VOLUME XXVI, No. 4 OCTOBER, 1947

# COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST

Published Quarterly by THE COLLECTORS CLUB.

Publication Office, Federalsburg, Md.

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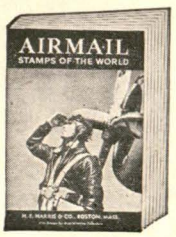
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Vol. XXVI. OCTOBER, 1947 No. 4

# Hawaiian Numeral Border Types

By J. F. Westerberg.

The chief obstacle in classifying the Hawaiian Numerals of 1859-66 has been the lack of evidence to complete the work. Some of these typeset stamps have only been found in single copies, with no evidence of an adjoining stamp except the mute testimony of the typographic impression itself. Very few historical documents have been found to show how many settings were required and in what sequence they were printed. Here too, the typography of the stamps might have a story to tell if we could only decipher its meaning. A potential source of evidence such as this, deserves to be investigated.

The first step, and the only one we shall take in this article, is to examine the nature of the typographic record we seek to interpret.

The procedure that was followed in printing the Numerals has particular significance. The stamps were all printed from a ten set form of movable type. The same form was used as a basis for all settings. Whenever stamps of a different denomination were required, the printer merely substituted a portion of the type. The possibility that some of the original type matter was never substituted at any time, suggests a continuous typographic relationship between the ten subjects of one setting and their counterparts in all the other settings. Investigation has confirmed this possibility and we now find that the Hawaiian Numerals can be divided into ten *border types.*

The problem in identifying these ten types is to find, if possible, some characteristic feature in each border that did not change through all the various printings. Whenever such an ideal condition cannot be found, the next alternative is to find two features that overlap from one series of printings to another. Fortunately no two borders are exactly alike. Each one is different from all the others in one or more respects. In most cases this difference was caused by a defective border rule. Other causes were the use of defective letters or odd size type. Also to be noted are certain differences in the allocation of leads and spaces by the printer.

The greatest change that took place at any one time occurred when the form was reset for printing No. 21, 5 cents blue. All the border inscriptions were changed and many border rules were replaced, but enough old material was retained to preserve the identity of each border. It is well to keep in mind that Nos. 21, 26, 25 and 22 in that order are the stamps that were printed after the form was revamped.

I have numbered the border types to coincide with the positions they occupy in No. 15, 1 cent black, since that is the earliest setting which has been

rigorously proven. In some of the other settings the border type numbers do not coincide with their position numbers, so the two should not be confused.

## IDENTIFYING THE TEN BORDER TYPES

## SCOTT NOS. 10, 11, 12 and 14-26 INCLUSIVE

### TYPE I

All stamps of this type except Nos. 10, 11 and 12 can be identified by the characteristic rule shown in Fig. 1a and 1b. Another feature common to all except Nos. 21, 26, 25 and 22, is the relation between the large numeral and the word "UKU LETA." The bottom of the large numeral is always lower than the period after "LETA."

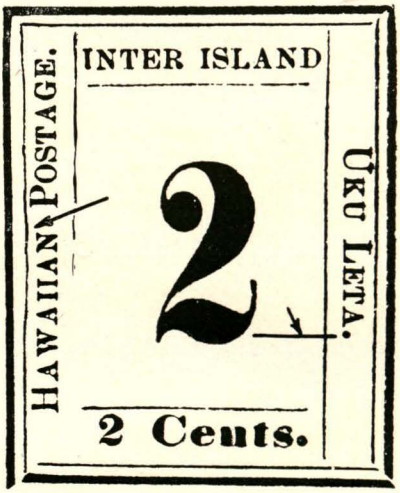



Fig. 1a.




Fig. 1b.

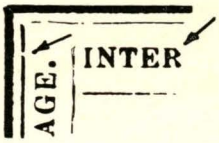



Fig. 2a.

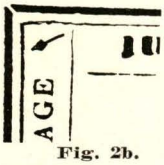



Fig. 2b.

### TYPE II

The broken letter "R" in the word "INTER" (Fig. 2a) is found in all stamps of this type except in the first setting of No. 11 (the original setting) and in Nos. 21, 26, 25 and 22. The break in the left hand rule begins to show up noticeably in No. 14 and is a fixture from then on although the border was turned upside down in resetting the type for No. 21.

In the first setting this type seems to have no definite markings and it can only be segregated from the other types by a process of elimination. This is the only stamp I have found that cannot be directly identified by markings. It is the lower left hand stamp in Crocker's well known block of six.

### TYPE III

The outstanding characteristic of this type is the small "O" in the word "POSTAGE." (Fig. 3a) This error was not corrected until the design was revamped for No. 21. Carried over into Nos. 21, 26, 25 and 22 is the typical rule shown in Figs. 3b and 3c. Here again the border was turned upside down in resetting the type for No. 21.

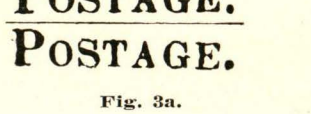



Fig. 3a.

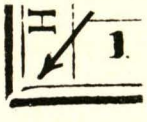


Fig. 3b.

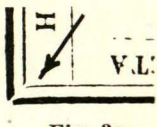


Fig. 3c.

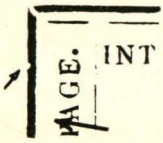



Fig. 4a.

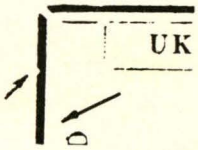



Fig. 4b.

**TYPE IV**

Here we have the ideal condition, a typical rule occupying the same place in the border in every setting. The markings are less pronounced in the first setting but they are still recognizable. (Fig. 4a and 4b)

**TYPE V**

Here is another rule that can be identified in every setting. Nothing spectacular but easily recognized with a little practice. (Figs. 5a and 5b)

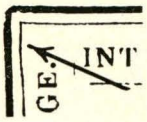



Fig. 5a

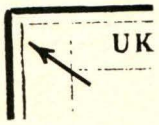



Fig. 5b.

**TYPE VI**

The characteristic rule shown in Figs. 6a and 6b is found in all stamps of this type. In some of the early settings the whole line is shown. The little bump in the line, however, is always there. The border, as can be seen, was turned upside down in resetting the type for No. 21. (Fig. 6b)

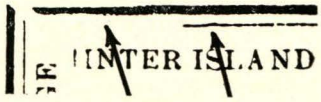



Fig. 6a.

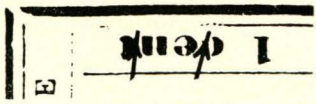


Fig. 6b.

**TYPE VII**

Here is another rule that identifies all stamps of this type. (Figs. 7a and 7b)

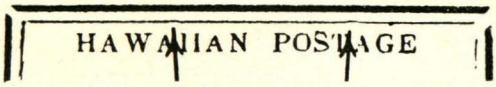



Fig. 7a.

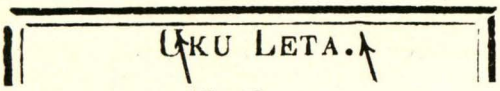



Fig. 7b.

**TYPE VIII**

The two raised letters in the word "INTER" (Fig. 8a) is a feature common to all stamps of this type until we come to the revamped issues. The characteristic break in the rule carries through from No. 15 to the last printing. (Figs. 8a and 8b)

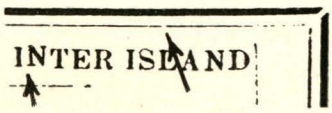



Fig. 8a.

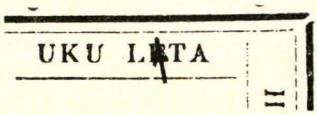



Fig. 8b.

### TYPE IX

The identification of this type is based on the "troublesome bent rule" that Crocker thought was "taken out" when No. 21 was printed. Actually it was only moved to another spot in the border. (Figs. 9a and 9b)

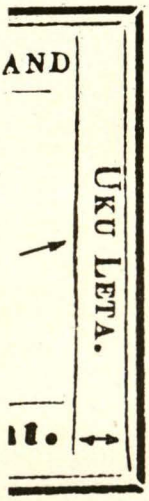



Fig. 9a.

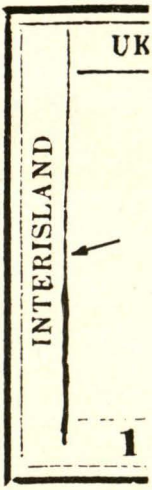



Fig. 9b.

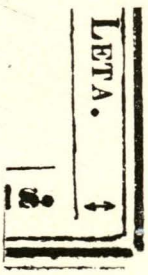



Fig. 10a.

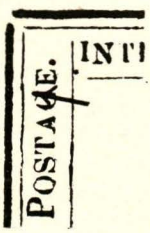



Fig. 10b.

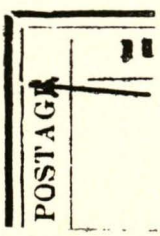



Fig. 10c.

### TYPE X

In all the stamps of this type printed previous to No. 21, the two right hand vertical rules come together a little at the bottom as opposed to type IX in which they spread apart. (Fig. 10a) Carried over into the revamped issues is the characteristic break down in Figs. 10b and 10c. This is another rule that was turned upside down in resetting the type for No. 21.

We see, then, that the division of the Hawaiian Numerals into border types is based on those typographic features that did not change from one setting to another. The next step will be to note the features which did change and to utilize that evidence in seeking to determine the number of settings and their chronological sequence.

# Notes on the 1894-1905 Issues

*(From the treatment by Dr. Herbert Munk in Kohl's Handbook, the writings of Col. G. S. F. Napier, and magazine articles of unknown authorship, including one in the American Journal of Philately for August 1, 1901. Compiled by Henry A. Meyer.)*

At the time of the publication of the special number commemorating the centenary of the Brazil Bull's Eyes in 1943, more material was prepared than could be used in one number. The following article on the 1894-1905 issues of Brazil is one of the chapters which were not used. We believe that some collectors of Brazil stamps will like to have it for the information it contains. We have purposely omitted consideration of the 100 reis carmine and black in great detail, since that stamp has been studied and is still being studied by Prof. Ralph E. Warner.

It must be understood that nothing in this article is original with the present author. He has simply compiled it from many widely scattered sources and fused it into a single paper.

## Varieties of the 50 Reis, Scott's Type A41a.

The 50 reis first appeared in 1894 in a single color, blue of various shades, but printed from two plates at two individual operations. It was thus just as much work to print this stamp as if it had been a bi-color. Indeed, so greatly did the ink differ from day to day that the central medallion is often in a very different shade than the frame. The stamps were closely spaced: about ½ mm. Copies with wider margins are from the edge of the sheet.

In 1897, the 50 reis appeared printed from a single plate. Most catalogues do not list it as a separate stamp, but it deserves to be represented in a Brazil collection. The spacing is still about ½ mm. The differences between the two-plate stamp and the single-plate stamp are as follows:

In the single-plate stamp, the oval and the inscription of value are always perfectly centered in the frame, whereas in the two-plate stamp, as a result of going through the press twice, these portions are nearly always more or less off center with respect to the rest of the design. Another mark of recognition is the ribbon containing the word "REIS" to the left of the "50", which shows a break in both stamps: in the two-plate stamp the break is very small and is immediately over the "S" of "REIS", while in the single-plate stamp the break reaches to the end of the ribbon adjacent to the "50". Fig. 1 shows this detail in the two-plate stamp, Fig. 2 in the single-plate stamp.




Fig. 1




Fig. 2

In 1900 the color of the 50 reis stamp was changed to green, which comes in a great variety of shades, and the stamp was still printed from the same single plate, with narrow (½ mm.) spacing.

Sometime between 1900 and 1904, a new plate was laid down, identical in design, but with much wider spacing, averaging 1½ to 2 mm. The color is usually a light shade of green.

The 50 reis stamp appeared watermarked in 1905, but that subject is being handled by Lee H. Cornell.

## Varieties of the 100 Reis, Scott's Type A42.

Here we must be careful not to encroach upon Prof. Warner's chosen field. The most striking variety, and I believe Mr. Warner is not discussing it, is the variety with "pointed zeros." These occur in two degrees: *somewhat* sharp, and *quite* sharp. The latter are the more convincing as a variety worth showing in a collection.



Fig. 4 Fig. 5 Fig. 6 Fig. 7

In 1900, the 100 reis was made a single-color stamp, but as a single plate was not yet available, it was printed from the two old plates in two operations. For this reason the spacing is still narrow, ½ mm.; and the stamp shows exactly the same characteristics as the bi-colored stamp, i. e., the hatching of the central oval is bounded by an oval frame line in the same color as the hatching. See Fig. 4. Scott lists this stamp as No. 160a. It is scarcer than its catalogue price would tend to indicate.

After only a few weeks of printing of the above stamp, a single plate was made in which the oval boundary line of the hatching is missing and the spacing is much wider, averaging 1½ to 2 mm. Being printed from a single plate, the registration between parts is now always perfect. See Fig. 5. Scott lists this stamp as No. 160. It is very common compared with No. 160a.

In 1905, we have the watermarked stamps, which are being handled by Lee H. Cornell.

## Varieties of the 200 Reis, Scott's Type A42a.

The first 200 reis stamps of this design were the bi-colored, orange and black, in a great range of shades. This stamp offers almost everything in the way of specialization possibilities that the 100 reis possesses, except that no substituted heads are known. The spacing is narrow, ½ mm.

In 1900, the 200 reis was made a single color stamp in blue, ranging all the way from a medium blue to deep indigo. It was still printed from two plates, and the two parts are often out of register. The spacing is still ½ mm. Scott lists this stamp as No. 161. A distinguishing mark of this stamp is the hatching, which reaches to the oval frame line. See Fig. 6.

Soon a single plate was prepared, but the two-plate stamp is much commoner than the corresponding 100 reis. In the new stamp, which Scott lumps in with the older as No. 161, the hatching stops short of the oval frame line, so that there is a narrow white oval border between the hatching and the frame line. The registration of parts is, perforce, perfect. The spacing is now 1½ to 2 mm. Fig. 7 represents this stamp.



Fig. 8

Sometime between 1900 and 1904, another new plate was prepared from a third die. Scott also lumps this in with No. 161. See our Fig. 8. The discoverer of the new stamp reported it in a magazine, the name and date of which I have mislaid. He first observed the stamp on March 28, 1903, and thought he had found a new forgery to defraud the post office department, of which there had been several (see below). But in a later number of the same magazine, he published a correction that the stamp was genuine and from a "retouched" die, as he expressed it. The spacing is 1½ to 2 mm. Dr. Munk describes this third die thus:

> The re-drawing of the 200 reis differs from the previous types in numerous points. In the figures of value there is a rich ornamentation which stands out prominently. The hatching in the oval does not reach quite to the Liberty Head, so that in front of the face and the neck and behind the head a fine white line is visible. At their outer ends the hatching lines go clear to the frame line, as in the two-plate stamp and in contrast to the first single-plate stamp. The hatching of the two lower triangles of the frame (to the right of "BRAZIL" and to the left of "ESTA" of "ESTADOS") has been greatly changed; the lower lines which look like dots and dashes of the Morse code go much higher up, and the breaks in the same are much more regularly distributed; in the right-hand triangle the 13th line of hatching, counting from the bottom upward, is always broken; this flaw must have occurred on the original die, or certainly on the transfer die. The spacing is somewhat wider than in the first single-plate stamp.
>
> There is a noteworthy plate flaw on some of the stamps: a white sharp tongue in the upper left triangle, reaching from the left edge inward toward the right. Some of the stamps show a flaw in which the base line to which the letters "ID" of "UNIDOS" are attached at the bottom as not straight, but wavy, so that a letter somewhat like a German "W" is formed.

Among my memoranda, I find some additional directions for recognizing the third die of the 200 reis; these were the traits originally listed by the discoverer when he first observed the stamp, and which led him to the conviction that it was a hitherto unrecognized variety.

| **Two-plate stamp and first single-plate stamp.** | **Third die; second single-plate stamp.** |
|---|---|
| 1. Ruled lines of background blurred. solid. | 1. Impression much clearer and sharper, especially ruled lines of background. |
| 2. Lines behind "REIS" often appear. | 2. Lines behind "REIS" especially distinct. |
| 3. Space above "REIS" ruled with horizontal lines only; the lower ones are broken and irregular. | 3. The space is ruled with cross vertical and horizontal lines. |
| 4. Face of numerals "200" nearly white; ornamental dots and dashes almost invisible. | 4. Dots and dashes very distinct, making figures "200" appear quite blue. |
| 6. Oval frame line broad and heavy. | 5. Shading lines of face are heavier, more regular, less broken. |
| 8. Letters of "UNIDOS" etc. 1½ mm. high. | 6. Oval frame line thin and sharp. |
| | 7. Each laurel leaf has a strong, dark outline; the one at the right forms a straight line with the stem. |
| | 8. Same letters 1¾ mm. high. |
| | 9. Perf. 11-11½ only. |

In 1905, we have the watermarked stamps, which we are leaving to Lee H. Cornell to describe for us.

## Paper and Perforations.

Regarding paper and perforations, Prof. Warner annotated the translation of Kohl's Handbook as follows:

> Pack listed 16 varieties of paper on the 1894-97 issue. I think, however, that the reduction to three, thin, thick white opaque, and thick white with

distinct mesh, as outlined in Gibbons' Catalogue from Pack's work, is a very sensible reduction.

A number of the denominations come on a variety of the thin paper which is so transparent that in the presence of moisture it has the appearance of oiled paper.

Continuing Prof. Warner's annotations concerning perforations, he writes:

As for perforations, there are only the three also listed there: 11x11½, 12½x14 and compound. It seems to me that the compounds should be broken up into two groups, depending upon the arrangement: 11-11½x12½-14 and 12½-14x11-11½. Perhaps the use of such a sub-division is something that should depend upon the interest of the individual collector.

There is one detail as to perforations that may be of interest. It will be recalled that the U. S. regular issue of 1917 is perforated 11 but that a few copies have been found with a perforation 10 on one side only. The explanation is that when a row of perforations was left out, the perforation was later finished on a different machine. A similar situation holds for the 1894-97 issue of Brazil. I have the following items in my own collection:

On thin paper

Perf. 12½-14 on three sides; 11-11½ at bottom
300 reis emerald-green and black (2 copies)
500 reis blue and black. (2 copies)

Perf. 11-11½ on three sides; 12½-14 at bottom
100 reis rose and black, type I (2 copies)

Perf. 11-11½ on three sides; 12½-14 at top
50 reis blue, printed from 2 plates (1 copy)
100 reis rose and black, type I (7 copies)

On thick opaque paper

Perf. 11-11½ on three sides; 12½-14 at right
500 reis blue and black (1 copy)

Concerning the widely-spaced perforations 5½ to 7, 8½ to 9½, and their compounds with 11 to 11½, Dr. Munk writes:

The widely-spaced perforations, which appeared after 1896, are much sought after and valued. Since it was impossible to separate the stamps by means of the widely spaced perforations, copies are often found with the perforations cut or torn off. Copies with perfect perforations, pairs, etc., command higher prices. On account of the late use of these gauges, the following stamps cannot appear with it: the 100 reis type I (Grecian Head), the "DEZ 10 REIS," and the 50 reis from two plates. This fact has been overlooked by forgers of these perforations.

In the 50 reis stamp from a single plate but with narrow spacing, perforation 8½ to 9½ is quite a rarity.

Imperforate copies of practically all values to the 200 reis are found and likewise all values to the 200 reis exist imperforate either vertically or horizontally. These errors in perforation have been found in large blocks. In one of these large blocks 24 stamps in the middle of the pane (4 horizontal by 6 vertical rows) are entirely imperforate, while the marginal rows are perforated. Copies occur which are so badly perforated that the stamp consists of portions of several stamps, copies where the denomination is above instead of below the medallion, etc.

## Forgeries to Defraud the Post Office Department.

Forgeries of the 100 reis (carmine and black, No. 116, type V, snub-nose head), 300 reis, and 500 reis to defraud the post office were put into circulation; the forgery of the 100 reis seems to have made its first appearance about the end of the year 1899, because this forgery is very rare and it is therefore to be assumed that it came out shortly before the change of color of January, 1900. The forgeries of the 300 and 500 reis may have first appeared during the last half of the year 1900, because a corresponding forgery of the 200 reis which shows exactly the same head is an imitation of the first single-plate 200 reis stamp, which appeared later in the year 1900. The forgeries were printed from a plate of some size, since a block of four has been found.



Fig. 9
100 reis
Original



Fig. 10
100 reis
Forgery

The forgery of the 100 reis, which is certainly an imitation of Head V, is easy to recognize by the great difference in the inscription "CORREIO" (cf. illustration). Also in the inscription around the oval the letters "E", "D", and "S" differ from the letters of the originals. A shadow which reaches from the corner of the eye past the corner of the mouth to the lobe of the ear gives the cheek a chubby, smiling appearance.

The forgeries of the 300 and 500 reis were evidently made from a new drawing; the head is identical in the two, and shows a heavy, puffy face. The final "S" of "ESTADOS" has not the rounded shape of the original, but is narrower. The "S" of the word "REIS" to the left of the figures is much



Fig. 11
300 reis
Forgery



Fig. 12
500 reis
Original



Fig. 13
500 reis
Forgery

closer to the end of the ribbon than in the originals; in the 500 reis the "S" under discussion also differs from the original in that the "S" in the originals is noticeably larger than the letters "REI"; moreover, the stem of the flag of the "5" of "500" in the originals leans somewhat toward the right, while in the forgery it is exactly vertical.

The forgeries of all three values were chiefly used in Rio. Unused copies of any of them unknown.

The above discussion is taken bodily from the translation of Kohl's Handbook. In the American Journal of Philately for August 1, 1901, page 210, the original discoverer of the forgeries gives the marks by which he discovered them:

| Genuine | Forgeries |
|---|---|
| 1. Letters of "CORREIO" are equidistant from each other and slant to the right. | 1. There is too much space between the first "O" and first "R" of "CORREIO". The "C" is upright and the first "O" is nearly upright. |
| 2. The letters of "ESTADOS" etc., are 1½ mm. high. | 2. Same letters are 1¾ mm. high. |
| | 3. In "REIS" the "E" is too wide, its strokes are too thick, the "I" and "S" are too thin. |
| | 4. The ornaments in the upper corners are too white and distinct. |
| 5. Note the laurel leaves on the head of Liberty; only small pieces of stem can be seen between the leaves; bases of leaves are lost in shadow. | 5. The entire outline of the leaves can be seen; the stem is strongly defined, and extends below the lowest pair of leaves. |
| 6. The triple ornament in front of "CORREIO" is about 1 mm. from the "C". | 6. The ornament almost touches the "C". |
| | 7. The thin vertical lines below the pearls are much broken, often missing entirely, so that the horizontal line appears almost white. |
| | 8. 300 reis deep yellow-green. 500 reis dark dull blue. |
| | 9. Slightly thicker, harder paper. |
| 8. 300 reis gray-green, emerald green. | 10. Perf. 11½. |

Continuing from Kohl's Handbook:




**Fig. 14**
**200 reis**
**Original**




**Fig. 15**
**200 reis**
**Forgery**

In the forgery of the 200 reis, the hatching in the oval does not reach to the frame line, so that the forgery is certainly an imitation of the first single-plate stamp, which is of great importance for fixing the time of its production. The same head as in the forgeries of the 300 and 500 reis stamps was used, with the puffy face; there is also a difference in the shape of the "R's" of "CORREIO."

## RECAPITULATION

| | Scott's No. |
|---|---|
| **50 Reis** | |
| 1894 blue (usually two shades), from two plates, spacing ½ mm. | 115 |
| 1897 blue, from one plate, spacing ½ mm. | 115 |
| 1900 green, from one plate, spacing ½ mm. | 159 |
| 1900-04 green, from one plate, spacing 1½-2 mm. | 159 |
| **100 Reis** | |
| 1894 carmine and black, from two plates (see Chapter 13) | 116 |
| 1900 dull carmine, from two plates, spacing ½ mm. | 160a |
| 1900 rose-carmine, from one plate, spacing 1½-2 mm. | 160 |
| **200 Reis** | |
| 1894 orange and black, from two plates, spacing ½ mm. | 118 |
| 1900 blue to deep indigo, from two plates, spacing ½ mm. | 161 |
| 1900 light blue to indigo, from one plate, spacing 1½-2 mm. | 161 |
| 1900-04 blue to dark blue, design re-engraved, from one plate, spacing 1½-2 mm. | 161 |

I had hoped to present a columnar tabulation of paper and perforation varieties, as was done in other Brazil studies but I find that Col. Napier closed his work with the end of the year 1899. Both blue 50 reis stamps have therefore been handled in great detail, but all the other single-color stamps of these three denominations lie beyond the scope which the Colonel chose to study. Perhaps at some future date, by securing specialized catalogs from Brazil and making a study of collections containing large numbers of these stamps, it may be possible to present such a tabulation. Any collector willing to co-operate in such an undertaking is invited to correspond with the compiler.

# Uncle Sam Gives Stockton a Mail-Route

By Captain James A. Bull, U. S. N. R.

In 1847 Charles M. Weber, a pioneer of 1841, who had been given a Spanish grant of 47,000 acres for all that area, established a town-site at the head of Mormon Slough on the navigable waters of the San Jouquin and there built himself a store. With the discovery of gold in the country to the east, he enlarged his town-ship, named it Stockton for his old friend the Commodore and sat back to watch it grow. And grow it did by leaps and bounds.

By 1855 Weber's little town-site had become the third largest city of the Pacific coast. At the head of navigation on the San Juaquin, as it was, and surrounded by rapidly growing wheat and dairying country, it became the natural headquarters for the vast region of gold production known as the Southern Mines. These extended from Jackson on the north, to General Fremont's famous Mariposa Mine, for which he refused $1,000,000 cold cash only to lose it completely later;—on the south. The tremendous gold output of the early '50s had not fallen off and much of the yellow metal remained in the hands of the Stockton merchants for foodstuffs and other supplies. Stockton was a prosperous city and an ambitious one.

The Halls of Congress were seething, just then, with discussion of overland mail routes to shorten the time of the Panama Route. A mail line from Independence via Salt Lake City to Placerville was operating under contract but in a highly irregular and unsatisfactory manner and another from St. Louis to San Francisco via El Paso and Los Angeles had been under protected discussion.

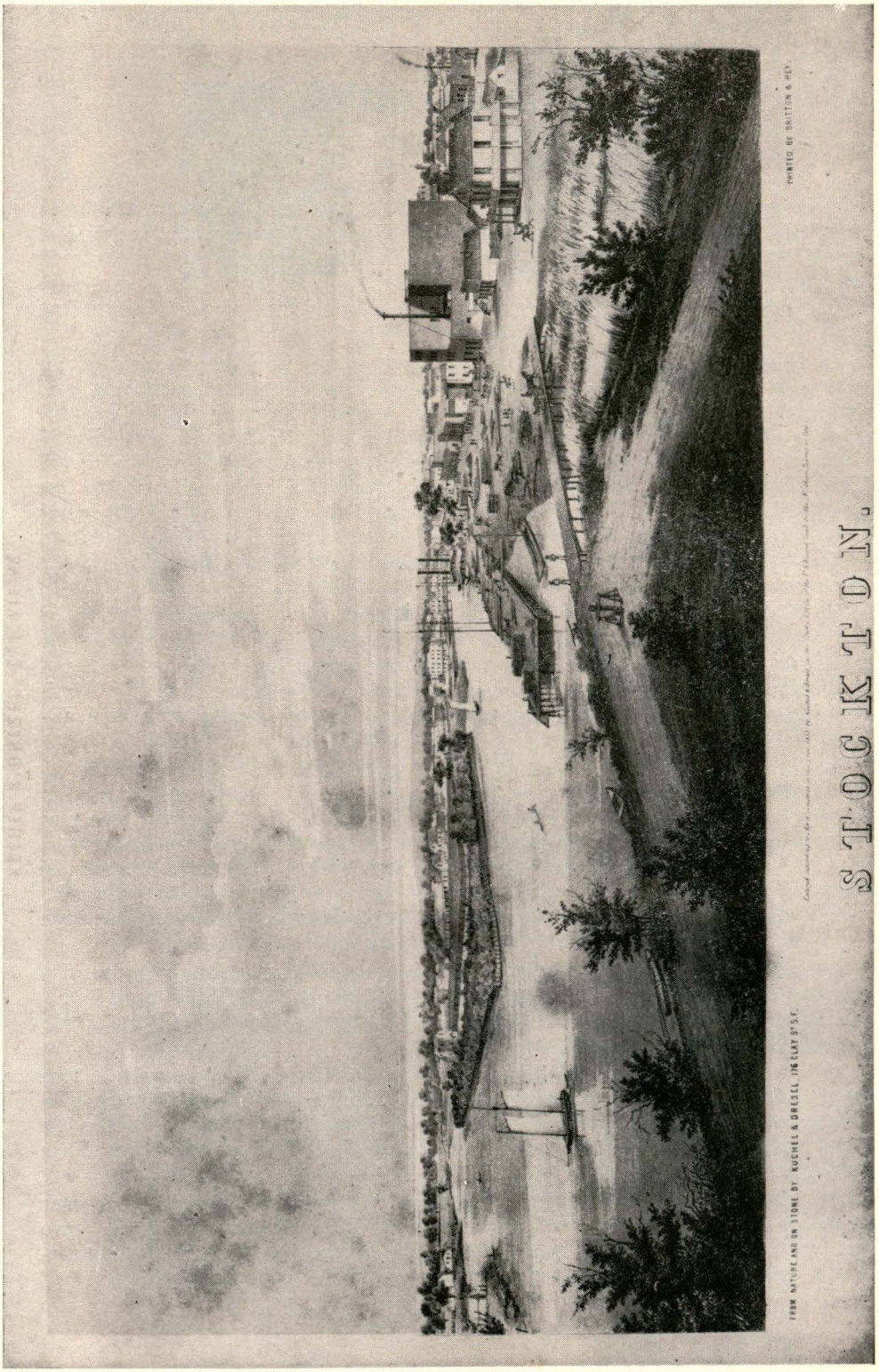
Small wonder that Stockton put in her plea for a route to end there, already connected as she was with San Francisco by a daily steamer. But wonder of all wonders when Congress, by the "Act of March 3, 1855" established a new transcontinental mail route from Independence via Albuquerque to Stockton. It was perhaps a momentary compromise between the bitter exponents of the Northern Route across the Great Plains and the equally embattled adherents to the St. Louis, El Paso, Los Angeles Route. Little debate on it has been recorded and the California historians have completely passed it by.

Postmaster-General A. V. Brown, who was a great advocate of better service to the Far West, on the strength of the Act, on December 1, 1857 entered into a contract for a monthly service at $80,000 per annum and on October 1, 1858 this service was inaugurated.

And now, alas, that my little mail route, inaugurated so bravely to the glory of Stockton must end so very, very sadly. Postmaster-General Brown died suddenly in March, 1859, and his successor, J. Holt, was dedicated to the big axe of economy. Mail routes were chopped off right and left and our little orphan passed out quietly June 30, 1859.

"But where,"—philatelists must be saying—"are the prized letters that went east and west with these route markings." Where are they indeed;—two letters east and one west during the entire life of the contract, if Postmaster-Generals do not lie and these august gentlemen don't. (See next page).

(The End)




**STOCKTON 1855.**

Courtesy Society of California Pioneers.

# George Washington and The Posts

By Joseph Carson

It was nearly one hundred years before George Washington was born that the first Post was established in the British Colonies—the one in Massachusetts in 1639. The system spread and it was three years before his birth that the first Colonial postal map appeared in print—the one by H. Moll in London in 1729 showing the route from Philadelphia to Piscataway (now in New Hampshire).(1) Washington grew up therefore under a postal system and was able to judge of its usefulness at an early age.

From the time he was a British Army officer of twenty-five until his later years in retirement at Mt. Vernon, Washington had much to write about the Posts. As this article proceeds it will be seen what he thought of the postal system, of its weaknesses, its strengths and its possibilities to a disunited line of colonies strung along the Atlantic coast.

That he considered it of the utmost importance in his military campaigns and later as a means of knitting together the new freedom is clear. Washington used the Post for the transmission of both military and personal letters. He used "expresses" much as we would use "special delivery" today—for certainty and speed. He did not encourage military convoys of the mails, for soldiers were too valuable. All his thinking was of the Posts as a civil, not a military function.

No attempt is made in this article to include a history of the Posts during this period. That is admirably done in Rich's *History of the United States Post Office*, particularly in his Chapter IV. Here, it is intended that Washington shall hold the center of the stage throughout.

## Earlier Years

In his first letter on the subject written at Fort Loudoun, Virginia, on July 15, 1757, to Colonel John Stanwix the young Colonel says, "The Philadelphia post, which formerly came to this place, being stopped, prevents our hearing any foreign news." This brief instance is interesting for, at the time, two years after the defeat and death of General Braddock at Fort Duquesne, the French were more than a menace in the Ohio Country, and Louisburg and Quebec had yet to fall to English arms.

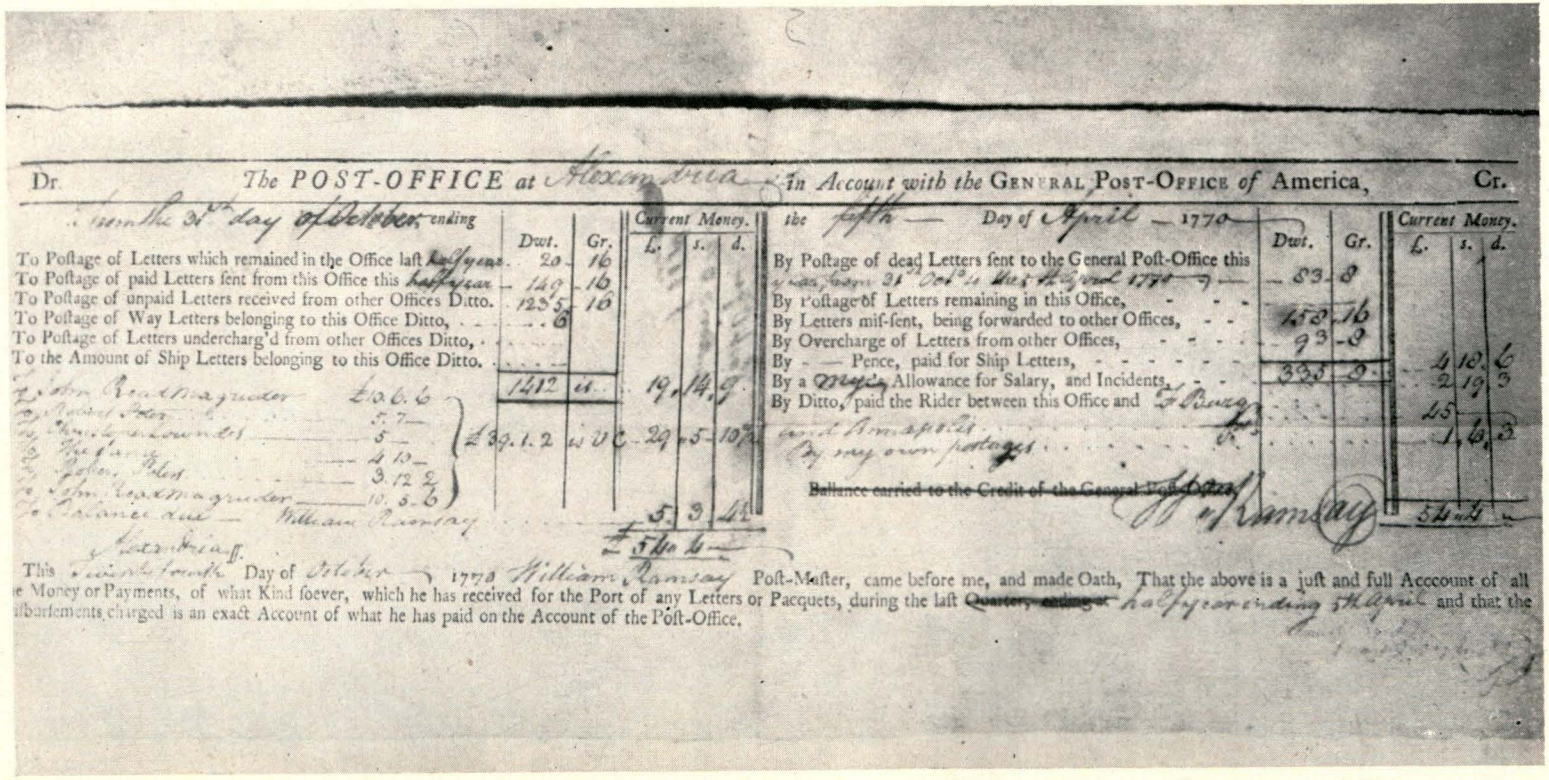
At this time the post office was under the management of Benjamin Franklin and Col. John Hunter; its service extended from Georgia to New Hampshire. The Pennsylvania Assembly, when Braddock marched west, had established a special post from Winchester to Philadelphia, "for the accommodation of the army chiefly;" but as early as August, 1756, Franklin had given notice that it must be discontinued unless supported by grants from Maryland and Virginia.

Governor Denny, of Pennsylvania, asserted that Franklin took advantage of his official position to circulate his newspaper and receive intelligence free, "which he may make the best or worst use of in the present situation of affairs."(2) It will be seen later that Washington strongly supported the free carriage of newspapers. Then fourteen years go by before Washington again has occasion to criticize the Posts and this time he complains as a private citizen, writing from Mt. Vernon on July 20, 1771 to Robert Cary & Co., a mercantile house in Philadelphia. He bewails the disadvantage of shipping to a house that

(1) A reproduction of this map, 1763(?) edition is to be found at p. 95 in "Handstruck Postage Stamps of the Empire" by Robson Lowe, 3rd ed. London, 1940-41.

(2) Writings of Washington from the Original Manuscript Sources, 1745-1799. John C. Fitzpatrick, Editor. Govt. print. off. 1931-1940. 37 vols. 2 vols. index, 1944. Vol. 2. p. 98, and note. Hereafter cited as [vol] F W [p] eg: 2 F W 98.

See also letter of Franklin to Washington of August 19, 1756. Writings of Franklin, Smyth, III, 343.



Dr. The POST-OFFICE at Alexandria in Account with the GENERAL POST-OFFICE of America, Cr.

from the 31st day of October ending the fifth Day of April 1770

| | Dwt. | Gr. | Current Money. L. | s. | d. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| To Postage of Letters which remained in the Office last half year | 20 | 16 | | | |
| To Postage of paid Letters sent from this Office this half year | 149 | 16 | | | |
| To Postage of unpaid Letters received from other Offices Ditto. | 125 | 16 | | | |
| To Postage of Way Letters belonging to this Office Ditto, | | 6 | | | |
| To Postage of Letters undercharg'd from other Offices Ditto, | | | | | |
| To the Amount of Ship Letters belonging to this Office Ditto. | | | | | |
| | 1412 | 11 | 19 | 14 | 9 |
| To John Read Magruder £06.6 | | | | | |
| To Richard Peter 5.7 | | | | | |
| To Mary Saunders 5 | | | | | |
| To Pat Carr 4.10 | | | | | |
| To John Peter 3.12.2 | | | | | |
| To John Rose Magruder 10.3.6 | | | | | |
| £39.1.2 | | | 29 | 5 | 10½ |
| To Balance due — William Ramsay | | | 5 | 3 | 11½ |
| | | | £54 | 4 | 2 |

| | Dwt. | Gr. | Current Money. L. | s. | d. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| By Postage of dead Letters sent to the General Post-Office this year from 31st Oct. to the 5th April 1770 | 83 | 8 | | | |
| By Postage of Letters remaining in this Office, | | | | | |
| By Letters mis-sent, being forwarded to other Offices, | 158 | 16 | | | |
| By Overcharge of Letters from other Offices, | 93 | 8 | | | |
| By — Pence, paid for Ship Letters, | | | | | |
| By a Year's Allowance for Salary, and Incidents, | 333 | 3 | 4 | 18 | 6 |
| By Ditto, paid the Rider between this Office and Fredericksburg and Annapolis | | | 2 | 19 | 3 |
| By my own postages | | | 45 | | |
| | | | 1 | 6 | 3 |
| Ballance carried to the Credit of the General Post-Office | | | 54 | 4 | 2 |

Alexandria.

This Fifth Day of October 1770 William Ramsay Post-Master, came before me, and made Oath, That the above is a just and full Account of all the Money or Payments, of what Kind soever, which he has received for the Port of any Letters or Packquets, during the last Quarter, ending the half year ending 5th April and that the Disbursements charged is an exact Account of what he has paid on the Account of the Post-Office.

Mrs. Robert Reese of Alex., Va.

**1. The Account of the Post Office at Alexandria with the General Post Office of America. October 31, 1769 to April 5, 1770. This was the office Washington used for Mount Vernon.**

nas no connection with the Potomac River. Washington never wasted shillings when he could save them. He says,

> "So likewise is it a disadvantage on Acct. of your Letters which come chiefly by York and James River Ships, by which means I have the postage from Williamsburg to Alexandria always to pay, which upon a letter that contains an Account of Sales, or that has anything else Enclosed, amounts often to four, five and sometimes eight or ten shillings, which in the end increases to no trifling Sum."(3)

# Revolutionary Years

## THE FRANKING PRIVILEGE

As will be recalled, Washington took command of the Continental Armies as Commander-in-Chief at Cambridge, Mass. on July 3, 1775. On November 10 of that year, Congress sitting at Philadelphia, gave him as such Commander, the Franking Privilege on letters both to and from him. It accorded the same privilege to the "Chief Commander in the army in the northern department."(4) This man was Artemus Ward. On January 9, 1776 Congress resolved:

> "that no postage be paid for any letter to or from private soldiers while engaged in actual service in the defense of the United Colonies; and such letters be franked by some persons authorized for that purpose by the commanding officer of the department."(5)

But this action did not go far enough for Washington, who wrote on January 30, 1776 from Cambridge to the President of Congress

> "Is it the Intention of Congress, that the Officers of the Army should pay postage? they are not exempted by the Resolve of the 9n Instant."(6)

Washington went to this trouble for his officers at a moment when he was greatly worried at the recent news of the repulse at Quebec, and the death of Montgomery and the wounding of Arnold there. But nothing came of it until December 28, 1779 when Congress passed a Resolve to the effect that rates of postage until further orders be "20 prices upon the sums paid in the year 1775." By May 1779, $1215.00 in paper was equivalent to $100. in specie. This was such a startling revision upward due to this depreciation of continental currency that Congress was moved to add these words—

> ". . . that single letters directed to any officer of the line and all letters directed to general officers commanding in a separate department—be free."(7)

But this hardly encouraged letters from the field of battle to those at home. For the information of the Army, General Washington on January 2, 1780, issued general orders, quoting this Act from his Headquarters at Morristown, N. J.

Once again he refers to the "frank" as touching the Army in other general orders issued at Newburgh, N. Y. on January 3, 1783 quoting from them

> "that the privilege of franking letters be, and the same is hereby, extended to the inspector general, the adjutant general, the director of the hospitals, the quartermaster general, the commissary of prisoners, and the paymaster general of the army of the United States; and that the same privilege be, and the same is hereby, extended to the officers at the heads of the like departments in any separate army; all letters to and from whom, on public business, shall pass free of postage;"

Then follows an amazing example of double talk, quoted solely to illustrate Congressional or Departmental thinking. The obscurities of the present Income Tax Law are nothing new.

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(3) 3 F W 58.
(4) U. S. Continental Congress. Journals of the Continental Congress. Washington, U. S. Govt. print. off. 1904-37, vol. 3: 345.
(5) Journals ibid. 6: 43.
(6) 4 F W 289.
(7) Journals of the Continental Congress ut supra, 15: 1415. 17 F W 341.

> "and in order to prevent the multiplicity of franks becoming too burthensome to the public, Be it ordained by the authority aforesaid, that the allowance not exceeding twenty per cent. on what would be the postage of free letters, if they were charged, be discontinued, and that the public be charged with no further commissions on free letters, though they contain enclosures, than the officers of the Post Office would be entitled to on the postage of the same number of single letters coming the same distance."

The writer invites a smile from his readers, not an interpretation.

This Act so quoted by Washington ends with a repeal of the "extraordinary expresses" created by the Act of October 18, 1782—just three months before.(8)

## IRREGULARITIES OF THE POSTS

Between January 23, 1776 and November 11, 1783, Washington wrote twelve letters complaining of interruptions, delays and irregularities in the Posts,(9), of the stupidity of the Postmaster at Princeton, and the "villiany" of certain postmasters, and of the impropriety of conduct of the postmaster at Middlebrook, (now Bound Brook), N. J.

In writing to John Augustine Washington, his brother from Cambridge, on March 31, 1776, he suggests, "After your Post is established to Fredericksburg the Intercourse by Letter may become regular and certain (and whenever time, little of which God knows I have for friendly corrispondance, will permit, I shall be happy in writing to you)."(10)

On September 4, 1776, he wrote from New York to the President of Congress

> "The Post Master having removed his Office from the City to Dobb's ferry, as it is said, makes it extremely inconvenient, and will be the means of my not giving such constant and regular Intelligence as I could wish. Cannot some mode be devised by which we may have a pretty constant and certain Intercourse and communication kept up? It is an Interesting matter and of great importance and as such I am persuaded will meet with due attention by Congress."(11)

and he followed this two days later with another letter that he would communicate with Congress

> "by Express, having it not in my power to communicate any Intelligence by post as the Office is removed to so great a distance and entirely out of the way."(12)

On January 13, 1777 he writes to Robert Morris in Philadelphia from Morristown, N. J. and says

> "I should thank you most heartily, for taking a Letter or two of mine, when you do your own, by the Southern Mail, and forwarding of them, as oppertunity offers, to the Camp. I have long since drop'd all private correspondance with my friends in Virginia, finding it incompatable with my public business. A Letter or two from my Family are regularly sent by the Post, but very irregularly received, which is rather mortifying, as it deprives me of the consolation of hearing from home, on domestick matters."(13)

On April 15, 1776, he writes Landon Carter saying, "the other Letters alluded to never got to hand; and may be adduced, among many other proofs of the villiany you suspect in the Post Offices."(14) On December 26, 1780 from New Windsor, (Newburgh) N. Y. he tells the Marquis de Lafayette that, "the post once a Week, and travellers accidentally are all the conveyances I have."(15)

(8) 26 F W 6.
Washington comments upon "the want of money to support the express" saying that the deputy Quarter Master for Maryland had informed him that the lack of money for the riders rendered it extremely difficult for him to forward letters through his district. Colonial and Revolutionary Posts, by Harry M. Konwiser, Richmond, Va. 1931 p. 56. This little book is admirable in both its contents and format.
(9) 4 F W 270, 348: 5 F W 123.
(10) 4 F W 445.
(11) 6 F W 15.
(12) 6 F W 23.
(13) 7 F W 1.
(14) 7 F W 413.
(15) 21 F W 17.



Free Library of Philadelphia

**2. Richard Bache, Postmaster General 1776-1782.**

Then comes what is one of the most interesting letters Washington ever wrote as to the Posts in which he made the accurate distinction between the words "MAIL" and "POST"—a distinction largely lost sight of to-day, and uses the word "Registering," but not as it is used to-day. This letter was written to Major General Henry Knox, the artillery officer, from Rocky Hill, N. J. a town four miles north of Princeton, on November 2, 1783. He says,

> "You will readily conceive how much I have been chagreened, and vexed at a loss occasioned by the stupidity of the Postmaster at Princeton, when I tell you, that the original of which the enclosed is a duplicate, and the first draughts of all my public and private letters written in the Six Weeks preceeding, were lost with the Mail on thursday Night last.
> Having many letters to write by the Post the Week before, and being interrupted by Company, I was unable to get my dispatches ready the overnight (as usual) for the Mail, but sent them off by day break the next Morning to the Post Office, the Manager of which, as the Mail, I presume, was made up the night

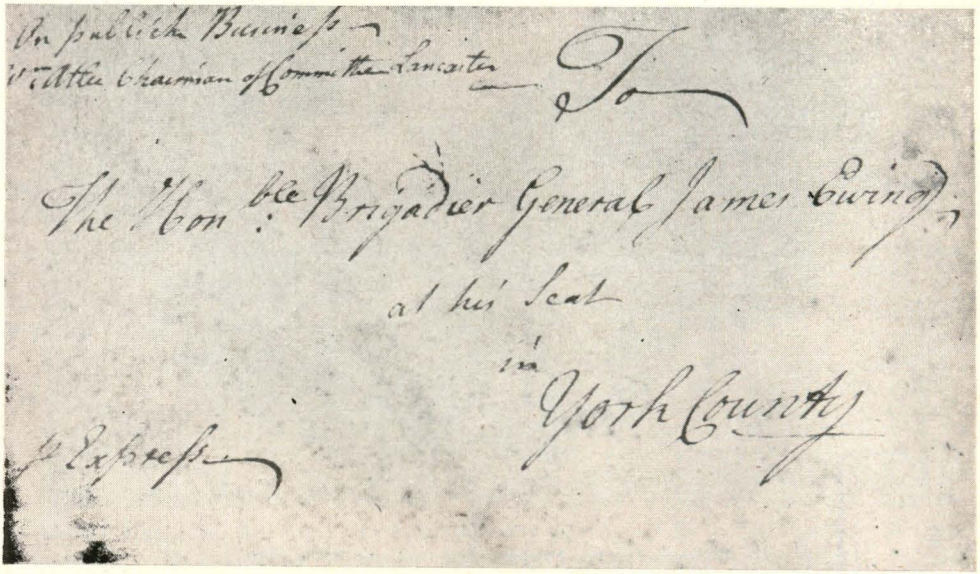
> before, being too lazy to get up, suffered the Post rider to go off without them. Ashamed to return or to acknowledge that he had not sent them, he kept them to go by the last Weeks Post, by which means I have not only lost all my dispatches, but the draughts, as I have mentioned above, of all the letters which I have written within that course of time; they being enclosed to Colo. Varick for Registering."(16)

How temperate Washington's language is, but how "chagreened and vexed" he must have been. On the same day he writes another letter to Knox in which he refers to the robbery of the Eastern Mail, saying

> "unfortunately too, all the Copies of my letters up to that day met with the same accident, being inclosed to Colo. Varick to record."(17)

Again on that day he writes to Governor George Clinton of New York to the same effect about the letters enclosed to Colo. Varick to record. Varick replied to him on December 7, 1783 and said, "the lost papers are just come to Hand and I have folded, but not had Time to Number them . . . The letter to me was not open'd, but in perfect Order and Muddy."(18) Varick was the confidential secretary to Washington authorized by Congress to record his letters in books so as to "preserve them from damage and loss." He was in truth a recording secretary and in using the word "Registering" Washington meant recording as is shown in his two subsequent letters. It is clear that he did not use the word as we use it to-day.

But Washington tried always to keep clear the distinction between army affairs and the civil affairs of the Posts, for while at Middlebrook on April 7,




Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Carson

**3. Letter from Lancaster, Pa. dated July 13, 1776. On June 5, 1776 Congress resolved "that Expresses be established between the several Continental Posts." Journals of Congress V p. 418. Military affairs are referred to, both above and below this resolve, so it is not clear what is meant by "Posts."**

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(16) 27 F W 220.
A contemporary dictionary defines
(1) MAIL as "a postman's bundle, a bag." This was extended to include the carrier of these bags like a stagecoach and more recently mail steamer, mail car and mail plane.
(2) POST as "a hasty messenger, a courier who comes and goes at stated times," extended to include the whole system of posts.

(17) 27 F W 221.

(18) 27 F W 228 and note.
Richard Varick had been Arnold's secretary which made him suspect but Washington's appointment immediately silenced all slanderous talk. Varick with headquarters at Poughkeepsie finished the work in 1784 which in forty-four volumes is known as the "Varick Transcripts." He was warmly thanked by the General. Dictionary of American Biography, N. Y. 1936, XIX, 226.

1779 he notes the great impropriety of conduct of the Postmaster in the Brigade of Lt. Col. Hewes and being in doubt how to proceed against him asks Hewes in his name to appoint two or three officers to look into the matter.(19)

## MILITARY INTELLIGENCE

To go into the subject of military intelligence would require an investigation far beyond the scope of this article, but Washington had something to say about it wherein it touched the posts in the three following letters. On September 6, 1775, while at Cambridge he wrote to Governor Nicholas Cooke suggesting that great advantages would be gained by intercepting the enemies' correspondence,

> "I have therefore thought Proper, to propose to you the Seizing of the Mail by the next Packet; She is Hourly expected from England; her Force of Men and Guns inconsiderable; none but Swivels and only mann'd with 18 men."(20)

In 1777 he again comments on intercepted letters.(21) Again he refers to this matter when at headquarters at Fredericksburgh, October 27, 1778, when he writes Major General Gates, "The capture of the Falmouth packet with the September mail, if confirmed will be a most fortunate event, but the supposition of a decoy alone can make it credible she would suffer the mail to fall into our hands."(22)

## PROTECTION OF POSTS

On this subject Washington had much to say between August 1780 and December 1782 dealing with lines of communication between the Jerseys and the New York Highlands. It will be recalled that Burgoyne had surrendered to Gates at Saratoga in October 1777, and that Arnold's treachery at West Point had occurred in September of 1780. The British, however, from Canada still menaced the Hudson Valley and through it New England.

On August 27, 1780 the General wrote from his Head Quarters in Bergen County, New Jersey to Col. Elisha Sheldon

> "I have been informed that one of our Expresses has lately been taken at Pine's Bridge and carried into New York. I shall be exceedingly anxious until I hear whether he was charged with any public dispatches. To guard against such an accident in future, I think it will be prudent to shift some of our Stages. Instead therefore of going to Stratford by the present Route, I would have you withdraw the Dragoons from Stamford and Greens farms and place them upon the Road from Kings ferry to Ridgefield and from thence to Stratford. This being higher up will be less exposed. Be pleased to inform the Quarter Master at Kings ferry where you establish the Stage between that place and Ridgefield, that he may know how to forward the dispatches which are sent to him. You will make the change as speedily as possible."(23)

On June 28, 1781 from his headquarters at Peekskill, some forty miles above New York, he wrote to the Board of War thus:

> "Upon changing the position of the Army, the Route of the post is changed also. He now passes at Kings Ferry and avoids the Mountains, which I hope will in some degree remove the danger to which he was formerly exposed. But should that not prove to be the case, I cannot, from the present strength of our Cavalry, furnish even the small escort which is required. Sheldon's Regiment consists of but 60 mounted and Van Heers Corps is upon the point of dissolution by the expiration of their service. You may judge how soon so small a Corps as Sheldons would be worn down had they no other duty to do but that of furnishing four dragoons at a time to be constantly riding post, (but these being all the horse I have to depend upon for Military Service the request of the Post Master

(19) 14 F W 345.
(20) 3 F W 477.
(21) 7 F W 299.
(22) 13 F W 163.
(23) 19 F W 449.
Sheldon was in command of the cavalry on the east bank of the Hudson river in 1780. King's ferry was on the Hudson above Stony Point.

> Genl. is totally incompatible with it.) There are several excellent troops of Volunteer Horse in Jersey and I make no doubt but an escort could be procured from them, if application was made to the Governor and an adequate compensation for their services allowed."(24)

On March 15, 1781 he wrote to Major General William Heath from Philadelphia, "It having been thought necessary by Congress that an escort should accompany the mails from Fishkill to Morris Town, I do not look upon myself at liberty to judge of the propriety of continuing or discontinuing the measure. The duty must be performed by reliefs from Sheldons regiment as the Quarter Master is not able to furnish the fresh Horses as required."(25) He follows this with a letter of January 14, 1782 to the President of Congress:

> "I have received information, that a lurking party of the Enemy is sent out to intercept the mail between Philadelphia and the North River, the place they are to lay in wait for the Post is said to be between Pluckemin and Morris Town; I thought it proper to give Your Excellency this notice of it (altho I cannot positively be answerable for the veracity of the intelligence) that measures might be taken to prevent the success of the attempt, or that other precautions of not committing important dispatches to the Mail, if it was deemed expedient, might be taken."(26)

On May 27 of the same year William Stephens Smith wrote to Post Master General Ebenezer Hazard, in reply to Hazard's comment that Washington did not consider Kakiat, N. Y., a safe place for the mails to remain over one night, "the risk being evidently too great as it is considerably advanced of any Post that we occupy in that Part of the Country." These letters resulted in Washington writing a letter to Hazard on October 24, 1782.(27)

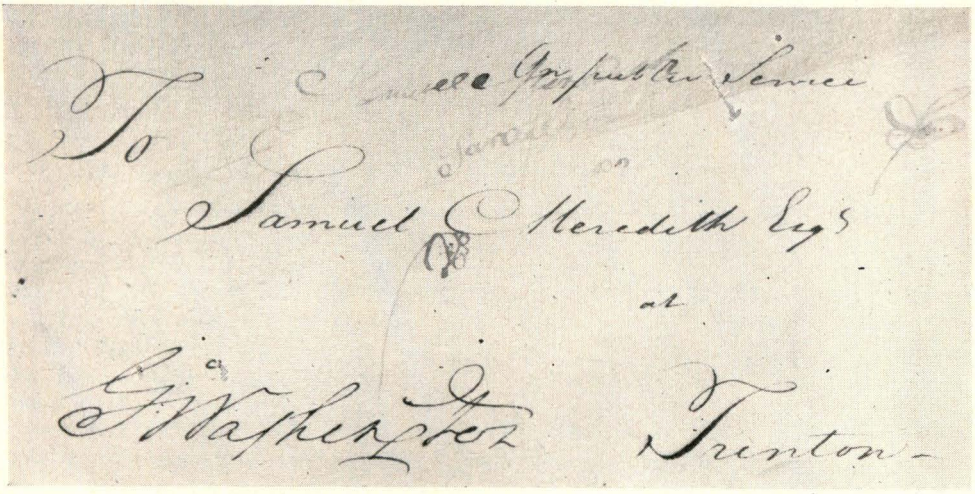
> "The Head Quarters of the Army will move in a day or two to Newburg; I desire therefore that the Mail may in future be sent by Morris Town, from thence by the most direct road to Colonel Sewards, then thro' Warwick and Chester to Newburg except the Route thro' Hackets town to Sussex, Warwick &c. which would be inconvenient to the People of Jersey, the one now proposed is the most direct and the safest that can be taken; it has been proposed before, but has always been opposed by the different Post Masters on account of distributing their News papers. If however it should not be thought proper now to take that Route I cannot nor shall I confide in the Post for any Dispatches coming to or going from Head Quarters; nor can the Dragoons be furnished as an Escort."(28)

It is quite clear that although the War was nearly won Washington was unwilling to run the risk that his letters from Head Quarters would be intercepted, and he reinforces his stand in his next letter, one to Col. Timothy Pickering, who later became the second Post Master General under the Constitution, from his Head Quarters at Newburg dated December 25, 1782,

> "it will be proper to give the Post Master Genl timely notice, that is, the total incapacity of the Dragoon Horses destined to escort or rather to carry the Mail to proceed any longer. He must therefore expect that in which this Letter goes to be the last which will be received from the Eastward thro' this mode of conveyance until new Arrangements shall take place; as the Dragoons were obliged to bring the last Weeks mail from Morris Town a considerable part of the distance on their backs, and as their Horses have had no forage from that day to the present."(29)

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(24) 22 F W 281.
The Governor of New Jersey was William Livingston. At this time the Post Master General was Richard Bache, Franklin's son-in-law.
(25) 23 F W 388.
Fishkill is east of the Hudson and between Peekskill and Poughkeepsie.
(26) 23 F W 445-6.
Pluckemin is six miles northwest of Somerville, N. J.
(27) 24 F W 293. Note.
Kakiat is near East Hempstead, Long Island.
(28) 25 F W 294.
(29) 25 F W 465.



Library Co. of Philadelphia

**4. Letter from Head Quarters, Bergen County, N. J., dated September 9, 1780 showing Washington's official use of his "frank" with the words "On public service." The text of this letter appears in 20 F. W. 17.**

He notifies Col. Loudon from his Head Quarters at Newburg under date of December 12, 1782,

> "that the Dragoon Horses will not be able to proceed any longer with the Mail, on account of the total want of forage. And therefore it will be necessary for you to procure a Rider to carry the next Mail without an escort and to continue the conveyance in the same mode, or it cannot be forwarded. The General has, some days ago, desired Col Pickering who is in Philadelphia to acquaint the Post Mastr General this would be the case, unless an alteration in the Arrangements for forage immediately took place: There is now absolutely no alternative left, the Dragoons are ordered to join their Corps."(30)

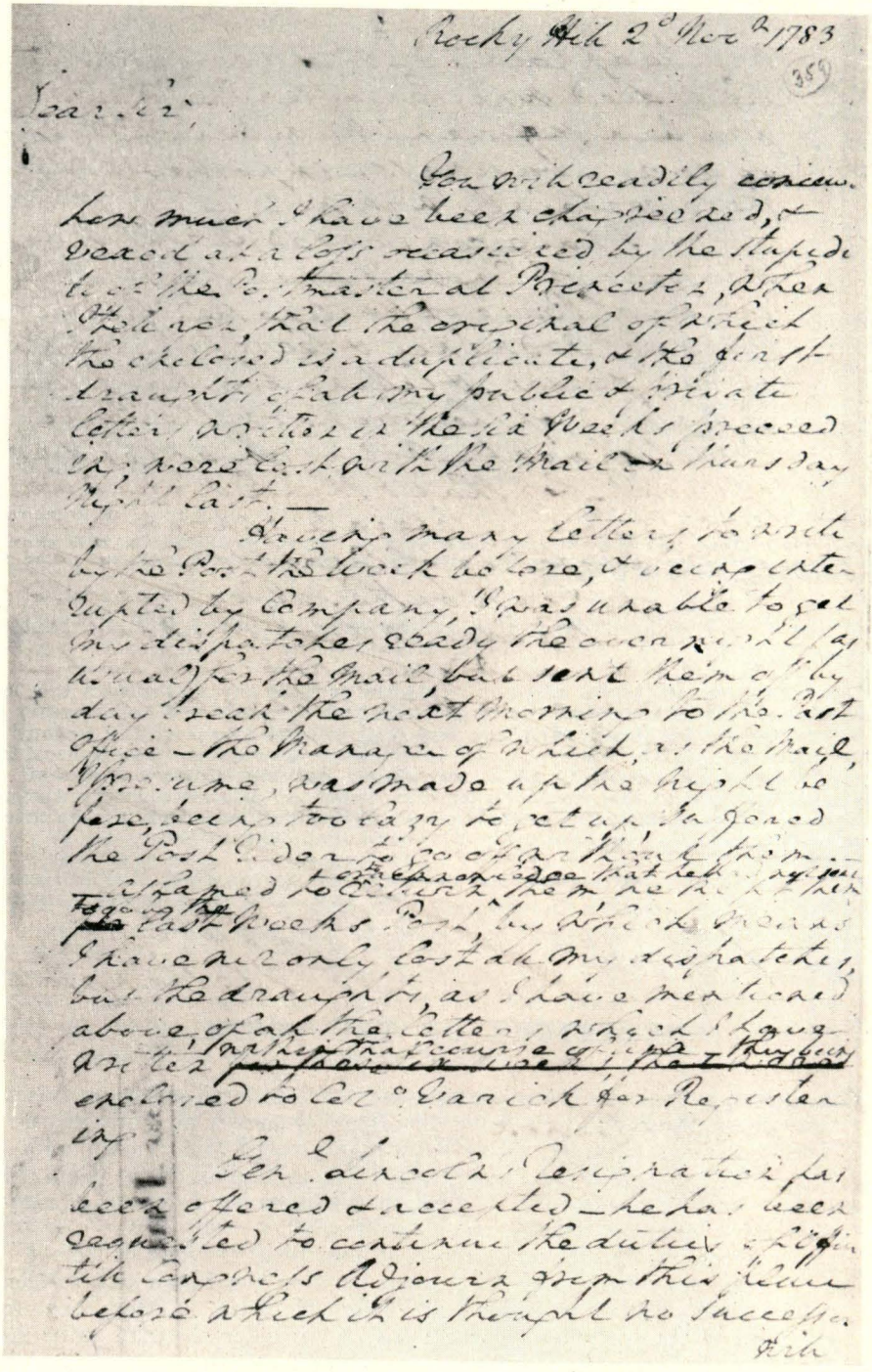
Whether Washington had his way—a military one, or the Post Master General his,—a political one, remains unanswered. The temper of these letters will illustrate how Washington concealed the mailed fist (no pun intended) within the velvet glove of polite diction.

## DEPARTURE OF THE POSTS

Washington over the military years issued three general orders on this subject. One, dated July 12, 1778 from his Head Quarters at Peramus, N. J. that, "The Post Office will in future on a march move and remain with the Park."(31) By this, perhaps, he meant what Julius Caesar did in Gaul when he used the word "impedimenta." Though the meaning is clear, a contemporary dictionary does not define "park" militarily.

Another letter from his Head Quarters at Totawa under date of October 31, 1780, said "while we continue in the present position the Post rider will leave camp at noon every Thursday instead of Friday morning. Letters, therefore, must be handed to the postoffice (at the Park) in time for the mail to be made up in that hour."(32)

(30) 25 F W 494.
(31) 12 F W 172.
Peramus (variously spelled) is 6 miles northeast of Paterson, N. J.
(32) 20 F W 270.
Totawa is just west of Paterson.



Rocky Hill 2d Nov. 1783

Dear Sir,

You will readily conceive how much I have been chagrined, & vexed at the loss occasioned by the stupidity of the Post-Master at Princeton, after the strictest injunctions, that the original of which the enclosed is a duplicate, & the dispatches of the public & private letters, & papers of the 4 Weeks preceding, were sent forward by the Mail on Thursday the 23d. Ult.—

Having many Letters to write by the Post the week before, & being interrupted by Company, I was unable to get my dispatches ready the evening I usually do for the Mail, but sent them off by day break the next Morning to the Post Office—the Manager of which, as the Mail, I presume, was made up the night before, being too lazy to get up, & joined the Post Rider to go after breakfast from ... stopped to collect the ... that had ... the last Weeks Post, but which proves I have never lost all my dispatches, but the duplicates, as I have mentioned above of all the Letters which I have ... enclosed to Col. Garrick for Registering.

Col. Garrick's Deputation has been offered & accepted—he has been appointed to continue the duties of Public Comptroller Agreeable to this Letter before which it is thought he will receive

Yrs

The Library of Congress

**5. The first page of a letter entirely in Washington's handwriting in which he refers to the Mails and the Posts, and the loss of dispatches.**

The third was from Head Quarters at Verplanks Point dated September 11, 1782, that "The post for the Southward will set out every Thursday morning at 11 o'clock and return from thence every Sunday at 1 o'clock P. M. The post for the Eastward and Northward will set out every wednesday morning at 11 o'clock and return from thence every Thursday at 12."(33)

### EXPRESSES

Expresses have been referred to three times before in this article under the captions, "Irregularities of the Post" and "The Franking Privilege." On August 4, 1775 Washington wrote a long letter to the President of Congress from Cambridge telling of the interception of his letters near Boston, that he was much concerned with the matter and was dispatching an express immediately back. He followed this with a letter to James Warren on August 6, in which he implied that the gentlemen who were captured while carrying his letters had been guilty of misconduct or negligence.(34)

On April 19, 1777, when he was at Morristown he wrote to Brigadier General Heard stating it was necessary to make a new disposition of the forces in the Jerseys and ordering him to march the militia under his command to Morris Town as soon as the Eighth Pennsylvania Battalion arrived to occupy the posts, ending "As soon as your Troops are ready to march, you will please send me an Express."(35)

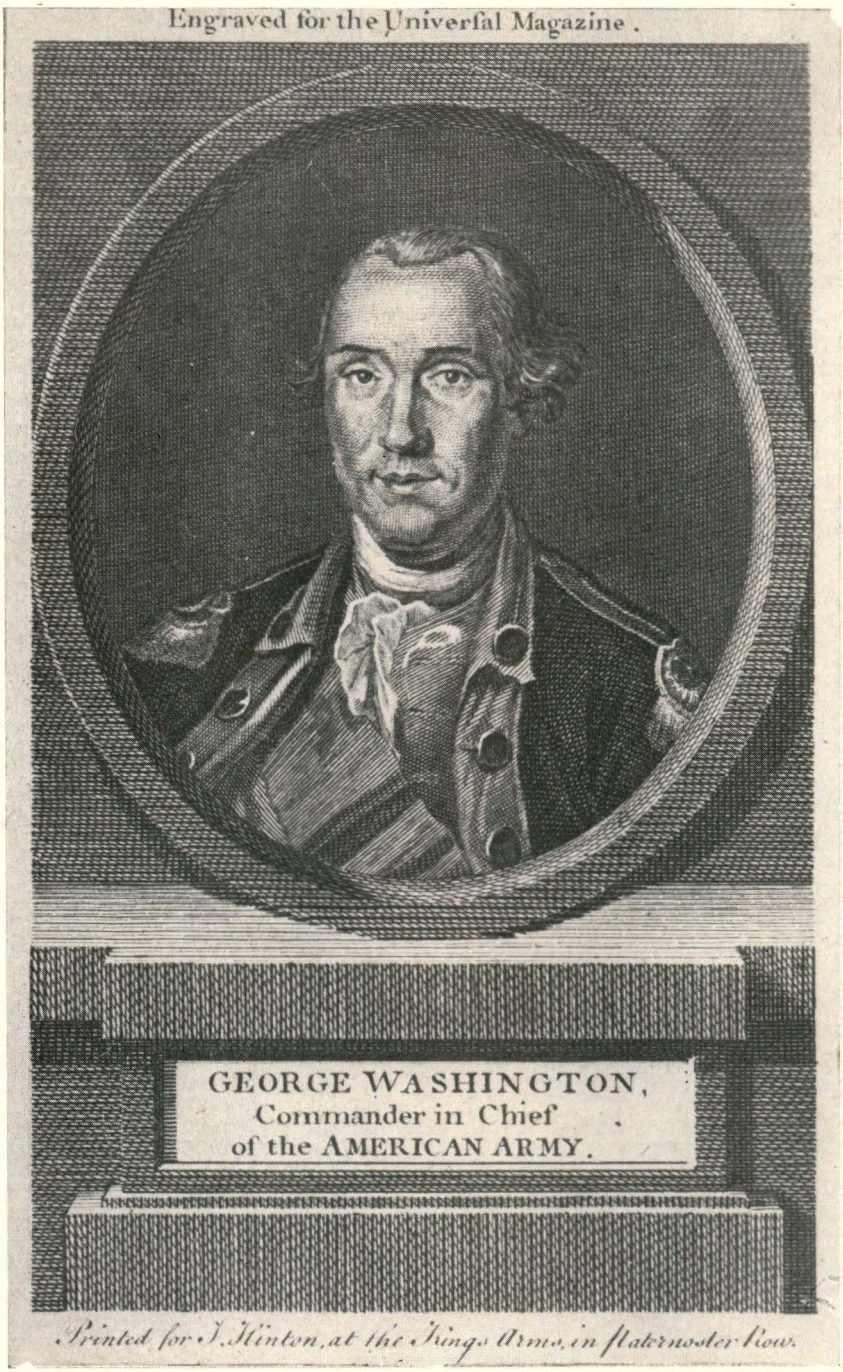
## Private and Presidential Years

### PRIVATE CRITICISM

Back again at Mt. Vernon after six years' absence and now once more a private citizen Washington still had complaints to make of the posts. He said in a letter to James Milligan the Comptroller of the Treasury on February 18, 1784 that "The intemperance of the weather and the great care which the post riders seem disposed to take of themselves, while it continued severe, prevented your Letter of the 13th of last month from reaching my hands, till the 10th of this";(36) but on January 6 following he writes to George Augustine Washington, his nephew, that the Post now goes regularly,(37) and to Charles Washington, his brother, April 12 complaining of the irregularity of the Post Office, "which seems to be under very bad management."(38) At this time the Post Master General was Ebenezer Hazard of Philadelphia who after five years' experience as Comptroller of the posts was appointed Post Master General on January 28, 1782. On January 23, 1787 he writes from Mt. Vernon to David Humphreys,

> "Since I have heard of the robbery of the mail at New Ark, on the 4th. Instt., I have been under great apprehension that a long and confidential letter which I wrote to you on the 26th Ulto. was in it. My only hope is, a strange one you will say, that the inattention to, and practice of bringing back, instead of exchanging mails which frequently happens, and did actually happen about that time may have been the means of its preservation, without this interposition it most assuredly would have been in that mail, to relieve me from this state of disagreeable suspence, I pray you to write me by the first Post after you receive this letter."(39)

(33) 25 F W 149.
Verplank's Point is opposite Stony Point on the Hudson river.
(34) 3 F W 398, 403.
(35) 7 F W 441
(36) 27 F W 333.
(37) 28 F W 27.
(38) 28 F W 131
(39) 29 F W 147.




Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Carson

**6. Portrait of Washington of the Charles Willson Peale type. It appeared in an English periodical.**

While at Philadelphia presiding over the Constitutional Convention he writes Alexander Spotwood his niece Elizabeth's husband complaining that he had not heard from him in reply to his letter. He is "led to apprehend a miscarriage or that the letter, to or from you may be lying in some of the Post Offices (a thing not very unusual). I therefore address you again on the subject."(40) But occasionally he had good things to say of the post, for on July 7, 1786 he wrote Tench Tilghman from Mt. Vernon, "Except it is by chance, letters by the Stage never get to my hands so quickly as they do by the Post; nor so safely, because I send regularly every post day to the Office in Alexandria, whilst those by the Stage getting into private hands await accidental conveyances from that place."(41)

## VIEWS ON A SOUND POSTAL SYSTEM

The work of the Constitutional Convention was completed on September 17, 1787 and to it as its President, Washington had given a summer of hard, worrisome toil, and while once again he returned to his beloved Mt. Vernon as a private citizen he still had his criticism to make of Ebenezer Hazard.

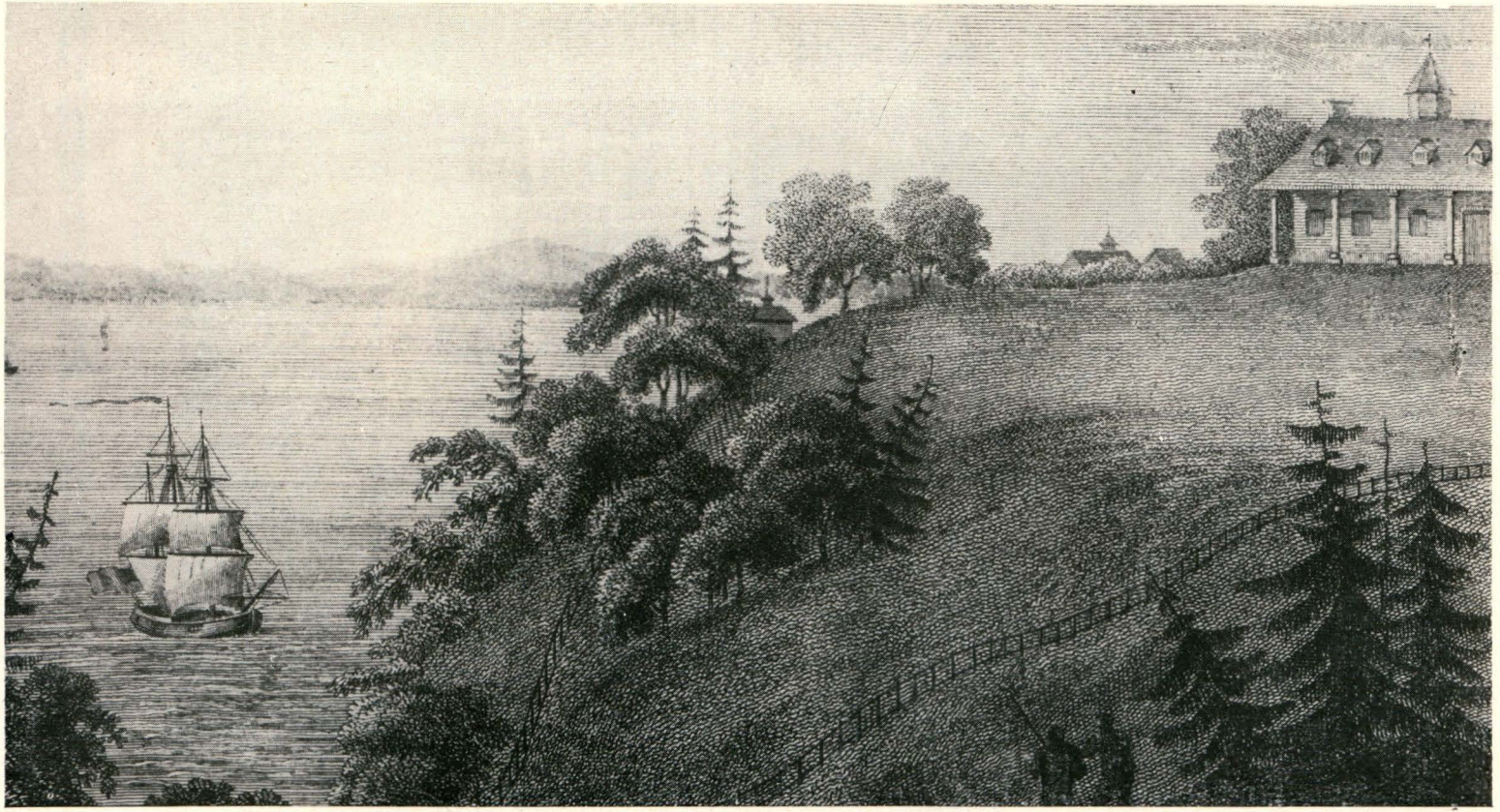
In a letter to John Jay, the Secretary of Foreign Affairs, under date of July 18, 1788 he says:

> "Now, if the Post Master General (with whose character I am unacquainted and therefore would not be understood to form an unfavorable opinion of his motives) has any candid Advisers who conceive that he merits the public employment they ought to counsel him to wipe away the aspersion he has incautiously brought upon a good cause; if he is unworthy of the Office he holds, it would be well that the ground of a complaint, apparently so general, should be inquired into, and, if (well) founded, redressed through the medium of a better appointment.
>
> It is a matter in my judgment of primary importance that the public mind should be relieved from inquietude on this subject. I know it is said that the irregularity or defect has happened accidentally, in consequence of the contract for transporting the Mail on horseback, instead of having it carried on the Stages; but I must confess, I could never account, upon any satisfactory principles, for the inveterate enmity with which the Post Master General is asserted to be actuated against that valuable institution. It has often been understood by wise politicians and enlightened patriots that giving a facility to the means of travelling for Strangers and of intercourse for citizens, was an object of Legislative concern and a circumstance highly beneficial to any country. In England, I am told, they consider the Mail Coaches as a great modern improvement in their Post Office Regulations. I trust we are not too old, or too proud to profit by the experience of others. In this article the materials are amply within our reach. I am taught to imagine that the horses, the vehicles, and the accommodations in America (with very little encouragement,) might in a short period becomes as good as the same articles are to be found in any Country of Europe. And at the same time, I am sorry to learn that the line of Stages is at present interrupted in some parts of New England and totally discontinued at the Southward."(42)

Then he is nominated, elected, and inaugurated as President. The latter occurred on April 30, 1789. In his proposed address to Congress among many things he has this to say:

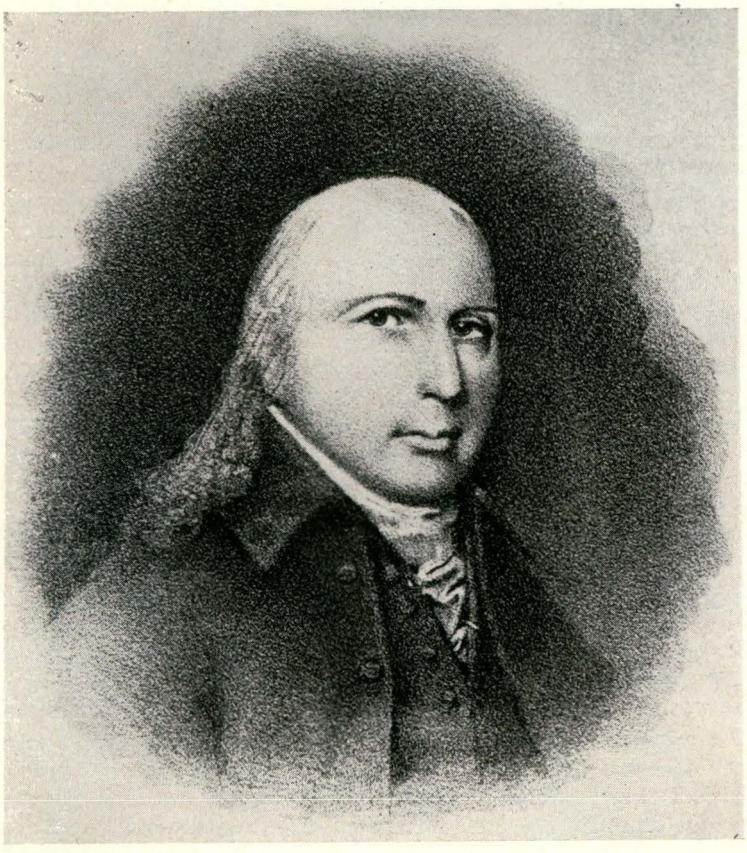
> "While the individual States shall be occupied in facilitating the means of transportation, by opening canals and improving roads: you will not forget that the purposes of business and Society may be vastly promoted by giving cheapness, dispatch and security to communications through the regular Posts. I need not say how satisfactory it would be, to gratify the useful curiosity of our citizens by the conveyance of News Papers and periodical Publications in the public vehicles without expence."(43)

(40) 29 F W 262.
(41) 28 F W 369.
(42) 30 F W 16-17.
Rich in "The History of the United States Post Office to the Year 1829" at p. 65 calls this criticism harsh, for Hazard with his long experience knew stages to be unreliable.
(43) 30 F W 305.



Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Carson

**7. An unusual view of Mount Vernon from "Travels through the States of North America, 1795-7, by Isaac Weld, Jr., London 1799.**



Free Library of Philadelphia

**8. Ebenezer Hazard, Postmaster General 1782–1789.**

In his first annual address to Congress, under date of January 8, 1790, he calls attention to the need "of facilitating the intercourse between the distant parts of our Country by due attention to the Post-Office and Post Roads;"(44) while in his fourth annual address on November 11, 1792, he goes back to an old belief of his when he says: "It is represented that some provisions, in the law, which establishes the Post Office operate in experiment, against the transmission of newspapers to distant parts of the Country. Should this, upon due inquiry, be found to be the case, a full conviction of the importance of facilitating the circulation of political intelligence and information will I doubt not, lead to the application of a remedy."(45)

On December 31, Tobias Lear, Washington's secretary, had written to the Postmaster General in reply to his request for some facts relative to the newspapers. This led the President to notice them in his speech at the opening of the Congress. Lear says

> "in consequence of the rate of postage imposed on the transmission of Newspapers by the Post-Office Law, many persons in Virginia who had heretofore taken Newspapers from this City had declined receiving them any longer; and that many others declared that they had only continued to take them under a full persuasion that the rates of postage would be reduced during the present

(44) 30 F W 493.

session of Congress and that if such reduction would not take place, they would desire their printers to stop their papers."(45)

And Lear believes that because of these strong marks of disapprobation, some alteration should take place in the law relating to the transmission of newspapers. In his fifth annual address to Congress at Philadelphia on December 3, 1793, Washington reemphasizes all of this and recommends a repeal of the tax on the transportation of public prints.(46)

But the President had been preparing himself for these pronouncements for some years, for two months after he was inaugurated President and on July 3, 1789, from New York he wrote to Hazard that he has before him the accounting of the receipts and expenditures of the General Post Office from 1782 to 1789, inquiring why it produced a profit of

| Dolls. | 90ths. | 8ths. |
|---|---|---|
| 13.373 | 54. | 2 |

when between 1782 and 1785, it lost

| Dolls. | 90ths. | 8ths. |
|---|---|---|
| 3208. | 77. | 2 |

He requested detailed receipts and expenditures for the year 1784 and the year 1788. He does not understand why the postal receipts fell off and conceives "it must have been either by the increase of expense attending the conveyance of the Mail or Stages (instead of by Riders as formerly) or by directing the Mail to be carried into parts of the Country where the expence of carrying it greatly exceeded the produce of it."(47)

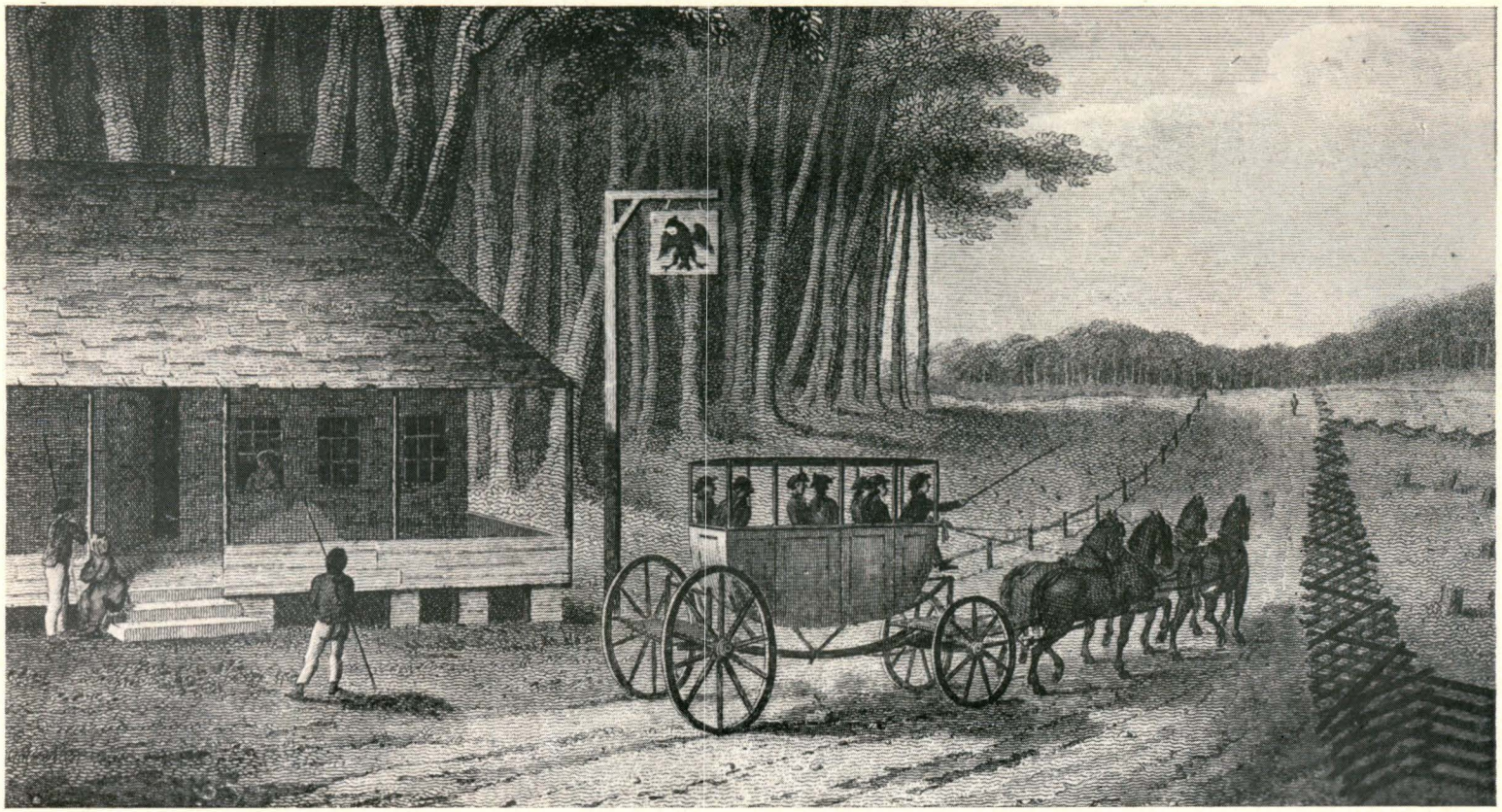
On July 17, 1789, he acknowledges the accounts for 1784 and 1788, and seeing an annual profit of $39,985. he inquires whether that is lodged in the Treasury or appropriated to the use of the Post Office Department. At this time Hazard was acting Postmaster General under the Constitution as a holdover, but he was superseded shortly by Osgood, Washington's own appointee.(48)

That he was trying to learn the intricacies of the whole government, not of the Post Office alone is evident, for on June 8, 1789, he wrote to John Jay the Acting Secretary for Foreign Affairs from New York that he was desirous of acquainting himself with the real situation of the several great departments and stated that he was now at leisure to inspect such papers and documents as might be calculated to give him insight into the business and duties of that department.(49)

But did he play politics himself with the Post Office Department, politics such as have been played for so many years by so many political parties in power? The answer follows, it is unequivocal. On October 12, 1789, Tobias Lear wrote the Postmaster at Providence, Rhode Island, in reply to an inquiry to the effect that the President "never interferes in the appointment of any Officer whose appointment does not by Law come under his immediate cognizance. Mr. Osgood must act as he pleases in the appointment of his deputies."(50) Samuel Osgood had succeeded Hazard as the first Post Master General and served until August 1791, when he was succeeded by Timothy Pickering.

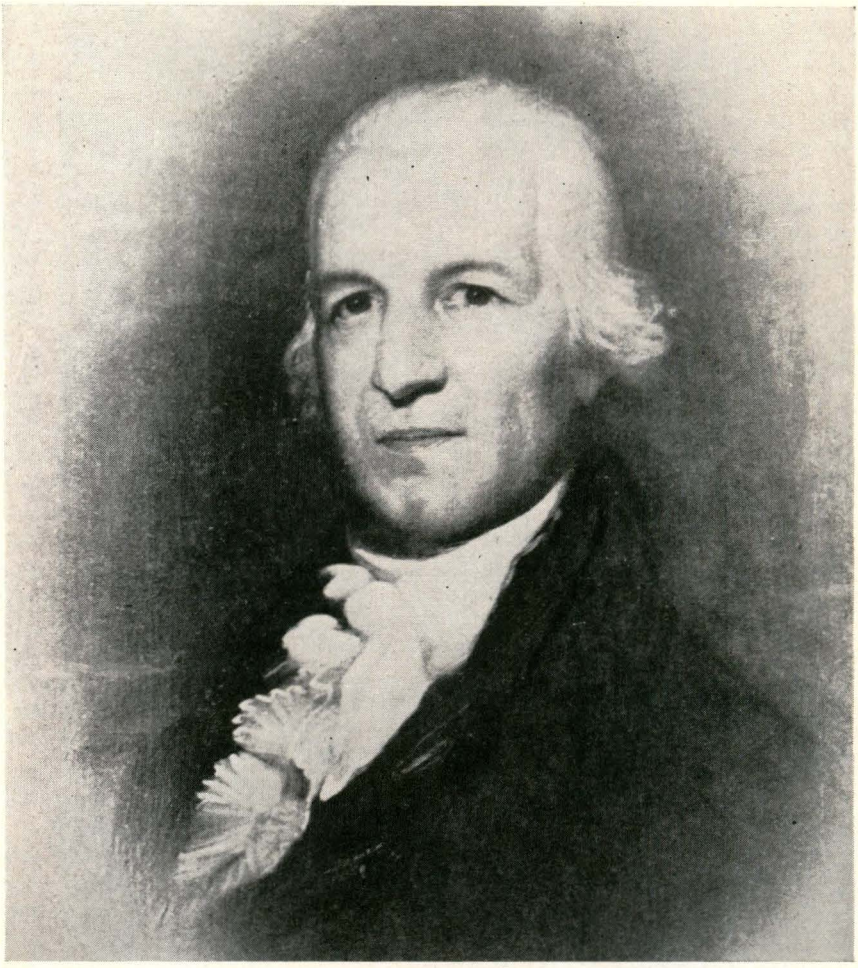
Washington wrote to Mary Katherine Goddard of Baltimore from New York on January 6, 1790, and stated: "I have uniformly avoided interfering with any appointments which do not require my official agency, and the Resolutions and Ordinances establishing the Post Office under the former Congress,

(45) 32 F W 210 and 210 note.
(46) 33 F W 169.
(47) 30 F W 353.
(48) 30 F W 356.
(49) 30 F W 343-4.
(50) 30 F W 436. Note.



Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Carson

**9. The type of stage that Washington would have used to carry the mails. The Spread Eagle Tavern as rebuilt in 1796 still stands on the Lancaster and Conestoga roads sixteen miles west of Philadelphia. From Weld's Travels as above.**



Free Library of Philadelphia

**10. Samuel Osgood. First Postmaster General under the Constitution 1789-1791**

and which have been recognized by the present Government, giving power to the Post Master General to appoint his own Deputies and making him accountable for their conduct is an insuperable objection to my taking any part in this matter.'' He states that he is laying the memorial before the Post Master General.(51)

Finally, he wrote from Philadelphia on February 17, 1791 to John Hoomes that the bill ''to establish the Post Office and Post Roads within the United States'' has not yet passed and that he did not know what form it might finally take. He also says that it is highly probable that the Assistants will be left to the appointment of the Postmaster General.(52) The Post Office act which Washington refers to was finally passed on February 20, 1792 superseding the temporary act of September 2, 1789.

(51) 30 F W 490

## CRITICISM WHILE PRESIDENT

Washington still continued to criticize the posts, perhaps more unofficially than officially, although his position must have stirred lethargy into action on many an occasion. From New York he wrote Governor Beverly Randolph of Virginia on December 14, 1789, stating that he was surprised to learn that his dispatches of October 3 did not reach the Governor until the last day of November:

> "in consequence thereof I have enquired of the Post Master in this City to know if they were detained in his office. He informs me they were not, and as a proof of it, he refers to the stamp on the face of the letters which will shew the day of their leaving his office, and I will thank you for your own, and my satisfaction to examine the same.
>
> The detention of these letters is a matter of some importance not only as it respects them, but as to the general regulation of the post Office; and I wish exceedingly to know where they were detained, and whether it was owing to the inattention of any Post Master through whose hands they must have passed, or to a worse cause. An investigation and discovery of this matter may prevent future offences of the like nature."(53)

From Fredericksburgh on June 12, 1791 he chides his Secretary, Lear, as follows:

> "I have, at this place, received your letter of the 30th. Ulto; but none of an intermediate date between that of the 15th. and it. Your directions to have them sent cross-wise the Country, was unlucky, first, because there are no cross-posts. 2d. because my rout back was not irrevocably fixed, and 3d. because I had, knowing these circumstances, directed from Charleston all letters which might be following me, to be returned to this place to await my call. The slow movement of the Mail in the three Southern States prevented (I presume) these directions getting to Richmond before the letters were forwarded to Taylors ferry, and my crossing at Carters (a ferry much higher up James River), has been the cause, or causes, I imagine, of my missing them."(54)

It is interesting to note from this that as late as 1791 there were no cross-posts yet established, at least in Virginia. To the Secretary of State on August 3, 1795 from Mt. Vernon he writes that no mail at 2 o'clock yesterday had been received at Alexandria from Philadelphia since the 29th and that he is "sending up this afternoon to see if the expected mail of this day is in; altho' I have little hope of it, as the violence, and continuance of the rains since thursday last, has been such, in these parts as to sweep everything before it" and he speaks of the carrying away of the bridges and the cutting off of communication between one place and another.(55) He writes the Secretary of State again on July 25, 1796 and says:

> "It is much to be regreted that you did not discover the broken seal of Mr. Monroe's letter, to you, before the departure of the bearer of it; that an attempt at least might have been made to trace the channel through which it had passed; and thereby, if proofs could not have been obtained, to have found ground for just suspicion. You confine the post mark of Alexandria to his letter of the 8th. of April; had you included that also of the 2d. of May, I would have caused enquiry to have been made at that office with respect to the appearance of the letters when they went from thence."(56)

He writes the Secretary of the Treasury Alexander Hamilton June 13, 1791:

> "No letters from the Northward or Eastward of this, bearing date between the 15th. and 30th. of May have come to my hands; and having abundant evidence

(52) 31 F W 218.
(53) 30 F W 477-8.
(54) 31 F W 292.
(55) 34 F W 268.
(56) 35 F W 153.
James Monroe, then Minister to France, was subsequently the fifth President.

before I reached Charleston of the slow movements of the mail through the three Southernmost States, I did, before I left that place, on the 9th. of that month direct that all letters which might be for and following me to be returned to Fredericksburgh as the first place I should touch the post line upon my return. But, these directions not arriving in Richmond in time (as I conjecture) the letters of that interval, agreeably to the superscriptions which I am informed were on them, were forwarded from that place to Taylors Ferry, in expectation of meeting me there; but to this circumstance, which was unknown to me, and to finding from better information than I set out with, that it would be more convenient to cross James River higher up than at Taylors; is to be ascribed my missing the communications which were made between the 15. and 30. of May as mentioned before. These dispatches I may be long without, and perhaps never get; for there are no cross posts in those parts, and the letters, which will have to pass through **many** hands, may find **some** who are not deficient in curiosity."(57)

To Lear, he writes "Such time as I have been able to spend in my Study to-day has been employed in sorting of the Letters and Papers which have been recd. since I left Charleston, part of which I enclose, because my travelling and writing desk will not contain them." Then he furnishes Lear with a list by date of fourteen letters which he had received.(58)

To the Secretary of War on July 1, 1796 Washington says:

"By the Post, rather than by the Express, you will receive my Official letter, and its Enclosures. For the difference of a few hours, in a case that is not urgent, I would have you avoid sending an Express to me. The letter does not travel faster than the Mail; of course there cannot (unless Sunday intervene's) be more, in any case (supposing an occasion to arise in one hour after the Mail was closed) than the difference of 48 hours in the receipt of the dispatches; as I send regularly, every Post day, to Alexandria for my letters. Your Express came in yesterday at 5 oclock in the afternoon, and if you had sent the letters by the Mail of Wednesday, they would have been here at 9 o'clock this Afternoon; a difference of 28 hours only."(59)

# Final Comment

One must be much impressed with the dignity of George Washington's style as a letter writer, but the writer cannot improve on the terse words of Alexander Johnston in his article on Washington in the "Cyclopaedia of Political Science," III, p. 1092

"His letters—are his own—no editing can conceal the essential nature the writer had shown in them. Their strong judgment, the good sense, the calmness and patience, the consciousness of strength and the ability to control the strength, the absolute freedom from self-seeking in any form, makes his letters a monument which will always justify the instinctive popular estimate of him."

In making this study of George Washington and the Posts the writer has confined himself to Washington's letters as they appear in printed form. To run down and examine the originals for the postal usages as shown on the covers is a task in itself which to be complete would take one into many widely scattered collections to find that in many instances the covers have disappeared or, if they do exist, are pasted down in scrap books, making them hard to read and impossible to photograph. Nor has any attempt been made, except in a few instances, to seek out correspondence, military, civil and private, which prompted in Washington's own words.

(The End)

(57) 31 F W 293-4.
(58) 31 F W 304.
(59) 35 F W 109-10.
This was Timothy Pickering, who had been Post Master General.

Thanks are due The Library Company of Philadelphia, The Free Library of Philadelphia, and The Library of Congress for great assistance in the preparation of this article.

## The Collectors Club, Inc.

22 East 35th Street, New York

OFFICERS 1947

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FRANKLIN R. BRUNS, JR., *Secretary* EDWIN E. ELKINS, *Treasurer*

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## The Collectors Club Philatelist

Published Quarterly by THE COLLECTORS CLUB.
FRANKLIN R. BRUNS, Jr., Editor.
Office of Publication, 104 Academy Ave., Federalsburg, Md.
Editorial and Executive Offices, 22 East 35th Street, New York, N. Y.

*Subscription Rates $4.00 per Year* *Advertising Rates*
*Single Copies $1.00.* *Upon Request.*

Entered as second-class matter July 5, 1927, at the Post Office at Federalsburg, Maryland, under Act of March 3, 1879.


# Board of Governors

**MEETING HELD MAY 28, 1947**

Regular meeting of the Board of Governors of The Collectors Club was held on Wednesday, May 28, 1947 at 8 P. M.

The President presided and called the meeting to order.

Present: President H. G. Zervas; R. S. Bohn, G. Camnitzer, E. E. Elkins, J. S. Glaser, R. L. Graham, Jr., M. Johnson, C. A. Smeltzer, A. W. Deas.

President Zervas reported that the members at the May 7th regular meeting voted not to rescind the action taken at the December 4th, 1946 regular meeting regarding the amendments to the Certificate of Incorporation and By-Laws pertaining to the Club Trustees, thus the amendments remain as voted upon on December 4th.

The President further reported an increase of insurance as follows:

Building from $58,000. to $68,000. increase of $10,000.
library from $21,000. to $30,000. increase of $9,000.
Contents building remains $7,700., no increase.

However, inasmuch as the Library alone carried the broad form extended coverage endorsement, the President thought it wise to order this endorsement also for the Building with an additional premium of about $27 per year and has so instructed the Insurance Company. It is also hereby recorded that the policies effecting the above insurance were cancelled as of April 29th, 1947, and two new ones were written for the period of five years, expiring in 1952. This was done in order to avoid paying the increase of 25% which had been previously proposed, and which in the meantime, became effective.

The President pointed out that this insurance did not cover a number of the Club collections, and Mr. Graham promised to take the matter of appraising these collections up with the appraisal committee, consisting of Norman Serphos, Eugene Costales, George B. Sloane and Herbert Bloch.

**Re: A. F. Lichtenstein Tablet**

The question, of what type of tablet the Club should get in memoriam of Mr. Lichtenstein was brought up. The Chairman of the House Committee suggested the picture of Mr. Lichtenstein taken from the Centenary Court of Honor, to be hung in the Club entrance hall over the mantel, with the originally intended tablet beneath it. After considerable discussion, the members voted to have the picture put up for the next meeting of the Club in order to determine whether or not it will be suitable for that purpose, and then bring the matter up for action at the June Board meeting.

**Re: Honorary-Life Membership of T. E. Steinway and Hugh M. Clark.**

Counsel Graham read the draft pertaining to the Honorary Life Membership of Theodore E. Steinway and Hugh M. Clark which he had prepared, and, upon adoption of same, the Secretary was requested to have this suitably inscribed, similar to the one for Mr. Lindquist.

Mr. Graham also reported that the Certificate of Incorporation and Amendments had been approved by the Secretary of State.

**Reports:**

The Treasurer's report was read and accepted with thanks.

The Chairman of the House Committee reported the following:

1) Repair of leader in back of house and pointing up of rear wall.
2) Cellar has been cleaned and the bins from the Centenary have been delivered to the Club cellar for erection of shelves so that material may be properly put away.
3) Twenty units of 120 frames complete with card boards and glass have been delivered from the Centenary to the Cellar.
4) Enough blue cardboards for Club wall frames have been delivered.
5) A. F. Lichtenstein memorial photograph from the Court of Honor has been delivered to the Club.
6) Pails and waste baskets, paper towels were also delivered to the Club.
7) The jewel case used at the Centenary has also been delivered to the Club.
8) Also a frame with full sheets of Greek stamps in an antique old frame, which is being held subject to call from the owner.

**Library Report:**

The Library Chairman reported that nearly 100 volumes of books had been sent to the bindery. In this connection, the possibility of grants was discussed.

**Membership Report:**

Upon motion duly made, seconded and carried, the following candidates were elected to membership:

Res. over 35

Thos. Phillips, New York City, by Edna Deutsch, N. Deutsch

Res. under 35

Rodolph de Seife, Newark, N. J., E. Kehr, E. E. Elkins

USNR H. E. Macintosh, Springfield, Mass., Stephen Lyons, J. S. Glaser
L. F. Simpson, Rochester, N. Y., W. S. Boggs, H. Dunsmoor
Henry Kuhlmann, Chicago, Ill., A. Diamond, L. Brookman
Edith Fisher, Montvale, N. J., J. deKruyf, Hans Zervas
Cpt. W. A. Clem, Jr., Philadelphia, Pa., R. Kirshner, W. S. Boggs
Weber de Vore, Philadelphia, Pa., E. Apfelbaum, J. H. Barr

Foreign

Chas. A. Byam, New Liskeard, Can., M. DeGroot, E. Elkins
Geo. S. Wegg, Toronto Can., Walter Bayley, V. Greene
Andre De Cock, Bruxelles, Belgium, F. Godden, H. G. Zervas
Willy Balasse, Bruxelles, Belgium, F. Godden, H. G. Zervas
Jean Dubois, Bruxelles, Belgium, F. Godden, H. G. Zervas
I. Chafter Bey, Cairo, Egypt, F. Godden, H. G. Zervas
L. T. Vowles, Gloucestershire, Eng., F. Godden, A. H. Caspary
Leon Bilak, Guatemala, K. J. Weiss, A. H. Higgins
H. B. Schlubach, Cali, Colombia, H. Lindquist, H. G. Zervas
B. C. Binks, British Col., Can., H. G. Zervas, A. W. West

Deaths:

N. Res. Walter T. Rice, Chicago, Ill.
R. H. LeSesne, Hendersonville, N. C.
Res. Spencer Anderson, New York City

Mr. Deas suggested that the Club extend a vote of thanks to Messrs. H. L. Lindquist, E. E. Elkins and J. S. Glaser for their untiring work in connection with the Centenary Exhibition which was unanimously approved. It was the consensus of opinion of the members present that an expression of thanks be extended to every club member on the Centenary committee, and Messrs. Bohn, Elkins and Camnitzer volunteered to make up a complete list of such members for this purpose. It was thought that a Club Certificate of award should be sent to them, and the list of names be made part of the minutes.

**Re: Appointment of Governors:**

In accordance with the amendments to the By-Laws, the following gentlemen, upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, were appointed Governors, subject to their acceptance.

Harrison D. Haverbeck; John Britt and John Boker

**Correspondence:**

The request by Frederick G. Stoehr, Attorney for the Estate of Victor Huberich for $50 as reimbursement for the inheritance tax on the Bolivia collection, left to the Club by said Estate, was granted, and the Treasurer was requested to send a check for that amount to Counsel Graham, to whom Mr. Stoehr's letter was addressed, for forwarding.

**Re: Invitation to Souvenir Issues Group**

The Chairman of the Study Group Committee, Mr. Smeltzer, offered to investigate the Souvenir Issues Group in order to ascertain whether or not an invitation for meeting here should be extended.

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## MEETING HELD JUNE 25, 1947

Regular meeting of the Board of Governors was held on Wednesday, June 25, 1947 at 8 P. M.

Present: President H. G. Zervas; Messrs. R. S. Bohn, J. Boker, J. Britt, F. R. Bruns, Jr., G. Camnitzer, A. W. Deas, E. E. Elkins, J. S. Glaser, R. L. Graham, Jr., J. H. Hall, H. D. Haverbeck, M. Johnson.

The President called the meeting to order. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved as corrected. Messrs. Boker, Britt and Haverbeck, newly appointed Governors, were welcomed by the Board.

**Re: Appraisal of Club Collections**

The Secretary was instructed to again contact Mr. Serphos regarding the appraisal of the Club Collections.

**Re: A. F. Lichtenstein Tablet**

It was moved, seconded and unanimously carried to order the tablet from the Medallic Art Company with details to be worked out by the Committee consisting of Messrs. Deas, Glaser and Bohn.

**Re: Library Grants**

Mr. Graham reported that he expected to have some information on the subject after the summer vacation.

**Reports**

The Treasurer's report was read and accepted with thanks.

The Chairman of the House Committee reported on the extra work undertaken by the Club superintendent and suggested at $25 bonus to be given him for this work which was granted. Mr. Glaser also reported that the Club now had about 150 frames which would be available to clubs desiring to borrow them for exhibition purposes.

**Re: Sprinkler System**

The matter of the installation of a Sprinkler System was deferred until Fall.

**Re: Membership Report**

The Secretary presented the membership report and upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the following candidates were elected to membership:

U. S. N. R.

Griffin G. Frazier, Washington, D. C., V. Weiergang, R. Robinette
Lee R. Storms, Evansville, Ind., J. C. Rogers, V. Jordan
Wm. Higgenbotham, Phila., Pa., A. Myers, J. J. Britt
M. J. Huss, Evanston, Ill., Ben Reeves, A. Diamond
Carl Bruckner, Phila., Pa., F. Hollowbush, C. W. Brazer
Claude Degler, Milwaukee, Wis., M. Johl, H. Lindquist
Chas. Charmatz, Detroit, Mich., Hal Trump, R. S. Bohn
Wm. A. Jones, Mineola, N. Y., G. Fabian, H. Herst, Jr.

Foreign

Wm. M. Holbeach, Victoria, Australia, H. Lindquist, J. R. Purves

Transfer

E. G. Jarvis was transferred from Nonresident to Resident
H. R. Harmer was transferred from Resident to Foreign

Resignation

Resignation of Walter Hess, Foreign member was accepted with regret.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Re: Constitution and By-Laws Pamphlet**

Counsel Graham moved that a pamphlet containing the Articles of Incorporation and new Amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws and a membership list as of date of issue be prnnted. This motion was seconded and carried, and the Secretary was requested to proceed accordingly with the list of members. Mr. Graham volunteered to edit the Constitution and By-Laws to bring them up-to-date, as amended. Copies to be available to our members.

**Re: Resignation of Trustees H. L. Lindquist and T. E. Steinway**

The resignations of Harry L. Lindquist and Theodore E. Steinway as Trustees of The Collectors Club, pending for several months, were accepted with the deepest regret.

**Re: Appointment of Trustees:**

Messrs. Robert L. Graham, Jr., John H. Hall, and Edwin E. Elkins were nominated by Messrs. Franklin R. Bruns, Jr., Richard S. Bohn and Jacob S. Glaser respectively to fill the three vacancies existing on the Board of Trustees through the above resignations and the death of Alfred F. Lichtenstein. There being no further nominations Messrs. Graham, Hall and Elkins were unanimously elected Trustees of The Collectors Club.

The new Trustees will get in touch with Messrs. Lindquist and Steinway regarding the transfer of their Trusteeships after proper audit of their holdings has been made. An auditing committee, consisting of Messrs. Haverbeck (Chairman) Bohn and Britt was appointed by the President to verify the accounts of the **J. Brace Chittenden Memorial Fund** and **Permanent Home Fund** in order that the retiring Trustees be properly discharged of their responsibilities, and proper transfer of all assets in the respective funds be made to the new Trustees. The Audit Committee was requested to complete its work for final report at the first Fall Meeting of the Board of Governors on September 24, 1947.

**Re: Club Brochure**

The President and the Secretary were to work out a brochure on the Club's History.

**Re: Souvenir Issues Association Invitation**

No report having come through from the Chairman of the Group Committee, this matter was tabled until the September meeting.

**Re: Insurance Investigation**

The President will write Mr. Sol Ziper, as suggested by Mr. Elkins regarding a review of all Club insurance to ascertain if ample coverage had been obtained in all contingencies.

No further business coming before the meeting it was adjourned at 10.45 P. M.

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**MEETING HELD SEPTEMBER 24, 1947**

Regular meeting of the Board of Governors was held on September 24, 1947 at 8 P. M.

The President presided and called the meeting to order.

Present: President H. G. Zervas; Messrs. R. S. Bohn, John Boker, John Britt, F. R. Bruns, Jr., Geo. Camnitzer, A. W. Deas, E. E. Elkins, G. R. M. Ewing, J. S. Glaser, R. L. Graham, Jr., H. D. Haverbeck, C. A. Smeltzer.

The minutes of the June Board meeting were read and approved.

**ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

**Re: Appraisal of Club Collections**

This matter was referred to Mr. Graham for contact with the committee.

**Re: A. F. Lichtenstein Memorial Tablet**

Mr. Deas reported that the card for the tablet had been approved by the President who advised that the work being done on the tablet was excellent.

**Re: Library Grants**

This was referred to Mr. Graham for further investigation.

**Re: Steinway and Clark Resolutions**

Mr. Bruns reported that the inscriptions for the resolutions were being made.

**NEW BUSINESS**

The Treasurer read the financial report which was accepted with thanks.

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

The following candidates for membership, upon motion duly made, seconded and carried were elected to membership.

N. R. U. S.

Eidsel C. Stanford, Fulton, Miss., Herman Herst, V. D. MacBride
Edw. DeLancey Palmer, Albany, N. Y., W. L. L. Peltz, F. Rosell
Edw. A. Livingstone, Beaver Falls, Pa., B. Harmer, H. Bloch
Marcus R. Durlach, Malverne, N. Y., S. G. Rich, I. Reiner

Foreign

Cyril H. C. Harmer, London, England, B. D. Harmer, H. Bloch
Paul P. Lindenberg, Bangkok, Siam, H. G. Zervas, F. R. Bruns

**RESIGNATIONS**

The following resignations were accepted:

N. R. U. S.

I. I. Ingraham, Bristol, Conn.

Foreign

Ernest B. Ginn, London, England

**DEATHS**

The following deaths of members were reported:

USNR

C. D. Reimer, Fort Worth, Tex.
Chas. Leimer, San Leandro, Calif.
Dr. J. M. Flynn, Rochester, N. Y.
John T. Connell, Tarrytown, N. Y.

Resident

Warren D. Brown, New York City

With regard to members in arrears in their dues, the Treasurer will prepare a list of such members for consideration by the Board of Governors at its next meeting in October.

**Library Report**

The Chairman of this committee reported slow progress. He also reported the purchase of the Robert Morris memoranda book in copy book form dating back to 1847 from the Percy Doane Estate.

**Re: Club Brochure**

The Editor and President will prepare this for the October meeting.

**Re: Investigation of Club Insurance**

It is expected that Mr. Sol Zipser will be ready to report on Club insurance coverage at the October meeting of the Board of Governors.

**Re: C. C. P. Policy**

The Editor reported contemplated changes in the magazine as to type, make-up and arrangement of material. It was left to the judgment of the committee to make such changes as they deemed advisable.

**Re: Trustee Transfer of Material**

It was reported by the Chairman of the Auditing Committee that all Trust Funds and trusteed material in the custody by the retiring Trustees had been transferred to the new Trustees in perfect order. The transfer was witnessed by the Chairman of the Auditing Committee, H. D. Haverbeck.

The new Trustees reported having taken a safe deposit box at the Chase National Bank, 18 Pine Street, New York City, Box Number 1182, for the safe-keeping of such material. The new Trustees are Robert L. Graham, Jr., Chairman, John H. Hall and Edwin E. Elkins.

In connection with Trusteed material, the President reported on Mr. Theodore E. Steinway's suggestion that the Siedenburg Bremen collection be rearranged and remounted with the elimination of duplicate material. The duplicate material to be sold. The proceeds to be added to Trust Funds. Mr. Bohn moved that this suggestion be recommended to the Trustees by the Board of Governors and that Mr. T. E. Steinway be authorized to examine and remount the Bremen collection, and be empowered to select such duplicate material as he believes does not particularly supplement the collection, and that such duplicate material be sold at a regular auction, and the proceeds to be invested in legals for trust funds, and that the investments from these proceeds be identified as the Siedenburg Grant to the Library Fund and it become a part or parcel of the Library Fund now known as the J. Brace Chittenden Memorial Fund. This motion was duly seconded and unanimously carried.

It was moved, seconded and unanimously resolved that it will be the present Board of Governors' policy, that, when Funds are obtained through the sale of duplicate material or otherwise, and the item, or items, from which such funds are obtained are a part of one of the identifiable Trusts, such Funds shall be invested for the benefit of that particular Trust, and shall not be incorporated with the general funds of The Collectors Club.

**Re: Invitation to Souvenir Issues Group**

Permission was granted the Women's International Stamp Club of Brooklyn, N. Y. to hold their 1947 Exhibition in the Club meeting room on some Saturday in November.

**Re: 1948 Program**

The Program Chairman gave preliminary outlines of next season's meetings. The procedure of each Governor taking over one meeting night will be continued.

**Re: Christmas Party**

It was the general opinion to have a Christmas gathering. The President appointed a Committee, consisting of Messrs. Bohn, Chairman; Graham, Britt, Boker, Mrs. Ehrenberg and Mrs. Deutsch. The Chairman is to ascertain details regarding cost etc., for report at the next Board Meeting in October. The party, if approved, is to be held on a Saturday in December.

No other business coming before the meeting, same adjourned at 10.30 P. M.

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF GOVERNORS' MEETING HELD OCTOBER 22nd, 1947**

Regular meeting of the Board of Governors was held on October 22nd, 1947 at 8:00 p. m.

Present: President H. G. Zervas and Messrs. R. S. Bohn, John Boker, John Britt, F. R. Bruns, Geo. Camnitzer, A. W. Deas, E. E. Elkins, J. S. Glaser, R. L. Graham and H. D. Haverbeck.

The President presided and called the meeting to order.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved as corrected.

**ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

**Re: Club Insurance**

Before the meeting was called to order, Mr. Zipser gave a brief summation of his survey on present coverage carried on the Club property. After discussion during the meeting, it was moved, seconded and unanimously carried that we approve the report and have Mr. Zipser go ahead with the plan for additional coverage, provided the additional premiums do not exceed about $100. It was also moved, seconded and unanimously carried that as and when the renewals of policies come up, Mr. Zipser be given some of the business. Mr. Graham suggested that with regard to the increase in coverage, the Library be given first consideration.

**Re: Christmas Party**

Mr. Bohn, Chairman, reported on the entertainment, house decorations, etc., tickets to be sold at $3.00 per person. It was moved, seconded and unanimously carried that on the basis of Mr. Bohn's report, he proceed with the plans for the party as outlined.

**Re: Program for 1948**

Mr. Elkins, Chairman, reported on the tentatively set up schedule for the coming year.

**Re: Appraisal of Club Collections**

The President to write Mr. Eugene Costales, asking him to accept Chairmanship of Appraisal Committee as Mr. Serphos was unable to act in this capacity due to press of business.

**Re: Library Grants**

Mr. Graham to try to have report by next meeting.

**Re: Prospective Membership**

Mr. Britt reported progress in checking available list.

**Re: Club Brochure**—The President is working on this.

**NEW BUSINESS**

The Treasurer read the financial report which was accepted.

In view of the change of Corresponding Secretary, the combinations of three safes will be changed by Mr. Elkins and Mr. Deas on November 15th, 1947.

**Re: House Committee**—Mr. Glaser, Chairman, reported informally.

**Re: Nominating Committee**

President appointed Nominating Committee to make their recommendations and bring in names of nominees for the next annual election.

**Re: Membership Report**

The Secretary presented the membership report and the following candidates were elected to membership, upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried.

Resident over 35

Robert C. Brandt, Great Neck, N. Y. by C. W. Brazer; Geo. B. Sloane.

Resident under 35

Chas. L. Warnky, Flushing, N. Y. by J. G. Zervas; H. G. Zervas. John E. McCracken, N. Y. C. by J. R. Boker, Jr.; Phil. F. Robbins.

(Continued on page V)

# *Dealers*
# *Lester Brookman and Howard Seelye tell Editor Gordon Harmer what they think of*

## Scott's 1948 Catalogue, Vol. I

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(Continued from page 155)

Non-Resident U. S.

Gilbert M. Burr, Tunkhannock, Pa. by H. L. Lindquist; Irwin Heiman.

Change in Classification

Morton D. Joyce—From Resident to Non-Resident as of 1/1/48.

Deaths

Edwin Finnegan, Bronxville, N. Y.
Felix Simon, Buenos Aires, Argentina

**Re: Philatelic Foundation**

It was moved, seconded and unanimously passed that the President of The Collectors Club accept the invitation of the Philatelic Foundation to become an Honorary Trustee of the Philatelic Foundation as set forth in the resolution by the Foundation, which has become a part of these Minutes.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:00 p. m.

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