way things were at home. Now I guess I can get behind the wheel a little. Enclosed find several items which may be of interest to you, certainly the 5¢ 1856 cover. What a usage.

I also found the name of the man you changed the color of stamps also the size. He is Hy Padway. But was not admitted to the Chicago Club, he is still living I understand.

Stan your service on color was very interesting especially since I own three of the 1862 chestnut shades and also purchased the henna 1857, two Vertical strips of three on a cover in the company sale. Rust bought the other cover which had a stamp missing, to me, the missing stamp makes it an incomplete cover.

Now here is a question I want to ask, why isn't the Walnut shade of the 5¢ 1847 not listed? I think it certainly must be as rare as any 47 shade. Certainly no rarer if such a one does exist. From what I have heard the Slater copy certainly is up for question. What is your opinion?

Enclosed find 5¢ 1851 cover : 5¢ 1847 (I wonder)? 3¢ 1861 (odd color).

If you ok these and sign the back I will reimburse you for it. If worthy of pictures take them for me.

Yours truly

Paul C. Rohloff
Paul C. Rohloff

P.S. and love to Mildred

Feb. 12, 1957.

Mr. Paul C. Rohloff,
209 S. State St.,
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Paul:

Mildred and I were so sorry to learn that you had lost your Mother. Such a loss is something that can never be replaced. We offer our sincere sympathy. Your letter was the first advice we had.

I had about recovered from my pneumonia attack when I got a case of shingles and boy is that real torture. I am still unable to spend but a few hours a day at my desk. The darn thing broke out in a scarlet rash across the right side of my chest and I have never had such pain. Well, so much for my ills.

Thanks so much for Padway's name. I will try and locate his address and write him.

Re - the three covers that you enclosed.

5¢ '47 cover - from Detroit. Of course, there is no way to determine that I am aware of whether the 5¢ stamp was actually used on this cover, but apparently it was and escaped(?) cancellation. I could better determine the latter if I made a photo by ultra-violet, which I will be glad to do if you wish.

Re - a walnut 5¢ 1847, I never heard that name used and I consider it inappropriate. As a color ~~of~~ the year 1847, Chase listed "DARK BROWN" and "BLACK BROWN" and I believe either one would be much better than WALNUT. In fact, BLACK BROWN would no doubt be better than DARK BROWN. Did you mean that the stamp on the enclosed cover was "WALNUT?" If so, then this is what I call DARK BROWN as the BLACK BROWN (Chase) is much, much darker. I might add that the genuine BLACK BROWN is a rare stamp. Many mistake oxidized copies for the real shade.

3¢ 1861 cover of New York - Oct. 24, 1862. I do not think the stamp on this cover is unusual or a scarce shade. The only thing unusual about this stamp is the early use of this cover. I do not have a record of it as early as 1862. It is a pale brownish red. It is a distant relative of what I call the CARMINE LAKE, a very rare shade.

5¢ 1856 cover - 24¢ rate - Phila. to New York - Year? Why 24¢? This use had to be March 1858 or later. My opinion is that the cover is genuine and that the use was probably 1858. The years 1859-1860 and 1861 would be late for the 5¢ 1856. It is my recollection that Philadelphia used this sort of grid in the late eighteen fifties. But why 24¢? It could only mean 8 x 3¢ - no foreign origin - no registered - no other rate could apply but the domestic 3¢ - eight times. This would mean that this letter weighed more than 4 ounces but not more than 4½ ounces. One wonders what the enclosure could have been. My guess is, a "Daguerriotype" or two or more). Did you know that Sec. 88 of the P. L. & R. of 1857 (Regulations) read as follows: (quote) "Sec. 88 - Daguerreotypes when sent in the mail should be

#2. Mr. Paul C. Rohloff - Feb. 12, 1957.

rated and charged with letter postage by weight." (unquote)

I imagine the above is the solution of this cover.

I made color slides of all three and will send you copies if you wish any or all - you can advise.

I made a black and white photo of the 5¢ 1856 cover and will send you print if you wish - You can advise.

For my comment on the above there is no charge, nor for signing the 5¢ 1856 on the back. What could I sign the other two?

Re - the 5¢ 1847 Slater orange. I never heard this questioned by anyone who was competent to express a worth while opinion. There are a lot of gossipy old women in the game who freely express opinions on matters of which they have no knowledge. In my opinion the Slater 5¢ orange is absolutely a genuine color, no chemical changeling - no natural color changeling - a very rare and genuine stamp.

Nenie Jacobs advised Mr. Newbury not to buy it. I advised him to buy it. He took Ernie's advice. Well that is that.

Mildred joins me in much love to "Milly" and you.

As ever yours,

TELEPHONE
PLAZA 7-4460

APPRAISALS FOR SALE,
PROBATE & INSURANCE

DIRECTORS
H. R. HARMER B. D. HARMER
F. T. BUCK MARGARET MAHONEY

H · R · HARMER, INC.
INTERNATIONAL STAMP AUCTIONEERS

6 WEST 48TH STREET
NEW YORK 36, N.Y.

ALSO AT 41 NEW BOND STREET, LONDON, W. I.
AND 2b CASTLEREAGH STREET, SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

ESTABLISHED OVER 50 YEARS

CABLES
HARMERSALE, NEW YORK

LEADING AUCTIONEERS OF
RARE POSTAGE STAMPS

AUCTIONEERS OF THE
"PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT" COLLECTION

7th February, 1957

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

We are sending you enclosed herewith a United States 1861
24c unused, and we would like to have your esteemed opinion
about shade and Scott number.

When returning the stamp please let us have your bill.

With many thanks.

Sincerely yours,


H. R. HARMER, INC.


Herbert J. Bloch

HJB/MM
Enc. - stamp

No. 736267

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

SENT TO H. R. Harmer Inc		POSTMARK OR DATE
STREET AND NO. 6 West 48 th St		
CITY AND STATE New York (36) N.Y.		
<input type="checkbox"/> If you want a return receipt, check which <input type="checkbox"/> 7¢ shows to whom and when delivered	<input type="checkbox"/> 31¢ shows to whom, when, and address where delivered	

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.



Feb. 14, 1957.

H. R. Harmer, Inc.,
6 West 48th St.,
New York 36, N.Y.

Attention Mr. Herbert J. Block

Dear Mr. Block:

Herewith the 24¢ 1861 as per yours of the 7th. My apology for the delay in the return. For over a week we have had miserable weather, overcast to dark, and not the kind of light to examine a stamp for color.

In my opinion, this stamp is a faded lilac, and the paper is very yellowish. Further, I am no authority on grills but I do not believe this is the S.U.S. #99. If you have any doubt on that score, I suggest you send the stamp to Les Brookman.

There is no fee.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

TELEPHONE
PLAZA 7-4460

H · R · HARMER, Inc.
INTERNATIONAL STAMP AUCTIONEERS

CABLES
HARMERSALE, NEW YORK

APPRAISALS FOR SALE,
PROBATE & INSURANCE

6 WEST 48TH STREET
NEW YORK 36, N.Y.

LEADING AUCTIONEERS OF
RARE POSTAGE STAMPS

DIRECTORS
H. R. HARMER B. D. HARMER
T. T. BUCK MARGARET MAHONEY

ALSO AT 41 NEW BOND STREET, LONDON, W. I.
AND 26 CASTLEREAGH STREET, SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA
ESTABLISHED OVER 50 YEARS

AUCTIONEERS OF THE
"PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT" COLLECTION

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

14th
February
1957

Dear Stan:

I am enclosing a copy of what I hope is the 24c steel blue and would appreciate your observations as to whether this is so.

With thanks.

Sincerely yours,

H. R. HARMER, INC.

Bernard

Director

BDH:E
Enclosure

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Re - 24¢ 1861 - Lot 147 - in sale by H. R. HARMER, INC.
of February 11, 1957, and described as a 24¢ 1861
STEEL BLUE.

In my opinion, this stamp is the S. U. S. "#70B -
STEEL BLUE." It is a perfect match to one of my re-
ference copies - On cover to England from "Blairsville,
Pa. - Nov. 11, 1861."

What is considered the true steel blue color is known
on covers used in the last three months of 1861.

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK

February 16, 1957

Feb. 16, 1957

To

H. R. Harmer, Inc.,
New York, N.Y.

For Authentication

24¢ 1861 STEEL BLUE

Lot #147 H.R.H. Sale 2/11/1957 \$4.00

TELEPHONE
PLAZA 7-4460

APPRAISALS FOR SALE,
PROBATE & INSURANCE

DIRECTORS
H. R. HARMER B. D. HARMER
F. T. BUCK MARGARET MAHONEY

H · R · HARMER, Inc.
INTERNATIONAL STAMP AUCTIONEERS

6. WEST 48TH STREET
NEW YORK 36, N.Y.

ALSO AT 41 NEW BOND STREET, LONDON, W. I.
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ESTABLISHED OVER 50 YEARS

CABLES
HARMERSALE, NEW YORK

LEADING AUCTIONEERS OF
RARE POSTAGE STAMPS

AUCTIONEERS OF THE
"PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT" COLLECTION

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

20th
February
1957

Dear Stan:

Many thanks for your opinion on the steel blue and check for \$4 is enclosed herewith.

Thank you also for your letter of February 11th with the details of the three Worthington realizations of the Caspary Sardinia blocks.

Sincerely yours,

H. R. HARMER, INC.

Bernard

Director

BDH:E
Enclosure - Check

EZRA D. COLE

Rare Postage Stamps

NYACK . NEW YORK

Commissions . Appraisals

TELEPHONE NYACK 7-0964

February 4th, 1957

SEE
EK-103
9810
Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook,
P. O. Box 31,
Fort Thomas, Kentucky.

Dear Stan:

Thanks for reporting on the 3¢ 1861 cover. I have one of Em's Pigeon Blood covers here and one of my own which you signed and the darn things, with my poor eyesight, is exactly the same color except that it is a trifle darker, a little bit more heavily inked.

I am also enclosing a pair of stamps which a customer of mine bought in Lambert Gerber's last sale. Will you please give me your opinion of this pair for a fee, so that my customer can either keep it or return it to Gerber as the case may be. Please write me a separate letter on this which I can send to the owner with the bill.

Sincerely,

Ezra D. Cole.

EDC:mk1

Feb. 14, 1957.

Mr. Ezra D. Cole,

Nyack, N.Y.

Dear Ez:

We had clearing skies yesterday and today, and I had the opportunity to examine the two pairs of the 3¢ 1861. I thought at first that the cover had a pair of "pigeons" but a side-by-side comparison with my reference copies proved otherwise. The pair on cover is an excellent example of the true PINK but it is quite different from the pigeon. The off-cover pair is just a nice pair of the PINK. I signed both on the back. No fee for the off-cover item, but I am charging a fee of \$5.00 for the cover. Incidentally, this is quite a nice cover.

Re - yours of the 1st. Caspary Sale. There were three blocks of Sardinia in that sale that sold for over \$50,000.00. In the Worthington sale Caspary paid \$650.00 for them.

Re - Herst cover. I feel sure this fake was never in a U. S. auction. It was sent to me originally by Jamet of Paris, along with about 15 other covers in March 1955 for my examination. I pronounced about half the covers as bad, and he did not put them in a sale he held in June 1955. Recently he wrote me that he returned the fakes, including the 30¢ cover, to the owner. What he did with them he did not know. So I guess we would not be able to trace it. Would you like to have a photo print? No, I doubt if Bacher knows anything about it. Herst refuses to give me the name of the "client" who put it in his sale. He stated his client is a "friend" of mine. A "friend" could mean some eastern dealer.

With regards -

Yours etc.,

EZRA D. COLE

Rare Postage Stamps

NYACK . NEW YORK

Commissions . Appraisals

TELEPHONE NYACK 7-0964

February 7th, 1957

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

Dear Stan:

When you feel like it cast your eagle eye on this and please write on the back your guarantee and endorsement if you will, and charge me a fee. It is for a client of mine and he will pay it.

Sincerely,

EDC:mk1

Ezra D. Cole.

by


Secretary

Feb. 11, 1957.

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

Dear Ez:

I have your two registered with the two pairs of the 3¢ '61. We have had nothing but very heavy overcast, dark, rainy days for the past ten days. It looks like it might clear and if so I will give the two items the once-over tomorrow morning. A casual glance seems to indicate the off-cover pair a pale pink, whereas the cover looks as though it might be a real pigeon blood. If so, then it is some valuable cover. Let us hope my glance in the fog is correct.

For ten days I have been suffering tortures with shingles and I am unable to spend but a few hours at my desk.

Regards.

Yours etc.,

LEON HYZEN •

333 NORTH MICHIGAN AVE. • CHICAGO 1, ILLINOIS

ANDOVER 3-6640
SUPERIOR 7-6640

February 23, 1957

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Enclosed you will find two stamps that I recently purchased through an auction.

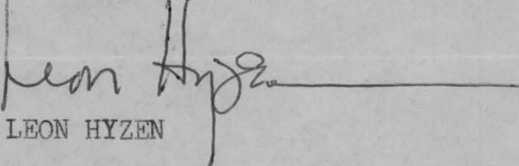
One stamp was listed as 1¢ blue, type 111 #21 the famous 99R11. The other 1¢ blue type 1V #23. I have identified each stamp as indicated in the enclosed card.

Although I have consulted your magnificent and authoritative work regarding these stamps I would feel doubly sure if you would kindly indicate if you think these stamps are genuine as described. Will you kindly do so on your letterhead?

I am withholding payment on these stamps until I hear from you. Enclosed is a token for your time together with a self addressed stamped envelop for the return mail.

With sincere thanks for your kindness and my very best wishes

Sincerely yours,


LEON HYZEN

*P.S. I am writing this upon suggestion of
Henry Kuhlman of Stamp and Coin Service.*

Feb. 28, 1957.

Mr. Leon Hyzen,
333 No. Michigan Ave.,
Chicago, Ills.

Dear Mr. Hyzen:

Herewith I am returning the two 1¢ 1857's as per yours of the 23rd. I apologize for the delay in returning these two stamps to you but I have been ill and unable to attend to any business.

You will note that one of these stamps is a Type II and the other is the common Type V.

May I thank you very kindly for the \$5.00 enclosed.

Incidentally, I have for sale a very fine copy of the One Cent 1857 99R2, the price of which is \$750.00. This is off-cover. It is my firm belief that the perforated 99R2 is a much scarcer stamp than the imperforate 7R1E. I have a record which I have compiled over the years of over sixty copies of the 7R but less than 20 copies of the 99R2.

Sincerely yours,

1209 North Astor Street • Chicago 10, Illinois

ARCHITECTURE
LEON HYZEN
INDUSTRIAL DESIGN

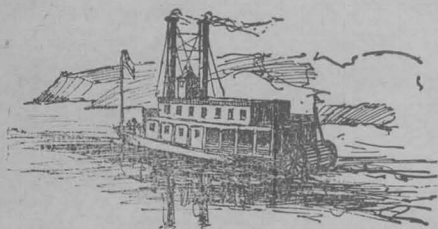
Mr. Stanley Ashbrook
33 No. Fort Thomas
Fort Thomas, Kentucky



AIR MAIL



POSTAL HISTORY OF IOWA



WOODROW W. WESTHOLM
1605 THOMPSON AVENUE
DES MOINES, IOWA



Des Moines, Iowa
January 21, 1957

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

Dear Stan:

Two reasons compelling me to write you today.

1. Have you ever had occasion, previously, to see an "imperforate" 3¢-1869 on cover?
2. Knowing how rare the very early steamboat covers on the Mississippi seem to be, thought you would like a record of my latest find. "Steam B. Mo." (repeated in full spelling at bottom-left of cover "Missouri", 27 June 1828, from St. Louis to Prairie du Chien. "Rock Island - 26" also in manuscript. Rate: 25¢ + 18 3/4¢ Missent, then 25¢ deducted from 43 3/4¢ "over charge" leaving a collectible balance of 18 3/4¢.

You may return the enclosed cover at your convenience so that I may return it to its owner, a novice collector, from whom I shall attempt to purchase the item.

Yours very truly,

Woody
Woodrow Westholm.

www

enclosure (3¢ Imperf. 1869 tied by neg. * cancel on RICES STORE VA. MAY 25)

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 **Woodrow W. Westholm**
1605 Thompson Ave
Des Moines Iowa

THIS RECEIPT DOES NOT PROVIDE FOR INDEMNIFICATION

Jan. 28, 1957.

Mr. Woodrow Westholm,
1605 Thompson Ave.,
Des Moines, Iowa.

Dear Woody:

It was nice to hear from you after quite a lapse.

Herewith the 3¢ 1869 cover. I regret to state that I do not think this was an imperforate but rather a regular perforated from which the perforations were trimmed. By the year 1869 we had a large number of stamp collectors in this country and among them quite a few who were quite busy making varieties such as this "imperforate" as well as "part perforate." It is surprising how many are still doing the same thing. There was no occasion to issue any 1869 stamps in imperforate condition, nor is there any record of such.

Congratulations on your recent find of the S.B. cover of 1828. That is surely very early. I would love to see it and make a photo for my records.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

HORACE S. POOLE, PRESIDENT
1475 MONTROSE TERRACE
DUBUQUE, IOWA

CHARLES I. ALTMAN, VICE-PRESIDENT
2936 RUTLAND AVENUE
DES MOINES, IOWA

WOODROW W. WESTHOLM, SECY-TREAS.
1605 THOMPSON AVENUE
DES MOINES, IOWA



AFFILIATED WITH FEDERATION OF IOWA STAMP CLUBS

Des Moines, Iowa
March 10, 1957

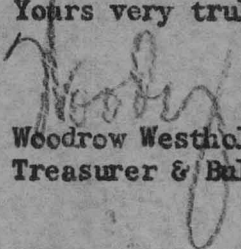
Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
P. O. Box 31
33 North Ft. Thomas Avenue
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Stan:

Thank you for your comments concerning the "manufactured" 1869 imperf. I had suspected as much myself, but thought that, in the event that a legitimate variety had been turned up, you would be glad to know about it.

As per your request, I am enclosing the STEAM BOAT MISSOURI cover for your perusal and recording. I would appreciate an early return (allowing yourself a reasonable time to process it) so that I might have it with me on my prospective trip to Peoria March 30-31.

Yours very truly,


Woodrow Westholm, Secretary-
Treasurer & Bulletin Editor.

WWW
enclosure: Steam B. Mo. cover

March 13, 1957.

Mr. Woodrow W. Westholm,
1605 Thompson Ave.,
Des Moines, Iowa.

Dear Mr. Westholm:

Thanks very much for your kindness in sending the enclosed cover to me. I do not recall ever seeing an upper Mississippi Steamboat cover that was used as early as 1828, but, of course, I am no student of such items. In your opinion is 1828 an exceedingly early use? Of course, here on the Ohio River it is a different proposition as much earlier dates have been recorded, in fact, I think I have one along about 1816.

If Eugene Klein was alive, he would surely welcome a sight of your cover. His daughter is carrying on his work and no doubt she would welcome advice regarding this item.

Do you know Paul Rohloff of Chicago or Henry Hill of Minneapolis? If so, do they know about your cover?

I did not make a black and white photo but for my records did make a color slide which I will be pleased to loan you in case you would like to see it.

Again many thanks.

Cordially yours,

CIRCULATION DEPARTMENT

St. Louis Globe-Democrat

INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

TO _____

DATE March 6, 1957

FROM _____

Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

Enclosed are two stamps on which I wish your opinion. The stamp from Siegel was purchased as 85B. I'm inclined to think it is #87. Also, if it is 85B would the breaking through of the grill detract from its value? According to the catalogue the grill is supposed to break the paper—should it do it to the extent that this one does? The grill on the other stamp measures correctly but it just doesn't look right to me.

Would you kindly return the stamps and bill me here at the Globe.

Sincerely

Walter I. Evans

Walter I. Evans

HERE AT THE GLOBE

March 10, 1957.

Mr. Walter I Evans,

% The St. Louis Globe Democrat,

1133 Franklin Ave.,

St. Louis 1, Mo.

Dear Mr. Evans:

I am in receipt of yours of the 6th enclosing the 2¢ 1867 B.J., Siegel sale, Lot 371 and your single. I am not much of an authority on grills and I fear my opinion would not be of much help to you, so I am sending the two copies up to my good friend Brookman whom I consider very competent on such varieties. I will return them to you as soon as he returns them.

I have been ill on and off for several weeks and I sincerely apologize for my negligence in acknowledging receipt of your recent check for \$2.43. Many thanks.

My kindest regards.

Sincerely yours,

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

No. 736271

SENT TO

Walter I Evans

POSTMARK
OR DATE

STREET AND NO.

1133 Franklin Ave

CITY AND STATE

St Louis (1) Mo

If you want a return receipt, check which

☐

7¢ shows
to whom
and when
delivered

☐

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

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

☐

20¢ fee

NEWPORT, KY.
MAR 1 1955

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.

March 13, 1957.

Mr. Walter I. Evans,
% The St. Louis Globe Democrat,
1133 Franklin Ave.,
St. Louis 1, Mo.

Dear Mr. Evans:

Herewith your two Black Jacks and also letter from Mr. Brookman, which you pay copy if you wish and return to me at your convenience.

I suggest that you make out the check for \$4.00 to L.G. Brookman and send it direct to him or you can mail it to me and I will forward. Incidentally, I agree 100% percent with him that Mr. Siegel was not aware that anything was wrong with his copy.

With kindest regards -

Sincerely yours,

H. SCHUYLER COLE
WILLOW HILLS LANE
CINCINNATI 27, OHIO

February 8, 1957

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

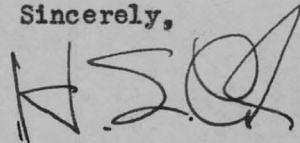
I am sending you enclosed herewith two stamps of the
1¢ 1851 denomination, on which I would like to have
your opinion.

One of these is listed as a Plate III stamp. If this
is correct, I would appreciate your signing it as such.

The other is one which I would like to have you check
and let me know which Plate it was printed from.

I expect you to bill me as usual for your help, which
I greatly appreciate.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'H. S. Cole', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

att. 1

Feb. 11, 1957.

Mr. H. S. Cole,
4700 Willow Hills Lane,
Cincinnati 27, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Cole:

I have yours of last week with the two copies of the One Cent 1851. I am laid up at present and unable to spend much time at my desk but I hope to be okay in a few days and will examine your copies and give you a report.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

Feb. 18, 1957.

Mr. H. S. Cole,
4700 Willow Hills Lane,
Cincinnati 27, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Cole:

I have had an attack of shingles and it has been very painful. I managed to examine one of your copies and I am returning it herewith.

You inquired if it was a Plate 3. To be sure, I had to plate it and plating a copy like this is not exactly easy. However, this stamp is 21R3, no doubt about that.

I will examine the other copy and return to you later.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

Feb. 19, 1957.

Mr. H. Schuyler Cole,
4700 Willow Mills Lane,
Cincinnati 27, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Cole:

Herewith the other copy of the 1¢ 1851 as
per yours of the 8th.

This stamp is a Type II - "B" relief from
Plate 2 - the plate position is 28R2 and I have
signed it as such on the back.

With regards -

Cordially yours,