

Scrapbook No. 43 March 1957

	Scrapbook No. 43 March 1957
1.	U.S. Post Office Inspector Re: Forged Letter
2.	E.C. Krug Re: 90¢ 1860 N.Y. Ocean Mail
3.	Re: Ex-Confederates in Brazil
4.	Philatelic Foundation Re: Black, s.m. Type A 30¢ 1860
5.	E.C. Krug Re: Hawaii covers
6.	R.M. Wilkinson Re: Patriotic Magnus Soldiers Letter
7.	Edward J. Milliken Re: 24¢ Banknote cover by Fortgang
8.	Lee Chadwick Re: Flag of Truce cover
9.	Jack Molesworth re: Hawaii Cover 1¢ 1857 PL. 4
10.	John D. Pope III Re: U.S. City Despatch Post cover
11.	E.C. Krug Re: Covers from Paige sale and 2 covers from Mexico
12.	C.C. Hart Re: 5¢ 1847 orange (Stuart cover)
13.	E.D. Cole Re: Sandusky & Newark R.R.
14.	E.C. Krug Re: 5¢ pair from Boston, ex-Seybold
15.	E.D. Cole re: 24¢ 1861 stamp
16.	W.O. Bilden Re: 3 covers, CSA and confederate
17.	M.C. Blake Re: 24¢ 1861 steel blue, Act of March 3, 1825
18.	C.E. Cummings Re: Redland Cal Two 1¢ 1851
19.	R.H. Erlander Re: Two 3¢ 1861 covers (Pink)
20.	R.J. Engle Jr., Re: 10¢ 1861 "TAG"
21.	Gordon Harmer Re: 21¢ via French Mail to Switzerland
22.	Jack Molesworth Re: CSA "Ways Station" GA
23.	Jack Molesworth Re: 12¢ 1857 Bisect
24.	Millard H. Mack Re: 4¢ rate to France
25.	E. Perry Re: 24¢ 1857 Plate, 4¢ compound, PL & R
26.	Sam Paige Re: 5¢ N.Y. from Jersey City
27.	Carl Pelander Re: Sale of March 7-9, 1957
28.	Elizabeth Pope Re: 10¢ Providence
29.	John D. Pope III Re: Mail to Holland
30.	Dr. W.S. Polland Re: cover to Marburg Prussia
31.	John D. Pope III Re: Cover from Washington
32.	John D. Pope III Re: pair 5¢ N.Y. cover from Boston, ex-Seybold
33.	Mrs. C.L. Wunseh Re: 30¢ 1869 cover
34.	Wm. Wyer Re: 1¢ 1857 R.R. cover
35.	Herman Herst Jr. Re: Fake 30¢ 1869 cover
36.	
37.	J.W. Kelley Re: 1¢ 1856 PL 5
38.	Millard H. Mack Re: 10¢ to France in 1873
39.	Robert W. Baughman Re: Huffman covers
40.	Mort Neinken Re: "SHIP 6" repealed
41.	Sam Paige Re: 6¢ to England, 42¢ to Sweden, to Spain
42.	John O. Theobald
43.	John Fox 90¢ 30¢ 10¢ 1861
44.	Gordon Harmer Re: Five covers

Post Office Department

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR

INSPECTOR

Cincinnati 1, Ohio, February 15, 1957

CASE NO. 19116-E

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

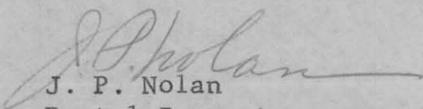
Dear Sir:

It is important that I see you regarding an official matter which I am investigating.

If you can arrange to do so conveniently, please call at Room 220, Post Office Building, Cincinnati, Ohio, on Wednesday, February 20, 1957, between the hours of 9:00 and 11:00 a.m., and bring this letter with you.

If it is not convenient for you to call at the time and place shown above, please telephone me promptly at Cherry 1-5820, ext. 408, in order that we can arrange a time and place for an interview.

Sincerely yours,


J. P. Nolan
Postal Inspector
Cincinnati 1, Ohio

wp

Post Office Department

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR

J. P. Nolan

P.O. Box 2057, Cincinnati 1, Ohio

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

RETURN AFTER FIVE DAYS

1-17

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID
PAYMENT OF POSTAGE, \$300

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

Feb. 17, 1957.

Mr. J. P. Nolan
P. O. Box 2057,
Cincinnati, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Nolan:

Referring to yours of the 15th, I have been laid up at home for the past three weeks with a painful attack of the shingles, therefore, it would be impossible for me to call at your office as requested.

I will be glad to have you call and see me but suggest that you first call Mrs. Ashbrook, Hiland 1-1183 and find out if I am able to talk to you. Some days I get along okay, others not so good.

Very truly yours,

March 17, 1957.

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

Dear Em:

Please note the enclosed correspondence and kindly return to me.

In my letter to you of Sept. 2, 1951, page 2, I referred to lots 480-1-2 and 83 in the Jefferys sale. I stated that I never passed on the Ocean Mail for the P.F. (to my recollection). I judge that I went thru items I had passed on for them and found no record of the Ocean Mail copy. I have the Jefferys' catalogue before me and I note it is stated Lot 480 has a P.F. certificate.

Later

I searched a list of photos I made from July 1851 to November 1851 and the list did not contain a print.

Later

In my index file of "New York Ocean Mail on the 90¢ 1860" I found the following memo, quote: "90¢ 1860 - Ocean Mail cancel - a copy in the Jefferys collection - as per article in "C.C.P." of July 1933." (unquote) At this writing I have not looked up the article. Also in this same file I found the following, quote: "90¢ 1860 - with N.Y. Ocean Mail cancel of 'May 21' - submitted to S.B.A. by P.F. Expert Committee on Dec. 14, 1950. S.B.A. opinion - 'Genuine' - No photo made. See scrap book No. 20 - page 7." (unquote) I looked up S.B. 20 and on page 7 I found the report I made to the Committee, quote: "Certificate 2772 - 90¢ 1860 - black - New York 'Ocean Mail' off cover - cancel of May 21 - S.B.A. stated, quote: 'In my opinion this cancellation is genuine. The failing was May 21 - indicating 1861 (1860 too early - 1862 too late). The tri-monthly sailings at that time were on the 1st, 11th and 21st - May 21 in 1861 fell on Tuesday." (unquote)

Em, there is the story - What more can be added? I think I should make a photograph of the stamp and attach it to a certificate with my authentication. When I receive it I will hold it pending your instruction on this suggestinn.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

P.S. As far as I am aware there are only three 90¢ 1860 with the O.M. marking, Jessup has two. Over the phone you mentioned P.F. certificate #3064. My records show that this was the 90¢ with blue Baltimore, Md. p.m. of Dec. 1, 1860. The P.F. sent it to me on May 22, 1951 and my opinion was that it was genuine.

EMMERSON C. KRUG

3008 13TH AVENUE SOUTH
BIRMINGHAM 5, ALABAMA

March 17, 1957.
Sunday P.M.

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

Dear Stan,

To rehash what was just said over the phone the enclosed was lot 61 @ \$88.25 in the Stolow sale of March 7, 1957.

It was lot 480 in the Harmer Rooke Jeffrys sale of 9/18/51 and sold for \$170.00 to somebody else. I bought lots 481-482-483. Lot 481 had Foundation Certificate No. 3064 dated 6/4/51 (prior to the sale) and I think to Harmer Rooke & Co. This leads me to believe that this O.M. 90¢ was issued at the same time, both listed as having Foundation Certificates. I do not attach much to the fact that this stamp is minus the certificate and do not necessarily think this means it was withdrawn. I have had to ask if an auctioneer wanted the certificates when selling stamps with them. I don't think they mean much at an auction anymore.

But I would guess that if a certificate was issued in 1951 it was passed by you. Lot 481, that I previously owned was signed as a genuinely cancelled stamp. See Daniels description in his sale of my stamps last March 24- lot 186 which was lot 481 Jeffrys.

If I keep the stamp and goodness knows I would like to have it, it must pass your approval which means I want it signed as a genuine cancel. I know it has some faults as to its repairs, but I can overlook that.

More later/ but I would like to have a report on this stamp due to the circumstances involved as we talked about over the phone. I'd even welcome a COLLECT WIRE if it proved O.K.

Sincerely,



Enclosed all
just as received
except hinge
removal.

Insured
By
Coupons

Returned
MAR 19 1957
AIR MAIL
Special
Delivery
Put In
Box In
Front of
BANK

The following is a copy of the letter enclosed in the envelope from
the Ex-Confed in Brazil

Estacao de Santa Barbara
Dec 29th 1880

Dear Capt.

I wrote you last month and afterwards received your last. On Sunday the 26th the race came off. Our colt got the second place and second purse. He failed to win the race through the fault of the rider, whose judgement was worse than mine though he had 20 yrs experience in riding. My horse was only beaten 1/2 length, he started behind the 1st horse in which case he should have run for the inside track when entering the straight, which was my order and which he did not do. My colt had more bottom and equal speed and runs better up here, (the quarter is up hill) better than the winner of race - he could have taken the track & even had he failed the other would have been done up by the time he entered the home stretch. 4 horses ran. Our scrub horse & one other was left standing at the Post through villainy or mismanagement of the Starters while the 2 which had no chance ran by themselves. We would have won easily & we lost on days transaction only \$80.00 & I was so disgusted that I sold my colt for \$1,250.00 as it is too much trouble & expense & interruption to other business to train race horses. Had we let Reece ride we would have won the race & \$500.00 & could have sold for \$2,000.00, but let it rip, it will make no difference 100 yrs hence.

Our crop is looking fine both corn & cotton, no worms as yet. We will sell this year rather lower than last. 31.00 pr hundred in the seed. Say to Frank & ? that Dick Bryan died 60 miles from home, very suddenly, with an apoplectic attack, he had been in very bad health for 12 months. My plow business is still good with fair prospects of being better though the price of exchange takes off some of the profit being 15 per cent below your currency on ? blades we make 400 pr cent, ? less than 100 pr cent, & on ? Plows, 60 pr cent, ? 100 pr cent, on double and single trees only 20 pr cent. So you see ? only ? large sales to do a big paying business. When I get on a good lot I shall travel around as drummer & hope in next 12 months to sell \$10,000.00 worth.

I think slavery will go up in this country in from 3 to 6 years, perhaps sooner, as far as I am personally concerned the sooner the better as those who know how to use their own hands would have all underhold. I feel sure in this case that I could make 100 ? de Reis, or \$50,000.00 in 3 years. We could plant 50 acres in cane by our own labor, hire hands to help make it up - this province only makes 1/5 of its sugar & rum, none would come from abroad & consequently sugar would be to 16 to 18 cents a lb. & rum to \$200.00 a pipe. 5 pipes can be made to the acre. Some people think slavery will not last 2 years: if so you and Boys could come out & make your fortune very "suddenly" (as old Uncle Buck would say). But I still hanker after the old Country & in spite of the election of Garfield I don't think the country is yet ruined but still I think the best thing for you all in the South to do is to join the Rogues & get part of the spoils. The success of the Democratic party is far in the future, but even should they succeed it would only be a change of thieves. I would like very much to pay you all a visit but can neither spare the time nor money. If I had money enough to buy a fine stallion & 1/2 doz. mares I should be sure to give you a call but the

pense on these animals would be at least \$500.00 a head to this station & consequently I couldn't buy what I should want.

I have bought 1 whole & 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ tickets in the Ypiranga (?) lottery - Capital \$500,000.00, 2nd \$200,000.00 etc. Should I draw even 5 or 10 thousand I could stand a trip to the States. This drawing is to take place 30 inst., but I rather think will be deferred as the tickets have all been bought on speculation & to favor them the drawing will be deferred 1 month.

Jane's hair is getting pretty white & I am 53, but yet a boy physically. I shall try to hold out to 100 yrs. Col. Norris, family are all well & so is ours. We will have our crop laid by in 10 or 12 days but will have plenty to do, such as cleaning pasture, repairing fence, making cotton house & building anything in shape of a ?? can tell you is an expensive & slow business.

I shall write you again next month. All join me in love to you and yours. Sincerely yours
Geo G. Mathews

THE PHILATELIC FOUNDATION

22 EAST 35TH STREET

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A. H. WILHELM

June 20, 1950

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

Dear Stan:

I trust by now you have received the Brattleboro cover in good order.

We enclose three items - Nos. 2477, 2483, and 2516, upon which we would appreciate your opinion as soon as possible.

We also enclose an item sent to us by the Royal which I think you would like to see as I know you are particularly interested in this cancellation.

I had a most enjoyable time at the International Exhibition in London and they certainly put on a grand show. You, probably, will hear all about it from Doc Heman and Chuck Meroni. If, however, there are any particulars that you might like to know concerning the show or philately in London, I will do my best to answer your questions.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

THE PHILATELIC FOUNDATION

Winthrop S. Boggs
Winthrop S. Boggs
Director

1

encls.4

Re - this pendney -

30d 1860 - Black "Supplementary Mail"

from the Royal of London

their ptg No. 34484 - -

meeting of 29 Mar 1950

~~my~~ marked "Sir Nicholas
Waterhouse" - my memo

stated "In my opinion this
S.M. marking is unquestionably
fraudulent"

3d 1857 - Cover - (part) - my memo stated

"In my opinion this is genuine

- a vertical 3d 1857 imperf

between - the use was

Oct 11 1857 -

Quarter 12d 51 Black Cover - my

memo - I am familiar with this
cover - have a record of it
in my files - have previously
examined it and in my
opinion it is genuine

99R 2 on cover - "This is from

Position 99R 2 - Due to damage at
bottom this stamp classifies as
follows," This was a type III before

The cut at bottom
destroyed the type

JUN 22 1950

TA-NI-O-N-E-T-A
M

W-I-N-T-O-N-E-O-N-D

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 11-11-83 BY SP-6 JRS/STW

EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

June 23, 1950.

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

Dear Win:

Herewith the lots contained in yours of the 20th. I have made notations on each including the 30¢ 1860 from the Royal. You can erase my note.

From all reports that I have had, the London Show was a decided success but it is a pity that more collectors on this side did not exhibit and show more interest in the affair.

I was pleased with the awards to Van Velthoven - to Weatherly - Finney - MacBride and others. It appears that Mrs. Dale made a very valuable contribution. It is wonderful that she is carrying on for her father.

I understand the Expert Committee has okayed the fake 5¢ - 10¢ 1847 cover that was in the Knapp sale - Lot 2284. Is that true?

Sincerely yours,

March 15, 1957.

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

Dear Em:

Re - covers from Hawaii. If you will look thru auction catalogues I think you will find covers from Honolulu after July 1863 to 1868 with a single 5¢ stamp are most unusual. Such covers will show the large red Honolulu marking which reads, "Honolulu U. S. postage paid." In other words, the sender paid 10¢ in cash and the postmaster marked the letter as paid and put on a single U. S. 5¢ stamp to pay the 2¢ ship fee and the 3¢ U.S. postage. I am wondering if you have such a cover.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

S.--Thanks Em, for the Mercury Journal. I am on their mailing list and received this regularly. I thought his comments were very good.

S

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

March 20, 1957.

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

Dear Stan,

Of course I was delighted to receive by the morning mail the 90¢ 1860 stamp approved by you. You wrote "no fee" on your note, but if you made a photo as you said you did and will make it attached to a certificate of yours, then there will be a fee. Please remember.

I have written the P.F. as per the enclosed copy. No return needed since I made another copy. I hope I have worded it properly and as you would have had me do. The answer will be sent to you as soon as I hear.

I have remitted to Stolow for the 90¢ stamp today.

I am sending you herewith six covers to be signed. Since you have already seen most or all of these I am enclosing \$30 in cash for same. Since it costs nothing to enclose, here is the cover from the Pollitz sale, my first purchase from him. I got it for \$36.50 against a bid of \$50.00. Wasn't this a Stark cover? Note you have signed on the back for somebody. Maybe Howard?

Many thanks until better paid for the photographs for your work on the 90¢ stamp. Will report later on the four slides you sent when I have a chance to set up my projector. Have been very busy last few days.

Sincerely,

For Registration:

Cover #179-Haw 34	183DK12/4/54	81.90
" #73-65-Haw 9	136HR10/4/54	52.50
" #76- Haw 9	137 "	78.75
" #36- Haw 9	459RS10/11/56	105.00
" #68- Haw 32	Fox12/1/56	100.00
" #17- Haw 8	415RS10/11/56	160.13
		<u>578.28</u>

And

Cover #116	42Pollitz	
	3/16/57	38.90
		<u>617.18</u>

March 16, 1957.

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

Dear Em:

Here are some slides to look over. Keep any
you wish or return all.

EK 106 - 20 - Lot #690 - Described as dark
brown lilac. Regardless of what is the right name for
the stamp it is a rare color.

EK 106 - 24 - Lot #690 = the stamp on the above
cover - Excellent color reproduction.

EK 106 - 29 -- Your cover - Indian Red

EK 106 - 32 - Stamps on your two covers side-by-
side - red brown at left - Indian at right. There is
a lot of difference.

Regards.

Yours etc.,

EMMERSON C. KRUG
3008 13TH AVENUE SOUTH
BIRMINGHAM 5, ALABAMA
March 21, 1957.

OK
500

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

Dear Stan,

Your registered letter came this morning with the return of my covers. I was most happy with the results, particularly the cover with the two 5¢ red browns to Holland. I enclose the \$5 for your expertizing same. I return the card from your files. My cover is sure a nice companion piece.

I was glad the cover with the Eastern R.R. to England was nice enough to warrant a consideration for the future issues of the Services.

I am enclosing a little cover which I have just noted in my collection which I bought a couple of years ago in a Pelander sale. Funny how things become focused in your mind sometimes. Can you recall the penmanship in the two 5¢ 1857 covers which you have just returned to me? The Indian red and the brick red from Campeche, Mexico. Well this cover which I have always just listed as New Orleans to Genoa. Now I am of the opinion that it originated in Tabasco state Mexico. This is the same identical handwriting, pure Spencerian. Note that Tabasco and Campeche, Mexico are adjoining and very small states, like our counties. I think or guess that the scribe of these letters was a hired person who could write English for Mexicans, unable to do so. In all probability the same person was used by all parties involved. What do you think? You may return it when you send back the batch of Hawaiian covers I sent you last night and which may be return only after you have time to go over the same.

I put the slides on the projector last night. I must make a confession- I am completely color blind. My eye doctor does not let me drive an auto for the past two years since I have some blind spots in my eyes. I never told you this before but its a fact and I cant see the various shades like you or Ez do. The slide containing the two 5¢ 1857 stamps looks like the same to me except possibly one, the indian red, is fenser. For the two slides I enllose the \$2.00. Since I dont own the 24¢ 1861 and dont expect to I am returning same. But I do appreciate seeing them.

I am under the impression I put a check for the signing the strip of Brick red, Mexico to Bordeaux inside the envelope. Did I? If not please advise me.

Sincerely,



Enclosed		
Cover #36(3)24(2)	41CP4/29/55	\$30.00
	5%	1.50
	Cash	7.00
		<u>38.50</u>

March 23, 1957.

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

Dear Em:

This will acknowledge receipt of yours of the 21st with enclosures as stated. I will go over the cover very carefully over the weekend and return with Hawaii covers next Monday. This cover to Italy (Genova) by Prussian Closed Mail surely did originate in Mexico, but I will check it carefully.

Do you have a complete file of the "Stamp Specialist?" In an early number Komwiser (?) had an article on "FORWARDING AGENTS" - I will look it up to see if he listed any in Mexico - What did you think of the large 8 x 10 photo that I sent?

More later.

Yours etc.,

March 25, 1957.

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

Dear Em:

Herewith the 38¢ rate cover from Mexico, "State of Tabasco" Via New Orleans in March 1859 to "Genova" Italy - This was Genoa of the "Sardinian States" - The rate in 1859 by "Prussian Closed Mail" was 38¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce. I signed the cover on the back with explanation of the rate. Quite a nice cover. It pays to watch the "forwarding firm" handstamps as per the one on the face of this cover.

Thanks for the \$7.00 enclosed and return of the two slides.

Em, I do not think you are color blind - but rather the blind spots are not unusual in people past the 60 to 65 years - I think a lot of people imagine such spots are a forerunner of blindness but they are due to hardening of the blood vessels in the eyes. Harold Brooks was sure he was going blind six or seven years ago but he still has plenty of vision.

You are all paid up and you do not owe me a cent. This in answer to your query.

I talked to Howard Lehman last night. He told me that the Pony Express garter cover in the Caspary sale fetched \$5,500.00 and he was the "runner-up" at \$5,250.00. - That Weill was the buyer. I predicted \$5,000.00 to \$6,000.00. He attended the Paige sale and said P.R. was in attendance and that he and Molesworth were the principal buyers. That the stampless cover - Express Mail - with handstamp, cost P.R. \$375.00. Richey had several that I sold at \$15.00 and thought I was getting a high price - Stampless have sure come into their own.

Dark, cloudy, rain, high wind and down to 32 this morning - a most miserable day and in such light I too am color blind. I doubt if I could tell a rose from a pink.

With regards -

Yours etc.,

March 25th, 1957.

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

Dear Em:

Herewith the six covers plus the Pollitz cover as per yours of the 20th which I acknowledged last week.

First, re - the Pollitz cover. This may have been a Stark cover but I am not sure. I would have to search thru a lot of records to find out. However, the cover looks very familiar. The use must have been Shanghai, Oct. 13, 1869 and San Francisco - My memo on back does not look like recent vintage. Here is a photo print that I dug out of my files. I have no idea when I made this but it seems to me this was a Richey cover. I could have sold it to Stark. In any event it is quite a nice cover and well worth the price you paid for it. With the photo I also enclose a print of a cover that was sold in a "Norona sale" - Date of sale? Note type of cancel and handwriting. I also enclose a third print of a cover in the same handwriting - this from Hioga, Japan, in 1871 according to memo in lower left. The cancel is the small circular "HIOGA - JAPAN." I rubbed out my old memo and signed a new one - I judge this use was 1869, hence an early overland trip by train from S.F. to the East.

Re - the six (6) Hawaii covers. (1) - 12¢ 1851 plus 5¢ Hawaii (unused). The following are my memos for future reference -
Siegal sale - 10/11/1956 - see EK60 - 13 - Also see A842 - Siegal described the 5¢ as No. 9, whereas it is No. 8.

(2) - "Hawaiian Steam Service" 10¢ U.S. 1861 plus 5¢ Hawaii (blue) S.U.S. No. 32, to Cambridge, Mass. - Ex-Harris - as noted on the back. A memo indicates this may have belonged to Knapp - note "E.K. 19-23 - \$50.00." This I doubt because I don't think Ned was collecting U.S. or Hawaii covers in 1923. This is an exceedingly nice cover. (EK 108 - 23 - 4 x 5).

(3) Hawaii cover - Use probably 1866 - 5¢ 1863 brown plus 5¢ Hawaii #9 - Honolulu Jan 3 - S.F. Jan 2? - to Marlboro, Mass. (EK 108 - 26) Also (A612).
Re - enclosure - I do not think this letter came in this envelope.

(4) Hawaii cover - A use in Jan.-Feb. 1862 - 12¢ 1857 plus 5¢ Hawaii #9. No reason to question this cover - Okay in every way. (EK 108 - 29).

(5) Nice combination of Hawaii 5¢ No. 9 plus 2¢ B.J. plus 3¢ 1861 - From Honolulu Oct. 7, 1865 - S.F. Oct. 28 - 65 - Ex-Adm. Harris - To Perryville, Conn. (See EK 108 - 32). Signed on back.

(6) Hawaii Registered cover - with the 18¢ Hawaii (#34) plus pair 5¢ Taylor - The combined rate was Hawaii to U.S., a triple 6¢ rate in 1879. Apparently no fee for registration in Hawaii but payment of the U.S. 10¢ Registration fee at San Francisco - Memo on back states this letter was registered at Honolulu on Dec. 2, 1879. In 1879 the U.S. fee was 10¢. Re - memo on back that this is the only cover known addressed

#2. Mr. Emmerson C. Krug - March 25th, 1957.

to the U.S. with the 18¢ stamp. This 18¢ stamp was issued in 1871 to pay high rates to the U.S. such as 3 x 6¢. (The 12¢ black for 2 x 6¢). Apparently only 175,000 were issued, so no doubt there were quite a few used to the U.S. However, covers are far more rare than the S.U.S. indicates. Their quotation of \$3.50 on cover is ridiculous. As for Henry Meyer, he wrote the Hawaii book for Admiral Harris on data that Harris supplied. I do not consider Meyer any sort of an authority on Hawaii. He is one damn little yellow rat with whom I have nothing to do - a close bosom friend of Scruggs. Take my advice and do not contact him. Harris had a #34 on cover - just one - see Lot 278, his sale, April 27, 1954. A cover to Canada - not illustrated. There was no cover with a #34 in the Tows sale. If you want something to do, search auction catalogues and see if you can find any covers with #34. I made a regular photo of this cover and will use it in a Service Issue, emphasizing the extreme scarcity of covers with this stamp.

I am enclosing some photo prints that I made some years ago - These with my compliments, so do not return.

Thanks Em, for the \$30.00 currency which you enclosed.

Best regards -

Yours etc.,

R. M. WILKINSON
BOX 129
SHELBY, OHIO

March 15, 1957

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

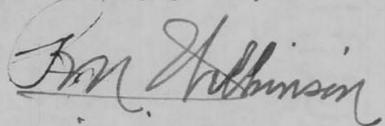
As per your request to see this cover here it is. The reason I did not send it at first I didn't want to burden you with anything extra.

But it is such a pretty cover that I did want you to have a chance to look at it.

I am so glad to learn that you are much improved, I was concerned about your health all winter.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,



March 16, 1957.

Mr. R. M. Wilkinson,
Box 129,
Shelby, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Wilkinson:

Yours of the 15th received and I am returning herewith the Patriotic cover, which I note is a Magnus. This was a soldier's letter and as you are aware, members of the armed forces were permitted to send mail unpaid with the postage due on delivery. This was by special act of Congress. Such mail had to be signed by a company officer. I note that your cover has the signature of the Chaplain and is handstamped "Due 3". The postmark is not very plain but it looks like Washington. The Regimental handstamp is not very plain but read, "Soldier's letter 1st L.I.Vols," which I judge might have meant the First Regiment of Long Island Volunteers. I do not know whether this is listed in the book on Patriotics. When I get a little time I will look it up.

With kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

Jan. 28, 1957.

Mr. Edward J. Milliken,
% National City Bank,
17 East 42nd St.,
New York 17, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Milliken:

I have not had any word from you for quite some time but I sincerely trust that you have been in the best of health and that all goes well with you.

I am enclosing a photo print that I thought you would like to see. This was a cover - a folded letter that was submitted to me this past week and which, in my opinion, is a fake. The London and Amsterdam markings are tracings of these markings on the back and they seem to indicate that the year use was 1874 but I am quite confident these year dates were changed and that this use was not from New York in September 1874.

Incidentally, as you are aware, there was no 24¢ rate to Holland at that time. I am not familiar with a foreign mail cancelation which was made to appear to tie this 24¢ stamp to cover. I am wondering if you can confirm my suspicion that it is fraudulent.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

EDWIN MILLIKEN

28 E 70th
N.Y. 21
Feb 9th 41

Dear Ashbrook

I am quite pleased to hear from you after so long an interval although the subject of your letter is not pleasant to think about.

Yes, the N.Y. F.M. is a phony in my judgement for these reasons:-

- (1) The London transit pm. is blue. While blue may have been used I never saw one on many covers of the period examined. French transits were frequently blue.
- (2) A perceptible mark at right near bottom of stamp apparently could be remains of the covers original cancellation.
- (3) While without sight of it, the intense or jet black of cancellation of the cover

shows it ^{so} would condemn it out of hand.
At the period the black of these
cancellations is greyish more like the
color of the New York p.m. under the
cancellation.

So that even if the 24th rate was
right the cover steel seems made for those
boys who are so plentiful just now
with plenty of money for rare covers.

It was a disappointment not to see
you at the time of the big show last
year. I am not active in the world of

collecting due largely but not entirely
to pressure of other activities. Also eye sight.
When time permits hope soon to sell
my collection. It contains about 5 or 6
 dozen 1st (young) but none of the real
rarities.

With best wishes always,
Sincerely,
Howard Mitchell

March 21, 1957.

Mr. Edwin Milliken,
28 East 70th St.,
New York 21, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Milliken:

When your letter of Feb. 4th arrived, I was laid up with a very painful attack of "shingles" which incapacitated me for almost six weeks. This will explain why I failed to acknowledge your prompt reply to my letter of Jan. 28th.

It was indeed nice to hear from you, but, of course, I learned with regret that you are not as active in your philatelic work as formerly and that you are contemplating parting with your collection. We are not as young as we were a decade or more back and time does take its toll as I am certainly beginning to realize.

Again thanks for your letter which I have carefully noted.

With all good wishes -

Cordially yours,

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

March 28, 1957.

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

Dear Harry:

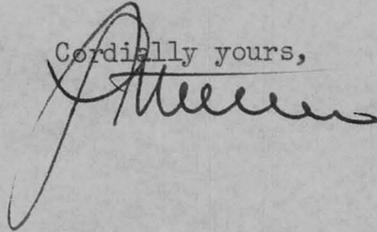
Thanks for your reply to mine of the 21st. I found the correspondence that we had last October re - the 24¢ 1869 cover from New York to Albany.

I note your letter states that this was the "Gibson 24¢ B.N. cover." I looked up the Gibson sale but was unable to find a record of this cover. I do not know what you meant by "B.N." The address looked a bit like "ALBANY - N.S." but I know of no town in Nova Scotia by the name of "ALBANY" and a registered letter in July 1870 would have required a rate of 6¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. plus 5¢ registration fee. I do not think this was a 3 x 6¢ plus 5 with 1¢ overpaid, but rather a registered from New York to Albany, N.Y. of 3 x 3 plus 15¢ registered.

Your comment will be appreciated.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,



(S.B. 41-50-B847)

Dear Stan -
The cover I referred to was a 24¢
Bank Note which was turned down by you before
altho it came out of Gibson sale. Someone from
N.Y. put it to you again a couple of months
or so again and it was turned down. I
just wanted you to know that everyone
involved knew it was turn down before.
S.B.

Ketter

See SB 41

P 50

Re 24469 Cover

April 15, 1957.

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

Dear Harry:

I suppose the enclosed photo print is of the cover you referred to. Please return. I have no recollection of seeing this cover until last January, but I attended the Gibson sale and I may have not liked it at that time. This was ~~sent~~ sent to me by whoever it was you mentioned but by Morris Fortgang. No doubt it had been submitted to him.

Harry in 1955, the S.U.S. listed for the first time a 10¢ Providence on cover. Did this mean that such a cover had turned up? I never heard of any such a cover but Slater in his book stated that there were rumors that such a cover was in existence. Can you enlighten me?

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

p. Europa

Via Steam per open Mail

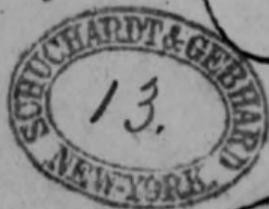


Black

Mrs. Christophorus v. Hemert



Red



Amsterdam

sep 1874



BLUE



RED

ON BACK

M.F.

B/16
F.L.

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

JAN 27 1957

Photo B880

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

No. 225129

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

SENT TO Lee Chadwick		POSTMARK OR DATE
STREET AND NO. 8470 Blue Ash Road		PORT, KY. MAR 1 1957 THOMAS BR.
CITY AND STATE Rossmoyne Ohio		
<input type="checkbox"/> If you want a return receipt, check which 7¢ shows to whom and when delivered	<input type="checkbox"/> 31¢ shows to whom, when, and address where delivered	<input type="checkbox"/> If you want restricted delivery, check here 20¢ fee

POD Form 3800
Mar. 1956

Replaces previous editions of
this form which MAY be used.

1. Stick postage stamps to your article 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 article, leaving the receipt attached, and present the article to a postal employee.
3. If you do not want this receipt postmarked, stick the gummed stub on the address side of the article, detach and retain the receipt, and mail the article.
4. If you want a return receipt, write the certified-mail number and your name and address on a return receipt card, POD Form 3811, and attach it to the back of the article. Endorse front of article RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED.
5. Save this receipt and present it if you make inquiry.

Special Memo

from

MINT SHEET BROKERAGE
Mailing Address: Rossmoyne, Ohio

ORIGINATORS of
STAMP MARKET



The BID and ASK
Established 1936

PHONE -
CINCINNATI EXCHANGE
TWEED 1-4444

Fee
\$500-

February 25, 1957

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

Dear Stanley:

As you know, we have been working with some Confederate material and when we ran across the enclosed we eyed it with considerable suspicion.

However, we felt it best to get your expert and valued opinion before doing anything with it, which again would be much appreciated.

Kind regards,

Lee
Lee Chadwick

LC:ta

Feb. 28, 1957.

Mr. Lee Chadwick,
% Mint Sheet Brokerage,
8470 Blue Ash Road,
Rossmoyne, Ohio.

Dear Lee:

Herewith the Flag of Truce cover as per our conversation over the phone tonight. You will note that I have signed this cover on the reverse. The fee is \$5.00.

It was nice talking to you.

With kindest regards -

Cordially 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

March 13, 1957

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

Dear Stan,

First, may I express my regret at hearing of your recent illness, and my sincere hopes that you will shortly be back to normal. Secondly, please accept my sincere apologies for what apparently appeared to you to be an attempt to kid you on the so-called "orange" 5¢ 1847. Actually, the joke is on me and not on you, as I purchased this item as #1 in the recent Menjou sale held by H. R. Harmer, where it was Lot #7, and cost me \$80! In fact, when I received your March 8 letter I was initially at a loss to understand what you were driving at, but on closer examination discovered the obvious, which I frankly had completely overlooked in examining this item before the auction and also examining it more carefully afterwards. I now see that it is #3, the 5¢ 1847 reissue, and most likely an India Proof that has been built up. This was, of course, the basis for my questioning it when I dipped it in fluid before sending along to you, though not noticing at that time that it was the design of #3 I was unable to put two and two together. Please be assured that there was no attempt to deceive you, rather, I was the one who had been deceived. Fortunately, it came back just as I was sending my check off to Harmer for that sale, so I was able to return it.

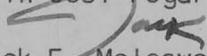
I appreciate your comments on the 1¢ 1857 Pair. After you have fully recovered from your illness, I might send that pair back for you to examine under ultra-violet photographs, though there is no hurry on that.

I also appreciate your comments on the 2¢ Green Confederate cover, which agree with my own observations completely. I frankly did not even notice that the old auction description included with the cover mentioned that it was a "Free Frank," as such is of course absurd, since no-one in the Confederacy had the free franking privilege other than the Post Office Department itself. I was quite interested in your additional comments about the death of General Pettigrew.

I am most happy to enclose my check for \$4 to cover your efforts on those items. I was also interested in examining the cover face which you sent, which certainly would be excellent raw material for some faker. However, from my experience the reperfers generally do not have a perf 12½ wheel, and it would be a rather expensive proposition to have such made up specially just to make an item or two such as this, so I doubt they would go to that extreme.

It would appear Jamet's skirts are clean on the 30¢ 1869 cover, so it would seem that someone else is the nigger in the woodpile. I hope he may be able to throw some light on that when his customer returns. I appreciate very much your cautioning me with respect to the 10¢ 1847 cover in the Waterhouse sale. Maybe that is the reason that it went so cheap.

With best regards,


Jack E. Molesworth.

JEM:fc

P.S. Enclosed is a Hawaii cover on which I would appreciate your comments as to the usage of the #76 now on the envelope. It has the San Francisco cogwheel cancel, but shows no tying marks, and in several spots looks as if it should. Please sign the reverse if you feel it is okay. J.E.M.

O.K. to hold this week or two till you are fully recovered.

350 Fee

March 15, 1957.

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

Dear Jack:

I am in receipt of yours of the 13th with enclosures as stated. Thanks very much for your check for \$4.00.

Okay on the 5¢ #3. It looks like three of us were taken in on this item, Harner, you and me. I guess we were all looking at the color more than the design. If I ever saw ~~#3~~ anything like this color I have no recollection.

Re - the 1¢ 1857 Plate 4 pair. You can send it back at any time and I will photograph it by ultra-violet. 14

Re - the Confederate 2¢ green Pettigrew cover. Have you any objection if I illustrate this, as well as comment on it, in a Service Issue?

I have little doubt that Jamet is in the clear. I believe the cover was made by Zareski and sold to someone over there who put it in a Jamet sale, and when I informed Jamet it was a fake, he turned it back to the owner. I believe Herst claims that someone in this country owned it and I suppose this could be true, but it seems odd that the owner would put it in a Jamet sale.

I am returning herewith the Hawaii cover, which I have authenticated on the back. You will note that the red Honolulu postmark is under the stamp and it reads, "Honolulu U. S. postage paid." In other words, the sender paid the full postage of 5¢ Hawaii, 2¢ ship fee and 3¢ United States. Apparently the postmaster put the 5¢ stamp on, when the letter reached San Francisco, it was canceled and 2¢ was paid the ship. Covers such as this are most unusual, that is, with a single 5¢ U. S. From the markings I judge this use must have been 1867. My fee on this cover is \$3.50.

With kindest regards -

PAID 3/20 Here

Cordially yours,



Jack E. Molesworth

Philatelic Dealer and Broker

102 Beacon Street

Boston 16, Massachusetts

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

March 20, 1957

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

350

Dear Stan,

My thanks for your March 15th letter, as well as your recent note regarding Jessup and the Foundation, and also your note mentioning the 5¢ 1847 cover used abroad in the Knapp sale.

Enclosed is my check for \$3.50 to cover your fee on the U.S. #76 used from Hawaii. I was pleased to know that it is okay, and see the explanation for the 5¢ rate which I previously was unable to justify myself.

I was quite happy to have you use the 2¢ Confederate Pettigrew cover in a future issue of your Special Service.

Regarding the 30¢ 1869 cover, I believe it is quite possible that the party who originally placed it in the Jamet sale, later sold it to someone in this country, who in turn put it in the Herst sale. Quite possibly that person bought it on an "as is" basis, as the price he paid would indicate.

I am re-enclosing the 1¢ 1857 pair, and would appreciate your checking it by ultra-violet to determine for sure if it is unused.

I presume, and sincerely hope that you have recovered from your recent illness. Assuming this is correct, I am most happy that your recovery has been a rapid and, I hope, complete one.

With best regards,

Jack E. Molesworth.

JEM:fc

P.S. As you had requested, I finally sent the 10¢ 1847 cover used abroad along to Krug, who returned it since he had picked up a companion cover in the same London auction where I bought mine, though he did indicate he thought the price was most fair relative to the rarity of the cover and the price which I had paid for it, which he was aware of it. J.E.M.

March 25, 1957.

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

Dear Jack:

Yours of the 20th received with check for
\$3.50. Thanks very much.

Also the 14 1857 vertical pair from Plate 4,
which I have not had time to photo by ultra-
violet as yet but I will do so very soon and
return it to you.

I understand that the Sam Paige sale last
Saturday was quite a success and that you bought
some nice items.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

March 26, 1957.

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

Dear Jack:

Herewith I am returning the 1¢ 1857 Plate 4 vertical pair. I made three 5 x 7 negatives of this by ultra-violet and I will give you a report just as soon as I can carefully examine the prints. The negatives do not seem to show any sign of any cancel removal.

With regards --

Sincerely yours,

Off

#57
Plate 4

46L
56L

Unused

SBA
Signed
This On The
Back As
Uncanceled

See Ultra-Violet
Photograph
Made March
26 - 1956

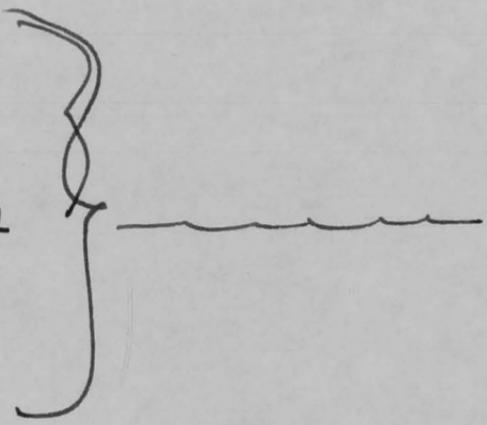
To

Mr. Jack E. Molesworth
102 Beacon Street
BOSTON (16) Mass.

DO NOT MAKE ENVELOPE

DO NOT MAKE ENVELOPE

For Authentication
And Photographing
of 14 1857 V.P. From
Plate 4 - 46L4 - 56L4
Types III And IIIA -
Uncancelled



\$5.00

LAW OFFICES OF
KOENIG AND POPE
818 OLIVE STREET
ST. LOUIS 1, Mo.

FORMERLY
HAYNES AND KOENIG
TELEPHONE-CENTRAL 1-0109
CABLE ADDRESS
PATENT

DELOS G. HAYNES
(1887-1950)
LLOYD R. KOENIG
JOHN D. POPE III
IRVING POWERS
STUART N. SENNIGER
DONALD G. LEAVITT

March 26, 1957

Dear Stan:

Enclosed is a cover I've just acquired. It was lot # 377 in the Caspary sale of Carriers and Locals and my first request is that you examine it to be sure it's genuine (the stamps "belong"). While I don't have any doubts I'd like you to put it through its paces.

Also, I'd like your thoughts as to the rate. The carrier stamps (according to the notation underneath the stamps) apparently are to prepay both the carrier fee and the 12½¢ postage from New York to Philadelphia. My guess is that the sender actually got by a little cheaper than he would if he'd paid cash for the 12½¢ postage, since he could buy the carrier stamps for \$2.50 per hundred. But I'd guess that the accounts of the carrier division and the regular postoffice functions of the New York post office were separate, so there'd have to be some sort of internal accounting by the carrier division — since they'd been paid for services carried out by the regular post office employees.

Incidentally, you may of course make any use of any part of this in your Service that you wish but please do not mention my name.

I'll be happy to send you your fee as soon as I know what it is.

(Caspary 377
Sale of
3/18-57)

Sincerely,
Dhu

March 28, 1957.

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

Dear John:

Yours of the 26th received enclosing the U. S. City Despatch cover, New York to Philadelphia - same being Caspary Sale, March 18, 1957, Lot 377. I am returning herewith and authenticated it on the back. There is no question but what this cover is genuine in every respect. This was a U. S. Government postage stamp for which the Washington Department had received 3¢ each. The writer apparently had a supply on hand and used them to pay the combined rate of $12\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ plus 3¢, though it is not apparent how the extra $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ was paid if at all. The catalogue description states - "and blue Ms. '12 $\frac{1}{2}$.'" To my eye the blue pen reads, "12" rather than $12\frac{1}{2}$, so perhaps the $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ was waived. These stamps are all genuine and the red cancelations are okay. Also the curved "PAID" of the New York P.O.

This "PAID" shows that the postage to Philadelphia had been paid, and that the N.Y. office accepted these 5 stamps as evidence of that payment. I consider this a most unusual and an extremely rare cover. My congratulations to you on its ownership.

Thanks for your permission to use it in a Service Issue and if I do I will not disclose the name of the owner. Perhaps you will have noticed that I have ceased to mention the names of owners of covers, unless they request me to do so.

With regards-

Cordially yours,

March 28, 1957.

To

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

For authentication of N.Y. Carrier
U.S. City Despatch Post cover -
New York to Philadelphia -
Lot #377 in Caspary Sale of March 18, 1957 \$5.00

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

March 26, 1957.
Tuesday.

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

Dear Stan,

I have just received the few lots I got from Cole and Paige sale. You will note that P.R. was after my lots and got them. I am quite disappointed in what I did get but I wanted you to see them and pass on the ones I have asked to be signed. I am not enclosing check for fees because I don't know which you may reject, if any.

I include my bid sheet for you to copy the prices of the ones I missed. Please return.

In the sale Paige threw out lot 559, the cover with the strip of four 10¢ 1855 with a stamp missing. I don't see why he should have thrown it out and not stated so. The strip off cover is worth a nice amount at \$6.00 for singles. It was bought ^{mine} by me in an auction without any knowledge that a stamp was missing. Why could not Paige have stated at the auction that—"lot 559 has a stamp missing."? *and then sold it.*

Enclosed 11 lots from Paige—\$559.00 total.

In a big hurry to get in mail.

Sincerely,



How are you feeling by now?

Thursday
March 28, 1957

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

Dear Em:

I am today in receipt of yours of the 26th with the following
Paige lots:

277, 425, 437, 458, 671, 672, 748, 753, 766, 771 and 777.

I have checked all of these and they are all okay. Lot 777
has 14¢ which I assume was a double, though the rate was the 5¢ U.P.U.
rate in December 1875.

Re - #437. I think this is very questionable, hence I could not
sign it. Inasmuch as you saw it before the sale, do you think you could
return it? It cost very little (\$31.00). The chances are it was a
stampless - Apparently those who attended the sale were leary of it.

Inasmuch as all are okay with exception of #437, you can go ahead
and remit if you so desire. I will return them tomorrow or Saturday.

I sure like Lot 771 - 4¢ to Italy. This was not a first class
letter but rather the printed circular rate of 4¢. Most unusual and you
could search a lot of auction cats before you would find another (in my
opinion).

Regards.

Cordially yours,

March 29, 1957.

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

Dear Em:

As per mine of yesterday, the 28th, I am herewith returning the Paige lots as listed in my letter. I have signed those that you requested and made comments on others. I returned your bid sheet in yesterday's letter.

Re - your reference to Lot 559, the chances are that Sam was not aware that this cover had a stamp missing at the time he wrote the catalogue - someone probably called his attention to it and he threw it out because it was not as described. I think such a course was fair and ethical. I do not recall that I informed him a stamp was missing but I sent for this cover in February and I may have made a pencil memo on the cover. I did not know that the cover belonged to you.

Later

I looked up the slide I made on Feb. 20th and find my pencil notation, "Stamps missing." I made this for photographing and no doubt failed to erase as I generally do.

I have not no word from P.R. re - the Paige sale and may not receive any.

I am feeling almost normal.

Regards.

Yours etc.,

March 29, 1957.

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

Dear Em:

Re - your two covers from Mexico addressed to "BURDEOS" France, because Mrs. John Pope collects Spain I sent her the photo of your two covers and inquired if my guess that "Burdeos" was Spanish or Mexican for Bordeaux.

She wrote that she could find no confirmation in any reference material that she had so she called up the Mexican Consul in St. Louis and he assured her that my assumption was correct - that Burdeos is a Spanish spelling for Bordeaux - but that properly mailed should be addressed in the manner in which the natives spell the city. And that Burdeos is pronounced "BOOR-DAY-OS" with the accent on the day.

I know this will be of interest to you.

Regards.

Cordially yours,

March 29, 1957.

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

Dear Mr. Hart:

Yours of the 25th received with the 5¢ 1847 off cover copy and the stampless cover, both of which I am returning herewith.

Re - the 5¢ 1847 - from Elmer Stuart. As you stated, I sent you a color slide of this copy in December 1955. Re - the slide EK 106-4 that I sent you recently. This thing fooled me as I looked at the cover not the stamp. It came in when I was quite ill and it did not occur to me at the time that it was the 1875 rather than the 1847. The owner bought it in some sale as an 1847 orange. After I had returned it to him I got to thinking about it and it occurred to me that the color was too unusual to be an 1847 stamp, so I had him return it to me so that I could re-examine and photograph. The grid looks quite O.K.

Re - the stamp enclosed. Several years ago I heard that Elmer had found an unused, with gum 1847 orange, so I wrote to him to please let me see it. He was quite positive it was a real orange, so when I returned it to him I did not dispute his opinion, because he did not request my opinion regarding it. I believe it had some gum at the time and as I recall, he inquired if he ought to remove it. I advised him to do so as the stamp could hardly be classed as o.g. I think the stamp is what the S.U.S. lists as the No. 1C - RED ORANGE, and I think it is an excellent example of that color. Years ago this stamp is what Chase called the orange.

Re - the spot in the head - I would not attempt to remove this as any such attempt might injure the thin paper, nor would I suggest trying to remove the blue marks on the back. It is too bad that both are on the stamp but I do not know how I would go about removing them without possible injury. I suppose some of the crooks over in Paris might be able to do so without leaving any trace.

Yes, the stampless is a nice example of the 1848 Retaliatory Rate. Both sender and recipient had to pay the sea postage. I signed this with full explanation on the back with name of the Cunard ship which brought it to Boston. The sender thought the Magara was going direct to New York but he was in error. Covers in this class are most interesting in my opinion. The rare items are those from the U.S. by American mail ships - sea postage and domestic paid here and taxed a shilling in Britain. They are rare. 34¢ rates into this country applied to distances over 300 miles, viz., 24¢ plus 10¢.

Caspary and Paige sales. Thanks very much for your comment.

Jack Dick - I haven't heard a word from him for six months or more. He cut quite a figure for awhile.

R.P.I. forms. I will get at these after next week.

#2. Mr. C. C. Hart - March 29, 1957.

Mrs. Ashbrook wishes to thank you very much for the imperf. Parks.
They came thru in superb condition. Also my thanks.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

90

C. C. HART

Suite 1020-, 922 Walnut St.
KANSAS CITY (6) MO.

DO NOT MAKE ENVELOPE
DO NOT MAKE ENVELOPE

MAR 28 1957

For authentication
 of 5¢ 1847 uncanceled
 Red Orange (E Stuart) ----- \$ 5.00

For Relativity Rate
 Coax ----- No charge

NORTHWEST

EZRA D. COLE

Rare Postage Stamps

NYACK . NEW YORK

Commissions . Appraisals

TELEPHONE NYACK 7-0964

March 26th, 1957

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

Dear Stan:

Did you ever see the enclosed? I never did.

Please send it back when you have finished with it.

Sincerely,


Ezra D. Cole.

EDC:mkl
Encl.

March 30, 1957.

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

Dear Em:

Your Air Special with the 5¢ New York cover arrived at 10 A.M. today. I will sign the cover as genuine because there is no evidence that it is not as represented and because of its background history which extends back many years - Ex-Seybold - Ex-Caspary, etc. The chances are that Caspary sold it to Seybold. If you wish to be on safe ground, why not request an extension subject to approval by the P.F. - I think you are entitled to do this. If they turn it down you would not have to accept it. In the meantime I will hold it pending further word from you.

Re 5¢
N.Y. Cover
From
Boston

I also have yours of the 27th which I have carefully noted.

Re - P.R. Jack Mokesworth complained in a letter just received that P.R. will pay much higher prices at auction than if offered privately. Example the Paige sale.

Yes, we saw the TV program and I was able to answer the question that stumped her due to the Canary covers.

Re - the 5¢ 1847 cover previously mentioned. No further word but you shall have first option if it is sent to me. ←

Re - Jessup's 90¢ 1860 off - Yes, one is a cluck and the other V.F. - If I can find a duplicate photo print would you like to see it?

I will look up Lot 264 in the Paige Sale that you wanted and which went to P.R.

Best wishes -

Cordially yours,

EZRA D. COLE

Rare Postage Stamps

NYACK . NEW YORK

Commissions . Appraisals

TELEPHONE NYACK 7-0964

March 26th, 1957

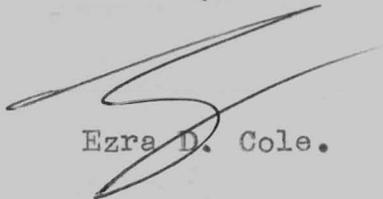
Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook,
P. O. Box 31,
Fort Thomas, Kentucky.

Dear Stan:

Just for the Hell of it what do you call this stamp?

As you can see I did not pay anything for it and don't care about it but it has a better than average color and under a glass in daylight there is a little violet in it.

Sincerely,



Ezra D. Cole.

EDC:mkl

March 30, 1957.

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

Dear Ez:

Re - the enclosed 24¢ '61. This is
a well preserved copy of the red lilac, and
quite different from the violet of 1861.
This is a good reference copy of #70.

Regards.

Yours etc.,

William O. Bilden
Rare Stamps, Coins and Covers

MEMBER

3c, 51 & 57 UNIT
WESTERN COVER SOCIETY
AMERICAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY
TRANS-MISSISSIPPI PHILATELIC SOCIETY
AMERICAN STAMP DEALERS' ASSOCIATION
NORTHWEST STAMP DEALERS' ASSOCIATION

200 KASOTA BUILDING
MINNEAPOLIS 1, MINN.

April 6, 1957

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

Dear Stan:

I am enclosing three covers that I would like your opinion on. Is the 3¢ 1861 a pink in your opinion? Is the 30¢ rate on the Confederate a genuine cover and if so is it a triple rate? The Confederate patriotic, is it genuine and is the stamp the official perforated variety or an unofficial perf. ? Please send me a bill for your expertization fee.

In your letter of Feb. 18 in reply to mine of the 5th you asked for the location of ST-JAGO*DE-CUBA. This is the old Spanish spelling of Santiago, Cuba. Also, Thank you for sending me the names of several persons who I might contact in regard to information on the British postoffices in the U.S., three covers bearing such postmarks that I sent to you.

I apologize for the tardy reply to your letter.

With best personal wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,

April 13, 1957.

Mr. Wm. O. Bilden,
200 Kasota Bldg.,
Minneapolis 1, Minn.

Dear Bill:

Herewith the three covers as per yours of the 6th. I have "opinionized" each one on the back. That opinionized is a term used by my good friend Creighton Hart out in K.C., Mo. A great chap - Do you do any business with him? Perhaps you do.

Re - your queries. Is the 3¢ 1861 a PINK. Note my memo on the back of the cover. It is a very brilliant early rose and a color in my reference collection that I have for many years called, "DEEP PINKISH ROSE." Perhaps a better ~~term~~ would be, "A brilliant Rose." Dealers down East don't hesitate to sell this stamp as a "pink" and I got stuck with one which is not quite as good as yours - cost \$38.00. I failed to compare it side-by-side with seasoned reference copies. It is surprising how much difference there is between a PINK and a PIGEON BLOOD and also between a "pinkish rose" and the PINK. As far as rarity goes, I suppose your stamp is just as scarce as the true PINK and it is more beautiful - more brilliant - in my opinion. Also it is well to bear in mind - never examine a PINK in bad light - cloudy - over-cast days, etc.

Re - the Confederate 20¢ plus 10¢. Inasmuch as this is a most unusual combination, and rate, I made a very careful examination - employed all my methods, data, etc., etc. The cover is genuine, in my opinion beyond any question of a doubt. It was a wrapper with a 3 x 10¢ rate. Don't sell this Bill unless you get a darn good price, but I doubt if you need that advice.

Re - Confed. perforated stamps. 999 out of a thousand are fakes. I wouldn't give a dime a dozen for them. They have been made by the thousands and I think anybody who would collect such crap is nuts. See my memo on the back of your cover. I don't charge a fee for passing on such covers. It would be worse than taking candy from children. My fees for the other two is enclosed.

By the way, have you ever done any business with Mr. Emmerson C. Krug, 3008 - 13th Ave., South, Birmingham, Ala.? He is a very close friend of mine. I will be glad to recommend you to him in the highest terms. He likes 19th covers only - to 1875.

How did you like the write-up I gave your S.M. cover in my current Service Issue? Have you an 18¢ Hawaii on cover?

With regards -

Cordially yours,

April 13, 1957.

To
Mr. Wm. O. Bilden,
Minneapolis, Minn.

Fee for authentication
of C.S.A. wrapper with
10¢ 1863 Type II and 20¢ green \$5.00

3¢ 1861 PINKISH ROSE
on cover -
Warrenton, Va.
Feb. 25 (1862) 3.00
\$8.00

PAID
APR 20 1957

William O. Bilden

Rare Stamps, Coins and Covers

MEMBER

3c, 51 & 57 UNIT
WESTERN COVER SOCIETY
AMERICAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY
TRANS-MISSISSIPPI PHILATELIC SOCIETY
AMERICAN STAMP DEALERS' ASSOCIATION
NORTHWEST STAMP DEALERS' ASSOCIATION

200 KASOTA BUILDING
MINNEAPOLIS 1, MINN.

April 18, 1957

Stanley B. Ashbrook
Box 31,
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Stan:

Enclosed is check for \$8 in payment for expertization fee for covers sent. Thanks. You mention C.C. Hart and Emerson Krug. I have sold the former a few things, but have never sold anything to the latter, as I can recollect. They are both after the higher powered covers in choice condition of which very little comes my way. Most of the material I sell is of the medium priced category and my main clientele are state specialists, territorials, stampless, westerns, etc. Of course, when I do obtain any choice material in the higher priced category I have ready sales for any of it, but this is not my bread and butter trade in my cover business. However, I will be glad to contact Mr. Krug and perhaps I may be able to send him a few items from time to time.

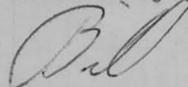
Re - the Confederate 10¢ on Union Patriotic. I did not think that this was the perforate variety of which most are counterfeit, but I am not enough of a specialist in Confederates, so I wanted to make sure. You did not mention whether you thought this was a genuine cover - that is - whether the stamp belonged on the cover.

Re - the 20¢ plus 10¢. Could you give me a rough idea of what this cover should retail for. This and the above cover are in a lot that I have to make an offer on and that is why I wanted to be sure of their genuineness before making an offer and if you could give me an idea on the 30¢ rate it would help me in arriving at a figure.

Re - the 18¢ Hawaii cover. I have a customer up here who specializes in Hawaii who recently bought a cover with either a strip of 5 or 6 of this stamp on used together with a U.S. 10¢ banknote, either a #187 or #188, I believe. I believe that it is a registered cover and is a large legal size and used sometime in the eighties, I believe. If you wish, I will be glad to send you his name and I am sure that he will be glad to send it to you for your inspection. This cover was in an original find that Sam Paige sent to me a couple of years ago. It was all Hawaii and some very nice material. He wanted me to make him an offer, but it was not satisfactory. He later broke it up and a couple of my clients up here bought out of it, although they did not buy any of it through me.

Your writeup on the S.M. covers was very good. Your thoroughness and presentation on everything you writeup amazes me.

Cordially yours,



April 25, 1957.

Mr. William O. Bolden,
200 Kasota Bldg.,
Minneapolis 1, Minn.

Dear Bill:

Yours of the 16th received with check for \$8.00. Thanks very much.

I will advise my friend Krug to contact you and make a request to send him any covers that you think might be of interest to him. If you run across anything nice in 1869 covers, I would be much interested.

Re - the 10¢ Confed on Patriotic cover. Yes, I thought that the stamp was used originally on the cover, and such uses are not uncommon. Supplies of envelopes, stationery, etc., etc., were captured or taken from the dead and used in this manner. By no means uncommon.

Re - the 20¢ plus 10¢. I do not recall ever having seen a C.S.A. cover with this combination before and inasmuch as there was no 30¢ rate except a 3 x 10¢ such a rate would indicate a weight of over one ounce. As you are aware, there was a 40¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce rate - the Trans-Mississippi. Re - the value. Values are hard to guess these days, and especially on a "specialty item" such as this. If you could locate a buyer who was seeking rare "combinations" he would pay more than just a collector of C.S.A. Do you know Earl Antrim out in Nampa, Idaho? Try him. If unsuccessful, try Earl Weatherly. If I owned the item I would price it at \$175.00. You might not get it but you might.

I sure would like to see the 18¢ Hawaii cover that you mentioned and the owner's permission to make a photograph of it. I will greatly appreciate any assistance you can give me.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

MAURICE C. BLAKE
11 MASON STREET
BROOKLINE 46, MASSACHUSETTS

March 31, 1957

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Stanley:

It is very good news to learn that you have regained your good health, for which all of your many friends will rejoice.

I simply cannot harmonize the statement in your letter of March 26th that you presented in detail in your STAMP SPECIALIST article your reasons "for believing that no 24¢ stamps were issued in the steel blue color in the fall of 1861" with your statements on page 112 of the Yellow Book: "I have in my reference collection a single off cover copy of the 24¢ Steel Gray with a very plain post-mark of Sept. 21, 1861, which is the earliest record I have of any 24¢ stamps in the Slate, Steel Gray, or Steel Blue classification. There are a number of variations of these three Slate, Steel Gray and Steel Blue colors, all of which were no doubt issued in the fall of 1861."

Whether the two examples on your covers herewith returned have faded or changed at all from their color as issued may be perhaps a question, but that they were ever the 1861 violet seems impossible. Surely they are of the Slate or Steel Gray or Steel Blue group. It may well be that these colors were the first printing and a few sheets put aside to improve the color to the violet desired and then the violet sheets piled on top of the steel gray sheets, so that the violet were perforated and issued shortly before the steel gray blue stamps in the fall of 1861.

As for the 4¢ Playing Cards, certainly that stamp could not have been issued in the color "violet" of S.U.S. No. R21. I find in the Reference List of the BOSTON REVENUE BOOK, Revenue Stamps of the U.S., First Issue, 1862-1871, page 361: "No. 66, 4c. Playing Cards Slate

All of these perforated on	No. 67, 4c.	"	Greenish Slate
thin paper.	No. 68, 4c.	"	Gray Lilac
	No. 69, 4c.	"	Dark Gray Lilac"

The 4¢ Playing Cards was "First Printed March 19, 1863. First Delivered to Dep't. April 11, 1863. Plate No. 4 O. 170 (17x10 rows) stamps per sheet". (Page 40). Letter from Butler & Carpenter to Department Nov. 18, 1865:

"Three years ago, when we commenced the stamp business, we had but one mill for grinding colors. In the hurry of business at that time confusion sometimes occurred in regard to colors; in neglecting to clean the mill before changing the color.....To prevent confusion of color we have found it necessary to have several mills for grinding our colors." (Page 17). Letter from Bur. Int. Rev. Commissioner to the Contractors, July 19, 1864: "Playing Card and Proprietary stamps are now regarded as identical, and are to be used indiscriminately. When your present stock of Playing Card stamps is exhausted, it is deemed best to dispense with that kind of stamps." Balance reported Aug. 2, 1864, "4c. Playing Card 266,482" (Page 18) of total printed 697,170, with additional 17,000 imperforates in the vault." (Page 40).

Re: credit 16 on 20¢ cover from N.Y. June 11, 1870, probably you are right that there was no distinction made per AM. or BR. PKT., tho the British single credit on incoming mail of this sort was 2 CENTS for only U.S. internal. Credit errors are so rare at N.Y. that I assume we may not have discovered the reason in this case, which may be because of the British-French scales for Br. 2x4d=16¢, leaving U.S. 2x2¢ internal.

Best regards,

Sincerely yours,

Maurice C. Blake

MAURICE C. BLAKE
11 MASON STREET
BROOKLINE 46, MASSACHUSETTS

April 2, 1957

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Stanley:

The only difference between our interpretations of Section 34 of the Act of March 3, 1825 seems to be that you are convinced that the one cent for the port postmaster on each out-bound sea letter prior to the Anglo-American Postal Treaty was charged to the P.O. Department, whereas it seems to me that at least prior to 1839 and thereafter perhaps until 1852 on letters sent out by transient vessels, this postage of one cent may have been payable by the master of the ship or by its owners when the letters were delivered from the port P.O. on board or to the agents.

In the case of the letter shown in your enclosed photo, if the Boston postmaster received one cent for placing it aboard the Cunard "Acadia" Dec. 1, 1847, that one cent must have been paid either by a charge to the U.S.P.O. Dept., or by the the Captain or by the Boston Cunard Agents. The Act states: "and for every letter so received (by the port postmaster), there shall be paid, at the time of its reception, a postage of one cent, which shall be for the use of the postmaster respectively receiving the same." This sounds like actually being paid the one cent, not charging it to the P.O. Dept.

Furthermore, the Act adds: "And the Postmaster General may make arrangements with the postmasters in any foreign country, for the reciprocal receipt and delivery of letters and packets through the post office." Whether any arrangement was made when the British subsidized the Cunard steamers whereby this one cent per letter was to be paid to the U.S. port postmaster by the Cunard Captains or Agents may be a matter for investigation. However, even if the one cent was chargeable by the U.S. port postmaster to the P.O. Dept. in the case of letters sent out by the British Contract Mail Steamers from 1839 to 1849, it still does not necessarily follow that this one cent was so charged in the case of letters sent out through the U.S.P.O. by strictly transient, non-contract private vessels.

It may be noted that in the Act of March 2, 1827, Sec. 2, the method of payment to port postmaster on incoming ship letters is quite clearly specified: "That the Postmaster General be authorized to allow to each postmaster one cent for every letter received from any ship or vessel, and mailed by him, provided, his usual commission, together with the allowance aforesaid, shall not exceed the sum of two hundred dollars a year." No similar authority appears to have been given the P.M.G. for the one cent postage payable to the port postmaster on outbound ship letters received either locally or through the mails to be put aboard such vessel.

My correspondence with Elliott Perry has been almost exclusively concerned with carrier service, having been one of those who were impressed as editors of his manuscript on U.S. Carriers at the Philatelic Museum 1851-57 Unit Meeting in Philadelphia in July 1951. At last there are prospects that his material will now be published. I doubt that it would be very helpful to raise this one cent outbound ship letter problem with him at this time. As ever,

P.S. Please turn over.

Sincerely yours,

Maurice Blake

*By the way, should not the photo
notations read 1838 25 Dec 1847 instead
of 90 + 95? per your ONE CENT, Vol II, p. 337.*

P.S. In LAWS INSTRUCTIONS AND FORMS of 1832, FORM No.9 on pages 78-79 shows:

"The Post Office at Annapolis, County of Anne Arundel, State of Maryland, in account current with the Post Office Department, from 1st October, 1831, to 31st December. 1831,

<u>Dr.</u> 5 To postage of 16 ship and steam boat letters, originally received at this office for this delivery-	<u>Dols.</u>	<u>Cts.</u>
	2	22

<u>Cr.</u> 17 By 82 ship and steam boat letters paid for this quarter, as by receipts herewith	-	-	-	1	93
--	---	---	---	---	----

The above entries hardly throw any light on our problem, but possibly some other sample FORMS elsewhere might do so, especially if the port P.M. charged the P.O. Dept. one cent per outbound ship letter.

M.C.B.

April 29, 1957.

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

Dear Maurice:

This is quite a tardy acknowledgement of your two letters of the 21st and 2nd but I am still trying to catch up with all the work that I was unable to finish last winter. I did not think your letters required an immediate reply.

Re - the second paragraph of your letter of the 31st. I never had any intention of intimating that any 24¢ stamps were actually issued in a steel blue color, or a slate or steel gray, but rather that these various colors as of today were natural changelings of color. My whole article would have been meaningless if there was any admission that stamps in any of those colors as they exist today were actually those colors when they were issued to the public. If my wording was at fault and gave the wrong impression I am indeed sorry.

I note you disagree with the statement I made in my letter of March 26th that I presented in detail my side of the story of the 24¢ 1861 Steel Blue. I believe that I did and that is an honest statement. It is anyone's privilege to disagree with me and I am not so narrow-minded as to expect people to agree with me. I gave my story in the "Stamp Specialist" and those who chose to disagree with same certainly have that privilege.

Re - the two covers with 24¢ stamps that I sent you and which you returned. Both to Dublin from New York in the fall of 1861. One bears a New York postmark of SEP 25. You stated in your letter, quote: "that they were ever the 1861 violet seems impossible." I believe that it is a fact that when some people do not wish to believe that a certain thing is true, it is very hard for them to admit the truth. In this case I can prove that the two stamps on these two covers were originally VIOLET. I note your remarks about the 4¢ Playing Card but I do not believe any such stamps were ever issued in any color but VIOLET. I believe all the slates and steel blues, grays, etc., etc., are natural changelings of color. How can you explain the fact, and it is a fact, that so many foreign stamps are listed in lilac and violet and so many exist today in "slates" - "grays" - "greenish slates" etc.

I have carefully noted yours of the 2nd. Up to this writing I have never seen a cover that I can remember where there was any evidence that the sender of the letter paid the port postmaster for placing a letter on a departing ship. I can hardly imagine that the captain paid the one cent to the postmaster at the expense of the Post Office Department. When I can find a bit of time I will go thru all my P.M.G. reports from 1825 to see if I can find any reference to the one cent fee. Jack Fleckenstein is personally acquainted with the present postmaster general. I intend to have Jack write him a personal letter and request a clarification of the one cent fee. Do you suppose there is anyone in the P.O.D. at Washington who could furnish facts? I doubt it.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

MAURICE C. BLAKE
11 MASON STREET
BROOKLINE 46, MASSACHUSETTS

April 26, 1957

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

Dear Stanley:

My file shows that I wrote you on March 31st regarding the two covers bearing 24¢ 1861 stamps and the 4¢ Playing Cards off cover, and returned them by registered mail from the Brookline Branch Office April 1, 1957, registered #302356, return receipt requested. Possibly the return card was received here, although it is not in my file. I am writing to make sure that you received these enclosures in proper condition.

Regardless of the steel blue color problem, the eight covers of late 1861 and early 1862 certainly received generous consideration in the recent Paige sale.

I am hoping to attend the Unit meeting in Philadelphia in July and trust I shall have the great pleasure of seeing you again there. Why don't you plan an excursion into New England at that time?

With best regards,

Yours sincerely,

Maurice C. Blake

April 30, 1957.

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

Dear Maurice:

Your letter of the 26th arrived yesterday (Monday) after I had mailed a letter to you, which no doubt you have received.

I have a complete photo record of the Paige 24¢ steel blue covers in color transparencies. I made a most careful examination of these and also made color transparency enlargements of each stamp. I was convinced that this correspondence had been kept in a damp place. Whether this caused the violets and red lilacs to change from their original colors I do not know but I wondered. I believe there were only three main 24¢ colors in the fall of 1861 and early 1862, viz:

(1) Bluish violet - (2) Reddish violet and
(3) Red lilac. I believe that changelings of all three of these were represented in the Paige lot.

I haven't the slightest objection if anyone wishes to differ with me - It is certainly their privilege to do so - and I trust that others will grant me the same privilege - and without criticism. By criticism such as I was subjected to by Perry in some of his "Pat Paragraphs." One can differ with a person's conclusions if the latter are honest convictions, without stooping to sarcastic wisecracks or deliberate attempts to belittle.

I regret that I will not be able to get down East this summer because our son, Stan. Jr., is marrying the end of June in Dallas, Texas. I suppose this means we will be traveling in that direction, perhaps for several trips.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

Redlands Calif
4-23-57

Stanley B Ashbrook
St Thomas Ky.

Dear Mr Ashbrook:

I am inclosing a one cent
blue impref on piece also another one
cent blue impref. which I think is
from plate 4.

I would like your opinion as to
type & plate of each, the one
cent on piece was submitted to me
as a type III the other I'm not
sure as it is rather close at bottom
whether it is III or IIIA perhaps you
might determine the type quite
easily.

enclosed is M.O. for \$10.00 as part
payment for your fee, please advise
as to the balance

Yours sincerely

L. E. Cunningham
517 Church St

Redlands, Calif

April 26, 1957.

Mr. C. E. Cummings,
817 Church St.,
Redlands, Calif.

Dear Mr. Cummings:

Herewith I am returning the two copies of the One Cent 1851, which I have signed on the back and made full notations on the card. If you do not purchase these you can, if you wish, erase my notations on the back.

I plated the Type IIIA copy for you as 12R4. If you have a copy of my One Cent book - Volume One - you will find a chart in the Plate 4 chapter of the types.

Regarding the Type III copy on piece. I tried to locate the plate position of this copy but I was unable to plate it as this copy is so devoid of plating marks I found its identification impossible.

Many thanks for your check for \$10.00 but because you overpaid I am refunding \$4.00 herewith.

With kindest regards -

Sincerely yours,

THE B. & R. GENERAL STORES, Inc.

221 - 37th St., N. W.

CANTON 9, OHIO

OPERATING THE FOLLOWING RETAIL STORES

BRUCE'S

**8 N. MAIN ST.
NILES, OHIO**

BRUCE'S

**130 S. PARK
WARREN, OHIO**

April 14, 1957

Stanley B. Ashbrook:
P. O. Box 31
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

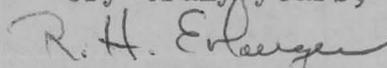
I purchased the enclosed patriotic cover today from Joe Rasdale, who informed me that this cover was from Stark's collection of patriotic covers and is a true "pink" which was certified by you some time ago, but never signed on the back. He suggested that I write you for certification and signature. If this cover does not meet with your approval I do have the privilege of returning it to him for credit.

I am also enclosing another cover bearing a 3¢ '61, purchased from a N. Y. C. dealer some years ago and also represented as a 3¢ pink, but which has never been submitted for certification.

Please bill me for whatever your charges are.

Mr. LaGanke of Cleveland, Ohio told me that you had been ill, and I do hope that this letter finds you feeling better and much improved.

Very truly yours,



Robert H. Erlanger
221 - 37th St. N.W.
Canton 9, Ohio

RHE:re

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

No. 736278

SENT TO Mr Robert H. Erlanger		POSTMARK OR DATE
STREET AND NO. 221 37 th St N.W.		NEWPORT, KY. APR 19 1957 FORT THOMAS, KY.
CITY AND STATE CANTON (9) Ohio		
If you want a return receipt, check which <input type="checkbox"/> 7¢ shows to whom and when delivered		If you want restricted delivery, check here <input type="checkbox"/> 20¢ fee
<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.

325

April 19, 1957.

Mr. Robert H. Erlanger,
221 - 37th St., N.W.,
Canton 9, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Erlanger:

Herewith the two 3¢ 1861 covers as per yours of the 14th. The stamp on the Patriotic cover is a PINK though it has faded to a certain extent. The use was undoubtedly Sept. 20, 1861. I signed this on the back for you.

The stamp on the other cover of Burlington, Vt. Feb. 21, 1862 is not the PINK but rather what I call a dark or deep pinkish rose. Years ago we call such stamps "near pinks." I suggest you lay these two side-by-side and you will note that the one is more PINK than rose, whereas the other is more rose than pink.

For the authentication I am only charging you a fee of \$3.25

I had an attack of pneumonia and then one of the shingles but my illness was grossly exaggerated in the philatelic press. I do thank you for your interest.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

April 22 -

Dear Mr. Ashbrook -

Thank you for your letter of the 19th and for authenticating the 2 covers for me. I am enclosing herewith my check for \$3.25.

I am happy to know that you were not as ill as stated in the philatelic magazines - and that you are now O.K.

With best regards,

Sincerely,

R. H. Erlanger

From the Desk of

Bob Erlanger

Okay

\$325

April 25, 1957.

Mr. R. H. Erlanger,
221 - 37th St. N.W.,
Canton 9, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Erlanger:

Just a line to thank you very kindly
for yours of the 22nd and check for \$3.25.

Sincerely yours,

STRAND THEATRE

★
Earl H. Evans

LOWELL, MICHIGAN

PHONE 295

R. J. Engle, Jr.
Manager

April 27, 1957

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Before entering into the theme of this letter let me say that I hope you have recovered from your recent illness, and that everything is back to normal.

Now let me say that two rather prominent collector-students of U. S. postage stamps have advised me to write you on the matter I am about to disclose. I have waited until today, however, because further verification of my findings was necessary. As I have found the necessary proof I stand on firm ground, and what I have to say is real. However, I do need people like yourself to verify my findings and to express their own opinions before making whatever it is I've found public. Here goes.

I have found a characteristic on the 10¢ TAG variety of 1861; while I have seen but perhaps a dozen of this variety--they all have the same characteristic markings, and they do not appear on the normal variety, as printed from plate 15. Following, in brief form, are the locations of said markings:

- (a) - Southward doubling of the shading lines located at the ornamental balls in the lower left and right corners of the design.
- (b) - Southward doubling across the bottom of the design, appearing intermittently.
- (c) - Southward doubling of the ornamentation at the lower left corner.

While the above are a result of one, single operation, I have broken it into three parts primarily because, while (a) may show, (b) may not, etc. Early printings from plate 26 will show the consistency very clearly; later impressions, however, tend to blur somewhat and do not necessarily show the doubling as well.

(over, please)

Page 2

Mr. S. B. Ashbrook

4/27/57

The southward doubling of the shading lines of the ornamental balls can be noticed more easily, as a rule, than the other doubling. To most collectors, this particular portion may appear as "ink smears," or what have you. Too, I would like to say that the characteristics have undoubtedly been observed before and undoubtedly accepted as a double transfer by the observer or observers. While the characteristic appears to be a double transfer I can safely state that it is no such thing; indeed, if it is anything, it is a "double relief," which would be unique in United States philately.

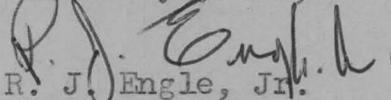
My last paragraph may put me out on the proverbial limb. I'm willing to stay there, too, at least until someone comes along and convinces me of something different. I shall not go into my theory as to what happened--and why--but I do have one. As stated before, I would like to know your opinion, too, so that accurate reasoning may be brought to the surface before making this issue public. I'm doing everything I am capable of doing to find out about this remarkable consistency, but to do the job right I need help from other people. I do not have the means at my disposal to do all of the buying that would prove so useful.

If it is not asking too much I would appreciate it if you would check over some of the TAG varieties, so that you can draw a conclusion from your observations. I cannot over-emphasize this as I feel it is imperative that the item be checked and re-checked by as many students as possible. I hope you agree.

May I hear from you soon?

Thank you and kindest regards.

Sincerely yours,


R. J. Engle, Jr.

Box 8

Lowell, Michigan

(APS #34677; BIA #3981)

April 30, 1957.

Mr. R. J. Engle, Jr.,
Box 8,
Lowell, Mich.

Dear Mr. Engle:

This will acknowledge yours of the 27th, and in reply, permit me to state that I am by no means a serious student of the 10¢ 1861, Type II, or any of the plate varieties of this stamp, therefore, it is a question if I could be of very much help to you.

Naturally I have long been familiar with the TAG variety of the 10¢ but never considered it of sufficient interest to warrant a great deal of thought and study. I merely have considered it a damage that occurred to one of the reliefs on the transfer roll. Have you ever seen any large blocks of stamps, or plate proofs, in order to get some line on the particular relief? I would question if a great deal could be learned from a study of single copies.

If I can assist you I will be glad to do so, but I wonder.

Sincerely yours,

HARMER, ROOKE

& CO., INC.

GORDON HARMER
PRESIDENT

—
AUCTIONS
APPRAISALS

PHILATELIC
AUCTIONEERS

560 Fifth Avenue
NEW YORK 36, N. Y.

CABLE ADDRESS
PHILATORS, NEW YORK

—
TELEPHONE
JUDSON 2-0164

May 1, 1957

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

Dear Stan:

Thank your for your two letters of April 12 and 22, which I was glad to receive. Would you kindly expertize the enclosed item and return it to me with your charges. I would appreciate knowing the exact shade of the 3¢ stamps and of course whether the cover is genuine in all respects.

all the best

Yours very truly,

HARMER, ROOKE & CO., INC.,

By: *J. R. O.*

GRH:s
encl.

May 6, 1957.

Mr. Gordon Harmer,
% Harmer, Rooke & Co.,
560 Fifth Ave.,
New York 36, N.Y.

Dear Gordon:

Herewith the 1861 cover to Switzerland as per yours of the 1st. I am pleased to report that the cover is genuine in every way and that the three 3¢ 1861 stamps are the S.U.S. pink. In fact, I laid them side-by-side for direct comparison with my No. 1 reference copy and the match was perfect.

The rate was - 21¢ to Switzerland - per $\frac{1}{4}$ oz. - $7\frac{1}{2}$ grammes - by French Mail. The transit - by British Packet - Cunard Line from Boston Oct. 2, 1861 to Liverpool, thence thru Calais, to France and by French mail to Switzerland. The "28" in the New York pmk is the U. S. credit to the French - thus the U. S. portion of the 21¢ rate was 3¢.

My records show that a Cunard ship sailed from Boston on Wednesday Oct 2 1861, thus this departure from New York the day before, Oct 1 as per the N.Y. marking.

I authenticated the cover on the back and there is no fee. Do not hesitate to send any items to me that bother you in any way that are in my field.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

April 22, 1957.

Mr. Gordon Harmer,

% Scott Publications, Inc.,

461 Eighth Ave.,

New York 1, N.Y.

Dear Gordon:

Re - the

5¢ New York

The S. U. S. states on page 26 - "Also reported
used from Jersey City, N.J."

Herewith, with my compliments for your
files, a photo print with memo on reverse.

I classify this as "mailed at Jersey City,
N.J." rather than used from that office.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

Gordon R. Harmer

May 8 -

Dear Stan -

I very much appreciate your returning the cover so promptly. I do appreciate your help but I certainly think you should have charged me a fee. However I hope I will ~~app~~ be able to reciprocate some time. I do always like to feel that I am able to send you items for examination and you are most certainly entitled to charge me. Many thanks. Every good wish

John Jordan

HARMER, ROOKE & CO.

560 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK 19, N. Y.

TEL. LONGACRE
3 - 3335

April 27, 1957.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Re - the enclosed cover.

First - this was from WAY'S STATION, Ga. on Oct. 21 to Varnell's Station, Ga.

Second - Way's Station was a post office in 1859 in Bryan County, Ga. Savannah, Ga. is in Chatham County, Ga. and Bryan Co. adjoins Chatham on the West. Apparently Way's Station was only a very short distance west of Savannah.

Third - Varnell's Station was a post office in 1859, located in Whitfield County, which is in the extreme N.W. section of Georgia. Dalton is the County Seat.

Fourth - The envelope is routed "Via Dalton."

Fifth - in pen in upper right is "Paid 5."

Sixth - The two types - oval "PAID 5" and "PAID 10" were surely applied at Savannah and this is apparently confirmed by the small Savannah, Ga. "Central mark" in upper left.

Seventh - It is my opinion that this is not a P.M. Provisional but rather a "handstamped PAID." Apparently the letter was mailed at Way's Station, (Wm. J. Way was the postmaster), where the pen "Paid 5" was applied, also the manuscript postmark, but was later taken into Savannah and remailed there and handstamped first as "Paid 10" - which was pen-crossed out, and restamped Paid 5 over another "Paid 10" indicated it was a genuine use regardless of whether it was a "Provisional" or a "handstamped PAID." Personally I do not think it makes a whole lot of difference. It is a very interesting cover and I doubt if anyone could prove it was actually a Provisional. Dietz does not list the Savannah Provisional on buff, nor did he list a 10¢ value. As handstamped PAIDS, he did list both the Oval 5 and Oval 10.

Signed - Stanley B. Ashbrook
April 7, 1957

WAY'S Station Geo

Bryan Co. L 23
near Co West

W^M J Way P.M.

To

VARNEll's Station -

Whitfield Co Geo 03

W.L. K~~W~~incanon P.M

Savannah is
in Chatham Co

~~Whitfield~~ way up
in N.W.
Salton is seat
County



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.
C.C.N.Y.

April 3, 1957

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

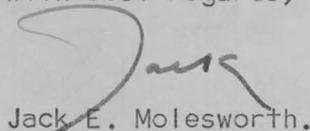
Dear Stan,

Many thanks for your assistance on the 1¢ 1857 pair. I am happy that your examination indicated it is uncanceled. Enclosed is my check for \$5 to cover your fee.

I was quite interested in your comments with respect to the 20¢ green cover with "Salisbury" postmark. I wondered about that item when I first examined it, but based on my knowledge and experience could see no firm foundation for doubting it, even though the date did appear a bit too early to make good sense. Such is, in essence, what I wrote to Morris Everett when he asked me my opinion on the cover prior to my buying it for him in the Fox sale. In fact, in a conversation we had over the phone it was my understanding that he decided it was a cover that would always be open to some questions, so he would not pay much more for it than he would for a nice 20¢ Green, which was the situation on the price paid. Quite probably Fox would be willing to make a refund on it if it does turn out to be bad, though such would not be in accordance with the terms of sale under which it was purchased, as they make no provision for such returns at this late date. Such is one of the risks of buying at auction, of course, as we have previously discussed. Everett is such a piker that he would really scream like a stuck pig if he did not get his money back on an item of this nature, though I must admit that in view of his persistent reluctance to pay anything like a fair price of items on which he bids, I would gain a certain amount of vicarious pleasure out of seeing him squirm. I don't know why he didn't send the cover along to you immediately after it was purchased, as I had previously mentioned your name in connection with the cover before he bought it. Probably, he would have been too cheap to have paid your fee on it! Enclosed is a carbon of the letter which I have written him today in answer to one he recently wrote me about the item.

Enclosed is a rather interesting Confederate Provisional cover on which I would appreciate your comments. Though the "Paid" markings are those used by "Savannah, Georgia," it appears as if the item was used from "Way Station, Georgia," as it shows no evidence of being forwarded. There also is no Savannah postmark, so I shall be quite interested in your comments on this rather interesting item.

With best regards,


Jack E. Molesworth.

JEM:fc
Encl.

APR - 8 1957

Post Office Department

Received from:

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK

P. O. BOX 31

33 NORTH FT. THOMAS AVENUE

FORT THOMAS, KY.

One piece of ordinary mail addressed

to *Mr. Jack E. Molesworth**102 Beacon Street**BOSTON (16) Mass.*

THIS RECEIPT DOES NOT PROVIDE FOR INDEMNIFICATION

April 8, 1957.

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

Dear Jack:

Re - the enclosed cover as per yours of the 3rd.

First - this was from WAY'S STATION, GA., on Oct. 21 to Varnell's Station, Ga. (Surely 1861)

Second - Way's Station was a post office in 1859 in Bryan County, Ga. Savannah, Ga. is in Chatham County, Ga., and Bryan Co. adjoins Chatham on the west. Apparently Way's Station was only a short distance west of Savannah.

Third - Varnell's Station was a post office in 1859, located in Whitfield County which is in the extreme N.W. section of Georgia. Dalton is the County Seat.

Fourth - The envelope is routed "Via Dalton."

Fifth - in pen in upper right is "Paid 5."

Sixth - The two types - oval "Paid 5" and "Paid 10" were surely applied at Savannah and this is apparently confirmed by the small Savannah, Ga. "Control mark" in upper left.

Seventh - It is my opinion that this is not a P.M. Provisional, but rather a handstamped PAID. Apparently the letter was mailed at Way's Station, (Wm. J. Way was the postmaster), where the pen "Paid 5" was applied, also the manuscript postmark, but was later taken into Savannah and remailed there and handstamped first as "Paid 10" - which was pencrossed-out, and restamped "Paid 5" over another "Paid 10."

This seems the most plausible explanation to me though I must admit that this envelope may have been purchased at Savannah as a Provisional at 5¢, and the envelope later mailed at Way's Station with the postmaster there recognizing that the sender had paid 5¢ for it rather than 10¢. I also recognize the fact that this may have been prepared originally as a Provisional at Savannah with the two strikes of the "Paid 10" but due to the scarcity of envelopes and perhaps more of a demand for the 5¢, it was changed to a 5¢ before it was sold.

I suppose the "control mark" indicated it was a genuine use regardless of whether it was a "Provisional" or a "handstamped Paid". Personally, I do not think it makes a whole lot of difference. It is a very interesting cover and I doubt if anyone could prove it was actually a Provisional. Dietz does not list the Savannah Provisional on buff, nor did he list a 10¢ value. As handstamped PAIDS, he did list both the Oval 5 and Oval 10.

Sincerely yours,

April 22, 1957.

Mr. Van Dyk MacBride,
744 Broad St.,
Newark 2, N.J.

Dear Mac:

Here is a photo print of an interesting cover that was submitted to me for examination. I thought you might care to dope it out.

If you think Larry would like to see it, okay, but please return the print to me at your convenience.

Regards.

Cordially yours,

MacBride

744 BROAD STREET

NEWARK 2, NEW JERSEY

April 25th, 1957.

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

Dear Stan:

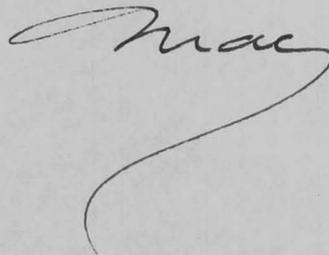
This photo is indeed interesting, - being the kind of a cover I always enjoy "analyzing"!

I think its story is reasonably simple. It is of course a Postmaster's Provisional cover of Savannah, Ga. The postmaster there first stamped it PAID 10, and probably later was asked to re-value it to PAID 5. He thereupon struck out the first oval PAID 10, and handstamped his PAID 5 marking over the other PAID 10. You will note of course that the Savannah "control mark" of a lozenge or rosette also appears, which indicates that the envelope was prepared provisionally prior to usage.

Then, the citizen had it in his pocket when he got to Ways Station, Ga., and he decided to use it from there. The Savannah markings were ignored by the local postmaster, who doubtless collected an additional 5¢ from the citizen, wrote "Paid 5" on the cover, and also Ways Station, Geo., Oct. 21. In other words, this provisionally prepared envelope became merely stationery when it was used from another town!

I am returning the photo herewith, - would like to have a print if you can spare it. However, I did not send it on to Shenfield, as I don't think he would be particularly interested in it.

Regards!



MacB/HK

April 27, 1957.

Mr. Van Dyk MacBride,
744 Broad St.,
Newark 2, N.J.

Dear Mac:

I am in receipt of yours of the 25th,
with return of the photo print.

Thinking that you might be interested in
the report that I made on this cover, I am enclosing
a copy together with the photo print. If you think
Larry would be interested, send him copies of our
correspondence.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

May 9, 1957.

Mr. Van Dyk MacBride,
744 Broad St.,
Newark 2, N.J.

Dear Mac:

Thanks very much for yours of the 29th regarding the "Ways Station" cover. I have been so busy with a big accumulation of mail that I have laid your letter aside for the present. Later I will study it carefully and write you.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

P.S.--Needless to state, I will be delighted to see the book that you sent Crigler. I will take good care of it when it comes in - read it - and send it to Larry. If I would like to obtain a copy are they difficult to obtain?

S.

May 24, 1957.

Mr. Van Dyk MacBride,
744 Broad St.,
Newark 2, N.J.

Dear Mac:

Now for yours of the 29th and your remarks on the "Ways Station cover." I have read your letter very carefully but see no reason to change my original analysis. I do not think the solution that you suggest is very convincing. However, I want you to know that I respect your opinion and suggest we let it go at that.

After all that control mark was merely a handstamp and could have been applied to any handstamped piece of mail. I would hate to think that such flimsy evidence would be proof positive of a "P.M.Provisional."

I suppose your theory is that someone bought this envelope at the Savannah P.O. but did not use it there but mailed it at "Ways Station" and paid that office 5¢. If that is your theory I trust you will not hold it against me if I state I am not in agreement.

By the way, under date of the 7th, you wrote Crigler you were sending him a book which please forward to me when he had finished reading it. I have never received it.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

May 24, 1957.

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

Dear Jack:

Re - the "Ways Station" cover as per mine
to you of April 8th last. I sent MacBride a copy
of the analysis that I furnished you, headed -
"To Whom it may concern." I am enclosing Mac's
letter in reply herewith.

Please return.

Regards -

Yours etc.,

Van Dyk Mac Bride

744 BROAD STREET
NEWARK 2, NEW JERSEY

April 29th, 1957.

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

Dear Stan:

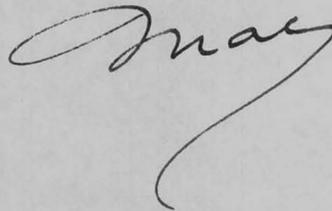
Thanks for yours of the 27th with the print of that Savannah-Ways Station, Ga. cover, and a copy of your comments thereon.

I am sorry to say that I disagree considerably with your "Seventh" paragraph therein, as I think you have the cart before the horse! This cover definitely originated at the Savannah post office where the several oval Paid markings were hand-stamped in advance of usage, and the characteristic rosette or lozenge control mark was likewise applied. The latter was used only to indicate Provisional preparation and when it did not appear it meant that the markings were of the Handstamped Paid variety applied at the time the letter was presented for mailing. In other words, this envelope was definitely prepared as a Postmasters Provisional, - it simply did not get used that way!

I have seen similar examples several times. That is, a citizen took one or more of his envelopes on which he had paid to have the provisional markings impressed at his home post office, and carried them with him to use in writing home when he was on a trip. Evidently in such cases the citizen either did not know that the Paid markings would be recognized only at the post office where they were applied, or else he just didn't give a darn. Wherever else he finally did mail such envelopes, he had to pay regular rates and that postmaster handstamped that, or wrote it, on the envelope, - postmarked it, and put it in the mails. That was surely the case with this cover, except for the interesting fact that it had first been revalued from 5¢ to 10¢ at the Savannah post office. I think the ink mark on the separate PAID 10 handstamp was put there by the postmaster at Ways Station, - but that is not important. The latter simply refused to recognize the previous markings, and collected his own postage thereon.

This order of usage is further clearly indicated by the lack of a Savannah, Ga. town postmark, which surely would have been applied if it had ever been mailed there. The color of the envelope is of no importance, as the Confederate postmasters would put their handstamps on any kind of stationery which the local citizens brought in, so long as ~~they~~ paid the postage. I hope you will agree with my findings on this, and if so that you will change your descriptive memo on it.

My best!



B900

K3-1-126-5sec



Black

Butt Env



Black



L Paid

*Way's Station
July 21*

*Miss Fannie Kingsley
Way's Station
Georgia*

Via Dalton

B900

BY HOLTSWORTH

B900

memo

from

JACK MOLESWORTH

5/4/57

Stan -

would greatly
appreciate your opinion
on enclosed as soon
as possible.

Any chance it
could be genuine?

many thanks +
Best regards,

Jack

ONE OR MANY COPIES OF ANYTHING IN A HURRY

Litho'd U.S.A., Hutcheson Co., Inc., 36 Bromfield Street, Boston 8, Mass.

May 6, 1957.

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

Dear Jack:

Herewith the "Ocean Mail" cover of New York, Dec. 20, 1858
to San Francisco and Forwarded to Sacramento.

Jack, I do not think there is one chance in a thousand that
this "bisect" is genuine, in fact, most any amateur could easily
make a thing like this.

San Francisco stamped this "Forwarded" and "3". In other
words, 3¢ due. Had this arrived back at the S.F. P.O. with this piece
of a 12¢ stamp I doubt if that office would have pen-marked it as
"Paid" and in addition, would have applied the "3" rate stamp.

I regret that I cannot tell much about the piece of the 12¢
stamp as it is so badly perfed and damaged but it has the appearance
of a Plate 3 stamp and no stamps from that plate were issued prior
to 1860.

No fee

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

May 8, 1957.

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

Dear Millard:

Herewith the 10¢ 1869 cover as per yours of the 6th. Your analysis is undoubtedly correct, especially the return trip to Washington in official papers from the U.S. Consult at Aspinwall N.G. Thus the Washington pmk and the "Forwarded." Apparently the letter was held for some time at Aspinwall before being sent back to Washington.

I have signed it on the back for you and there is no fee.

In the early part of 1870 (and no doubt later) the New York P.O. (Foreign Division) used an ink that was distinctly grayish or gray. Note the two strikes and the cancel on the 10¢ stamp - not black but gray.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

MILLARD H. MACK, C.L.U. SPECIAL AGENT
2133 LURAY AVENUE AT EDEN PARK • CINCINNATI 6, OHIO
Telephones: Woodburn 1-1820 - Avon 1-4061

ROE WALKER, C.L.U. • General Agent

THE NORTHWESTERN
MUTUAL LIFE
INSURANCE COMPANY
OF MILWAUKEE

safeguarding tomorrow



May 6, 1957

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

I am enclosing a 10¢ 1869 cover for your authentication.

Apparently it started in New York and was sent to Aspenwall (Colon), then returned to Washington in the Diplomatic Pouch and forwarded back to New York. If it is okay I would appreciate your signing it on the back as such.

Let me know ^{what} that I owe you and I will remit immediately. Many thanks.

Cordially yours,

Millard

Millard H. Mack

MHM/vel
Enc.

*3938 Red Bud Avenue
Cincinnati 29, Ohio.*

3930 Red Bud Ave.
Cincinnati, Ohio

Friday

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Many thanks for forwarding the photographs of the front and the back of the 90¢ 1869 cover.

This afternoon I went to the SPA show in Dayton and picked up the enclosed four covers from Rasdale. I thought they were especially attractive and would be good additions to my "4¢ Partial Rate to France - 1870 - 1874" collection.

Would you be kind enough to sign each one on the back if it is okay and also could you give me a fairly detailed account of each one? The cover franked with the 10¢ 1869 I assume is a double rate with a 2¢ overpayment. The cover franked with the 3¢ Banknotes and marked "Paid by Drexel etc." I assume is a single weight letter with a 2¢ overpayment. The cover from Philadelphia to Paris sort of baffles me because the 10 decimes due marking would indicate an 8¢ partial rate. Why the 6¢? Also the cover franked with the 1¢ and 3¢ Banknote baffles me because of the 10 decimes due. This seems to me to indicate an 8¢ partial rate. But why only 4¢? Perhaps the short paid marking on the back of the cover is the answer.

I hope I am not bothering you with what might seem to be easy questions with logical answers but the answers to me seem just as hard as knocking in a forty foot putt on the golf green! Thanks for all your help and again many thanks for the pictures of the 90¢ 1869 cover.

Cordially,

Millard Mack

Let me know your fees
and I'll remit immediately

May 8, 1957.

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

Dear Millard:

Re - yours of the 2nd. Thanks for the advice regarding Henderson Peebles. I had not heard that he has passed away. In fact, I have not had any word from him since Emmett was taken.

I sincerely apologize for the delay in returning the enclosed four (4) covers which you obtained from Joe Rasdale at Dayton. This is quite a nice little lot. The following are some comments -

1) 10¢ 1869 cover - This was from New York on Feb. 8-70 thru London Feb. 21-70 (13 days - slow) - I think this was intended to go by direct mail to France (10¢) but was sent via England, hence over-paid by 6¢. Had it been $\frac{1}{4}$ oz. or less the French due would have been "5" decimes. The "10" decimes due indicates it was over $\frac{1}{4}$ but not over $\frac{1}{2}$ oz - or rather over $7\frac{1}{2}$ grammes but not over 15 grammes.

2) 4¢ Pay - 3¢ + 1¢ Bank - from New York May ? 1870 - to Paris, routed "Stmr Deutschland." Here is a similar item to the above - correct 4¢ payment - with 10 decimes due - indicating weight in France of over $7\frac{1}{2}$ grammes. On the back is the New York "SHORT PAID." I have noted this on a number of covers to France of this period. As you will recall, a letter at this time - May 1870 - could be prepaid to French destination. This "SHORT PAID" undoubtedly meant that the letter was not fully paid.

3) 6¢ Paid from Oberlin, Ohio. I think this was a 4¢ with overpay of 2¢, and weighing not over $7\frac{1}{2}$ grammes, hence the "5" decimes due. This was in November 1872. Drexel Harges & Co. was an American Bank in Paris, and I judge the PAID by them indicated that they had paid the 5 decimes as this letter was addressed care of that bank.

6¢ from Philadelphia - June 12, 1872 - I think this is also a 4¢ rate with 2¢ overpay - a letter that weighed over $7\frac{1}{2}$ grammes.

We do find many odd rates to France in the early eighteen seventies and there were several or more reasons - the principal one was a prevalent misunderstanding on the part of the public as to what was the proper rate, or rates in the absence of a postal treaty and in many cases, not the stamps of proper values to pay certain rates, hence the overpays.

I have signed each cover on the back and am charging you a fee of \$4.00.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

April 11, 1957.

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

Elliott:

Yours of the 6th received.

It sure looks like a lot of the last Caspary went thru the roof. I wonder what your old pal H.C.N. would think of such prices? Times sure do change and I guess you and I have been fortunate in living long enough to witness such remarkable happenings. We are a sort of link between the old-timers and the present day enthusiasts, for example, Worthington, Luff, Morgenthau, etc. with 1957.

I was pleased to learn that Arthur Hall prepared such a fine article on the 24¢, 30¢ and 90¢. I will look forward to it with pleasure. I only wish that I could attend the Show.

I have often wondered about the 24¢ plate. The imprint tends to confirm that it was made in 1857 as Carpenter stated. Why didn't they use it? I wonder if the answer will ever be forthcoming?

I have carefully noted your remarks about the 3 relief rolls. Just think of the years that Chase has poured over the 3¢ 1851 plating. He should know every angle, back and forth, and sideways. As for me, I seldom do any One Cent plating any more, and I am consequently a bit rusty. Years ago I never dreamed I would ever reach such a condition.

By the way Elliott, I was always intrigued by the 4¢ Compound. Just imagine how novel to put two "stamps" on one envelope to make a 4¢ rate. In all the years I was never able to find a use in December of 1860, the best data I had was the article published in the New York Herald that the 4¢ envelope would be published in a few days. Well at long last I located a Compound used at New York on Dec. 13, 1860. Just imagine!!! I doubt if an earlier use will ever show up.

With best wishes -

Yours etc.,

April 12, 1957



Stan:

Referring to a question about British Transit which was under discussion, certain P.O. Dept. records seem to be pertinent. They show that in the early 1860s Prussian Closed Mail was being carried by the Bremen (North German Lloyd), Hamburg, Cunard and two other lines, and at the same period the same steamship lines were carrying other mails to Great Britain, France and Belgium.

These particular records do not show whether the P/C/M was put off and taken on at an English port, or at Ostend or other port in Belgium, or how the Belgian mail was put off or taken on. I suppose records of sailings will probably show the ports at which the ships stopped.

Reply at your convenience if any reply is worthwhile.

As ever,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Elliott Perry".

April 15, 1957



Stan:

Your good letter of the 11th came this morning. Often of late I realize that the passing years have put me in the class of old timers in philately, at least in the United States. So many of the important people whom I have known have passed away. To those you mention too many others could be added - Emerson, Knapp, Steve Brown, Ackerman, Alvin Good, Sprague, Arthur Owen, and only last week Theodore Steinway whom I had known for forty years. Also Alfred Lichtenstein and Caspary who I knew about as long.

The 4c compound envelope has always intrigued me too altho few entires have passed thru my hands and my ref. material contains one unused cut square. I congratulate you on getting the Dec. 13 use in 1860, which I agree is probably the earliest extant. I have always wondered why so few cities had a supply. Very few Baltimores, no Philadelphias and the only Boston is one Maurice Blake saw, or believes he saw, and which cannot be found. It is easy to understand why only one Chicago has been found.

The 6c star die has also intrigued me. I never had one but did find a used cut-to-shape copy with New York postmark-cancellation. The owner would not part with it. I reckon that whether many or few were ordered the number actually purchased and used was small. Only one used entire seems to be known.

24¢ plate; altho the Carpenter letter seems to say that plate was one of those made in 1857, perhaps it was not exactly accurate, and the plate was actually made later when the demand for higher value stamps became more acute. However, I do not regard this supposition as a satisfactory explanation. It could rate as something which would be "important if true" (accent on the "if.")

Sometimes one can get so close to an object that perspective is lost. When I was in Jackson Park Hospital in Chicago in Nov-Dec. 1945 Doc Hennan came in to see me every morning and after the operation I began work on his Dominican Republic collection there - four volumes of the early issues as I recall. Charlie Phillips had done a lot of work on Dom Rep and came within a hair of finding the right answer to some of the problems. With much the same material I found what he had missed.

When my 1857-60 articles for Mekeel's were being prepared in 1918-1920 the guide relief data was under my nose, yet the discovery was not made until twenty years later. Every school-boy knew that 5x2 is ten and 2x5 is ten, yet it did not occur to me or to anyone else that there was a definite reason for using three reliefs instead of two, and six reliefs instead of five, that is, for using one more relief than apparently was needed.

That is why when John and I think we have found a correct solution we are apt to wonder if there isn't a better one we have overlooked. Despite the thousands of 10¢ Jeffs that were examined carefully here around 1931, within a year facts have been uncovered which were missed before. We just didn't properly understand or evaluate the data that was under our noses.

As ever,

#2

Stan

4/15-'57



Cyril d.P. is preparing a bibliography of the PL&R and has asked me to inquire if you have any duplicates, or can reveal the source yours came from and which might have some he needs. I do not have the 1855 edition and he has no data on it. I understood the 1863 edition which you have was privately printed, which would agree with the statement in the 1866 edition that it (1866) was the first since 1859.

This does not agree with Cyril's data on the 1863 edition, viz:

"Revision of the laws relating to the Post Office Department.

The numerals in brackets signify the sections of the present laws on the same subjects as found in the compilation of the laws issued by the department in 1859. Prepared by the Post Office Department for the committee on the Post Office and Post Roads. Explanatory notes are appened to the bill. Washington: Government Printing Office." 94 pp. 1863

Obviously this particular edition was not privately printed.

At your convenience will you kindly advise me or him if your edition of 1863 contains the same foreword.

E.P.

April 20, 1957.

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

Elliott:

Thanks for yours of the 12th re - carriage of mail to Europe in the early 1860's.

The P.M.G. reports of the period show the various Lines which the Department sent mail at U.S. expense - thus "Amer. Pkt." Such Lines, as I recall, carried mail for the sea postage. Of course, Cunard was always "Br. Pkt."

Mail by "P.C.M." to Prussia carried a credit to Prussia of "7¢," and, of course, was sent via England in sealed bags which were not opened until they reached "Aachen," (as you know). On payments of 30¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce our credit to Prussia left us with 23¢ and out of this we retained our internal and paid Britain a bulk weight charge - All sea carriage was at U. S. expense and the bags were carried to England by the next ship sailing with which the U. S. had a contract. Thus we see "BR PKT" and "AM PKT" in the N.Y. exchange postmarks.

I had quite a write-up several years ago in one of my "Service Issues" on the "P.C.M." - Would you like to see a copy?

It is my understanding that all "P.C.M." bags were put off at English ports so that they could be weighed and forwarded by British handling to Ostend. I think all such arrangements were provided for in the Prussian treaty.

Another point - the rate at first was 30¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. - paid or unpaid. Later in the early sixties it was changed to 28¢ paid, 30¢ unpaid. On paid the "7" credit remained - and likewise on unpaid the debit was "23." An interesting rate was to Norway - 46¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. by P.C.M. - On such our total credit to Prussia was 23¢. Thus our share was the same as the credit - 23 - 23.

Another point - the "Aachen" marking - in the middle fifties - it was circular (red) then the rectangle (red) was adopted along about 1857 (memory?) - It remained in red (always) until along about 1862 or 1863 (memory) when it was changed to blue and red was not used thereafter. I remember a cover in the Waterhouse sale - several years ago with a 24¢ 1860 tied by a blue Aachen (rectangle) - the joker was that this marking in blue was never used during the life of the 24¢ stamp.

Yours of the 15th and your mention of those who have passed on to non-philatelic realms. We both could add a great many to the list. Severn, Bill West, Luff, Clark, Chambers, Gross, Fennel, Kennett, Hind, Bartels, Newbury, Admiral Harris, and Oh so many more. And recently Max Johl and Steinway. However, several of the rats are still around and I suppose will outlive us both. I refer especially to Colson, Rich and Korwiser.

Your remarks re - the "Compound" carefully noted. I believe it was Bartels

#2. Mr. Elliott Perry - April 20, 1957.

who was authority for the statement a Compound was known used from Boston - See an article by him in "Stamps" Vol. 28 - p.23. Marcus White wrote me in 1943 that he had heard of a Compound used from Boston. It was one that had been sent there for reply. He did not know where it was at that time. Because Boston uses are practically non-existent, I wonder if that office ever had a supply? I have no record of a use at Philadelphia or Washington. I believe only two are known from Baltimore. Larry Mason owned one. I have a record of the Chicago use. Another that is not known is a use of one at West Point, N.Y. - I can supply a photo if you would like same (provided I can find a print).

Re - copies of the P.L. & R. Tell your friend I haven't had a duplicate copy for quite a long time and this in spite of the fact I send out want lists of P.O. material every once in awhile to second-hand book dealers - P.M.G. reports - special reports - lists of foreign rates - lists of P.O.'s - Postal Guides - Travel Guides - etc - etc. Believe me, some of the P.L. & R.'s are worth real money - for example, the 1852. The only source I know of is the second-hand book store. I obtained mine, one by one from various sources.

The 1855 Edition was unofficial and consisted of a list of post offices with which was incorporated a section entitled, "The principal Regulations of the Post Office Department as in force on 1st of July 1855 compiled by D.D.T. Leech of the Post Office Department." This is an excellent section and contains a very fine table of foreign rates. The book was published by "J. Shillington - Washington - 1855."

I also have a similar 1854 private edition published by "at the office of the New York City Directory by C.R.Rode" "from records of the P.O.D." and "corrected up to April 1st, 1854." This also contains a list of all post offices. A very valuable edition, but the "P.L. & R." section is not near as complete as the 1855 above mentioned.

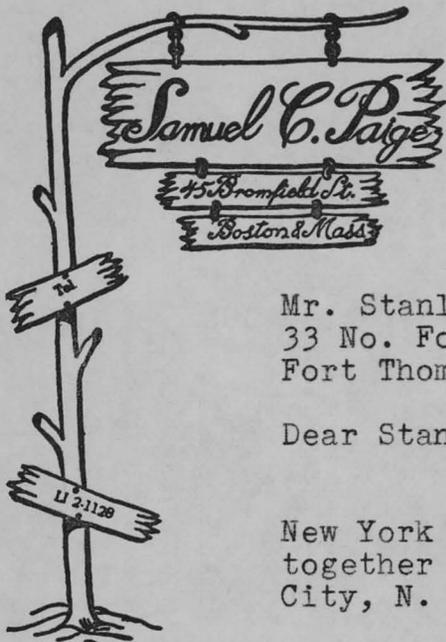
Yes, there was not an "official" edition between the 1859 and 1863. My 1863 is "Appletons - United States Postal Guide for October 1863." It states; "This work has been prepared at the request and under the sanction of the Postmaster General," etc. It is a wonderful little booklet. It has the entire act of March 3, 1863 with an explanation of each section of that act - A very fine list of foreign rates and a complete list of post offices. For that period it is invaluable.

I believe the first P.L. & R. was issued in 1794 - a year or so ago a copy came up in an Eastern auction and brought \$60.00 (dirt cheap as a collectors item). I missed it and I was terribly disappointed. The congressional Library has a copy so I had it microfilmed and made my own enlarged copies. Would you like to see it? If so, I will be glad to loan it to you. I believe mine was issued in 1797 - most of it is an exact(?) copy of the 1794.

I also had an 1818 edition microfilmed. Regular Government editions from 1825 were 1832 - 1843 - 1847 - 1852 - 1859 - 1866 - 1873 etc.

Regards.

Sincerely yours,



April 11, 1957

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

Dear Stan:

Please find enclosed a cover bearing the New York postmaster, the curved New York "Paid" together with a manuscript "5" and a circle Jersey City, N. J., dated 1845.

This cover has been left with me by Mr. Lester Downing, with whom I am sure you have corresponded. It is part of a collection belonging to one of his closest friends. The collection is to be placed in my auction with the possible exception of this cover I enclose, which Mr. Downing wishes to purchase direct from his friend and which we both feel is a very hard item to evaluate.

Consequently, we would much appreciate having your comments at least as to its genuineness, reason for postal markings, and so forth, and if you care to suggest a fair price for Mr. Downing to pay the owner, that also would be much appreciated.

As usual, any charge you care to make for this service will be okay.

I think I have heard via the grapevine that you are now feeling much better and certainly hope this is the case.

I am also writing my next auction to be held early in June in which there will be some really outstanding material. The sale will consist of 19th century U. S. off cover, fancy cancellations off cover, and general 19th century U. S. covers. We will mail you a copy at once when the catalog is in print.

With my very best regards, and trust we will hear from you regarding the enclosed cover soon.

Sincerely,

Sam Paige

Samuel C. Paige

SCP:ha

Member
A. S. D. A. A. P. S.
U. S. ENVELOPE SOCIETY
COLLECTORS CLUB OF N. Y.
U. S. CANCELLATION CLUB
3c 51-57 UNIT
R. I. PHILATELIC SOCIETY
NEW BEDFORD STAMP CLUB

April 16, 1957.

Mr. Samuel C. Paige,
45 Bromfield St.,
Boston 8, Mass.

Dear Sam:

Herewith the 5¢ New York cover as per yours of the 11th. In my opinion, there is no question but what the stamp originated on this cover. The crease should be proof of that. The folded letter is date-lined New York. Whether this means that the letter was actually written there is not disclosed. My guess is that it was and was mailed at Jersey City with the 5¢ stamp. The Jersey City office apparently sent it over to New York to be handled as that office saw fit. New York rated it with their familiar blue ink as "5," marked it paid and sent it on its way.

It is strange that New York failed to cancel the stamp because whoever received this letter could have replied to the New York address of the addressor and put on this stamp and I suppose the New York office would have recognized the letter as paid, even had the Norwich office rated it as unpaid.

In my opinion, this cover is not in the same classification as a cover used from Boston with the 5¢ New York to New York or for that matter, for any other post office to New York. In effect it was a use from New York City to Norwich, Conn. with the 5¢ postage paid by the 5¢ stamp. The only unusual feature is the Jersey City postmark and the fact that the stamp escaped cancelation. What the premium is on those features -- well sam, I think Lester and you are just about as good a judge as I am.

Of course, the Jersey City office could not recognize the stamp, so that office disregarded its receipt and sent it across the river where the prepayment could be acknowledged.

It is too bad the stamp was creased in the folding because it is a lovely early impression.

Yes, I count Lester as one of my very good friends and I am pleased to contribute the above if perchance it has any value.

Re - your coming sale. If there are any unusual and outstanding items why not send them on and let me examine them in advance of the sale? There might be something I could highly recommend.

With regards to Lester and you -

Cordially yours,

Mr Carl Pelander
545 Fifth Ave
New York (17) N.Y.

Philatelic
PAPER

Dear Carl

Re Lab 424 in your
Sale of March 7th, I have a
stampless cover very similar
to ~~the~~ #424 in my collection,
in fact I believe both
covers came into San Francisco
and left on the ~~sub~~ same
mail for the East. I
suspect that #424 was
also a stampless to which
some one attached the 13¢
stamp. I have noted faked
covers such as this in
the past. If you care to
take this up with the

buyer it will be okay with
me. I ~~can~~ will be glad
to send you my stampless
cover at your expense if
you care to see it. If
the present owner of #424
wishes to have me examine
his cover I will be glad
to do ~~to~~ do ~~it~~ but will
have to charge my usual
fee ~~it~~

With my kindest regards
cordially

Carl E. Pelander

POSTAGE STAMPS FOR COLLECTORS

U. S. AND SCANDINAVIA OUR SPECIALTY

545 FIFTH AVENUE • NEW YORK 17
TELEPHONE MURRAY HILL 2-2545

May 17th, 1957

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

Dear Stan:

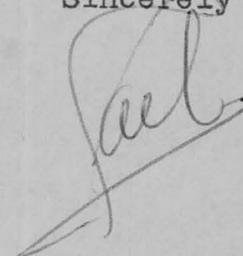
Please forgive me for being so tardy with my letters, but truthfully I let this matter slip and just in going over my back-log of correspondance came across your letter regarding the Hawaiian cover.

Due to your letter, I withdrew the cover from my sale and returned it to Harry Keffer, who was the owner.

It is difficult to say if this was originally a stampless or not. If my recollection serves me right Admiral Harris had a Missionary (13c) on cover with the identical markings and I think there is one in the Caspary collection something similar. In the Tows collection lot 279 was exactly similar to this and that was passed by the Foundation. I my self had a stampless, just like this, which is in the possession of Mrs Hall. That "PAID/8/SHIP" marking was used quite a long time and I have seen it on covers, ranging from stampless to U.S. and Hawaiian stamps, plus combinations. From all appearances this cover was O.K. and did not seem to have been tampered with, however, I rather withdraw an item like this than have a chance of having it bounce back a few years hence.

Nevertheless, I want you to realize that I appreciate any advice received from any of my many friends and I always pay attention to any advice given.

Sincerely yours,



May 21, 1957.

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

Dear Em:

I had a nice letter from Carl Pelander and I have acknowledged same in a most friendly manner. He stated he withdrew the cover from the sale and returned it to Harry Keffer.

I wrote him after the sale and informed him I suspected the cover was originally a stampless - It had sold at \$137.50. How could he have withdrawn it? Well perhaps he notified the buyer that I "suspected" and the buyer(?) sent it back. I guess you will agree that people who buy "blindly" at New York auctions and then don't take the trouble to find out of their purchases are good are suckers. At least I think they are and I wonder if any conclusion is not drawn from experience.

Regards.

Yours etc.,

May 21, 1957.

Mr. Carl E. Pelander,
545 Fifth Ave.,
New York 17, N.Y.

Dear Carl:

Thanks very much for yours of the 17th. I have a cover that reached S.F. by the same ship on Nov. 1, 1852. It is a stampless, and has the same markings as on Lot 424 in your sale of March 7th. However, I have never seen the Keffer cover but I will write Harry and ask him to loan it to me.

Incidentally, I have made a very intensive study of Hawaii covers of the early fifties and I have quite an extensive photo record. There are features about the Keffer cover which are rather suspicious. If Harry will loan the cover to me I will photograph it alongside of my cover and report to you later.

With my kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

May 21, 1957.

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

Dear Harry:

Re - Pelander sale of March 7th, Lot 424,
a Hawaii cover with a 13¢ stamp - San Francisco date
of NOV 1 (1852). Carl advised me he returned this
cover to you. Will you be so kind as to loan it to
me as I have a stampless with same markings and same
date S.F. "1 NOV."

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

Mrs. John D. Pope III

4 St. James Court

Webster Groves 19, Mo.

April 8, 1957

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

Dear Stan:

We are anxious to know that Stan, Jr. escaped any tornado mishap. It must have been a terrifying experience for even those people who were not struck by the storm. Imagine watching the tornado move about the city for 40 minutes, never knowing where its path would go next.

As to the two covers to "Burdeos", I'm glad to have helped you and Mr. Krug in a very small way. No, you need not return the photo prints of the covers, thanks anyway.

We still don't have any explanation of the difference between our 1847 P. L. & R. and yours. You asked if ours is an official P. O. D. copy or an official. I'm afraid I don't know how to tell the difference. Our title page reads, "Laws and Regulations/ For The Government/ of the/ Post Office Department/ with/ An Appendix/ Printed by Order of the Postmaster General/ Washington:/ Printed by John T. Towers. /1847." (In the next to last line, "printed" is misspelled as "prinfed".) Does this help you to

Mrs. John D. Pope III

4 St. James Court

Webster Groves 19, Mo.

determine its status? The page numbered "1" is the one beginning "Post Office Laws. / An Act/ Concerning Public Contracts. /" Before that, there are pages numbered with Roman numerals. John got this one from Steve Lyon (the Providence dealer who died recently), and markings in it show that it was formerly in the Baker Library of Harvard Business School and the Boston Public Library (The Ernst Postal Library).

As to the 10¢ Providence cover - no, I was not referring to the Caspary Lot 122, which had two 5¢ stamps on it. The 10¢ Providence on cover was listed for the first time in the S. U. S. in 1955, but I know nothing further about it as to the owner, origin of the cover, address, etc. (by "origin" I do not mean the dateline or postmark, but "history" of the cover would have been a better word). I wonder if this is the same cover mentioned on Page 40 of the Slater book. If and when I find out more about the cover, I will pass the information on to you.

Our best to you and Mildred,

Sincerely,

Elizabeth

Mrs. John D. Pope III
4 St. James Court
Webster Groves 19, Mo.

March 23, 1957

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

Dear Stan:

Thank you for your letter of March 20, which we enjoyed very much.

We're glad you are feeling so much better, and hope the improvement continues rapidly.

Thanks for the comments on late usages of New York's. As to your question to John about the P.M.G. ruling on private postmaster stamps - *of the Laws* the 1847 P.L. & R. says, on page 89, "...but it shall not be lawful for any deputy postmaster to prepare, use, or dispose of any postage stamps not authorized by and received from the Postmaster General...". John says this would have no bearing on postmaster stamps previously prepared and sold, and does not prohibit their being recognized as valid for postage. The postmaster stamp was, of course, essentially a receipt for postage paid in cash, and the person who paid "in advance" for this was still entitled to have his letter carried in the mails with-

Mrs. John D. Pope III
4 St. James Court
Webster Groves 19, Mo.

out an additional payment, even after June 30, 1847.

Incidentally, John's ^{100 5¢} Providence Provisional cover ^{to England} is postmarked November 16, 1847. It is the ex-Caspary cover, listed as the latest known use in the Slater book on the Providence stamp. (Lot 117 Caspary)

That's too bad about the buyer not being able to return the Huntsville cover. We'll look forward to seeing the photo print.

Yes, we agree with your opinion of the Rohloffs. Their two boys seem to be fine youngsters too. We hope to see Millie and Paul again when we go back to Chicago the middle of May (United States Trademark Association meeting will be held there at that time).

Mr. Hart had written that his wife is not interested in stamps, but that she is tolerant of the time he spends on them.

I checked my Spanish covers, and those addressed to Bordeaux spell it just that way. Sometimes the final letter looks a bit more like an "n" than an "x", but that is only a handwriting peculiarity.

Our best to you both.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth

Note this about
10 of Providence

8

1847

PLR

April 13, 1957.

Mrs. John D. Pope, III,
4 St. James Court,
Webster Groves 19, Mo.

Dear Elizabeth:

Re - a cover with the 10¢ Providence.
I went thru all my notes but found nothing at
all. After all, I never did a great deal on
Provisionals and over the years made very
little attempt to compile data.

I agree it would be interesting to know
what prompted the S.U.S. to list a 10¢ on cover,
especially in view of Slater's remarks on page 40
of his book.

If I turn up anything I will advise John
and you.

Regards.

Cordially yours,

Re - Mail to Holland

March 23, 1957.

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

Dear John:

This will acknowledge receipt of yours of the 20th with enclosures as stated.

Re - the 5¢ 1847 cover. Because this is Saturday I will not be able to return it to you today but I will do so on Monday. Our P.O. out here closes at noon on Saturdays.

According to all the data I have a letter of not over $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce to Holland prior to the U.S.-British treaty "Via England" was 5¢ or 10¢ U.S. with British due of one shilling eight pence and Dutch due of 120 cents - In U.S. currency this was 40¢ and 48¢, respectively. After the treaty went into effect covers show $\frac{1}{4}$ and Dutch 100 cents or 32¢ U.S. and 40¢ U.S. (Dutch), thus a difference of 8¢ in both instances. According to the treaty - no transit charge was to be made by Britain, i.e., no British inland was to be charged. I considered the reduction of $\frac{1}{8}$ to $\frac{1}{4}$ was thus explained. (See Treaty Art. XIII - and "Exhibit B" - "Letters passing in transit")

Re - your cover, it shows British of " $\frac{1}{8}$ " (one shilling 8 pence and Dutch Due of "130." I believe this is 130 rather than "180." Your cover came up in Paige sale of April 9, 1954. I sent for it and made photographs, both in color and regular size black and white. I am enclosing the "regular" print which please return as I do not seem to have a duplicate that I can lay hands on at present. I also enclose a photo print of a cover from the same correspondence - This was mailed from Philadelphia on Sep 10 1850 whereas your cover was mailed on Sep 16 1850. You will note the former was sold in a Fox sale on Sept. 6, 1950 and was Lot 24, and it shows British of $\frac{1}{4}$ and Dutch of "100," which shows rating according to my data. Your cover of six days later shows 4 pence more in British Due and "30 cents" (Dutch) more in Dutch due - This is U.S. 8¢ and 12¢. This on the assumption that the Dutch marking is "130" but perhaps it was actually "120" - This would agree with the extra British 4 pence.

John, I am at a loss to account for the British " $\frac{1}{8}$ " on your cover. I do not have a very extensive record of covers to Holland but all that I have recorded do not show British " $\frac{1}{8}$ " due after the U.S.-British treaty went into effect - all such show " $\frac{1}{4}$ " due and your cover is the only exception.

I wondered if Holland rated per $\frac{1}{4}$ oz. - or $7\frac{1}{2}$ grammes, and that such were rated at 100 Dutch cents due - whereas over $7\frac{1}{2}$ grammes but not over 15 grammes were rated at "120"(?) due, (as per yours). I am enclosing the photo print of your cover so that you can refresh your memory regarding it. As above, please return these two prints at your convenience.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

(Memo-
Negatives
A195-A468-A890)

March 25, 1957.

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

Dear John:

As per mine of the 23rd I am herewith
returning your 5¢ 1847 cover from Philadelphia
to Holland in Sept. of 1850.

I will await your comment with interest.

Regards.

Cordially yours,

April 5, 1957.

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

Dear John:

Today I had a reply from my friend in London stating that in his opinion the rating of 1/8 was an error and in consequence the Dutch due was rated ~~accordingly~~ - also an error. I cannot recall a single instance where I made a request for postal data from a Britisher and received a satisfactory reply. All they seem to be interested in is British stamps and British postal history. They are all like the family down the street whose forebears had a lot of money but are now flat broke and living in the past. I believe they are so jealous of the U. S. that they would almost be glad to join Russia to see us annihilated, if it was not for the grim fact that they would go down with us. My "friend" stated: "We are in a mess over here." Looks like that is a bit of understatement.

I have yours of the 1st re - the Express Mail and Steamer 5 and Steamer 10. I am wondering if you own a complete file of Elliott Perry's "Pat Paragraphs?" Back twenty years ago he published a lot of data on the Express Mail. At the moment I cannot think of anything that I can add to the subject but will try to come up with something and if I do I will advise you.

With our best wishes -

Cordially yours,

May 3, 1957.

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

Dear Doctor:

Herewith the cover to Marburg, Prussia as per yours of the 29th. I am not sure whether the year use was 1868 or 1869 but it was either one.

The rate to the "North German Union" became 10¢ by "direct mail" as of Jan. 1, 1868 and was reduced to 7¢ as per Jan. 1, 1870. This was that 10¢ rate but overpaid by 2¢. The Marbury postmark on back looks like "7 - 6 - 78" - or June 7, 1868, but the framed marking in red at left looks like "69" - thus "HAMBURG - 6 - 6 - 69 - FRANCO." I note the S.F. date is May 14 and the New York sailing date is May 25 (I suppose it is a 5). Of course, if this is the 25th it is the sailing date not the arrival date in New York. If this letter left S.F. on May 14th, 1869 then it is one of the early letters to cross the country by rail. You will recall the two roads met on May 10, 1869.

The New York p.m. reads, "New York - Paid All - Direct," that is direct to Germany and no via England, that rate being 15¢. There was a sailing from New York of a steamer for Hamburg on May 25, 1869 so I am disposed to believe the date was 1869 rather than 1868.

I note the writer routed the letter (in upper left) - "INMAN LINE OF STEAMERS." However, this Line did not run to Germany but to England and as stated the rate was 15¢. In other words, he routed it Via England with a short pay of 3¢. The stamps are the 1867 Grills. Do you agree that it seems more likely that the use was 1869 rather than 1868? One more point - if 1868 then I suppose it was transmitted by stage from the end of the C.P.R.R. to the end of the U.P.R.R. but the distance by stage at that time must have been considerable - probably too much to land the letter in eleven days from the S.F. postmark date.

As stated above, if May 1869 then it is an early transcontinental R.R. cover. Have you ever seen one so early?

With best wishes -

Cordially 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:

5-7-87

Thanks very much for your letter of May 3^d. I think your analysis of the cover to Marburg, Prussia most interesting, and the most likely year 1869. If it is 1869, it is the earliest R.R. cover, by far, that I have ever seen. I once had ~~an~~ cover from N. Y. to S. F., dated I think, Aug 1, 1869 with manuscript "via Central Overland Railroad"; which I thought was extremely early, and so did Edgar, because he finally traded it from me and it is still in his collection. I will have to check the cover again when I see him.

I think that Bill Parker analyzed the Garter cover by instinct, rather than by any real analysis. Bill does things that way. I am sure that his eye sight is bad

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and that he can't tell a rare type of 1¢ or 10¢, 51-55 from the common types. However, he has an immense knowledge of express material, based upon years of observation of thousands of items plus the actual experience of making many original finds. He travels all over the U.S., teaching some material and his collection is really marvelous. However, he would not know how to use an ultra violet light, take a photograph or even look thru a microscope. Bill is always suspicious of an express cover that looks too good, and that was the trouble with this gaster cover; it just is too good to be true; so Bill thought.

Why don't you ask Carl Hamilton more details of the Heard material. He loves to tell that story about the impure 94.

SAN RAFAEL PHYSICIANS BUILDING

1540 FIFTH AVENUE
SAN RAFAEL, CALIFORNIA

GLENWOOD 4-2451

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ROGER W. HEDIN, M. D.

and Earl has other stories about this find. Also has quite a fund of stories about other stories, such as the small boy's collection that he paid \$25 for, in order to get rid of the small boy. After the boy had gone the album was still lying in the crates, and an old customer glanced casually thru it. Earl standing near by, heard him say, "Too rich for my blood" Earl hastened over, and much to his astonishment found his friend looking at an almost perfect copy, number of the 304 1869 issue. Earl spent several days searching San Francisco to find the small boy, and returned him with another \$100⁰⁰

Sincerely yours,
W. Scott Polland

April 12, 1957.

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

Dear John:

Here is a cover that I thought you might like to see and study. If so, fine. After you are through with it here is a stamped addressed envelope for its return. If you wish you can advise me re - your conclusions.

As you will note, it was mailed from Washington, D. C. on Aug. 20, 1861 to Reading, Pa., where on Sept. 16, 1861 it was forwarded back to Washington. It has a 12¢ and 3¢ 1861. Here are some problems for you -

- 1) Was this sent free from Washington?
- 2) If not were the stamps attached at Washington?
- 3) If sent free - Official Business - then perhaps the stamps were attached at Reading for the forwarding postage
- 4) If the stamps were attached at Washington, and the date date appears to be "20" then this is the earliest known use of a 12¢ 1861. Do you believe the day logo is "20?"

Last summer I discovered a cover with a use of a 12¢ 1861 on Aug. 30, 1861, and the date from that cover is now listed in the 1957 S.U.S.

If these stamps were put on at Washington this cover would set the earliest use back ten days. The black ink of the grids seem more like the black ink of the Reading, Pa. postmark than the gray black of the Washington postmark.

And finally - Would you call the 3¢ stamp a faded pink or a pinkish rose?

Perhaps the following might be of a bit of assistance:

Act of July 24, 1861 - Prepaid letters to soldiers in the service of the United States, and directed to a point where they have been stationed, may be forwarded without further charge.

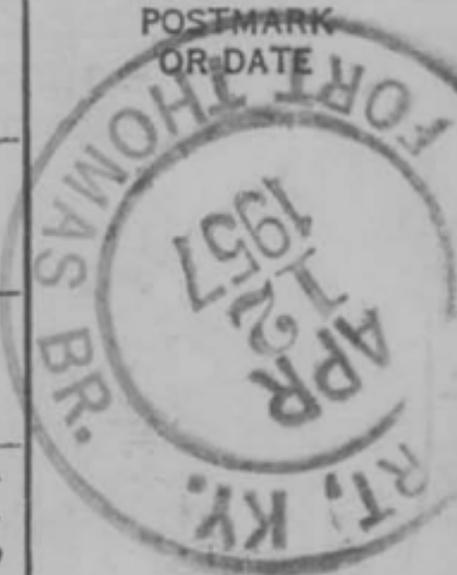
Act of March 3, 1863. Letters may be forwarded from office of destination to any other office, withoadditional charge of postage therefor

Act of June 12, 1866 - Sec. 1. Providencfor the forwarding of Prepaid and free letters at the request of the party addressed from one ppsst-office to another, without additional postage and the return of dead letters to the writers free of pbstage.

It seems rather odd that various early editions (prior to 1863) of the

No. 736276

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	<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. John D. Pope, III - April 12, 1957

P.L. & R. have practically no instructions regarding an extra postage charge for the forwarding of letters. Did you ever notice this? I suppose it was taken for granted that a forwarded letter required a rate each time it was remailed - or forwarded.

And in this connection, did you ever see an 1847 cover "Forwarded?" I wrote an article in "Stamps" some years ago about such a cover - mailed with a 10¢ '47 and Forwarded (less than 300 miles) with a 5¢ '47 - thus, the 1847 Issue on one envelope. This cover is now in a collection in Columbus and the auction price cost to him was \$1,550.00 as I recall.

Take your time on the above, no hurry.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

LAW OFFICES OF
KOENIG AND POPE
818 OLIVE STREET
St. Louis 1, Mo.

DELOS G. HAYNES
(1887-1950)
LLOYD R. KOENIG
JOHN D. POPE III
IRVING POWERS
STUART N. SENNIGER
DONALD G. LEAVITT

FORMERLY
HAYNES AND KOENIG
TELEPHONE-CENTRAL 1-0109
CABLE ADDRESS
PATENT

Dear Stan:

April 22, 1957

Enclosed is the 1861 cover that you sent me with your letter of the 12th. It certainly is interesting and I very much enjoyed studying it. The following are my opinions with respect to the problems you listed:

1. Yes, I believe this cover was sent free from Washington under the frank.

2. In view of the foregoing, I do not believe the stamps were attached at Washington.

3. Yes, I believe that the stamps were attached at Reading, but not for "forwarding" as I usually employ the term.

4. Yes, I believe the Washington date logo is 20 but since I don't believe the stamps were attached there, I don't think this cover will push the "earliest known date" back.

Last. I think the 3¢ stamp is a faded pink

My guess as to the chronology of this cover is:

The first two lines of the address were written by a clerk in the Adjutant General's Office.

The letter was completed by another clerk, who wrote "Reading Pa." This appears to be in different handwriting than the first two lines and I would guess that someone had to look up the then supposed address of the addressee.

The letter was put in the mail at Washington, postmarked Aug. 20, 1861, and proceeded to Reading.

It was taken out of the mail by someone in Reading - perhaps a member of the addressee's family.

It was re-mailed in Reading on Sept. 16, 1861 after the "Reading, Pa." of the address and the Washington postmark had been crossed out and the

3¢ and 12¢ stamps had been applied. Reading had received the 1861 stamps by then — the first newspaper ad~~it~~ was on Aug. 24 according to Pat Carographs. The object was to have it go back to the Adjutant General's Office and perhaps there was some notation to that effect on the portion of the envelope that has been cut off. Perhaps the Adjutant General's Office or the addressee had asked that this be done or the family had learned that the addressee was then in Washington.

Upon receipt, the same clerk who had written the first two lines of the address, applied the street address in Washington and it was delivered outside the mail.

I agree that the ink of the grids is similar to the ink of the Reading postmark and different from the gray black of the ink of the Washington postmark.

As to 1847 covers "forwarded" it has not seemed to me that such are too unusual — there were two covers with 10¢ 1847 stamps mailed at Philadelphia and forwarded from Memphis, in the Siegel sale about a week ago. However, the 1847 cover you mention where the forwarding postage was paid with an 1847 stamp is an entirely different matter. I can certainly see why it sold for \$1,550.00! Not only is it very unusual for the forwarding postage to be prepaid but, as you say, here we have the entire 1847 issue on one envelope.

Somewhat less unusual is an 1847 cover with the forwarding postage collect but with ~~the~~ a handstamped "Forwarded." New York (and perhaps other places) used such a handstamp.

Sincerely,
John

May 9, 1957.

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

Dear John:

Please treat the following as strictly confidential. I am sure you remember the 5¢ New York cover in the recent Kelleher sale - Ex-Seybold and used from Boston, etc. Krug bought it and paid about \$450.00 for it. He asked Dan for an extension, obtained it, and submitted the cover to the P.F. Expert Committee. They had a meeting last Monday night and their verdict was - the pair was not used on the cover. This cover is Ex-Seybold - Hart and Caspary. In my opinion, it is genuine. What do you think of such expertizing.

Regards.

Yours etc.,

CHARLES L. WUNSCH, M. D.
1219 DOWNER PLACE
AURORA, ILL.

April 6, 1957

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

You will recall that I sent you a cover bearing a 30¢ 1869 issue stamp which was fraudulent.

The other day I received the enclosed cover which bears your signature stating that the item is genuine. Could you please give me all the markings on same?

I cannot ~~make~~ make out the marking on the front of the cover and wonder if it has a U.S. postal marking.

Would you please advise me the price that one should pay for this item and your advice will be kept in confidence.

Upon receipt of the cover and your statement of charges, I will send you a check.

Thanking you to give this matter your immediate attention, I am

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Charles L. Wunsch

If you can make out these markings, please write them out so that I can reproduce same.

Encl,

Do you happen to know of any item of this type for sale + the price?

April 12, 1957.

Mrs. Charles L. Wunsch,
1219 Downer Place,
Aurora, Ill.

Dear Mrs. Wunsch:

Herewith the 30¢ 1869 cover as per yours of the 6th. This was a folded letter from New York on July 13, 1869 to Palermo, Sicily. The rate was 15¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. "Closed Mail Via England." Which meant in closed or sealed bags to England and thence to Italy. This letter, probably with enclosures, weighed over $\frac{1}{2}$ oz., hence was 2 x 15¢ rate. The red postmark on face is that of New York and reads as follows, at top:

New York Paid All

in center

JUL 13

at bottom

BR. TRANSIT

In 1869, July 13 fell on Tuesday, therefore, this letter was sent up to Boston to catch the ("Br. Transit") steamer of the British Cunard Line due to sail from that port on July 14, 1869 for Liverpool.

Very seldom do I ever express an opinion on values or prices, but in this case I will make an exception. I remember this cover quite well as it came out of a prominent Cincinnati collection that I dispersed for the owner in the forties. Because the cover has the stain on the front and is not especially pleasing to look at I doubt if I charged more than \$175.00 to \$200.00 when I sold it for the owner.

There is no fee for the above but you may refund to me the return postage.

Sincerely yours,

1219 Downer Pl.,
Aurora, Illinois
April 15, 1957

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

I am indeed grateful to you for your prompt reply and will hold your information in confidence.

Dr. Sneller called me last week on the phone and I told him that I had the item in question and had written to you regarding the markings and he told me that you were ill and really I didn't expect such an early reply. However, you must be recovering for which we are happy.

I have had several dealers looking for a 30¢ 1869 stamp on cover and today I received another item which was authenticated by you, reading:

"In my opinion this face of a blue envelope
pasted to the enclosure is genuine in every
respect - a 11 x 3¢ rate in March 1871.
Nov.10, 1956 (signed) Stanley B.Ashbrook.

} See EK 79-19

I believe the cancelation is "New York, March 14,
2:30 PM" and is addressed to Messrs.Thos.A.Biddle & Co., Philadelphia,
Pa.

In your opinion, is this item as good as the one you returned to me? There is certainly a difference in price. The one you returned is priced at \$550.00 which I too thought high for the apparent eradicator used on the face. The price quoted for the above mentioned item is \$175.00. I made an offer of \$200.00 for the item you returned but doubt if it will be accepted.

Dr. Sneller tells me that my collection of this issue is coming very nicely and wants to help me in photographing two of my items.

Do you have a book that you published on the 19th century postal markings and if so, may I buy it from you?

Thanks so very much for your help and a very Happy Easter.

Sincerely yours,

Mr. Charles R. Wunsch

April 19, 1957.

Mrs. Chas. L. Wunsch,
1219 Downer Place,
Aurora, Ill.

Dear Mrs. Wunsch:

It was reported in the philatelic press that I was quite ill but by the time the notice appeared I had recovered. Further, the impression was given that I was worse than was the case. I am happy to report that I am again quite okay.

May I thank you for the enclosure in yours of the 15th.

Re - the 30¢ 1869 plus 3¢ Bank Note cover. This was sent to me last November by a New York dealer for authentication. I made a very thorough examination and was convinced the item is genuine. I believe that \$175.00 is a very reasonable price for it, all things considered.

I do not think the Palermo cover is worth anything like \$500.00.

I noticed in Gossip that you had been given an award at the recent Chicago Show for your eighteen-sixty-nines. My congratulations are extended.

Re - 19th books. Have you a copy of my two-volume study of the U.S. One Cent 1851-57? This was published in 1937 - and has long been out of print. I imagine you would have to pay about \$50.00 for the set. I also published a book on the 1861-1869 issues. This is also long out of print. I could supply a copy at \$5.00 subject to your approval.

I issue each month what I call my "Special Service" - This goes to a select group of serious collectors of 19th U.S. covers and deals with our postal history - rates - stamps - etc., etc. In these issues I discuss rare and unusual covers, explain the postal markings and furnish actual photographs of the covers discussed. For this Service I charge \$100.00 per annum. Further details will be furnished upon request.

Very truly yours,

WILLIAM WYER

Six South Clinton St.
East Orange, N. J.
April 8, 1957

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

I note that in a recent Unit 11 Chronicle, you have turned up a "new railroad", the Springfield, Mt. Ver. & Pitts. Inasmuch as railroad covers are my first interest, I am wondering if this cover is, by any chance, for sale. If it is, I would be more than mildly interested.

With kindest regards and best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

Wm Weyer

April 11, 1957.

Mr. William Wyer,
Six South Clinton St.,
East Orange, N.J.

Dear Mr. Wyer:

Replying to yours of the 8th. In all my experience over many years with the One Cent 1851-57 I never ran across a cover with a single 1¢ 1857 tied by a R.R. marking and to make the cover more unique by such a rare one.

I am enclosing a color slide showing the cover. The price of the cover is \$150.00.

I am also enclosing a color slide of a 3¢ 1861 postmarked "RAIL ROAD - WAY." I am wondering if this marking is new to you? I have seen three or four such covers, one of which had the oval tying a 3¢ '61 to a cover. If you are familiar with such uses have you any information regarding same?

You can retain these slides if you wish at \$15.50 each or return them to me in the enclosed stamp envelope.

Sincerely yours,

Enclosed

EK 58 - 20

EK 110 - 14

WILLIAM WYER

Six South Clinton St.
East Orange, N. J.
April 16, 1957

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

I am enclosing my check for \$150 for the 1¢ 1857 railroad marking. I shall be very glad to get it as I agree with you as to its rarity. I am returning the two colored slides. I am familiar with the railroad-way marking on the 3¢ 1861 and have an example of it in my collection. I am under the impression that I have some notes from Charlie Towle concerning this marking but I do not recall just what they are at the moment. I am writing in my office and am leaving shortly for the West not to return home for about ten days. When I get back, I will see if my notes contain anything of interest on this cover.

Thank you again for your letter.

Sincerely yours,

Wm Weyer

April 19, 1957.

Mr. Wm. Wyer,
6 South Clinton St.,
East Orange, N.J.

Dear Mr. Wyer:

Yours of the 16th received with check for
\$150.00 and return of the two slides.

Herewith I am enclosing the 1¢ 1857 -
Type V - R.R. cover. I feel quite sure that you will
be highly pleased with this but if for any reason it
is not up to your expectation do not hesitate to return
it. You were the only one to whom I ever offered it.

I may have some 3¢ *51-57 R.R. covers
around somewhere and if I can lay hands on them I will
send them down for a look.

Thanks so much for your remarks on the Detroit
"R.R. Way."

Sincerely yours,



HERMAN HERST, JR.

SHRUB OAK, N. Y.



to put it briefly . . .

This just came
in from Belgium. I'm
not optimistic but
maybe it's my lucky
day!

Herman Herst, Jr.

The Secretary read letters from Glass expressing their regrets at no Meeting.

The Chairman then welcomed Mrs. Trustee, who was attending her first

1. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: The Chairman report on the activities of the Four September 1st. to December 31st 1958

Total Incoming Cash, excluding donated
Treasurer -

Expert Fees
Subs. & Donations
Hawaii Book
Text Book
Capital Fund
Course
Casparry Cats.
Sundries

May 1, 1957.

our #817

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

Pat -

Bad news - here is the "30¢ 1869" cover and I regret to inform you that the 30¢ stamp was not used on this cover originally. This is the third time in almost ten years that this same cover has made its way to my desk so you see I recognized it at once as a cover that I had seen before.

It was first submitted to me by the Expert Committee of the P.F. on Dec. 5, 1947, when I made the photo enclosed and which you may keep if you wish. At that time it was supposed to have the guarantee (in pencil) of "D. Darteyan" - (or some such) in lower left corner. I see it has since been erased. Then on Aug. 8, 1951, it was again submitted to me by the P.F. Committee. Both times I explained why it was a fake.

This cover originally had a 10¢ 1869 (in my opinion) which was removed and the 30¢ substituted. This is a favorite trick of Careski and I have little doubt he made this one. This sort of fake is the most common of the faked 30¢ '69 covers. The rate was 10¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. by direct mail to France - regardless as to whether carried by an "Amer. Pkt" or a "French Pkt." In the case of the enclosed cover the transit to Havre was by French Packet. To be exact, the letter was mailed at New York on Feb. 5, 1870 - it was put aboard a French mail ship in New York harbor - Note the same date "5 Fevr 70" in the red French marking, which has "Etats Unis" at top and at bottom it reads, "PAQ-FR-H-NO.1" - or Packet French, Havre No. 1 - or - French Packet to Havre - Mail Crew or Ship or route No. 1 (any will do). The addressee was taxed "8" decimes or about 15¢ U.S. at that time. I am also enclosing a photo print (which please return) of a similar piece of mail that went to Havre by the same trip and ship. It looks like Careski even tried to imitate the cancelation on the 10¢ stamp that he removed. A little later in the year after the 10¢ Bank Note was issued we find similar fakes with that stamp removed and a 30¢ 1869 substituted. When they used covers of a few years later then the year logos were changed.

In this instance there is no fee.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

April 25, 1957.

Mr. J. W. Kelley,
36 Home St.,
Metuchen, N.J.

Dear Mr. Kelley:

Thanks very much for your kind letter of the 20th.

I feel quite sure that your plating of the 1¢ strip is correct and I wish to compliment you very highly on your cleverness. I have no doubt that your strip is 8L5 - 9L5 - 10L5.

My book on the One Cent was published twenty years ago and at that time I thought that what we now know as Plate 5 was Plate 6. At that time I had not plated the top row of the plate, hence was not familiar with any of the positions in the top row of the left pane. For years after my book was published I was more or less inactive in the plating of Plates 5 and 6 and the left pane of Plate 7. In fact, it was not until along about 1950 that I made an important discovery that several years later led to the amazing discovery (at least to me) that Plate 6 was actually Plate 5, and that we do not know anything about a possible Plate 6.

I am pleased to state that with the able assistance of Morris Fortgang and Mortimer Neinken, the plating of Plate 5 and the plating of the left pane of Plate 7 has been completed, and this only in the past 12 to 15 months.

I suppose had you inquired about your strip as recent as several years back I would not have been able to give you accurate information regarding the positions or the plate.

If perchance you care to send your strip to me I will be pleased to verify the plating.

Again thanking you -

Sincerely yours,

36 Home Street
Metchen, N. J.
April 20-1957

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

I have a cover bearing a horizontal strip of three of Scott no. 25, positions 8L, 9L, and 10L - plate number unknown, but possibly the scarce plate no. 5. The cover is postmarked Superior, Wis., Sept. 15, 1858.

My reason for suspecting that the stamps are from plate 5, is based on sketchy evidence, which may be more negative than positive. Anyway, all of the three stamps have a dot of color in the N of "Cent", thusly . The dot is in the same location and is the same shape in each of the three stamps. It occurs to me that a constant repeating variety of this nature in the "A" relief stamps would be of sufficient interest to mention in your classic book or other literature had it been noticed before. However, since it does not seem to have been mentioned, it occurs to me that the variety has not been found in a strip of three, and, accordingly, that this strip may have come from the scarce plate 5.

The stamps are "A" relief stamps, clearly showing short vertical guide lines in top left corners and guide dots in top right

corners. There is a fine center line to right of the right-hand-most stamp. There are perforations on the center line.

If you would be interested in seeing and/or photographing the stamps for your reference file on this 1¢ stamp. I shall be pleased to lend it to you. If you are interested, please let me know, and I shall mail you the cover. If not, then please don't feel that courtesy demands a reply to this note.

Sincerely yours,

J. W. Kelley

MILLARD H. MACK, C.L.U. SPECIAL AGENT
2133 LURAY AVENUE AT EDEN PARK • CINCINNATI 6, OHIO
Telephones: Woodburn 1-1820 - Avon 1-4061

ROE WALKER, C.L.U. • General Agent

THE NORTHWESTERN
MUTUAL LIFE
INSURANCE COMPANY
OF MILWAUKEE

safeguarding tomorrow



May 9, 1957

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

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Thanks very much for your letter of May 8th returning the covers. I am enclosing my check to your order for \$4.00.

I am also returning the 10¢ 1869 cover to Aspenwall as you indicated in your letter that you had signed it on the back and evidently you forgot to do so.

I am also returning a 4¢ rate cover to France which you sold me earlier this year and my question to you is this -- you indicate that this was a double weight cover of two times 4¢ with 2¢ overpaid but could it not be that it is a single 4¢ rate with 6¢ overpaid and 10 decimes due indicating that it was over $7\frac{1}{2}$ grammes but not over 15 grammes?

Cordially yours,

Millard H. Mack

MHM/vel
Enc.

May 12, 1957.

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

Dear Millard:

Yours of the 9th received. Thanks very much for your check for \$4.00.

I am returning herewith the cover to France with a 7¢ and 3¢ Bank Note, also a photo print of a cover to Paris from Boston at about the same time, viz., March 1873. This cover shows that it was rated as Paid to destination via England at the 10¢ rate with 6¢ credit to Britain. Note the red pencil "6" and my memo that "Boston used a red pencil" as a credit. (The question arises - why was one of these letters with 10¢ pay - rated as paid to destination (with the 10¢ Bank Note) and the other, ~~was~~ cover, with 10¢ pay - rated with "10" decimes due? I believe the explanation is as follows: When the letter reached England it was found to weigh over $\frac{1}{2}$ oz., hence could not be forwarded to France under the Anglo-French Postal Treaty as fully paid but as paid only to the British frontier at 2 x 4¢ - thus short paid to France, but overpaid to the British frontier. Apparently the French found that the letter did not weigh over 15 grammes, hence rated it with 10 decimes due (over $7\frac{1}{2}$ grammes, but not over 15 grammes). Bear in mind that 0.53 of an ounce was actually equal to 15 grammes.

I enclose another photo print showing the 4¢ rate with which you are quite familiar and with "5" decimes due. Thus this letter did not weigh over $7\frac{1}{2}$ grammes.

I enclose a third photo print showing a letter of 2 x 4¢ with a 2¢ over-pay but the French found that this weighed over 15 grammes but not over $22\frac{1}{2}$ grammes, hence they rated it with 15 decimes due - or for them a triple rate.

Kindly return these photo prints as they are from my files.

I erased my original memo on your cover and authenticated it as genuine. I believe this letter gives a correct analysis of it.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

May 15, 1957.

Mr. Robert W. Baughman,
739 N. Kansas Ave.,
Liberal, Kans.

Dear Mr. Baughman:

Herewith the cover as per yours of the 9th. I am pleased to report that the cover is genuine in every respect, but if the owner is asking \$50.00, I think his price is much too high. After all, this is a 30¢ 1861 on cover and such an item catalogues at only \$15.00. I do not think that because the 30¢ has a Leavenworth postmark entitles such a premium, nor that the "Forwarded" feature adds much if any value.

Here is the story of the cover - It originated at Leavenworth, Kans. on July 9, 1862 - with a 30¢ 1861 - addressed to London, England. The rate was 24¢ per ½ oz., hence the addressor overpaid the rate by 6¢. It was sent to New York and on Saturday, July 12, 1862 it was sent to England aboard an American Packet. Note the red N.Y. postmark with "AM. PKT" at bottom and a large "3" at top. This "3" was the U. S. credit to Britain for her share of a 24¢ rate, (British internal under the postal treaty). From London it was forwarded to France with two British 4 pence stamps. The London receipt p.m. is July 21 - the London forwarding p.m. is July 26 - French receipt is July 27 - all 1862. It was forwarded to "M. K. Kelly - Poste Restante". This French direction meant, "Hold until called for."

My fee for the above analysis is \$3.00.

Herewith I am enclosing four photo prints of four covers of a recent "find". Kindly return these to me. They are lettered A - B - C - & D. I can offer these to you subject to prior sale as follows:

No. A "LEAV'N CITY & PIKES PEAK EXPRESS - May 21, 1859. As you are doubtless aware this marking is extremely rare, as it was only in use during April, May and a part of June 1859. It was the first marking by Jones & Russell. I can offer this cover to you subject to prior sale at \$500.00.

No. B - Jones & Russell - Denver City - May 22, 1860 - price \$300.00,
subject to prior sale.

No. C - Stage Coach Mail. Price \$200.00 subject to prior sale.

No. D - Map cover - From De Sota, Iowa Aug. 24, 1858 - Price \$137.50,
subject to prior sale.

With kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

Champion Prints



Manufacturing Co., Inc.

SALES OFFICES IN PRINCIPAL CITIES

FORTY-NINE WEST TWENTY-THIRD STREET • NEW YORK 10, N. Y.

CABLE ADDRESS, CHAPANTS, N. Y.

May 15, 1957

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

Dear Stan:

I haven't bothered you for a long time. I am sending you some covers on some of which I would like some information and some of which you may be interested in seeing.

1. THE COVER OF THE SHIP 6 AND CANCELLED REPEALED STAMP.

It seems to me that the "repealed stamp" comes from New Orleans and the use must be December 1863. I came to this conclusion because of change in postal regulations 1863 in accordance with act of March 3rd, 1863. Where was the 3¢ stamp placed on the cover? Am I correct in my conclusions?

2. THE COVER WITH 5 STRIKES OF "STEAMSHIP" is just for you to look at. I note that someone pencilled on the back of cover that U. S. S. Lancaster was a flagship of the South Atlantic Fleet.

3. THE COVER FROM HONOLULU TO BRITISH COLUMBIA. Just some nice strikes on it. I imagine that Canadian postage was 3 pents.^e

4. THE PACIFIC EXPRESS COVER. I was told that stamps now on back of cover were originally plastered all on face and then removed and placed on back. Can you explain it to me?

5. THE COVER WITH SANFRANCISCO COG WHEEL CANCELLATIONS.

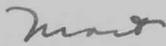
I imagine that the stamp in the lower left hand corner were added and don't belong on cover. However I note 29 cents rate, I thought rate in 1865 was 24 cents. I could use an explanation. I am enclosing a check for \$5.00 to take care of mailing, etc.

The show in Philadelphia looks like it will be very successful. I hope that

Mildred and you can find a way to come. Perhaps the Honeymoon couple will stop by enroute.

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,



MORTIMER L. NEINKEN

MLN:SB

ENC:

May 21, 1957.

Mr. Mortimer L. Neinken,
49 West 23rd St.,
New York 10, N.Y.

Dear Mort:

Yours of the 15th received with enclosures as stated. The following is an explanation of each item -

No. 1 - cover with a 3¢ 1857, addressed to New York City - Manuscript "SHIP 6." I examined this cover some years ago and had quite a bit of correspondence with John Fox regarding it. I eventually learned that the marking canceling the stamp is not "REPEALED STAMP" but rather "ILLEGAL STAMP" - Apparently this was from Mexico from a "Mrs. Gen'l Stevens" with an "old stamp" - During the Civil War or later. It was brought into New Orleans by a private ship and rated at "Ship 6" at New Orleans and forwarded on to New York. The New Orleans postmark is "Dec 28" so I fix the use at Dec. 28, 1863 or later. The act of March 3, 1863 - effective July 1, 1863 - fixed the ship rate as follows:

(Referring to letters brought in by private ship) - "Such letters, if for delivery within the United States, shall be rated with double rates of postage, which shall cover the fee paid to the vessel." (unquote) Thus this "Ship 6" to be collected from the addressee at New York was double or 2 x 3¢. Had this letter been December 1862 or earlier the Ship rate would have been - 5¢ due - that is, under the old law - regular postage plus 2¢ ship fee. This letter was declared unpaid when received at New Orleans - by private ship - hence 6¢ was due from the addressee. Have I made everything clear? I think a good guess would be that the letter was from the wife of a Confederate general who had some "old stamps" and tried to use them. I think the notations were put on the back from data I furnished Fox. I have photos of the cover in my files. I have a record of three such covers - one is in the collection of Dr. A.J.Hertz, but I do not know who owns the third, nor have I any description of it. John Fox probably knows.

No. 2 - 10¢ rate - 3¢ '57 and 1¢ '57 with five strikes of two lines, "STEAM - SHIP." I am positive I have seen this before and probably have a photo in my files. It was brought into New York by a U. S. Mail steam ship - contract mail. no doubt a mail ship from Panama or Cuba.

Later

This was a Harold Stark cover which I probably sold to Lehman. I have a photo I made about ten years ago.

No. 3 - Honolulu to Victoria. No, the Canadian postage was not three pence. This was by the U. S. mail line and the stamps represented -

5¢ Hawaii internal
10¢ U.S. 1861 to the U.S.
10¢ U.S. to British Columbia

No postage was due at Victoria. This is quite a nice cover. I note it was Lot #270 in the Harris Sale of Apr. 27, 1954 and sold at \$80.00. The "Victoria" feature makes it quite unusual.

No. 4 - Pacific Express Cover - from Stockton, Calif. to New York City. I do not believe any of the stamps on the back were ever on the face but were on the back

#2. Mr. Mortimer L. Neinken - May 21, 1957

from the beginning - This originated at Stockton, Calif. - was carried privately by Express messenger to New York City and handstamped there at the office of the Pacific Express Company at 124 Broadway. That office turned it over to "Boyd's Express" to deliver and paid Boyd for the Service. Note the black "PAID - J.T.B" at top right. This was surely applied after the New York office turned the letter over to Boyd, hence there were no 1¢ and 3¢ U.S. stamps on face, in my opinion. I suppose it is possible there may have been a Boyd's Local, but I doubt it. The law specified that mail carried outside of the mail be enclosed in U.S. stamped envelopes.

No. 5 from California to London - I think there has been so much monkey-business with this cover it is difficult to state just what did happen. There is a red New York postmark on face which reads, "N. YORK AM. PKT." I am not sure whether this has a "3" at the top or a "6." If it was a "3" then this was a single 24¢ rate in which case I doubt if the 10¢ or 5¢ were used on this cover. If it is a "6" then the rate was 48¢ and 9¢ is missing which could have been another 10¢ stamp (1¢ overpay). This seems a logical conclusion as it does look more like a "6" than a "3" in the N.Y. postmark. The New York postmark is dated "NOV 11" and I have no doubt the year was 1865 as American packets sailed on Saturdays and in 1865 Nov. 11 fell on Saturday. Further, my records show the sailing on Nov. 11 1865 of an American packet. Prior to July 1, 1863, the rate to Britain from California and the West Coast was 29½, thereafter 24¢ (per ½ oz.) until Jan. 1, 1868.

Thanks Mort, for the check for \$5.00. Advise if any of the above analysis is not perfectly clear.

I am so glad that the Philadelphia Show is going to be a big success. I only wish I could attend, but, of course, we will have to go to Dallas for Stan's wedding on June 27th and I will probably find it easier on my heart to attend that affair than the one at Philadelphia. I imagine a stamp show would be something a honeymoon couple would wish to avoid. At any rate, they plan to go west - Colorado Springs, etc.

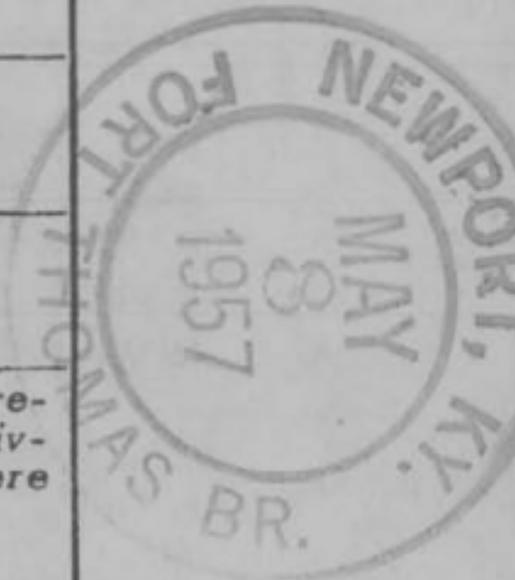
It was nice to hear from you

Mildred joins me in best wishes to Anna and you.

As ever yours,

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

No. 736284

SENT TO Samuel C Paige	POSTMARK OR DATE
STREET AND NO. 45 Bromfield St	
CITY AND STATE BOSTON (8) Mass	
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.

INVOICE

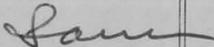
Samuel C. Paige
 45 Bromfield Street
 Boston 8, Massachusetts

MAY 4 19 57

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK
 33 NORTH FT. THOMAS AVE.
 FORT THOMAS, KENTUCKY

Please make returns within 10 days

TERMS:

Item	Value	Kept
3 "Rate" covers for your inspection and comment.		
Dear Stan:		
Would surely like your comments as to the correctness and probable genuineness of the three covers enclosed, together with any other useful information you may care to submit.		
Please let me know the charge when you reply.		
With my very best regards, as always.		
Sincerely,		
		
SAMUEL C. PAIGE		
SCP:vy enc.		
P. S.: Trust you received my latest Auction Catalogue all right and will let me know if there are any items you wish to inspect.		

500
~~PAID~~
MAY 21 1957

May 8, 1957.

Mr. Samuel C. Paige,
45 Bromfield St.,
Boston 8, Mass.

Dear Sam:

Herewith the three covers as per yours of the 4th. The following are my remarks concerning them -

6¢ to England. H.S. of 3 of the 2¢ 1869. From New Haven, Conn. Jan. 27, 1870 to Leeds, England, Via New York. The rate at that time - from Jan. 1, 1870 was 6¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. In my opinion, the cover is genuine in every way. A strip of three of the 2¢ to pay the rate is not common.

42¢ to Sweden in 1863. V.S. of 3 of the 12¢ 1861 plus V.P. of the 3¢ 1861 rose. The rate at this time was as follows: By "Prussian Closed Mail" - 40¢ if Paid - 42¢ if unpaid - hence the addressor paid 2¢ too much. From a town in Pennsylvania, on May 9, 1863, thence to New York to the Foreign Division of that office, thence in a sealed bag to Boston and by a British (Cunard) Mail steamship on Wednesday, May 13, 1863. To Liverpool - thru Belgium to Aachen, where the bag was opened and the mail distributed. There is a manuscript "19" on face. This was the U. S. credit to Prussia for their share of the 42¢ rate - the U. S. share being 23¢. Covers of the period and earlier to Norway and Sweden are scarce. The cover is genuine in every way.

To Spain and Forwarded. The rate was "21¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz - (7 $\frac{1}{2}$ grammes) - By French Mail. This cover has a payment of 22¢, and it is possible that the B.J. merely represented an overpay of 1¢, but I wonder if someone removed a 1¢ 1861 and substituted the 2¢ B.J. in order to odd more(?) value. From ? Mass. on Nov. 2? 1865, sent to the Boston P.O. - Foreign Division, where it was rated on Tuesday, Nov. 28, 1865, then sent in a sealed bag to New York and from there on Wednesday, Nov. 29, 1865 by a Cunard Mail ship (British Packet) to Liverpool, thence across Channel to Calais and by French Mail to Spain and Cadiz. The Boston pmk shows an "18" - which was the U.S. credit to the French P.O.D. - the U.S. share being only 3¢. An interesting cover.

The above will give you some idea as to how we investigate every feature of a U. S. cover to a foreign country. In order to keep ahead of the fakers it is necessary to know as many answers as possible. For example, consider the cover to Sweden. It has a red Aachen marking. Up to a certain period, Aachen used red - afterwards blue ink. When was the change made? Well, I had to examine a lot of covers to find the answer but it was quite important.

My fee for the above examination is \$5.00.

I have been so busy I have not had time to go over your catalogue for the June sale. I will advise later if there are any lots I would like to examine.

With kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

May 10, 1957.

Mr. John O. Theobald,
95 Encanto Blvd.,
Phoenix, Ariz.

Dear Mr. Theobald:

As per yours of the 30th, I am enclosing herewith my three Maricopa Wells A.T. covers for which I want \$35.00 for the three, not caring to split the lot.

If not perfectly satisfactory I enclose return postage by certified mail herewith.

Sincerely yours,

No 736286

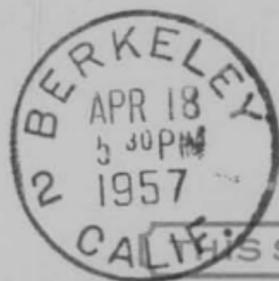
RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL—15¢

SENT TO John O Theobald	POSTMARK OR DATE	
STREET AND NO. 95 Encanto Blvd		
CITY AND STATE Phoenix Ariz		
<p><i>If you want a return receipt, check which</i></p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td data-bbox="425 720 753 875"> <input type="checkbox"/> 7¢ shows to whom and when delivered </td> <td data-bbox="775 720 1332 839"> <input type="checkbox"/> 31¢ shows to whom, when, and address where delivered </td> </tr> </table> <p><i>If you want restricted delivery, check here</i></p> <input type="checkbox"/> 20¢ fee		<input type="checkbox"/> 7¢ shows to whom and when delivered
<input type="checkbox"/> 7¢ shows to whom and when delivered	<input type="checkbox"/> 31¢ shows to whom, when, and address where delivered	

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.



PRAY
FOR
PEACE



Stanley B. Ashbrook

P.O. Box 31

33 N. Ft Thomas ave.

Ft. Thomas, Ky.

WESTERN COVER SOCIETY
GENERAL STORE W. E.

WANTED: ARIZONA TERRITORIAL COVERS, BOOKS,
Documents regarding early Arizona, New Mexico 1864 and prior
Check or answer by return mail.

JOHN O. THEOBALD
95 ENCANTO BLVD.,
PHOENIX, ARIZONA

File this with General Store of the Western Express, April 1957
Issue this is due to an error on my part. H.C.

April 25, 1957.

Mr. John O. Theobald,
95 Encanto Blvd.,
Phoenix, Ariz.

Dear Mr. Theobald:

Re - your card for Arizona covers.
I have some 3¢ 1861 covers of "Maricopa Wells
A.T." - Are you interested?

Very truly yours,

95 Encanto Blvd
Phoenix, Arizona
April 30 - 1957

Dear Mrs. Ashbrook:

Thank you very much for your answer to my card. I am definitely interested in the Maricopa Wells Census. I have one very nice one, about 1869 date, but since we are doing a rather extensive historical research on all "Travel and Communications in Territorial Arizona", we always appreciate the opportunity to examine any Arizona material. If you wish to sell please price them, if not we'll greatly appreciate looking ^{anyway} and will make immediate returns. Again, thanks.

Yours truly

JOHN O. THEOBALD

95 ENCANTO
PHOENIX ARIZONA

May 14 - 1957

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Thanks so much for sending
the Mancopa Wells Cover, and my son wants to
thank for the nice "Flags" on your Mancopa Cover.
Mr. Ashbrook, I have a Mancopa Wells <sup>(Also
marked
"San Santa
Fe")</sup> cover with a fine strike similar to those of
yours. All I have ever seen have the
small blue or black with characteristic
killers of the period. I have always hoped
to see a different strike, but they seemed to
have used this one consistently.

We have done a great amount of
research on Mancopa Wells. It's fascinating
history goes deep into the glorious part of our
state and the south west. I am enclosing some
recent clippings from our local newspaper.

Incidentally, I have a cover
addressed to the same address "John T. Tobey"
from Yuma in 1867.

My wife and I have lived in

Arizona all our lives, and our parents came here as young people, we are doing historical research on our state principally on "Travel and Communication" in the Territorial Period 1856-1912. We have many covers,

photos, documents, books, antiques & relics of our "American Colonial Period". (much later than yours) My mother tells me we are related to "Simon Kenton" of Kentucky, History too. Don't know how he rates but anyway —

I had so hoped these covers would be different than those I am familiar with but since they are not, I am returning them.

Again, we want to express our thanks if sending them. Please think of us if you have or hear of any Arizona material

Cordially,
John O. Theobald

JOHN O. THEOBALD
95 ENCANTO BLVD.
PHOENIX, ARIZONA

95 Encanto Blvd,
Phoenix, Ariz.

May 24, 1957

Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

I just read the letter you wrote my father and I have the wonderful gift of the imperforate block of 5¢ blues. My mother, father and I were very interested to read of your trips around and down into the Grand Canyon. We have traveled around the Canyon a lot ourselves. We have a jeep and we have been able to enjoy many trips over the old trails and back country of the Canyon.

We have traveled around the state all our lives and we are still finding

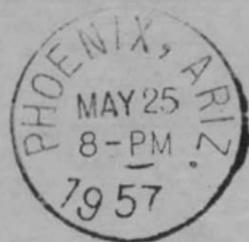
many wonderful places and things to enjoy. We
feel like your love and appreciation of our state
really makes you one of us. We hope that you
can come to Virginia again some day soon and we
would have the pleasure of a visit with you.

My father has many books, relics and a very
fine collection of Virginia covers. He said to tell you
that he too has read Mr. Conkling's history of the
Batterfield Trail and he has found a number of
the stations in Virginia and is working on still
others.

Again I wish to thank you very much for
your fine gift of the stamps.

Sincerely yours,

John O. Sheppard Jr.



Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook,

P.O. Box 31,

33 North St. Thomas Ave.

Fort Thomas,

Kentucky.



JOHN O. THEODOR
95 ENCANTO BLVD.
PHOENIX, ARIZONA



John A. Fox

LICENSED & BONDED AUCTIONEER & APPRAISER

110 WEST 42nd STREET, NEW YORK 36, N. Y.

Wisconsin 7-7401

May 27, 1957

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

Dear Stan:

I enjoyed speaking with you the other day and think that the future will show us the true picture and exactly what is happening.

I enclose herewith the face of a cover with an exceptionally rare rate. Would like your opinion on it and want you to accept the enclosed for your trouble. Would appreciate an early return of it as I wish to include it in the Philadelphia auction sale.

With kind personal regards to Mildred and yourself from Virginia and me,

Sincerely,


JOHN A. FOX

JAF:ss
Enclosure

May 29, 1957.

Mr. John A. Fox,
110 West 42nd St.,
New York 36, N.Y.

Dear John:

Herewith the 90¢ 1861 cover as per yours of the 27th. I have authenticated it on the back. I have known of this cover for many years and have a description of it in my files. It was a heavy piece of mail from California requiring a 32 x 10¢ rate. Sure must have been heavy. In the Seybold Sale in 1910, it sold at \$5.25. I suppose they did not like faces in those days or did not appreciate high rates.

Our mutual friend called me by phone today and stated he had a bid from you of \$3,200.00 for the whole lot of covers. I advised him to accept by all means before you changed your mind.

Thanks John, very much for the fee but I know of no reason why you should pay me more than my usual fee.

With best wishes -
Cordially yours,

Gordon R. Harmer

June. 4.

Dear Stan.

Would you please ~~go~~ expertize
the 4 enclosed covers and sign
them if genuine. I have been told
that the French pair does not belong
so if the rest of the cover is genuine
please remove the French stamps.

I insist good or bad that you send
me a bill for your services

Kind regards

Gordon

HARMER, ROOKE & CO.

560 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK 19, N. Y.

TEL. LONGACRE
3-3335

June 8, 1957.

Mr. Gordon Harmer,
% Harmer Rooke & Co.,
560 Fifth Ave.,
New York 36, N.Y.

Dear Gordon:

Herewith the five covers contained in yours of the 4th.

I note that three of these are "Heard" covers, that is, from the Augustine Heard correspondence. In this connection I might mention that in a great many of the "Heard" covers the original stamps were removed, and later were put back on the covers, and I suppose in a number of cases the stamps that were originally on certain covers were not put back on the same covers. I am enclosing, under separate cover, a sample copy of my June 1st "Ashbrook Special Service" which contains quite a bit of data regarding the Heard correspondence. I think my remarks will explain why stamps were removed and later replaced.

Note cover with 90¢ and 24¢ with New York back date of Feb. 12 - (1862) - This rate is correct. I have signed this cover on the back as genuine - In my opinion these two stamps were actually used on this cover. The credit on face of \$1.04 is in line with the rate and all markings agree with the weight and rate. Compare this cover with the one with the 90¢ and 24¢ with London p.m. (on fact) of "FE-8-64." At this time there was no rate of (or multiple) \$1.14. Note my memo on back, stating that if the cover is genuine - the rate was overpaid by 8¢. You can erase this memo if you wish. Personally I doubt if these stamps were actually used on this cover. All the markings show that the actual rate was \$1.06.

The third cover with 2 90¢ - 10¢ and 24¢ is similar, that is, there was no such a rate as \$1.24 or a multiple of such a rate in October of 1863. The correct rate was \$1.06 on this cover as all markings prove - It was 2 x 53¢ with a credit to G.B. of 64¢ (on face). The U. S. share of this rate was 42¢ (2 x 21) and the British share was 64¢ (2 x 32) - total \$1.06. Thus if these stamps were actually used on this cover there was an overpay of 18¢, which I consider most unlikely. John Kleeman and Henry Needham owned a lot of the Heard covers and so anything could have happened. You can erase my meo on the back if you wish.

I trust you can appreciate the folly of submitting covers such as these three Heard covers to Expert Committees such as the P.F. or the Royal. One might as well request me to pass on the stamps and covers of Afghanistan.

The cover to Switzerland with the 35¢ rate is okay in every respect. This was by Prussian Closed Mail and the pen credit to Prussia of "12" on face is in agreement with the route, and rate. All year dates are correct - none have been changed. I have signed it on the back.

#2. Mr. Gordon Harmer - June 8, 1957.

Re - the cover to Italy. I removed the French stamps as you will note as they were surely not used on this cover - a rather silly "fix." I remember this cover in the Gibson sale in 1944 and marked my catalogue that the French stamps did not belong. John Fox sent the cover to me in 1950 and I advised him to that effect. Otherwise the cover is genuine in every way - a 35¢ rate by Prussian Closed Mail. The year use was surely "New York Dec 4 1858." (Saturday).

Gordon I note you insist that I charge you a fee so I will make a group charge of \$15.00.

In my Special Service I am sending you, please note my remarks about the listing of the 10¢ 1861. Why is it we cannot have a sane and sensible listing of the two types of this stamp? Is the present silly and antiquated listing of the 10¢ and 24¢ violet to go on forever? Do you not think that it is about time that collectors of U. S. stamps and covers be given the best listings possible in the S.U.S.? Do we have to go on forever with the errors made by Luff? Do you suppose that any serious student of U. S. 19th of the present day believes that Luff's "Premieres Gravures" were ever issued to the public?

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

HARMER, ROOKE

& CO., INC.

GORDON HARMER
PRESIDENT

—
AUCTIONS
APPRAISALS

PHILATELIC
AUCTIONEERS

560 Fifth Avenue
NEW YORK 36. N. Y.

CABLE ADDRESS
PHILATORS, NEW YORK

—
TELEPHONE
JUDSON 2-0164

June 19, 1957

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

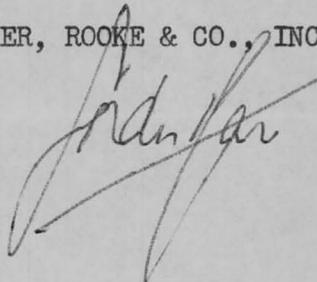
Dear Stanley:

Thank you very much for your letter of June 8, and I am enclosing check value \$15.00 which I consider most reasonable and I want to thank you very sincerely for the complete information you have given me. I am in a little difficulty with regard to two of the covers as I suppose there is a possibility that the stamps belong on the cover and on the other hand they may not. I could, of course, sell them with your note and describe them quoting your note on the back. Would you think it foolish of me to send them to the Foundation? Any suggestion you could make would be very welcome.

I note your last paragraph and I am sending this on to Sidney Barrett for his attention.

Yours very truly,

HARMER, ROOKE & CO., INC.,

By: 

GRH:s

enc. check

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



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

Jack E. Malesworth

Philatelic Dealer and Broker

102 Beacon Street

Boston 16, Massachusetts

June 19, 1957

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

Dear Stan,

My thanks for your June 13th and June 17th letters. I note that you will be leaving today, and will not be back until after the Fourth of July, but thought it best to write this letter and get it out of the way, because there is no hurry on your reply. I do hope you have an enjoyable time at Stan's wedding.

I appreciate very much your elaborating on the basis for your opinion that the 5¢ 1847 had been added to the cover with "Hudson River Mail" postmark. I note that you feel some fixer has erased a part of the ring of the postmark, as none shows beneath the stamp, and has painted in the erased portion on the stamp. Though I of course considered this possibility when buying the cover, I found no evidence whatsoever of such when examining it at that time, and very frankly, can see no such evidence now, even with your indication that that is the basis for your opinion. This does not mean that I am disagreeing with your opinion, but rather that I know of no means wherein a cancel of this type can be erased without showing quite obviously that such has been done, yet this cover shows no evidence whatsoever of any erasure. I have just removed the stamp again to be sure of this. As it now stands, I have your opinion that the cover is not genuine, which I respect and value quite highly, but I must admit that in this instance I cannot see the basis for your opinion as I have been readily able to do in practically every instance in the past. I do trust you will agree that an item of this nature can narrow down to more a matter of opinion that a cover that has been fixed and can be so determined by the inconsistency in the rate markings, etc. Also, since, as I have previously mentioned, I removed the stamp when first buying it, and apparently in putting it back did not match the cancel up perfectly, so that it was slightly out of line, I must admit that I wonder if the fact that the cancel did not line up perfectly may have been a basis for you and the P.F. originally doubting it? I don't want to belabor the matter, as it is not that important, but if you should care to make a comment at your leisure as to how you determined that an erasure had been made in the postmark, and what evidences there were, that would be most appreciated as an aid to my better understanding of your opinion on this cover.

Please be assured that I offer nothing to collectors which I cannot guarantee as genuine, and in fact I give an unlimited guarantee on everything sold. That is, everything is guaranteed to be as represented at the time of purchase, with no time limit whatsoever on returns if ever found to be otherwise. Naturally, from time to time items come along in lots or collections which I cannot definitely say are bad, but which I would not care to offer, as definitely genuine to some collector customer, in which instances I send this material off to auctions and leave it up to them to describe it as they see fit, with no representations from me as to authenticity, condition, etc. If I know an item to be bad or a fake or fixed, I either place such in my reference collection or send back to the source if that is possible, but do not put anything of that nature in an auction, but only items which I cannot definitely determine are bad or good.

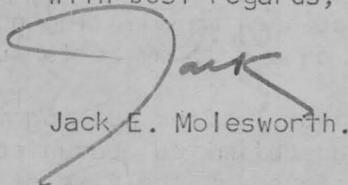
I can, of course, well understand your feelings with respect to relinquishing your 12¢ 1851 Plating material for a modest sum. I can also understand your feelings with respect to the 10¢ 1851 Plate I material which you sold for about \$1,100, which I gather included some plated stamps that probably made up a good portion of the value, which party made quite a killing on the plate reconstruction later when selling it to Rust. Of course, I am sure you will agree that that was an unusual situation with respect to a buyer coming along who

was willing to pay such a fantastic price for a completed reconstruction, as very few collectors have any interest in buying a completely reconstructed plate, but would much prefer to reconstruct such themselves. Rust was then, and has in a number of other past instances * been a sucker in my opinion. Though of course your research work was essential to that reconstruction in the ultimate sale, I don't believe anyone other than Rust would have paid one-third what he did for it. I am very sure that that is a very isolated instance, that will not happen again, regardless of whether you might relinquish some of your plating (12¢) material to someone else for purposes of reconstructing the Plate.

My feeling in the matter is that it is a shame to allow this plating material to go unused and be kept completely out of circulation indefinitely, as I am sure no-one will come along who would be willing to pay any significant price for such material, which means you will merely hold it ad infinitum. Also, I realized I was probably requesting a special favor asking for the privilege of photographing it with the payment of only \$100 or \$200. Possibly I was being unduly forward in proposing such a favor on your part. However, I guess I felt that certain favors I had done you, such as originally referring Rust to you (he had never heard of you until I urged him to get in touch with you) had probably netted you far more than the value you have set on the 12¢ 1851 Plating material. I fully realize that these are not necessarily comparable situations, as the 12¢ 1851 material represents a tremendous amount of work on your part, which certainly should have some value attached to it, while my referring Rust to you was merely a gesture and a favor to you both, which cost me nothing. I did realize, and in fact hoped you might be able to do some business with him, as I am sure you have. If you should later feel that you would be willing to either sell your original material or allow it to be photographed for a modest charge, I would consider such a personal favor. However, I do understand your feelings with respect to this material, and shall understand if you do not wish to do that.

I thank you for your prompt return and comments on the 1¢ 1851. I am sorry that you did not feel enough of the design showed for you to determine visually whether it is a Type III or a Type IIIa, and that it will therefore be necessary to plate it in order to determine what type that plate position produced originally. Since under a strong glass the break at the bottom appears to me to be quite a definite and large one, I can easily sell the stamp with a clear conscience as a Type III, so don't believe it would be worth the cost or effort to attempt to plate it to determine what the position produced originally. From our past letters on this typing subject, I believe we both understand and respect the other's viewpoint with respect to calling items Type III's or Type IIIa's.

With best regards,



Jack E. Molesworth.

JEM:fc

P.S. Enclosed is a cover with a #64 Pink, which is one of the deepest shades I have ever had, though possibly this is due a bit to the stamp being slightly stained. However, I feel it might possibly be the "Pigeon Blood", so I am sending it along for your opinion in that regard. I realize your reply will be delayed by virtue of your being out of town, but there is no hurry on it. J.E.M.

* \$10,000 For The 90¢ 1857 Caspary Cover!

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

February 27, 1957

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

Dear Stan,

I trust by now you have the letters which I sent along for Jessup. Do you think he has much influence on Foundation policy?

Enclosed is my check for \$8.00 to cover your authentication of the two covers submitted last week. Your assistance on them is greatly appreciated. Regarding your feeling that you do not believe a 10¢ 1847 used abroad is especially rare, I have yet to find a single example of that in any of the larger collections that have been sold in this country during the last 5 to 10 years. Neither Moody nor Meroni had one, as you suggest, though I have not had time to check the Green sales. However, with Caspary, Moody, and Meroni lacking such a cover, it would appear to me that it must be rare. Would you agree? If you do, a write-up of that cover in your Service would probably be interesting to your subscribers, and you have my permission to include it.

I appreciate your suggestion that I might send that cover to Emmerson Krug, but I frankly doubt he would care to pay the price I must secure for it, namely \$500. If you feel he might, I would be glad to try it on him after I hear from a couple of my regular customers whom I wish to give a chance at it.

Regarding the P.F., I was most interested in your comments concerning John Baker, who I know only casually through the mail and have always considered fairly well qualified in the U.S. Local field. Would you consider him adequate in that area? Even if he is, quite possibly he does go into other areas where his knowledge is incomplete, and contributes his share of erroneous advice to the final P.F. opinion. Mrs. Dale said she would be out of the country until the latter part of February, so I have not yet received a reply to my latest communications.

Enclosed are two rather interesting items on which I would appreciate your opinion. The first is a 5¢ 1847 in a Brilliant Brown-Orange shade. I presume this is not the Red-Orange, but believe it should be the next step down, and still a very rare shade. However, when dipping it in fluid it gives a very odd appearance which makes me wonder a bit as to its soundness or authenticity. Your comments on it will be greatly appreciated. The other item is a 3¢ 1851 with Chicago ~~Perfs~~, which I consider to be 100% genuine. I have a sale for it, but the buyer would like to have it authenticated. I believe he wanted a P.F. certificate, but I wrote him indicating that such was not worth the paper it was printed on in an item of this nature, and hope he will accept my recommendation that you pass on it rather than the P.F.

Looking forward to your reply on the enclosed,

With best regards,

Jack E. Molesworth.

HEM:fc

March 1, 1957.

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

Dear Jack:

Yours of the 27th received with the Chicago perf cover and the 5¢ '47 off-cover copy. Also your check for \$8.00 for which kindly accept my thanks.

Re - your query about Jessup. He is a very close friend of Mrs. Dale and I think she has a high regard for his opinion on matters pertaining to the P.F. I will forward the correspondence to him.

Regarding 1847 covers used abroad. I have quite a record made over the years of such 5¢ and 10¢ covers prior to the Treaty period 5¢ was required on distances of 300 miles or less and 10¢ on greater distances. Because of this, covers with the 5¢ are perhaps not as rare as those with the 10¢. I have records of covers to England, France, Holland, Belgium, Germany, China, Cuba, etc. I enclose a photograph which you may keep of a cover similar to yours. Note Lot 86 Waterhouse Sale, June 27th, 1955. I note that you are asking \$500 for your cover, which in my opinion is excessive, however, Emmerson Krug likes such items and you might submit it to him.

Re - your query about Boker. I may have him wrong but I don't think that he is very heavy and certainly not of the calibre to serve on an expert committee, but he has plenty of company.

Re - the two items which you enclosed and which I return herewith. First, the 5¢ '47, this is indeed a most unusual shade and before finally passing on it I would like to consult a very close friend regarding it. I, therefore, ask your permission to do so and if agreeable you can return it to me. Regarding the Chicago perf cover. I have endorsed this on the back and my fee is \$4.00. This cover was Lot #40 in a H. R. Harmer Sale last October 15th and sold at \$78.00. You will note that my endorsement states that it is the second earliest 12½ perf known. No doubt your client will be interested in this feature. The great majority of such covers, according to my records, show uses in the last part of 1856. I doubt if the P.F. could have given your client this data.

With kindest regards -

Sincerely yours,

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

CALIFORNIA

DINSMORE ALTER, PH.D., SC.D.

DIRECTOR

C. H. CLEMINSHAW, PH.D.

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR



NORRIS POULSON

MAYOR

DEPARTMENT OF
RECREATION AND PARKS
**GRIFFITH OBSERVATORY
AND PLANETARIUM**

P. O. BOX 27787

LOS ANGELES 27

NORMANDY 4-1191

Sunday July 21

Dear Ashbrook:

I assume that all went just right at the wedding and that you had a wonderful trip.

On my return yesterday from two weeks of training I found quite a bunch of stamps from Moleworth.

I bought several and am sending one of them to you for expertizing. If OK will you sign it and bill me the regular rate for such service. It looks perfectly good to me but I am not an authority. If OK I shall buy it.

Did I send you reprints of some of my lunar research of the past few years?

Best wishes in every way to both of you

Alter.

July 27, 1957.

Dr. Dinsmore Alter,
% Griffith Observatory,
P.O.Box 27787, Los Feliz Sta.,
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Dr. Alter:

Herewith the 1¢ off cover Chicago perforation. In my opinion, the stamp is genuine, that is, I do not believe that this was an imperf with a Chicago postmark which some faker faked.

I found that I had a record of the stamp as it was submitted to me by Harmer Rooke & Co. on Sept. 25, 1940. I was unable to lay hands on the report that I made at that time but I feel sure it was favorable. I enclose a photo that I made at that time for my records. It was again submitted to me by Maurice C. Blake of Boston on Jan. 8, 1941 and I apparently authenticated it for him. It seems odd that I did not sign it on the back at that time but the reason may have been that I made no charge. At any rate, I have signed it as a "Chicago Perf" and I am charging you a fee of \$5.00 for the examination and authentication. Genuine copies of the 1¢ Chicago perf are really rare and I have had very few submitted to me over the past thirty years. I feel that \$150.00 is not an excessive price but this is just for your information. The copy does appear to be sound and exceptionally fine.

We had a very pleasant trip to Dallas and were charmed with our new daughter. She more than exceeded our expectations.

No, I do not believe that you sent me reprints of your latest research work. What has always bothered me is - What does the other side of the moon look like? In one of our weekly magazines I noted an article that man may someday have this age-old question answered.

Mrs. Ashbrook joins me in kindest regards.

Cordially yours,

Memo from . . .

Aug. 5, 1957

William O. Bilden

Philatelic Dealer

200 KASOTA BUILDING

MINNEAPOLIS 1, MINN.

TELEPHONE FE. 2-6055

Dear Stan,

I have yours of the 2nd. I agree with you that the wording in the laws and regulations of the Post Office Dept. often are very indefinite. I am enclosing a "choice" cover that I just got in this morning from Europe. This is not what we would call a superb cover, but to me it is very interesting and I am sure that it will be of interest to you. Too many collectors are being carried away by the condition angle and loose sight of the postal history viewpoint. I like a cover for the story it tells or its unusual aspects. The enclosed cover has both. No doubt there was a pair of #2 and a #1 for a twenty five ~~cents~~ cents rate (double 10¢ rate plus 5¢ shore to ship rate) Am I right? The cover was forwarded from London to Italy and no doubt the forwarder agent, Heath & Co. tore off the stamps before forwarding, a superb example of official or semi-official vandalism. You will notice that the foreign markings nicely tie all of the spaces where the stamps were removed, leaving not doubt that the stamps were torn off in London before forwarding to Italy. You will also note that the address is in care of Heath & Co. and also via Royal Mail Steamer, both being crossed out. Although written from New Orleans, why the Mobile postmark? Is this so it could catch a British steamer from there?

Cordially yours,

Bilden

Aug. 8, 1957.

Mr. William O. Bilden,
200 Kasota Bldg.,
Minneapolis 1, Minn.

Dear Bill:

Yours of the 5th received with the 1847 cover which I am returning herewith. I agree 100% that far too many collectors demand condition rather than postal history. They would derive far more from philately if, in collecting covers, they would not put condition at the head of the list but rather, the rare and unusual, whether it be a postal marking, a postal rate, or of historic connection as well as many other such features. Like you, I like a cover for the story behind it. Knowing what it is all about adds so much more interest.

Your cover was actually a letter to Heath & Co., of London, with instructions to forward it on to Genoa. As such, the rate to Great Britain was prepaid at the single $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. of 24¢ - by two 10¢ 1847 plus a 5¢ '47 - thus 1¢ overpay. Heath & Co. removed the U. S. stamps and sent it on its way "Via French" mail (thru Calais) to Italy. Re - the foreign markings. I suppose the British forwarded it unpaid and debited France with a shilling three pence. See "1/3" in upper right corner. It looks like the French debited Genoa, with "24" decimes. Note what looks like "9N." I may be wrong on this as it is a bit out of my field.

The letter originated at New Orleans but was mailed as a "Way Letter" into Mobile. It could be that the overpay of 1¢ paid the Way fee, thus a "prepaid Way fee" into Mobile. You have seen covers with a 3¢ '51 and "Due Way 1" postmarked at Mobile. This went by the "Great Mail" to New York and thence to England by a Cunard mail ship. How do I know? There is no New York that I can detect, nor no "British Packet," but under the Calais postmark is a red "19." This was applied at New York and was the U.S. credit to Britain by a Cunard mail ship. Had it gone by American Packet the credit would have been "3." I have no idea as to the meaning of the black straight-line marking over the 5¢ '47.

I am not sure whether the square (?) London postmark on face has "Paid" or not, i.e., postage England to Genoa paid by Heath & Co. I doubt it. Mail was required to go by regular routes. This could not have been sent by ship from Mobile or New Orleans. It had to go to Britain under the terms of the postal treaty and only thru New York or Boston. Under that treaty the rate was 24¢ - either paid in full - or unpaid - no partial payment - all or none and no such a thing as 2 x 10¢ plus 5¢ shore-to-ship.

Bill, would you have any objection if I used this in a Service Issue? Many thanks.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,



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.
R.P.A.
C.C.N.Y.

September 4, 1957

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

Dear Stan,

My thanks for your August 30th note asking to look at the "Hudson River Mail" cover again if it is still available. I still have it on hand, and am happy to enclose it for your re-examination. I would be quite pleased if you were able to prove that it is good.

Though I wish I could say that I have been on vacation as you indicated, so far this summer I have not had a chance to take more than a couple of days off at a time, as business has never been more active in the summer months. Also, it was necessary for my assistant and secretary to take their vacations, which caused things to pile up a bit while they were away, that took a bit of time to catch up when they returned. I did take a few individual days, such as two days at the A.P.S. Convention in Tampa and two days the end of last week, when I went up to New Hampshire to play in a golf tournament. I hope that I may be able to take a week or so some time in the Fall.

With best regards,

Jack E. Molesworth.

JEM:fc

P.S. Enclosed is a 12d 1856 which the P.F. termed: "Genuine, but cleaned" - Can see no evidence of such myself - and the A.P.S. just called a "Proof" ? What do you think of it? Mrs. Henus had in her A.P.S. Tampa Exhibit a Proof on stamp paper in issued color?

Sept. 7, 1957.

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

Dear Jack:

Re - yours of the 4th, and the 5¢ 1856 herewith. What you saw in the Hamus exhibit was probably a 5¢ 1856 trial color proof on regular paper in a shade very closely resembling the issued color. I suppose the A.P.S. Committee took a guess and thought your copy was the trial color. However, it is not and if it is not, then it is no proof. Thus it has to be the issued stamp and this leaves it to be "unused" or a "cleaned copy." I only made a superficial examination but I think it shows evidence of cleaning - the center medallion is certainly scuffed. I have a very fine "trial color" on "regular paper" and I laid your copy side-by-side and can assure you it is not that color. I really do not think it necessary to put you to the expense of making a photo by ultra-violet - I am willing in this case to go along with the P.F.

I am returning your "Hudson Riv. Mail" cover. I suppose you read my remarks in my current Service Issue. There is no question but what the pen marks on this stamp resemble pen canceled stamps on other "Hudson Riv. Mail" covers that are unquestionably genuine. It is unfortunate that there is no evidence of year use. As I brought out in my remarks, so far as we know, the mail agents on the steamboats did not use a canceling device prior to May 1849. Your cover is June 7, therefore, could this be June 7, 1849 and a stamp still canceled by pen? The impression and shade of the stamp indicates otherwise - that is a use later - at least 1850 - not 1849 much less 1848. The question, therefore, arises could this use have been June 7, 1850? We have no record of pencanceled copies that late. Further, the "5" and "Paid" indicate a use without stamps - I have no record of a cover with a stamp and a "5" and "Paid." Thus there are features which indicate that this stamp was not used on this cover and there are several features which indicate it could have been a use in 1850 - surely not in 1849 - positively not in 1848 and most unlikely in 1851. I am mindful of the fact that if someone added this stamp to a stampless cover he was extremely clever - He picked a pencanceled stamp with pen marks very similar to stamps on genuine "Hudson Riv. Mail" covers, also the extended pen marks on the cover are rather convincing to state the least.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

P.S.--No fee on above.

CRESCENT ROAD
CONCORD, MASSACHUSETTS

July 28, 1957.

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

Dear Stanley:-

I have delayed replying to your kind letter of the 5th to look over what material I have, but was surprised to find that I have nothing going abroad in the 1830s. Have also asked Willard Phippen to see if he has any material of this nature, he will look but is doubtful that he has.

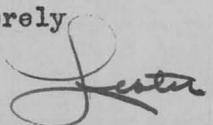
My personal opinion, which is not worth much, is that the 1¢ charge was a charge for the Department to assume itself and not the mailer of the letter. If it were otherwise, it would seem to me that such an ambiguous clause would have occasioned sufficient trouble to be more fully explained in subsequent regulations, which has not been done.

I am enclosing a cover with a 3¢ 1851 stamp,- I think of the 1852 shade, cancelled by "N. York Steamship" without any date, but with a manuscript "Due 17". This puzzles me. The nearest that I can come to an explanation is that the letter originated, say in France, and was given to someone on the ship to be mailed in New York, a bootleg letter, but that somehow it was delivered by the ship to the New York Post Office and took the 20¢ rate but the 3¢ stamp was honored. Against this is the belief that no part payment was recognized and that this is not the type of cancellation used on letters taking the 15¢ or 20¢ rate. Hope that you can set me straight on this.

Regarding your service, I would very much like to subscribe to it and if you will let me know the cost, will be glad to send my check. I realize that the material therein is not to be used in the Chatter or the Chronicle. I would like it only for my own information.

With best wishes,

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lester".

AUG - 3 1957

Office Department

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

One piece of ordinary mail addressed
to Lester Downing
Crescent Road
Concord Mass

THIS RECEIPT DOES NOT PROVIDE FOR IN

Aug. 3, 1957.

Mr. Lester Downing,
Crescent Road,
Concord, Mass.

Dear Lester:

Yours of the 28th received with the 3¢ 1851 cover which I am returning herewith. This "N. YORK STEAMSHIP" marking was used on mail brought into New York by contract mail ships from Panama, Havana or from certain Atlantic coastal cities where one of the ships may have stopped enroute from Panama. This could have been a double rate from California mailed direct to the ship - that is 2 x 10 - (California rate 1851 - 1855 - single 6¢ paid - 10¢ unpaid - Thus 20¢ due less 3¢ paid - 17¢ due). I agree that the use was probably 1852 or possibly 1853.

Further, I will hazard this guess - The writer was enroute to California Via Panama. At Panama he mailed this letter to go back on the ship he (?) came down on from New York. I have seen such covers with enclosures. This looks more like a male handwriting than female so perhaps it was to his wife - or to his mother. This marking came into use as early as 1851 or 1850 - offhand I forget.

I am forwarding under separate cover, a sample copy of my August 1st Service Issue in which I discussed a somewhat similar cover with "Due 4." The owner sent it to me with the query - "Why Due 4 - I am completely baffled." I am also including a photo print of the cover.

I believe the most fascinating feature of philately is to know as much as possible about the items we collect, their background, etc., etc. I like to make covers talk to me - tell me their story - sounds kind of foolish to put it that way but when I feel that I have correctly analyzed a cover I sort of feel I have made it tell me its story. I also believe that many collectors miss this feature entirely. Don't you?

Re - the 1¢ to port postmasters. A good friend of mine down your way raised a question re - the proper interpretation of Sec. 34 of the 1825 Act. It has been my opinion that this was a charge against the general P.O. Department, hence I wanted to give all the data I could lay hands on. I have even appealed to Mr. Summerfield, the present P.M.G., for definite facts and he is having the subject investigated. You will note I further discussed certain features of the subject in my current Service Issue.

Re - my Special Service. The subscription price is \$100.00 per annum, payable in advance on the 1st of June of each year. I inaugurated the Service on June 1st, 1951. I furnished actual photographs of items discussed and I cover features of our postal history from the early days to along about 1880. I have little interest beyond that period.

I limit the subscribers to a rather small number - At present only 32 - hence I think the issues will always have value in the years to come, I would welcome you as a subscriber but if you feel the subscription is a bit more than

#2. Mr. Lester Downing - Aug. 3, 1957.

the service would be worth to you, don't hesitate to decline.

Have you seen Jean and Carroll of late?

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

3/9/57.

Dear Stan:

your last letter reached me when my sawdust was running ^{out} and I finally quit—did not finish the terms. Just a "common cold" but I have been in the house for two months. I don't see how Kathernie has stood it.

Thanks for your comment on my article on Fremont. John and Jessie were a great combination. Both of them had a few screws that were loose.

you ask about the WAYS used at Baltimore. I have only two examples

[1] a folded stampless. In upper right in mss. "On Public Service" below which in red

~~WAYS~~
3

which is crossed out.

[2] a 34 o.b. 1851 tied to cover by red WAYS addressed to Middletown Conn. Usual ~~blue~~ ^{black} Baltimore, Dec 1. Lower left, mss. "paid" which suggests that a carrier fee of 1¢ was paid to get the letter to the Balto. office. The WAYS was simply a

over
please

Killer and shows that the letter was not deposited in the office. No extra fee was paid in Middletown.

All good wishes to you and yours,

Arthur,

P.S.

As far as I know nothing has been written about the Balto. MAY 5 and my records do not show early and late use. They are far from common.

a.

Feb. 18, 1957.

Dr. Arthur R. Davis,
76 Brooks Street,
West Medford, Mass.

Dear Arthur:

Thanks for yours of the 9th.

Sorry to learn you have been ill. I trust you have fully recovered by now. I got over my pneumonia then took down with "Shingles" - half-way round my chest. I can hardly imagine anything more painful.

Re - that Baltimore "WAY 5" - We know it was used on the 1847 stamps and on stampless covers - On the latter I have wondered if it meant just due 5¢ or WAY and 5. Why not, if the Carrier was paid 1¢ at the Baltimore Post Office? Do you know Michael Miller in Baltimore? If you have never discussed this marking with him I will write him. Also Ferry Fuller should have some ideas or perhaps facts.

Drop me a line and let me know how you are.

I have worn Mildred ragged this winter with all my pains and groans, so tell Katherine she is lucky that you didn't have shingles. The devil himself invented that painful jabbing - probably getting me in shape for things to come.

With best to you both -

Cordially yours,