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PHILATELIST

Volume 53 Number 6
November 1974

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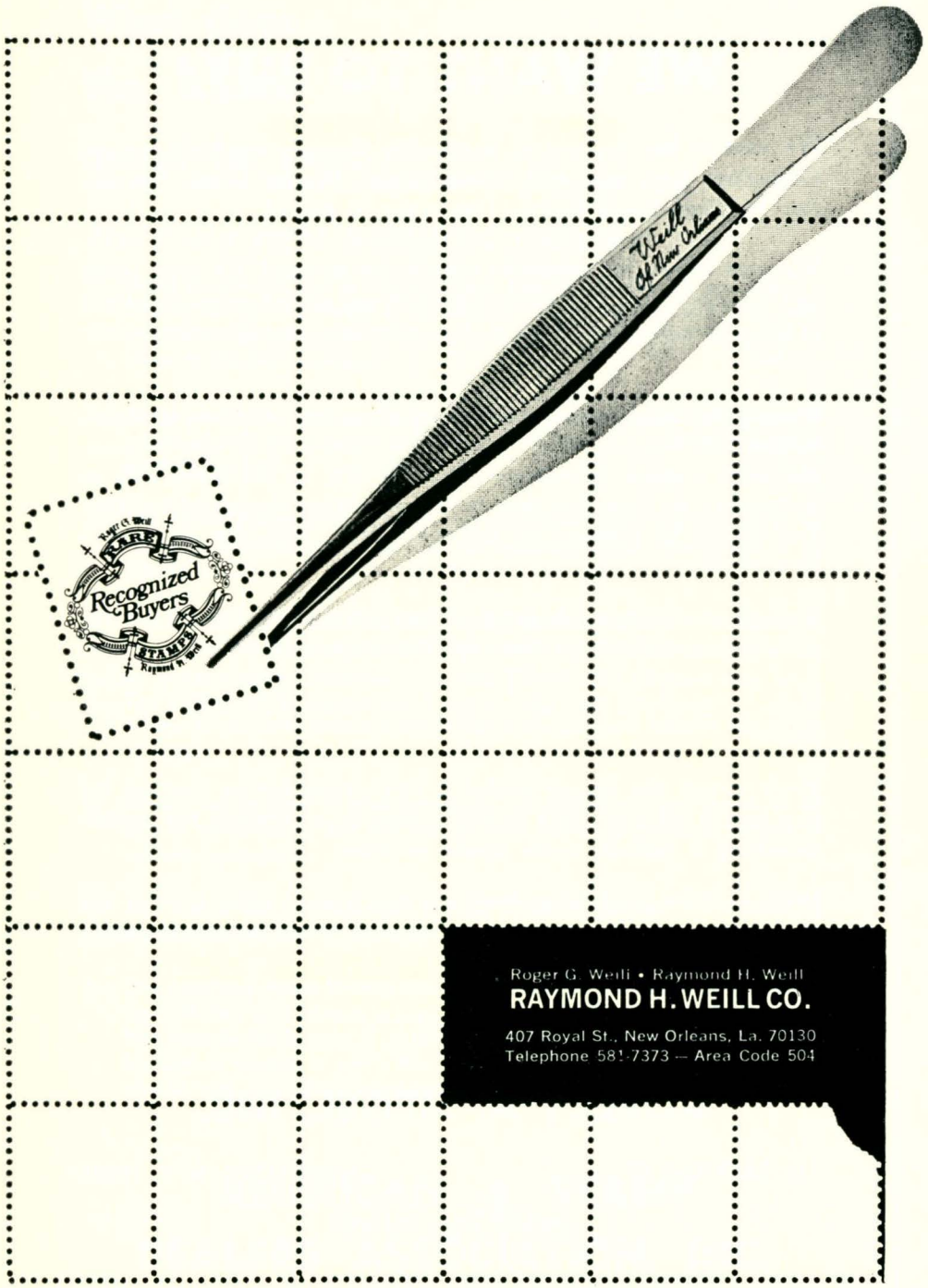
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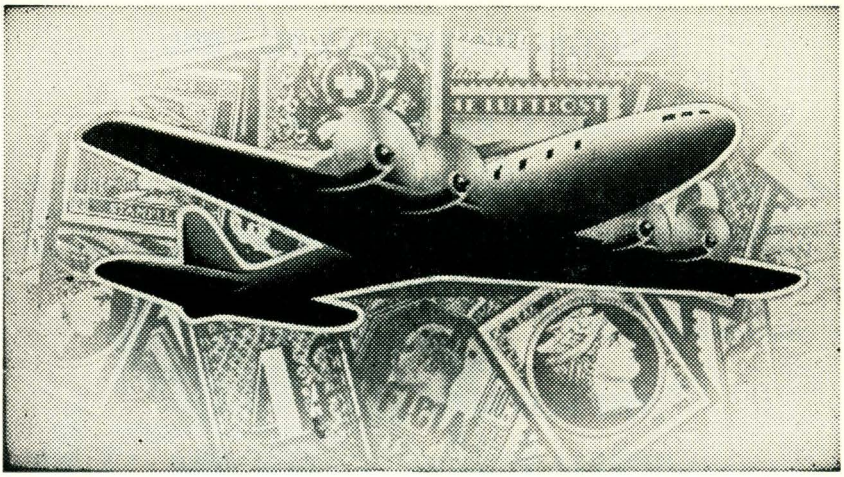
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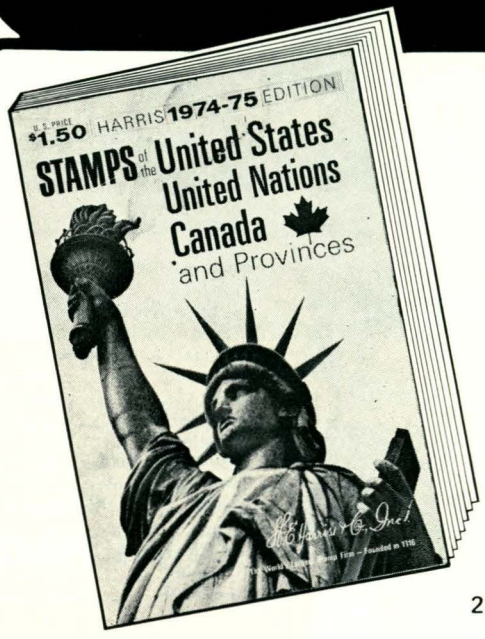
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November 1974

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THE COLLECTORS CLUB

22 East 35th Street, New York, N. Y. 10016

Editorial

THE NEW PRECANCELS

Two of the United States' most recent stamps are certain to offend the sensibility of genuine philatelists in that they will contradict their intended postal purpose.

The first is a 6.3-cent value, issued on Oct. 1, for the convenience of large bulk-mailing firms, which have revealed that response to mail order solicitations is much greater when adhesive stamps are used instead of imprinted stamped envelopes. These will be overprinted with the name of the city in which they will be used by permit holders, in coils of 500 and 3,000 specimens. But in its continuing efforts to increase profits from the philatelic market, the Postal Service will accommodate collectors by making available this new stamp, without any overprinting. To obtain these, collectors will be expected to buy strips of at least 10 stamps; when line-pairs are desired, at least strip of 30 specimens must be ordered. That, of course, is tolerable, but first-day covers also will be serviced by the Postmaster in Washington.

To get them collectors were asked to submit self-addressed envelopes and 13 cents, to pay for the cost of two stamps which would pay the 10-cent rate for FIRST CLASS handling of the envelopes.

The very idea of a stamp intended for bulk mailings, being used for another type of postal service is as ludicrous as it is purposeless as far as serious philatelic study is concerned. It reminds one of the senseless production of first-day covers of Ghana's 1958 and 1965 postage due sets which were obligingly sold with day of issue postmarks to the uninformed sucker trade.

But it is the other precanceled stamp, which is part of a trio intended for Christmas greeting card usage, that is full of innovations and contradictions.

1. The stamp will have a self-sticking adhesive instead of the normal gum which the postal service says is innovational although Sierra Leone has been using it since 1964.
2. To protect this presssure-sensitive adhesive, a wax paper backing will be added.
3. The stamp design as well as the plate number and other marginal inscriptions on the selvage, will be die cut so only the rectangular stamp design will come loose and allow affixing to mail. The perforations will be punched only through the backing paper.
4. Instead of the normal, overprinted name of a city, this one will have the word, "Precanceled", inscribed as part of the regular design, just below a picture of the weathervane atop George Washington's home in Mount Vernon.

This brings up a number of interesting questions. If the stamp can be peeled from the envelope, what is to prevent recipients from doing this and using the stamp two or more times, since precanceled stamps usually are not given any additional postmarks at office of dispatch?

If the stamp cannot be removed from the envelope by peeling (without damaging the stamp paper) or soaking, how in the world will a collector be able to mount a used specimen in his album without having unsightly (and non-philatelic) paper still affixed to it?

But there is one more aspect of this stamp which is worthy of note, as it involves the Postal Service's profit motive under its new policies.

As every philatelist knows, precancels have been with us for about a century. They were introduced in an effort to provide faster mail service by having

private enterprise do much of the bothersome and time-consuming work expected of postal clerks. When large mailers sort and bundle letters according to destination cities, then frank envelopes with precanceled stamps, they can be dispatched from the local postoffice without additional handling. For doing it, the Postal Service offers permit holders advantageous, reduced rates. (At present it is 6.3 cents rather than 10.)

In the case of the new Christmas stamp, the users are expected to do the same sorting and bundling work, but still pay a full dime.

According to the Postal Service, "operational testing of the precanceled stamp will be done in Allegheny, Boston, Chicago, Salt Lake City and Tampa postal districts," yet the first-day sales and ceremonies will be in New York City on Oct. 23, rather than in one of the other cities.

Washington continues, "small quantities of the stamp will be available at other postoffices, to meet philatelic requirements . . . mail order purchases must be made through the Philatelic Sales Division, in Washington."

With this gimmickry already a fait accompli, we can but wonder what other novelties will be introduced to separate the uninformed from their avocational hobby budgets.

Ernest A. Kehr

Across the Editor's Desk

A JURY'S PHILOSOPHY

by Dr. Fred Stulberg

(An address given at the awards banquet of the British North America Philatelic Society at their annual convention and exhibition held at Williamsburg, Va., September 12 to 14, 1974.)

Most organizations feel that consistency in their awards from year to year is desirable and, because of this, establish a set of rules whereby collections can be exhibited and judged. However, despite the most elaborate and detailed regulations, one thing still remains beyond the control of the exhibition committee. It is the philosophy of the jury. Each group of judges has its own idea of what constitutes an ideal philatelic exhibit and, of course, this must inevitably influence their awards.

This jury* agreed, in preliminary discussion, that the monetary value or the scarcity of the material was not necessarily the only factor that determined excellence. It was felt that philately is a visual hobby and a tasteful, pleasing appearance, although a desirability when one sets up one's collection, is a necessity when one choses to display it. Even the most valuable gems can be enhanced or denigrated by the settings into which they are placed.

Another factor that cannot be divorced from philately is creativity. One person can take the most expensive and rare furniture and end up with a room that is ugly and disjointed whereas someone else can take the same pieces (or even less expensive ones) and create a place that is tasteful, visually pleasing and comfortable to be in.

A very important aspect of philatelic accomplishment concerns academic application. A person who uses the products of his collection to share his knowledge and research with his colleagues certainly deserves more consideration than someone who uses these same items to show only the depth of his pocketbook. A good collector is as inquisitive as he is acquisitive.

*Leslie Davenport, Lewis Ludlow and Fred Stulberg (chairman).

Within the last quarter of a century there has been a marked change in the complexion of our hobby. The melting pot of yesteryear no longer exists. It has been replaced by a mosaic with all facets of philately — stamps, covers, postal history, revenues, topicals, postal stationery, etc. — adding their particular colour to the overall design. Granted, some of the colours are more intense than others but nevertheless all are part of the total picture and none should be downgraded or ignored only because tradition dictates that this be done. Tolstoy said "Man must not check reason by tradition, but contrariwise, must check tradition by reason." Let us hope that other juries will lose their traditional conditioning and the many branches of philately will be permitted to reach their full competitive stature.

Tradition also demands that, prior to the presentation of the awards, the chairman of the jury affirms the unanimity of its members. However, it is an insult to the intelligence of thinking people to have them believe that three people of different ages, collecting interests and background could reach the same verdict in twenty-five different instances. There were indeed differences but these were resolved through discussion, friendly persuasion, hard logic and, in a few instances, by majority vote.

For those exhibitors who suffered the consequences of human fallibility, we are truly sorry. However, to those who did not receive the award that they expected because of the philosophy of this particular jury, we offer no apologies but instead gain strength in knowing that we did not prostitute our ideals.

THE CONGRESS BOOK — 39th American Philatelic Congress, 1973

Mr. Calvet M. Hahn, raised some very interesting points in his review (CCP: 53-3, p. 184) last May of Hubert C. Skinner's *Postal History of the U. S. Carrier Service in New Orleans, 1851-1861.* He suggested that the author had missed two major auctions of locals in recent years while recording his data on the N. O. U. S. City Post, resulting in some significant errors. It appears, however, that this is not the case. It is divergent opinion on the methods of recording and reporting dates and what constitutes acceptable documentation that accounts for the differences between the records of Mr. Hahn and those of Mr. Skinner. Both writers recognize the very same cover as the earliest use of the "snow shovel" recorded. The letter bearing this marking was written on August 8, 1851, the cover was postmarked on August 10, and was received by the New Orleans carrier service on August 19th when the green snow shovel and the oval "CAR.2." due marking were struck on the cover. Thus, the earliest usage of the snow shovel *itself* is August 19 (1851) as reported by Mr. Skinner, not August 8 (or 10) as reported by Mr. Hahn in his review. Further, Mr. Skinner stated

> "From late 1851 until February 1853, these markings were struck in green. Shortly afterward (before 29 March) the color of the cancelling ink used was changed, and all snow-shovels seen from later in 1853 and from 1854 are struck in blue." (APC: 39, pp. 173-175).

In his review, Mr. Hahn stated: "the shift from green (post 2/16/53) to blue (by 3/4/53) is omitted." Obviously, Mr. Hahn missed Mr. Skinner's statement quoted above as shown by his use of the word "omitted"; otherwise, the differences in reporting the date of change in color of the making are quite minor and a product of each writer's personal preferences. Also, Mr. Hahn stated that

> "While the auxiliary marks DROP/1, WAY/5, ADV./1, and NOT FOUND known in connection with this service probably were not applied in the carrier department, no mention of the oval CAR.3 marking of 2/16/53 is made."

As the carrier fees (in New Orleans) are not known to have been combined with or added to postage or to any other fees in the rate markings used in New Orleans, the writer agrees that the "DROP/1", "WAY/5", and "ADV./1." markings have no connection whatsoever with the carrier service. The "NOT FOUND" marking, however, is a carrier marking. It is struck in the same distinctive green as the snow shovel and is not known (from New Orleans) other than in the matching color of the carrier markings. Further, it is referred to (indirectly) in item 11 of Postmaster Musson's advertisement of August 8, 1851:

"11. Letters, whose owners cannot be found, are put in the General Delivery, and, if not called for in a week, they are advertised."

No mention of the "CAR.3." marking was made by this writer because it is not known to exist and he is convinced that it does *not* exist. (He will pay a sizeable reward to see one, if genuine). It seems probable that the cover described as bearing a "CAR.3." marking and sold in 1963 (Siegel 260, lot 210) accounts for the confusion; the illustration of that auction lot, however, clearly shows the ordinary oval "CAR.2." on that cover. There is no reason for a "CAR.3." rate marking to exist. In Musson's advertisements (August 8, 1851, and October 31, 1851) the carrier fees are listed in full with *no* 3 cent fee among the charges, and Musson carefully distinguishes (in bold face type) between postage and carrier charges elsewhere in his advertisements. The postage and carrier fees were *never* combined and were collected separately throughout the life of the carrier service in New Orleans.

To complete the "record", the New Orleans carrier cover with "spade design in black" (Meroni Sale, 8 April 1958, lot 393) was not listed as this auction description is considered to be another printer's error. The report of the *red* snow shovel seen by a prominent New York dealer has been omitted also, as this writer does not believe hearsay listings are legitimate. *(H. C. S)*

OBITUARY

LAWRENCE L. SHENFIELD (1891 - 1974)

We regret to report the passing of our old friend and fellow Governor of the *Collectors Club,* Mr. Lawrence L. Shenfield, on October 9th, 1974. He had been active in philately and the club for many years.

Mr. Shenfield will be best remembered for his pioneer work in the field of the Confederate States of America. He wrote many articles on the various aspects of its postal history. The Theodore E. Steinway Memorial Publication Fund of the *Collectors Club* published his studies on "The Special Postal Routes" in 1961. In later years he turned his interests to the classic stamps of the British Empire, building a superb collection of early postal history items.

In addition to his interest in the *Collectors Club,* Mr. Shenfield had been a Trustee of the Philatelic Foundation and had been a member of its expert committee for many years. He was also a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society, London.

Mr. Shenfield's chosen career was in advertising. He was particularly active in broadcasting. After thirty years in the field, he retired in 1953 from Doherty, Clifford and Shenfield, where he had been chairman. He continued in the field for many years as an advertising consultant.

He graduated from the Columbia University School of Architecture in 1914.

He leaves his wife, the former Mabel Walker; two sons, Lawrence and James; twelve grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

THE IDENTIFICATION OF POSTALLY USED LIBERIA AS ILLUSTRATED BY THE REICHSDRUCKEREI ISSUES

By Henry Chlanda

The cancelled to order (CTO) stamp is a common phenomenon in many countries. Where the CTO is used extensively it is hard to locate the truly postally used item which tends to be relatively scarce. For the Liberian collector, the CTO is the order of the day, so that the problem is one of the first magnitude. Postally used Liberia are the mark of the philatelist, differentiating him from the accumulator or page-filler. Too, they add a distinct difference to the value of the collection. The Scott catalog discusses the problem as follows:

> "Beginning with the issue of 1885, prices in the used column are for 'cancelled to order' stamps. Postally used copies sell for much more."

How much more? Well, ten times in many cases would not be unreasonable. Thus, the price differential alone makes it advisable for the Liberia collector to learn how to distinguish the genuinely postally used items from their cancelled-to-order counterparts.

The Liberian stamps printed by the Reichsdruckerei (German State Printing Office) offer a good opportunity to distinguish the CTO's from the genuine cancellations. These isuses include Scott nos. 134-5, 183-194, 195-208, 209-213, F20-29, F30-35, and 214-227 as well as the corresponding official overprints. Except for the first two stamps (Scott #134-5) the issues are found in the 1920's although printed years earlier in some cases. The reason lies in the history of the printed contracts and is worth narrating here.

History of the Reichsdruckerei Issues

In 1914, the Liberian government contracted with the firm of J. W. West of Hamburg, Germany for a number of postage stamps. In turn, this firm contracted with the German State Printing Office to actually print the stamps. Two of them, Scott #134 and 135 were sent to Liberia before the outbreak of World War I. A second shipment was then attempted in 1915 and this shipment fell into the hands of the British government and did not reach Liberia until about 1922. The details of just what happened are discussed in the speech of President C. D. B. King on December 19, 1922 when he discussed the Post Office Department in his message to the Liberian Congress:

> "It is very gratifying to report that after a series of correspondence with the British Foreign Office through our Minister in London, we have received from the British Government the stamps seized by the British Naval Authority, during the war, from a German ship which were then being shipped to the Liberian Government by the firm of J. W. West of Hamburg, Germany. This firm had in 1914, previous to the outbreak of the great European War, entered into an agreement with the Liberian Government for the printing of a certain number of Postage Stamps. It was these stamps that were thus seized."

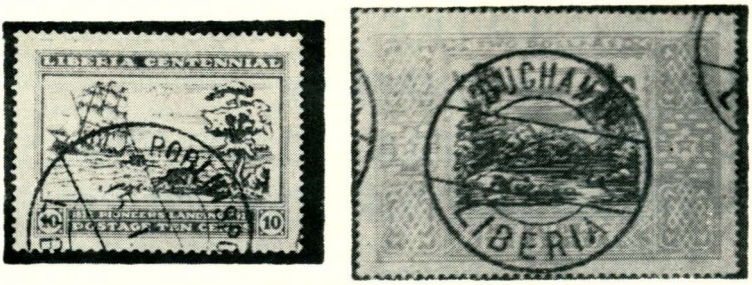


Figure 1. Two typical Liberian CTO cancellations from the 1920's. These cancellations are referred to by Rogers' as Type XI. The left stamp is Scott #212 cancelled by a Robertsport Type XI CTO marking. The right stamp is Scott #226 with a Buchanan CTO cancellation datelined 23.V.24.

The stamps involved were obviously Scott #'s 183-194 and O116-O126. It is possible that F20-F24 were also involved and that the 195-208 issue (#183-194 overprinted "1921") was done on stamps that had been seized. Certainly the overprinted stamps themselves were not among the seized items. We do know from the Table of Post Office Receipts and Disbursements for the Fiscal year 1921-1922 (Appendix I) that the actual face value of the stamps seized by the British in 1915 was $39,900. We also know that Scott #'s 209-213 were not involved, for President King continued his report,

> "I am pleased to report that the issues of Centennial stamps which the late Postmaster General Fuller, with my approval, ordered printed have just arrived. On these stamps are engraved in beautiful and attractive colors a representation of the landing of the pioneer fathers on these shores. They are of one cent, two cents, five cents, ten cents, and one dollar values."

By examination of the watermarks etc. we know that this Centennial issue (Scott #209-213) as well as the subsequent Scott #214-227 issue were printed in Germany by the Reichsdruckerei, as were the Scott F30-35 issue. All of these Reichsdruckerei printed issues, and their official overprints, are most commonly found with CTO postmarks, such as those in Figure 1. This cancellation, or similar variants (referred to as Type XI in the Rogers' Handbook, *A Century of Liberian Philately*) is known from all five major Liberian Post Offices, and probably all the minor post offices as well, from approximately 1915 through the late 1940's. In some cases, the markings are also known into the 1950's. On the Reichsdruckerei issues of the 1920's, I have found this type of CTO in association with the major offices of Monrovia, Harper, Buchanan, Greenville, and Robertsport. Among the smaller towns, I have seen River Cess and Marshall with this style CTO.

In his speech of December 22, 1927, Liberian President, C. D. B. King refers to the Reichsdruckerei issues and one of the reasons for changing the printing contract:

> "While there has also been a considerable increase in the number of letters and parcels despatched from this country to foreign parts during the past year, yet, the sales of stamps have not been commensurate with the quantities of letters and parcels despatched.
> This fact indicates that there is existing some source other than the Post Offices from which stamps are procurable. To remedy this condition the Government has had printed and engraved in the United States of America a new and complete set of Postal and Revenue stamps by the American Bank Note Company, a most reliable and

trustworthy company of lithographers. By the terms of the arrangements entered into between the Company and the Government suitable provisions have been made to secure these stamps from getting into the hands of the general public or stamp dealers in America or Europe other than by and through the Liberian Government. The old stamps the being called in to be exchanged for the new issues; beginning from the 1st of January 1928 none of the old stamps will be accepted for postage on letters, parcels and papers at any of the County or Rural Post Offices of the Republic.

The amount of cash realized from the sale of Postage Stamps for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1927 and deposited in the Bank of British West Africa was FIVE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS AND FORTY-SEVEN CENTS.''

Thus ended the Reichsdruckerei issues.

CTO vs Genuine—General Characteristics

In examining the genuine vs. the CTO cancel of Liberia, casual observation indicates that the same postal cancellation is used. This is not true. The two types of cancellation differ both in size and placement of the individual letters in the marking. Were full complete bold cancellations of both to be laid together, it would be relatively clear that the postal hammers used to make the cancellations differed on a number of points.



Figure 2. A registered cover with Scott #O146 tied by a black 31mm. Monrovia Type XI cancel datelined 2-VII.25. The cover is backstamped with a black oval REGISTERED/16 JY 25/PLYMOUTH marking. Superimposed in the lower left corner of the cover is a Scott #O148 with a 29½mm. Monrovia CTO cancel datelined 28.IX.23. The CTO cancel is somewhat greyish and the stamp has full original gum. These two cancels are easily distinguished from one another.

An illustration of the differences between a CTO and a genuine Monrovia cancellation shows a typical CTO cancellation along with a registered cover with a bold strike of the same type, but clearly different cancel, Figure 2. The postally used strike is larger (31 mm. vs. 29½ mm.), the letters are differently shaped and there is a break in the top straight line of the postal cancel



Figure 3. The left stamp (Scott #134) is cancelled by an oily CTO strike showing considerable migration of ink away from the lines of the cancel. The right stamp (Scott #190) is cancelled by a Greenville CTO marking. Typically, it is lightly struck showing numerous breaks in the lines. Both stamps exhibit the usual placement of Liberian CTO cancels with only about 50% of the cancel falling on each stamp.

which is a constant characteristic of this particular hammer. In addition to the postal cancel here I have seen at least five other Type XI cancels used on cover from Monrovia—all being distinctly different from one another. Several of these more closely resemble the CTO hammer, but each can be distinguished.

Before examining the general characteristic differences, it would be appropriate to note that there is one type of CTO cancellation that is quite difficult to protect. Luckily it is rare. That is the CTO applied on a sheet of stamps taken by a dealer or collector to the Liberian post office in question and actually cancelled on the spot. Such do exist, primarily being recognized by the fact that they still have gum on the back, but this was not the typical way of creating a Liberian CTO, most of which probably never passed within the borders of the country.

In examining the CTO strikes on the Liberian Reichsdruckerei issues the following characteristics stand out (some of course apply to all Liberian CTO's and some to CTO's anywhere in the world):

1. The stamps have gum on the back.
2. The cancel is positioned differently on the stamp. With the exception of the large-size dollar values in the Reichsdruckerei issues, the cancellations are usually one-half or less on the stamp. It is rare in fact to see 75% or more of the cancel struck on Scott #'s 183-208 and their corresponding official over prints. In the large-size Reichsdruckerei emission, the stamp is sufficiently large that a substantial number of CTO strikes fall completely or almost completely on the stamp.
3. The CTO cancels have only been observed in black or grey-black and it is not believed that any other colors were used. Further the ink seems rather oily, with some migration of ink away from the lines, resulting in blurry lines, letters, etc.
4. The CTO cancellation is usually lightly but evenly struck, especially on the 1921 issues (Scott #183-194 and 195-208). There are often many breaks in all letters and lines in the cancel. In part, these breaks result from the fact that these stamps are engraved whereas the later issues (209-213, 214-227, F30-34, O141-154) are lithographed.

Tracings of the cancellations are usually adequate for the identification of specific hammers. These show the diameter, the relative position of the town name to the country name, the spacings of the letters and the shapes of individual letters, particularly the E's and A's.

A second objection to using the breaks in identification is the fact that only a portion of the CTO strike is normally found on the stamp and this may not be the portion of the strike with a distinguishing break. Further, these strikes tend to be so lightly struck that is is frequently impossible to read even

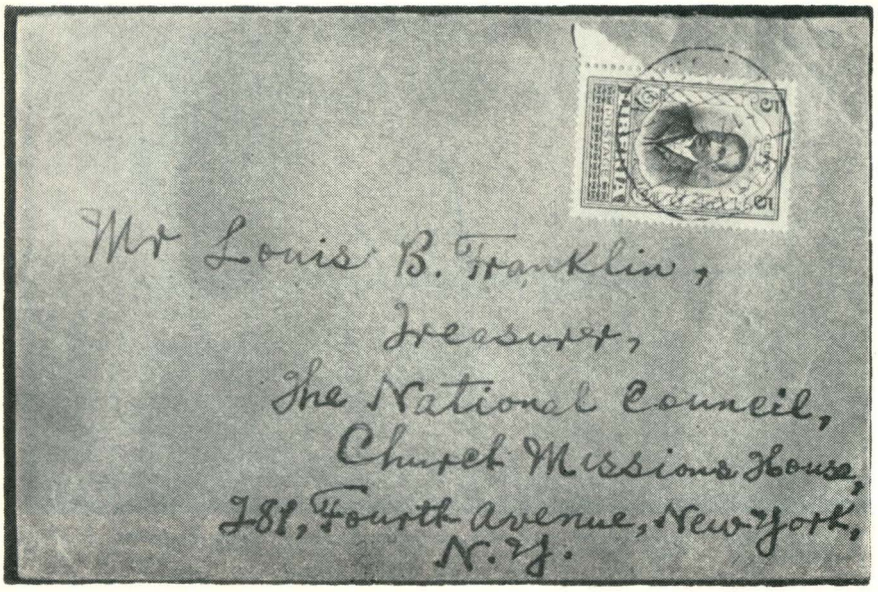


Figure 4. Scott #184 tied to cover by a black 29½ mm. Type XI cancel from Harper dated 12.III.26. This cancel is the authors' sub-type PU-A (see Appendices II and III for more information). The cancel is lightly but evenly struck with about 80% falling on the stamp .

the town or date, although use of the ultra violet lamp sometimes brings out more of the information.

5. The difficulty in reading the date or town, of course, makes it particularly difficult to check the CTO cancel. As noted, in a number of towns, a variety of postally used types of cancellation are known on the Reichsdruckerei issues, many of which are similar. Further, the breaks and distinguishing characteristics would obviously be different if you attempted to compare a faint strike of one town with a genuine strike of a different town.

6. Tracing studies of the CTO cancels indicate that only two different hammers for each town were used on the CTO's. Thus far the only exceptions are River Cess and Marshall, where I have only seen one type for each. This could be due to a lack of data flowing from the seeming scarcity of these towns used as CTO markings. For the other towns both CTO hammers are used indiscriminately on both the engraved and the later lithographed issues. Again, River Cess is an exception in that I have not yet recorded a CTO used on any of the larger size lithographed issues of 1923.

7. All the CTO cancels measure very closely to 29½mm in diameter.

By comparison the postal cancellations show the following characteristics:

1. The stamp will either be free of gum or it is on a cover or piece. While CTO's on piece are known to philatelists, there are not characteristics of the Liberian CTO operation.

2. During the period of their legal postal use, the Reichsdruckerei stamps are almost always seen with the cancel quite well centered on the stamp. It is as though the postal employees had been instructed to create socked-on-the-nose cancellations. In some cases, especially when only a single stamp is used on the cover, the cancellation is entirely on the stamp with the result that I have seen covers with the stamp or stamps not tied. In Liberian philately, the lack of a tie on the cover has not been a characteristic associated with the

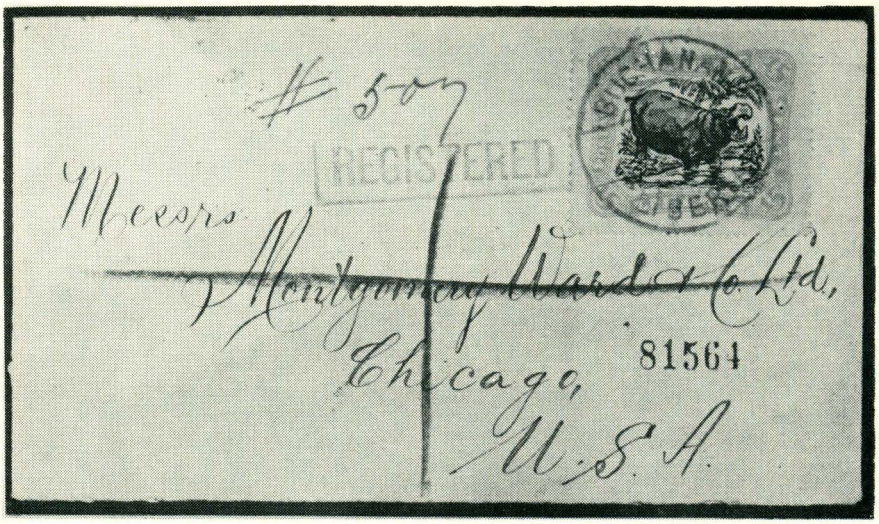


Figure 5. Scott #219 cancelled by a 31 mm. magenta Buchanan Type XI dated 13.III.24. The cover is backstamped in Plymouth (4/26/24) and Chicago (5/10/24). The stamp is not tied by the Buchanan cancel although it is just barely tied by an unusual (for this period) boxed registered marking also in magenta. The crossed crayon markings in blue are typical of many but not all Liberian registered covers in the 1920's.

addition of a stamp to the cover, but conversely with legitimate use.

3. The genuine cancellations are known in blue and magenta as well as black. The grey-black is not likely to be found with the genuine cancel and the only occasionally has an oily appearance.

4. The genuine strikes tend to be clearer than the CTO's. However, the postally used cancellations also often show many breaks in the lines and letters. There is sometimes an uneven character to the strike, with part of the cancellation bold and part light, etc.

5. The date of the cancel should preceed January 1, 1928. As President C. D. B. King noted in his December 22, 1927 speech found in the State Papers of Liberia and earlier cited, ". . . beginning from the 1st of January 1928, none of the old stamps will be accepted for postage . . ." While it is true that illegal late use of demonetized stamps are known in most countries, and may well have occurred in Liberia as well, it would be most advisable to reject any late cancel of the Reichsdruckerei issues that is not otherwise authenticated, i.e. on an acceptable cover.

6. While at least one genuine hammer is associated with each of the seven postoffices associated with the CTO Reichsdruckerei issues, at least five of them are known with two or more genuine hammers. At least six genuine hammers are known from Monrovia in this period, which is the most I have recorded. There are four from Buchanan and two from Harper, Greenville and Marshall.

7. Most of the postally used cancellations are also 29½mm in size. However, there is also a 31mm size recorded from Monrovia, Buchanan, Harper, Greenville and River Cess. No such size is found on CTO's.

As with many demonetized issues around the world, uses after demonetization of the Reichsdruckerei issues are known. Those in the early 1930's are not common and probably represent the ignorance of the post office clerk. However, after 1935, and particularly in the 1950's, almost all use of these demonetized issues is the result of philatelic interference and the stamps, even on cover, can only detract from the serious collection.

To date it has not proved practicable to individually date each of the CTO strikes. In fact, it is quite possible that the dating would prove meaningless. On the other hand, a considerable amount of knowledge about the general dating patterns of the CTO strikes is available and is useful in identifying the CTO from the genuine cancellation.

Dating of the CTO Cancels

1921 issues
Most dates fall in 1921 and 1922
A few dates are recorded in 1923, 1924, and 1925
No dates have been reported in 1926 and 1927
209-213
Most cancels are known in 1923
A few are reported in 1924, 1925, and 1926
None are recorded in 1927
214-227, F30-35, O141-154
1923, 1924, 1925 dates are common
1926 is scarce
1927 use is not known

This brief summary suggests that any 1927 date would be postally used while the 1926 dates are quite likely to be postal uses if found on the 1921 issues. The odds favor the postally used in 1926 strikes but each needs to be checked out carefully.

While it is clear that the experienced Liberia collector can fairly rapidly sort postally used from CTO's on the basis of size, appearance, color etc. it is also clear that the detailed analysis of tracings can help. The serious collector will find them useful, and in some cases probably essential, in order to study and identify postally used items.



Figure 6. Scott #209 cancelled by a postal Monrovia Type XI, subtype PU-C, cancel. The date of 10.V.23 is the earliest recorded for this sub-type. Later dates (as in Figure 2) show a definite break in the straight line above the day-month position in the dateline.

The importance of the tracing technique can be found in Figure 6, which shows Scott #209. This stamp is common and can be found by the bundle with cancellations not too much different from the one illustrated. Unused it is scarce and actually postally used, it is extremely elusive. The cancellation used on this illustrated stamp I have seen used from 10 V. 23 to 10. IX 26. I have not seen any CTO cancels that *closely* resemble it. If it were not for the additional hint of a bit of paper stuck to the back (presumably from removal from the envelope) with a portion providing us with the words reading "... nt, Libe .../ ... STER-GENERAL." nearly any collector would have passed over this item without anything more than the most casual of glances. Obviuosly, a great Liberian rarity would have been missed.

Appendix I

Table of Post Office Receipts and Disbursements for the Fiscal Year 1921-1922

RECEIPTS

Balance from last fiscal year	$81,983.44
Stamps received from the British Government which were captured by said Government in the year 1915	39,900.00
Stamps from Postmasters and Stamp Agents	5,856.59
Cash from Postmasters and Stamp Agents	5,856.59
Cash for stamps sold by the Postmaster General	635.66
Cash for registration of news papers	10.00
Cash for rent of lock boxes	96.82
Cash for conveyance of passengers ashore in mail boat	4.92
	129,131.75

DISBURSEMENTS

Stamps to Postmasters and Stamp Agents	7,624.63
Stamps to Departments for postages	143.51
Cash paid on account salaries	7,807.35
Cash paid on account mail conveyance	1,973.08
Cash paid account expenses	832.07
Cash paid account commission to Postmasters and Stamp Agents	832.77
Cash paid account stationery and supplies	20.16
Cash paid account rent Harper Post Office	224.00
Cash paid account indebtedness on Money Orders, U.S.A.	979.38
	20,480.95
Balance on hand in cash and stamps	108, 650.00
	129,130.95

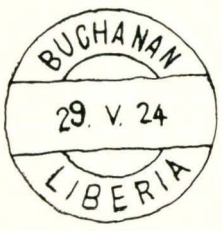
Appendix II

Distinguishing Features of the Type XI Cancellations
All cancels about 29½ mm. unless otherwise noted.

BUCHANAN — Two CTO cancellations (CTO-A and CTO-B) and four postally used (PU-A, PU-B, PU-C, and PU-D). The areas enclosed by the curved lines below BUCHANAN and above LIBERIA are smaller in CTO-A than in CTO-B, PU-A, PU-C, or PU-D. The letters are taller in CTO-A than in CTO-B. CTO-B is distinguished from PU-A by the high bars in the A's of BUCHANAN. CTO-B closely resembles PU-B in the position of letters but the bar of the H is higher in PU-B. PU-C is the distinctive 31mm size. The spacing of the letters is different from all others for PU-D and the final N in BUCHANAN is wider in PU-D than in CTO-B.

GREENVILLE — Two CTO cancellations (CTO-A and CTO-B) and two postally used (PU-A and PU-B). The area enclosed by the curved line above LIBERIA is smaller in CTO-A than in CTO-B. The three parallel lines in the E of GREENVILLE are all the same length in CTO-A. In CTO-B the

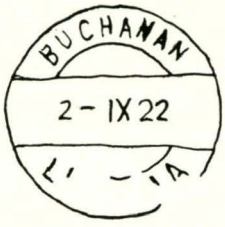
BUCHANAN



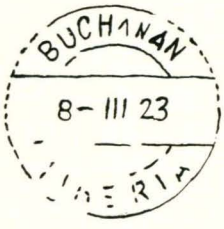
CTO-A



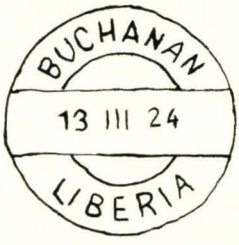
CTO-B



PU-A



PU-B



PU-C



PU-D

GREENVILLE



CTO-A



CTO-B



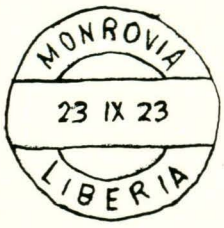
PU-A



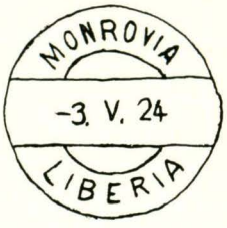
PU-B

Tracings of Cancelled to Order (CTO) and Postally Used (PU) Type XI Cancellations.

MONROVIA



CTO-A



CTO-B



PU-A



PU-B



PU-C



PU-D

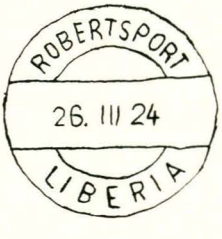


PU-E

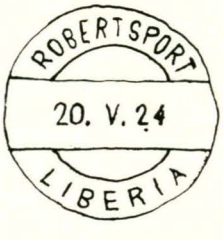


PU-F

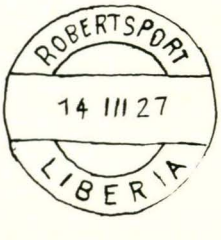
ROBERTSPORT



CTO-A



CTO-B



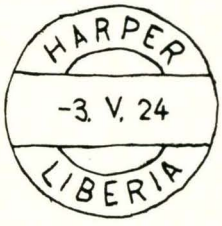
PU-A

Tracings of Cancelled to Order (CTO) and Postally Used (PU) Type XI Cancellations.

HARPER



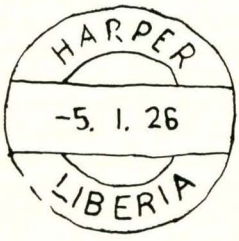
CTO-A



CTO-B



PU-A



PU-B

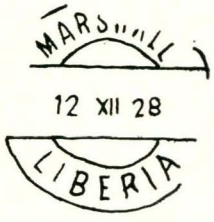
MARSHALL



CTO-A

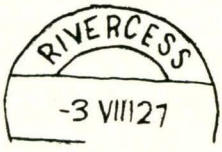


PU-A



PU-B

RIVER CESS



CTO-A



PU-A

Tracings of Cancelled to Order (CTO) and Postally Used (PU) Type XI Cancellations.

middle line is shorter than the other two. Cancel PU-B is 31mm and easily distinguished from the 29½mm CTO-A, CTO-B, and PU-A. BU-A differs from CTO-A in the letter spacing in LIBERIA and the area enclosed by the curved line above LIBERIA is larger in PU-A. The letter spacing in PU-A is very similar to CTO-B except in the placement of the L, R, and I in LIBERIA. The letters seem to be slightly smaller in PU-A.

HARPER — Two CTO cancellations (CTO-A and CTO-B) and two postally used (PU-A and PU-B). The two parallel lines enclosing the date are ½mm wider in CTO-A than in CTO-B. The H in HARPER is wider in CTO-B than in PU-A. The placement of the letters in LIBERIA is quite different between CTO-A and CTO-B. PU-B is the distinctive 31mm size.

MARSHALL — One CTO cancellation (CTO-A) and two postally used (PU-A and PU-B). PU-B can be easily distinguished from either PU-A or CTO-A because the center parallel bars are 1mm wider. There is a difference in the spacing of the letters in LIBERIA between CTO-A and PU-A. The bar in both A's of MARSHALL is higher in PU-A than in CTO-A.

MONROVIA — Two CTO cancellations (CTO-A and CTO-B) and six postally used (PU-A, PU-B, PU-C, PU-D, PU-E, and PU-F). The lettering is more widely spaced in CTO-A than in CTO-B. PU-C is the 31mm size. The other five postal markings all have at least slight differences in spacing of the lettering. The lettering in P-A, PU-B, and PU-D is more closely spaced than CTO-A for both MONROVIA and LIBERIA. There are significant differences in the spacings of the letters in LIBERIA in comparing CTO-A to PU-E and PU-F. The bars in the A's are lower than either PU-E or PU-F. The letters in CTO-B are more closely spaced than PU-A, PU-B, PU-E or PU-F. The spacing of the letters in LIBERIA is wider in CTO-B than in PU-D. These differences can only be easily seen with the aid of tracings in many cases.

RIVER CESS — One CTO cancellation (CTO-A) and one postally used (PU-A). PU-A is the 31mm size and it is easily distinguished from the 29½mm CTO-A.

ROBERTSPORT — Two CTO cancellations (CTO-A and CTO-B) and one postally used (PU-A). Tracings show many differences in the alignment of letters in comparing CTO-A with CTO-B. The I is very close to the L in LIBERIA in CTO-A. The last R in ROBERTSPORT is wider in CTO-A and the leg of the R is less angled than in CTO-B. The spacing of the letters in PU-A differs from either CTO-A or CTO-B.

Appendix III

Periods of Use for Postally Used Type XI Cancellations in the 1920's

Buchanan

PU-A	7-IX.18 to 2-IX.22
PU-B	15.IV.21 to 8.III.23
PU-C	13.III.24
PU-D	15.XI.30

Greenville

PU-A	2-.XII.25 to 21.VII.30
PU-B	13.V.24

Harper

PU-A	11.I.20 to 25.III.26
PU-B	-2.V.24 to 12.IX.29

Marshall

PU-A	13.X.25 to 15.III.26
PU-B	12.XII.28

Monrovia

PU-A	22.IV.15 to -8.IV.23
PU-B	15.I.21 to 26.VIII.24
PU-C	10.V.23 to 10.IX.26
PU-D	30.I.25 to 25.VI.30
PU-E	20.VI.27 to 10.IV.28
PU-F	-9.XII.29 to -6.VII.31

River Cess

PU-A	13.VIII.24 to 10.I.29

Robertsport

PU-A	12.VI.21 to 12.II.30

POSTAGE STAMPS OF KOTAH STATE

By P. M. Medhora

Many philatelic items have come to light after a lapse of time and many more are likely to come up as the philatelic field is as wide as an ocean. This is possible in the case of Indian States' stamps as still today up-to-date information is sadly lacking pertaining to many issues. Collectors of stamps of Indian States must have seen that within the last couple of years, many new stamps have been added in Gibbons catalogue and it is likely, many more may be added in time to come.

Having brought to light the stamps of Shahpura and Dungarpur States in the years 1962 and 1969 respectively, I was and I am still on the look out for fresh items and information hitherto unknown. There was one thing that I did not understand and that was that, if there were more than seven hundred Indian States why did only about thirty-six states issue their own stamps. When big and prosperous states like Baroda, Jodhpur, Mysore etc., refrained from issuing their own stamps, why small states like Idar, Jasdan Dungarpur etc., ventured to issues stamps of their own, some at very late stage, when that venture was not profitable at all?

I am not here to answer the above query but we are certainly here to find out whether some more states issued their own stamps or not. Before me great experts and knowledgeable philatelists of the stamps of Indian States came and went, but, during their life time nobody had come across the stamps of Shahpura and Dungarpur. However, it fell to my lot to bring to light something new and sensational.

In this article I have decided to bring to light stamps of one more Indian State and that is, postage stamps of Kotah State. In this article I am placing before the readers some facts and information supported by illustrations and I am sure the ever agile and active students of Indian States' stamps will either agree with me and try to throw some more light on the subject or some may even try to disprove my theory. Knowledge is to be shared, so let me put into print what I know pertaining to the postage stamps of Kotah State.

State History

An Indian State in the Rajputana Agency, with an area of 5714 square miles. The country slopes gently northwards from the high table-land of Malwa and is drained by the Chambal with its tributaries, all flowing in a northerly or north easterly direction. The Makandara range, from 1200 to 1600 feet above sea level, runs from south east to north east. The Makandara Pass through these hills, in the neighbourhood of the highest peak (1671 ft.) has been rendered memorable by the passage of Col. Monson's army on its disastrous retreat before Holkar in 1804. There are extensive game preserves, chiefly covered with grass. The chief article of export are grains, as opium is no longer staple, salt, cotton and woollen cloth are imported.

Kotah is an offshoot from Bundi State, having been bestowed about 1625 upon a younger son of the Bundi Raja by the emperor Shah Jahan in return for services rendered him when the latter was in rebellion against his father Jehangir. Madho Sinh the second son of Rao Ratan was a brave soldier. Shah Jahan gave fifteen more provinces to Madho Sinh for having killed Khajahan Lodi. There were wars for many years between Kotah and Bundi. During Madho Sinh's reign some provinces were added to Kotah or sometimes they

were lessened. After Madho Sinh many of his heirs came to the throne of Kotah. Maharao Umedsinhji who ruled over Kotah for a long time introduced many reforms.

In 1897 a considerable portion of the area taken to form Jhalawar in 1838 was restored to Kotah. In 1941 the population was 7,077,398. The Maharao Bhimsingh was born in 1909 and succeeded in 1940. He was educated at the Mayo College, Ajmere.

The town of Kotah is one the right bank of river Chambal. It is surrounded and also divided into three parts by massive walls, and contains an old and a new palace of the Maharao and a number of fine temples, besides several modern schools and hospitals. Muslins are the chief articles of manufacture, but the town has no great trade. Kotah is the railway junction of the broad and meter gauge lines which is on Bombay — Delhi main line and from here the meter gauge lines goes from Kotah to Bina.

Postal History

In his book 'History of Kotah State' written in Hindi by Shri Mathuralal Sharma, M. A., D.Lit., published in the year 1937, he has thrown some light on the postal history of Kotah. It is stated that before Sawant 1840 (1784 A.D.) there was no arrangement, not only for the people but also for the government, for the postal system. Whenever any letter was to be sent, it was sent either through couriers or camel couriers. There were very few people who could avail themselves of this mode of sending letters, therefore, letter writing was just in name. In Sawant 1840 (1784 A.D.) Shri Jalim Sinhji made some arrangement for the government post. Letters on official level were still sent by the old method. The work of sending ordinary letters, orders or state orders was the responsibility of one Shaha Kishanram Haldiya. Orders were sent to him and he used to forward them to their destinations. This man used to send government letters to far off places like Bikaner, Jodhpur, Ajmere, Jhansi, Poona or Delhi. During the time of Maharav Shree Ramsinhji official post was sent on government postal service and with the postman a 'Sansri' (meaning a person employed for the protection of the mail during the journey) used to remain with a view to protecting the mail.

In Sawant 1930 (1874 A.D.) the government post was entrusted to one Gajanand and arrangement was made to send not only the government post but also the private post.

On non-government letters, one anna was charged for a letter weighing one tola and the amount was collected not from the sender but from the addressee. The modern method of adhesive stamps was not in use and so the State employees would also send personal letters of their own along with that of the State. Other people also used to take advantage by bribing the State employee. To stop this practice, a law was enforced that if any private letters were sent along with the State post, then a fine of twenty-five rupees was levied on the sender.

In Sawant 1957 (1901 A.D.) an arrangement for sending government letters as well as private letters was established by the Riyasat (State), but there was no system to send letters outside the State of Kotah. A special arrangement was in existence for the government post, but there was no such facility for the people. Maharao Shree Umed Sinhji who was known for introducing many reforms saw the necessity of giving such a facility to the people.

Marwar and Bhartpur states had joined the Indian (British) postal service, therefore, the state of Kotah also joined the Government of India Postal Service in Sawant 1957 (1901 A.D.). Over and above opening of a post office at Kotah,

one at Baran was also opened. Every year the number of post offices increased and in Sawant 1963 (1907 A.D.) there was 33 post offices. In every important town a P. O. was opened.

In the beginning the Government of India agreed to give stamps worth Rs. 8500 to the State. After some years it was decided to give stamps worth Rs. 10,000 and in Sawant 1995 (1939 A.D.) stamps worth Rs. 15,000 were given.

Postage Stamps

From the above postal history furnished by Shri Mathuralal Sharma, the readers will see that there is no mention of 'postage stamps of Kotah' used by the State between 1880 to 1900. It is likely that Shri Mathuralal did not know about them, hence there is no mention in his book.

The stamps illustrated with this article came in my possession five years ago. During this period I contacted a number of philatelists keenly interested in the stamps of Indian States in India and abroad but no encouraging response was forthcoming. Only one keen collector gave me some encouragement and that is my good friend and a very knowledgeable authority on the stamps of Indian States, Mr. C. T. Sturton. In one of his letters he wrote to me, "Re — Kotah I have four covers, three with primitive handstamps on pieces of paper — cut out and stuck on — each appears to have manuscript numbering. I know nothing but look forward to seeing your article." Then came on the scene another knowledgeable collector Mr. H. D. S. Haverbeck of U. S. A. Mr. Haverbeck was in Delhi at the time of INDIPEX-73 as one of the judges. After the exhibition he came to Bombay and stayed at The Taj Mahal Hotel. I met him for a friendly discussion and together we examined the Kotah stamps, both postage stamps as well as fiscal stamps and came to a conclusion that what I have, do appear as postage stamps. That was the green signal.

I am no doubt open to correction, but it is my belief that Kotah had adhesive postage stamps between 1875 - 1900. These were the printed stamps which can be seen from the illustrations of a strip of four used on the reverse of a cover. It is an imperforate strip of four handstamped stamps which are not in a straight line and the distance between the two stamps is not equal. These postage stamps

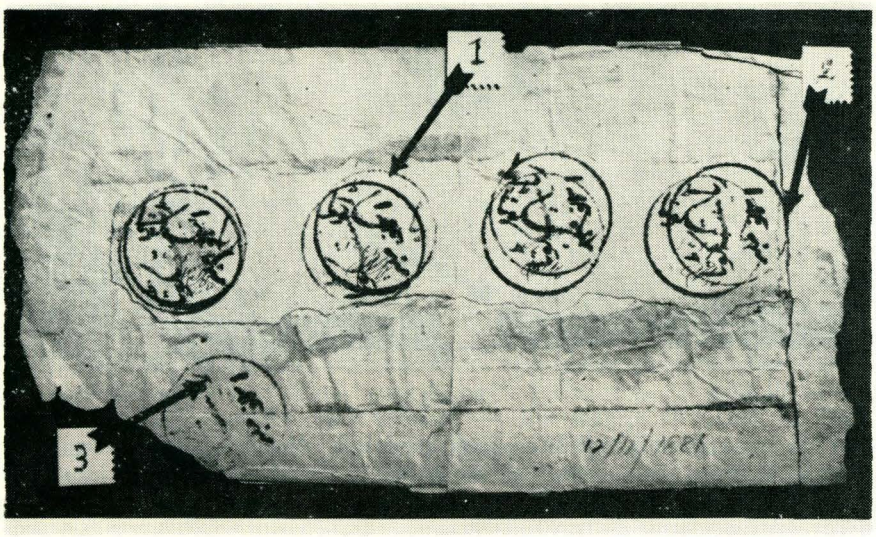


Figure 1.

were struck singly on yellow or dull yellow paper in dull green ink with the inscription reading 'Riyasat Kotah' in Urdu. There is no indication of the denomination so one does not know the value. But in the postal history given above, the prevailing rate for a letter weighing one tola was one anna, let us presume that each handstruck stamp was worth one anna. (Figure 1)

Item 1 shown with an arrow is the postage stamp in green ink on yellow paper. There are four such stamps in a row which are not equidistant. Item 2 shown with an arrow is the postmark in black ink reading 'Riyasat Kotah', 21st November. Item 3 shown with an arrow, seems to be the delivery postmark. There is no indication of the year in both the postmarks. The following salient features are to be noted:—

(a) The size of the handstamped postage stamp is 24mm in diameter.
(b) In the stamp there is a signature of the postmaster or stamp issuing officer in black ink, apparently inscribed with a sharp, thin quill pen. The year is also inserted in hand by the same person.
(c) The distance between the stamps varies from 8mm to 13mm.
(d) The strip of four is actually used in a cover as can be seen from the edges of the cover ilustrated.
(e) The size of the stamp and that of the postmark is the same, that is 24mm in diameter.
(f) The words 'Riyasat Kotah' appear in the same position on the postage stamp as well as in the postmark.
(g) The postmark is in black ink with the date and month — no year.
(h) As a strip of four (four stamps) were used on this cover, it must have been forwarded by registered post.

To me the year seems to be 1881, so the stamps were used on 21st November, 1881.

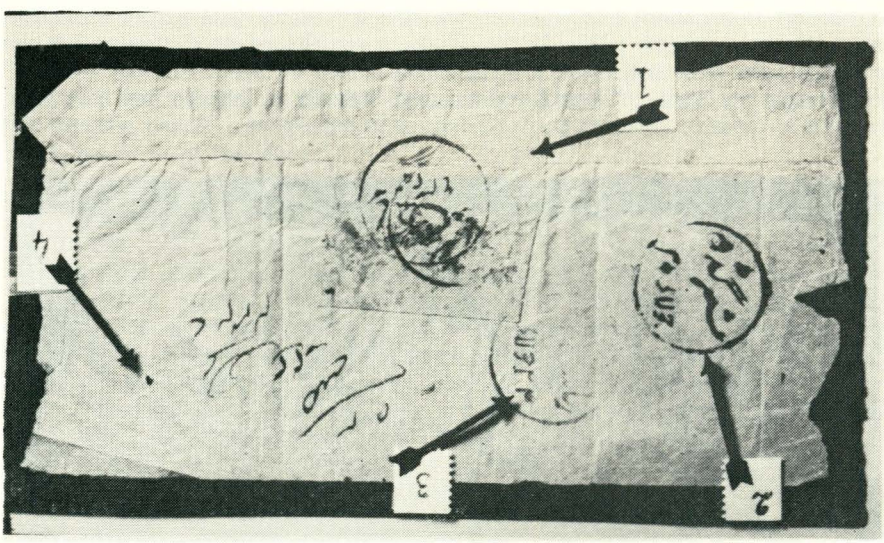


Figure 2.

Let us examine another item. (Figure 2). Here is a single cut square handstruck postage stamp used on the reverse of a cover. Item 1 shown with an arrow shows the fine cut-square copy used on a cover. Item 2 shown with an arrow is the postmark reading Shamgarh, 20th July, which is the date of posting. Item 3 shown with an arrow is clearly a delivery postmark, reading

Riyasat Kotah, 22nd July. That means the letter was delivered after two days from Shamgarh P. O. to Kotah P. O.
Item 4 shown with an arrow is a hole which indicates that this cover was filed as per the old Indian filing system, that of keeping letters in a long thick wire. The same can be seen on the first cover bearing the strip of four. The two clear postmarks that of posting and delivery conclusively prove that postage stamps were used in Kotah.

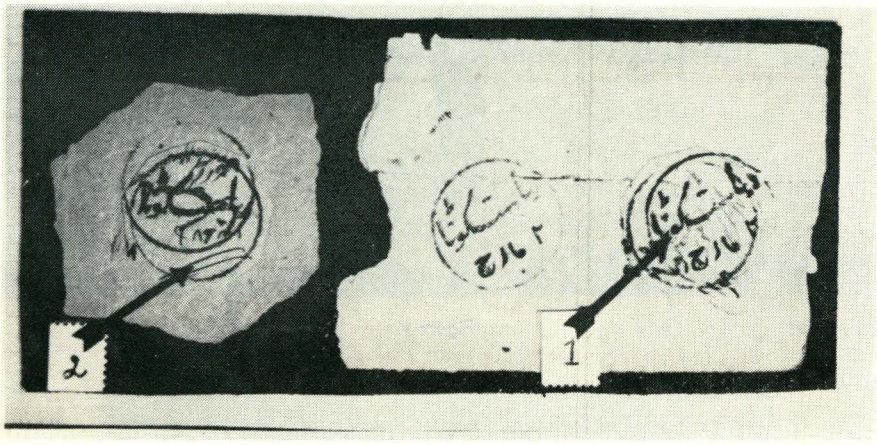


Figure 3.

I am illustrating herewith two more examples to prove my point. (Figure 3) These two examples are apparently used on small cover pieces. Both are nicely cut-round and used on covers. Item 1 shown with an arrow is an example of a single — stamp cut round and used on a cover piece postmarked Riyasat Kotah, 2nd March. This stamp is identical to the previously illustrated stamps. Most of the handstruck postage stamps that I have seen and illustrated herewith are on yellow paper handstruck in green ink. But the stamp shown with an arrow item 2 is an example of a single stamp in black ink instead of in green ink. This is also cut-round and used on a cover piece. The date and year I can make out reads 3rd April, 1888.

One important question crops up and one may ask, Kotah was ruled by Rajput princes and it was one of the States in Rajasthan where Hindi was used in the Nagri script, whereas on the handstruck postage stamps and postmark of Kotah why is the inscription in Urdu? The answer is that in some of the States in Rajasthan Moslem influence was strong and Urdu was widely used. Besides, if one were to see the stamps of Jhalawar, in the right hand and bottom panels the inscription is in Urdu. The postmarks used on Jhalawar stamps were also in Urdu.

Court Fee and Revenue Stamps

To prove my point that the above are the handstruck postage stamps properly postmarked and in some cases delivery postmarks are also to be seen, let us see some examples of the court fee and revenue stamps of Kotah. (Figure 4).

There is a wide range of court fee stamps of Kotah with some difference in design and with the portraits of different Maharaos who ruled over the state. These stamps are mostly pen-cancelled and with some inscription in Hindi and further punched. They were used on court documents or receipts. They are not to be seen properly postmarked. In the stamps illustrated herewith one



Figure 4.

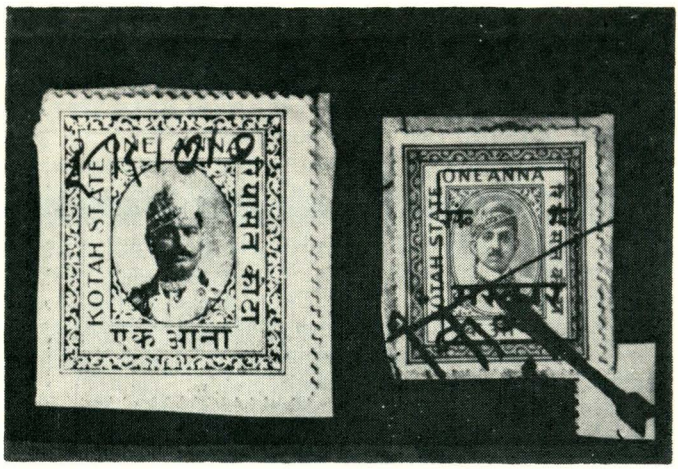


Figure 5.

would find different portraits of the rulers and difference in design.

The 1 anna revenue stamps of Kotah are to be seen in different sizes and colours. As they were used as receipt stamps, they are with signatures, or with thumb impression or pen-cancelled. The later revenue stamps were also overprinted 'Rajasthan' in Hindi when Rajasthan was formed. (Figure 5)

It is likely that after reading this article, some keen students of the stamps of India States may be in a position to throw some further light on the subject. I am sure Mr. C. T. Sturton who has a couple of examples will be good enough to write something on the subject and illustrate the covers or cover pieces that he has in his possession. From the appearance of the material illustrated with this article, I certainly believe that Kotah did issue adhesive postage stamps for postal purposes and for no other reason.

THE PROVISIONAL POST OF THE UNITED STATES

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(Continued from Page 295)

III. The Quiet Pediod—October 1774–April 1775

The First Provisional Postmarks

Although Congress had tabled Goddard's plan it would seem that some postal activity did continue. The subscriptions had been raised for private posts and there was need for some system. Numerous postal notices are found in the papers of the period, but which, if any, related to the subscription Constitutional Post is impossible to say today.

An important question is whether or not there exist postmarks associated with the Goddard system. I believe that there are and that it may be possible to identify them. Nevertheless, conclusive evidence is not available. We don't have good records of what handstamps and manuscript markings were used during the 1774-5 period and who used them. To develop the thesis of the provisional postmarkings it is necessary to analyze in detail all the evidence now available for each of the known candidates. The reader can then make up his own mind, as I did, as to which, if any, are truly provisional postal uses.

First it is necessary to find possible provisional markings. We know that the Parliamentary post suspended inland service on December 25, 1775. Thus any markings found on inland use after that date which are also only found in the 1774-5 period are candidates. Second, we know that the provisional postal use did not start earlier than the 1774 Baltimore-Philadelphia service so that any markings known used prior to that date would be Parliamentary markings if they are found in the 1774-5 period. Any remaining markings would be of undetermined use.

The Parliamentary post in North America either used manuscript markings or a relatively small number of handstamps. Traditionally, the handstamps were issued from the General Post Office in London. The November 29, 1705 letter from the Postmasters General distributing handstamps is the first of these distributions. Horowicz and Lowe's *Colonial Posts* pgs. 7 and 16 make this quite clear, and correctly so. There were two styles. First was a two-line handstamp reading: BARBA/DOES, KING/STON, ANNA/POLIS, CHARLES/TOWN, HART/FORD, PHILA/DELPHIA etc. Second was a heavy single-line handstamp such as HALIFAX, ANTIGUA, QUEBEC, JAMAICA, PENSACOLA, BOSTON (Blake #67), BALTIMORE (Type 1), NEW-YORK (Type C), etc.

These two styles continued to exist in the 13 colonies through 1774-1775 and outside of the United States for many years. The earliest, untampered with, break in these two styles in the British colonies outside of the U. S. so far as I've been able to record is the smaller size MONTREAL.PAID of 1777 (Glassco sale #52), and the ST*KITTS' of 1779 (Glassco #480). With the end of the American Revolution, other British North American postmarks are known including those with colon dates such as the Montreal/JULY.28: (Glassco #63) of 1785 and the THREE*RIVERS of 1784 (Glassco #60). The Quebec circle (Faulstich #825) reported in docketing as 1773-4 is obviously of a much later date with false docketing added.

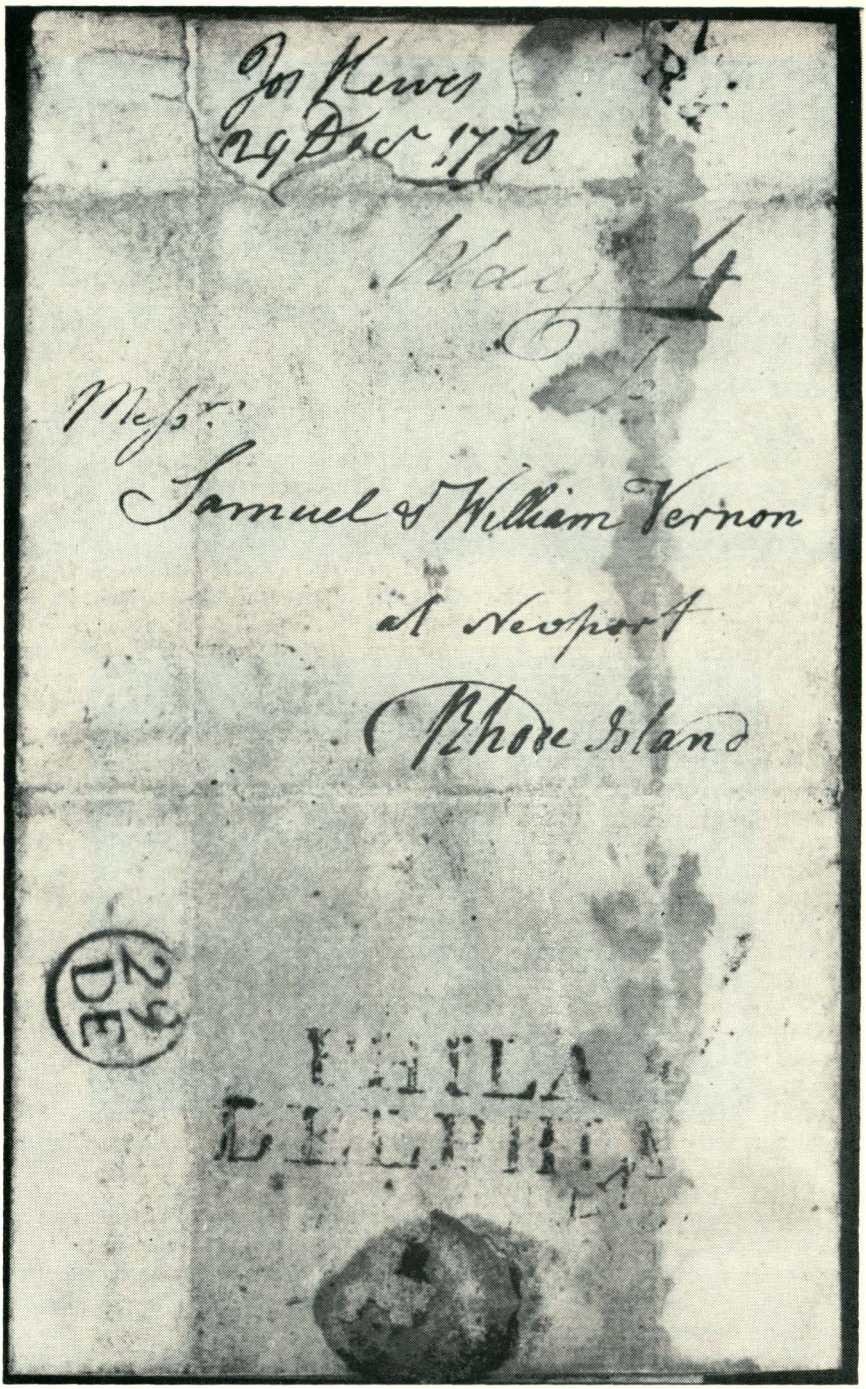


Figure 13. Typical Parliamentary postmarks of the General Post Office. This letter from Philadelphia of December 29, 1770 was written by Isaiah Hewes to the Vernon firm in Newport, R. I. It discusses a sales account which is sent by New York, "flower is now fell to 16/6 and the weather as fine as I ever saw no ice in the River, nor Sno on the Ground. Fine carting and no Vessels at the wharfs to receive flower . . ."
A rare early way letter this has a mauscript red ink 'Way 4' and the 53x16mm red PHILA/DELPHIA straightline with a red circle 29/DE Franklin mark applied by Philadelphia postmaster Thomas Foxcroft, on the back. It also has a poorly struck black 27½x13mm NEW/YORK (Type B) for transit.

Thus when a new handstamp style was introduced in 1774, and chiefly found in 1775, it is of particular significance that it is *only* found within the 13 colonies and *only* after the Goddard proposals. The one cover so far recorded in this new style in the first half of 1774 can be associated with the Goddard plans. This cover is addressed to Samuel and William Vernon, Merchants, Newport, R. I. and bears a mspt. 4d rate. It is in the Carson collection today. There are two handstamp markings which will be referred to from here on to identify styles. These are a red 21 x 4½mm PHIL MAR:21 straightline with the month in small capital letters and a black 19 x 5½mm SALEM/APR:1 two-line straightline with a large initial letter.

Both the rate marked and the routing used on this letter are unusual. Newport is closer to Philadelphia than Salem and while the correct rate to either Salem or Newport is 4d, it is not the correct rate it the letter went first to Salem and then to Newport, a routing requiring an extra 2d postage, which this letter does not have recorded. It might be noted that while the royal postmaster at Newport from 1745 through 1775 was Thomas Vernon; the William Vernon in the address was an active American patriot who headed the Navy Board in Boston during the Revolution.

The style of these new 'provisional candidates' handstamps, of which the illustrated cover is the earliest recorded breaks with the two styles traditionally associated with the British North American posts when handstamps are used. Not only are the traditional styles continued throughout other parts of the British colonies, they are also found overlapping in the same towns, as the 'provisional candidate' markings.

The two-line PHILA/DELPHIA handstamp is known in that city from 1766, when Thomas Foxcroft became the Parliamentary postmaster, through October 1774 according to Sampson. Alex ter Braake has personally recorded Philadelphia two-line handstamps on August 22, September 17, and November 10, 1774. Despite the size of Philadelphia, there is no reason to assume two Parliamentary handstamps at this time of overlap and no other American city is reported with two Parliamentary markings during this period.

The fact that the new smaller marking is introduced at a time when a 'provisional' subscription post is known to have operated in Philadelphia gives reason to suspect a connection with that service. The Salem handstamp on the same cover is also one that might be closely associated with a 'provisional' subscription post for it is postmarked on the very day the Salem subscription books for the Constitutional Post were opened.

Goddard, himself, was in neither town when the markings on this cover were applied. On March 21st he was in Boston, not Philadelphia, while on April 1st he was some 41 miles north of Salem in Portsmouth, having left Salem on March 29th. In Salem, Edward Norris (Hugh Finlay calls him Norice on pg. 23 of his *Journal)* was Parliamentary postmaster as successor to his father; he was not a sworn postmaster when Finlay visited him, and therefore would have been able to handle a 'subscription' post. As Norris was subsequently appointed in the early days of the Revolution by the Massachusetts Provincial Congress it can be assumed he might be in sympathy with Goddard's views of a Constitutional Post.

This letter did not travel from Philadelphia to Newport via the 'provisional' subscription post. No such route had yet been established and the one man, Goddard, who might have carried it, we know did not. Nevertheless the routing is more logical in connection with the Goddard proposals than with a Parliamentary letter. Thus, despite these qualifications, this cover still makes the most sense when considered as a 'provisional' use. It may be an early philatelic or

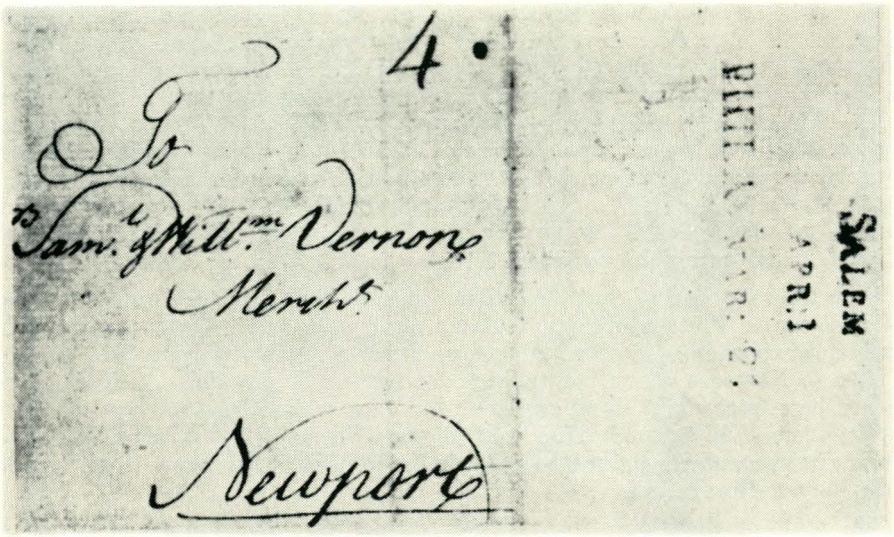


Figure 14. Earliest recorded copy of the new handstamp 'provisional' style is this cover from the Carson collection with the red Philadelphia and black Salem strikes.

'exhibition' piece, used to spur subscriptions in Salem in conjunction with the opening of the subscription books. The fact that it is the only postmark of the 'provisional' style from Philadelphia reported in 1774 makes the provisional association likely if not provable. Particularly this is true when the other 'provisional' Salem and Philadelphia markings are considered.

Whether the thesis proposed here that the new markings represent a 'provisional' service is accepted or not, this is the most searching examination of any American colonial postmarks in their historical context yet made. It should be valuable for that point alone. In considering the detailed analysis to be made of the postmarks, consider a) the overlaps with known Parliamentary markings b) the continuation of those markings in other areas c) the fact that the 'provisional' style is subsequently found on known patriot post office covers in later years d) the association of the 'provisional' style with the patriot movement. A particular problem area is the association of these 'provisional' marks with packet letters to England to be discussed later in connection with the New York handstamps.

Possible New England Provisionals Prior to May 1775

There are a number of New England covers from 1774-5 that are candidates for being considered 'provisional' uses. In addition to the handstamp SALEM/APR:1 already discussed on the Philadelphia to Newport cover, I have recorded twelve items between 1774 and late April 1775 of which eight apply to a possible service north of Boston and four to lower New England. One is a manuscript marking. On the eleven handstamps all but one follow either the two-line Salem style (colon between month and day on second line) or the single-line Philadelphia style (colon between month and day) already discussed.

Considering first the north of Boston service, there are three covers with Salem handstamps identical to the April 1, 1774 style already discussed. Two have been reported by ter Braake. The first is dated September 14, 1774; he did not release other information. The second is dated January 7, 1775 according to the handstamp and is illustrated in the *Congress Year Book 1971* article,

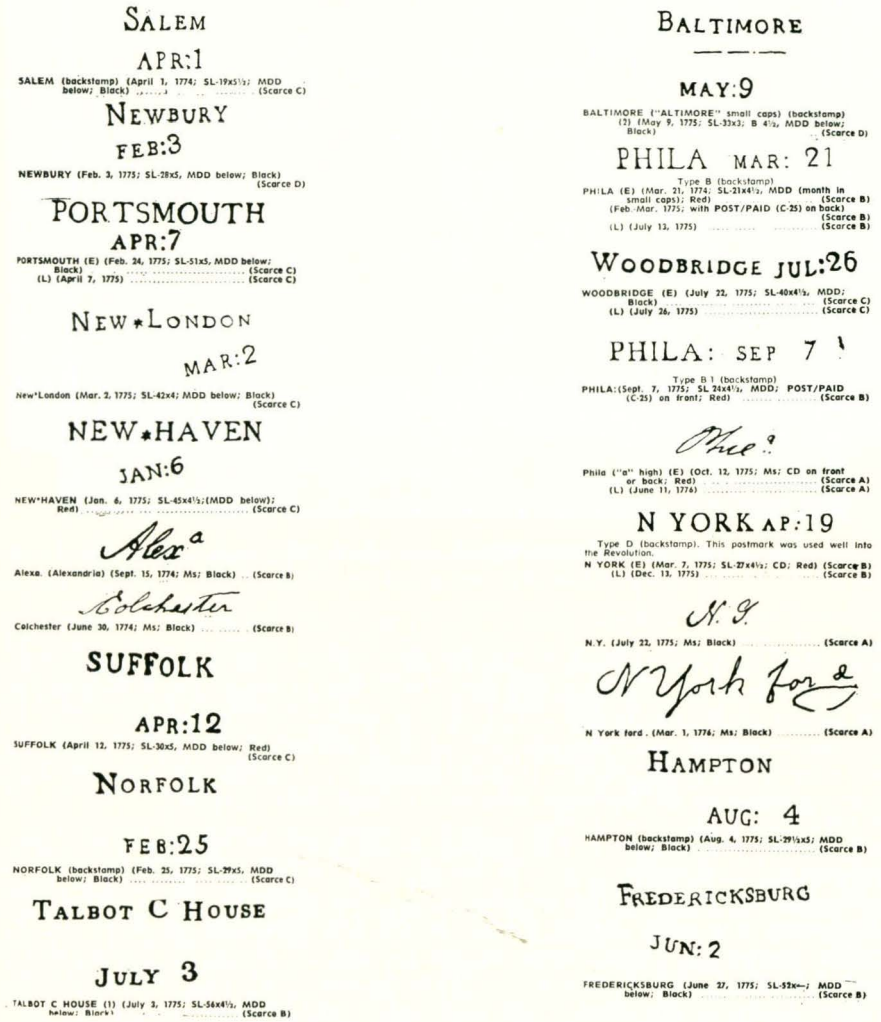


Figure 15. Possible Provisional Postmarks (as listed in E. N. Sampson's "Stampless Cover Catalog."

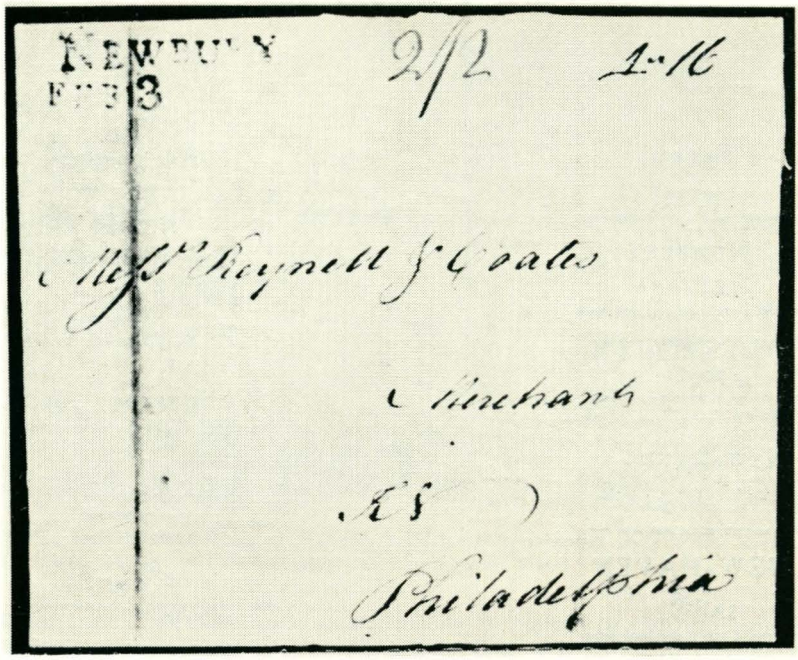


Figure 16. The NEWBURY/FEB: 3 cover now in the Carson collection.

Foreign Mail to Rhode Island, by ter Braake. This cover has a manuscript Sh. 2.16 rate and is on an incoming ship letter from Cadiz which was forwarded on to Aaron Lopez in Rhode Island. The rate is correct to Providence. The third item is backstamped on February 18 — inside February 15, 1775 — and has a 2 dwt. rate to Newport, R. I. It is addressed to Thomas Vernon, the Parliamentary postmaster at Newport who was a confirmed royalist.

In understanding how a 'provisional' letter might be addressed to a loyalist postmaster, it is advisable to review the degree to which the Parliamentary post was prepared to bend to the popular will. For example, the Comptroller of the Parliamentary post, James Parker wrote Dr. Franklin on June 11, 1766,

> "The moment a Vessel comes in, the Letters are seized by Force, and carried to the Coffee House where they are cried out, and delivered even in Mr. Colden's (the New York postmaster and Customs Surveyor) or my Face, and the Collector durst not or will not refuse to enter any . . ."

Because of the agitation over the Stamp Act, these illegal procedures continued — and were officially tolerated — for several years at least.

Two covers come from Newbury, Massachusetts with a 28 x 5mm black two-line style of February 3, 1775 on letters to Reynell & Coates in Philadelphia with a 4.16 dwt rate in manuscript. One sold as Lot 3007 in the Edwin Mayer sale; the other is illustrated on pg. 47 of Horowicz and Low's *Colonial Posts.* The 4.16 dwt. is the correct rate to Philadelphia for the period: it translates into 1/2 sterling. The 2/2 manuscript rate found on this letter represents

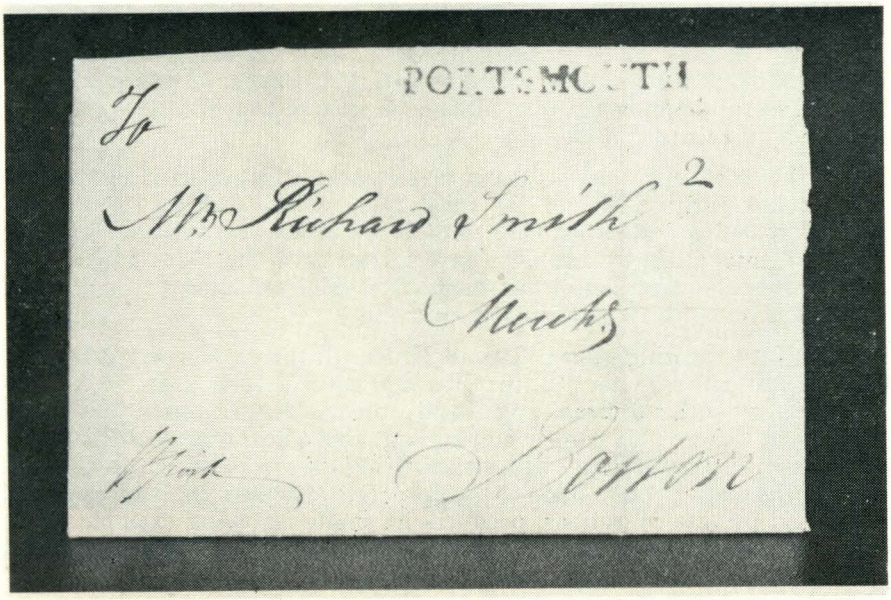


Figure 17. The PORTSMOUTH/FEB:24 cover reported by E. N. Sampson.

Philadelphia currency. The inflation factor on Pennsylvania currency was such that 170% to 200% of the sterling amount was required in the 1700's.

Sampson's *American Stampless Cover Catalog* records the two Portsmouth, N. H. items, both of which were in his possession at one time. The Portsmouth handstamp is of the two-line style and is 51x5mm in black. The cover illustrated here is addressed to Boston. It bears a manuscript 2 rate, corrected for this 1775 cover on that routing and a date stamp of FEB: 24. The second Portsmouth cover is dated April 7, 1775 and is also addressed to Boston. The manuscript rate is 6d, the sterling equivalent of the 2 dwt rate.

In addition to these seven handstamped covers there is one manuscript cover used north of Boston. It is headed from Boston on December 12, 1774 and addressed to Portsmouth. As can be seen from the illustration it bears a manuscript "2 dwt" rate mark and is addressed to Richard Smith at Joshua Wentworth's in Portsmouth while being docketed as coming from Mr. Atkinson.

At this time Boston still used the large Parliamentary handstamp BOSTON (Blake #67). Blake, in his *Postal Markings of Boston,* reports this marking as late as October 10, 1774, however, Sampson records the marking until December 19, 1774. This is after the date of this December 12, 1774 manuscript marked cover. Tuthill Hubbard, John Franklin's stepson and the royal postmaster at Boston until the British withdrew in defeat on March 17, 1776, is known to have used a so-called 'occupation' marking in 1775. This small magenta 27½ x 4½mm BOSTON is first reorded on February 20, 1775 to Newport, R. I. (Faulstich auction lot #755) and last recorded on June 5, 1775 — two covers are known on this date both going to Newport and both with Bishop marks showing sea transit. For the record, some of the other known strikes are 5/27/75 (ter Braake report), 4/25/75, and one on a recent dealer's inadequately described offering which notes the letter contents is headed Cambridge 3/24/1775.

Until the 12/19 Sampson listing the 'occupation' mark was the only style known after the governmental split between General Gage, the royal governor and military occupier of the town since June, and the Massachusetts General Court, the Provincial legislature that was sitting at Salem, on October 1st. Because the General Court began to act independently in October, this marking had been labeled an 'occupation' use.

Only this one cover, with its manuscript marking, is reported in manuscript during the key early period of the revolution. Blake did not even note one manuscript marking from July 1773 until 1783. However, subsequently, manuscript Continental Congress markings have turned up in the 1779-82 period. The use of a manuscript marking at this time, when the Parliamentary handstamp is known to still be in use, is particularly puzzling.

Compare the writing of Mr. Tuthill Hubbard, the royal postmaster, on the illustrated post bill with the "2 dwt" on this cover. It is clear the writing is not his. Finlay in his *Journal* (pg. 29-30) reports Mr. Hubbard had only one clerk and that "there's no runner employ'd at this office; one wou'd be useful". A comparison of this "2 dwt" with handwriting on covers known to be handled by the Parliamentary post office at Boston, as illustrated in Blake, important auctions, and private collections, produces no single matching example of handwriting. It is not unreasonable, therefore, to conclude that this postmark was not written by a Parliamentary postman. The alternative is a provisional Constitutional 'subscription' post running north from Boston.

We have some evidence that a Boston to Portsmouth constitutional post did exist in late 1774 and early 1775. The Portsmouth newspaper advertisement of April 15, 1774 cited earlier indicated that, regardless of what happened to the subscription posts elsewhere, a post would go north from Boston to Newburyport (about 20 miles from Portsmouth). Further the Salem office on this route showed particularly ardent feelings toward Goddard and was in the hands of the 'patriots' throughout this period.

There are a series of 'provisional' constitutional post handstamp candidates known from Newbury, Portsmouth and Salem from September 14, 1774 through April 1775. These might suggest that the 'subscription' efforts of the towns on the line had been successful. Further, there is an indication that a subscription post on this route did in fact exist because a Constitutional Post rider, Mr. Trobb, is reported on the Portsmouth to Cambridge route in the May 8, 1775 advertisement that first revealed the extent of the new provisional system after the Battle of Lexington.

The case for the 'provisional' service north of Boston is one of the strongest that can be made and it is not decisive but circumstantial. Conclusive proof of the existence of such services, and the use of these post marks in that connection, would rest a) upon examination of the English archives to see if the handstamps are recorded in the Post Office book b) contents of letters stating that they are being sent 'via the Constitutional Post'. c) discovery of advertisements specifically relating to the service.

It is unlikely that the English records will reveal anything. Horowicz and Lowe's *Colonial Posts* suggests that these handstamps are 'provisional'. As these British authors had access and motive to examine the archives, there is at least a reasonable assumption that they did so and the evidence was not there to denote a Parliamentary origin. It is also unlikely that specific advertisements will turn up. I have personally read thousands of issues in the period from late 1773 through 1775 — probably the vast majority of the extent papers — and

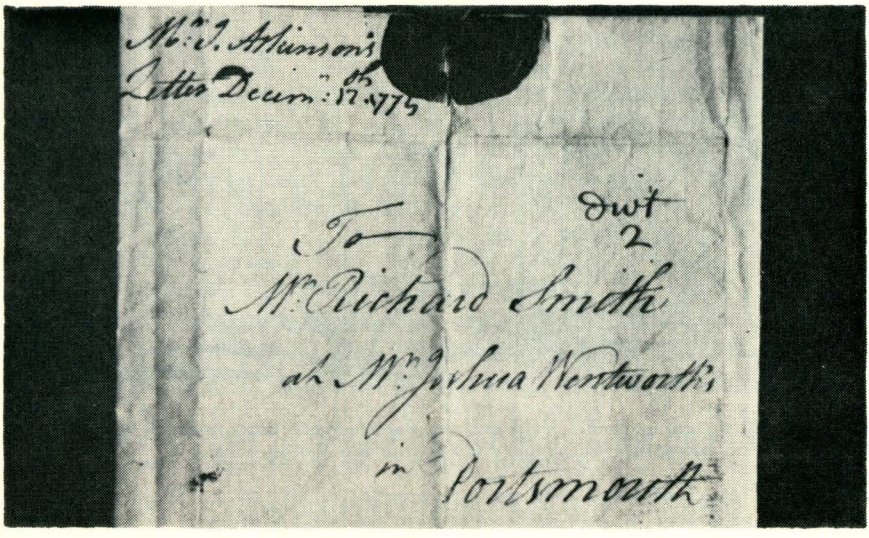


Figure 18. The Boston manuscript cover of December 12, 1774.

found no such clue. Further, no one yet reported a cover with the 'via Constitutional Post' note inside. As few additional covers can be anticipated and the archives are being searched this source also looks unlikely.

We can hope to pile up more circumstantial evidence. The tone and contents of each of these letters is one source. A second source is the examination of the biography of both writer and recipient to see whether either or both is Patriot or Tory in view. Tory letter writers would not be likely to use a 'provisional' subscription service. On the other hand, these 'provisional' markings are known to have gone to Tory recipients.

There are four covers recorded thus far from southern New England that are provisional subscription service candidates. Two from New Haven, and one each from New London and Westerly, R. I. All have stylistic differences distinguishing them from the north of Boston items.

The New Haven items are in red and measures 45 x 4½mm with a star between the names of the town, a new feature, as well as the colon between the month and day in the two-line style of the Salem handstamp. The first of these is backstamped with the town straightline and an angled JAN:6 date and, today is just the outside lettersheet stuck to a blank portion of the original letter. It is illustrated as lot 3002 of the Ed Mayer sale and, according to my notes may be in the Carson collection today. The second is dated JAN:21 and is reported by ter Braake who uncovered it in his very worthwhile search of archives. Both are from 1775.

The New London cover is on a letter from Middletown, Conn. written February 22nd. It bears a black 42 x 4mm straightline NEW*LONDON, poorly doublestruck in the same style as the New Haven (save for the color) and the handstamp date is MAR:2, also of 1775. It is currently in Judge Fay's collection.

The fourth item is of a different style. It was written at Stonington, Conn. on January 10, 1775 and addressed to Mrs. Mary Noyes at New Haven. It bears the correct manuscript 2nd rate from Westerly, R. I. where it entered the mails

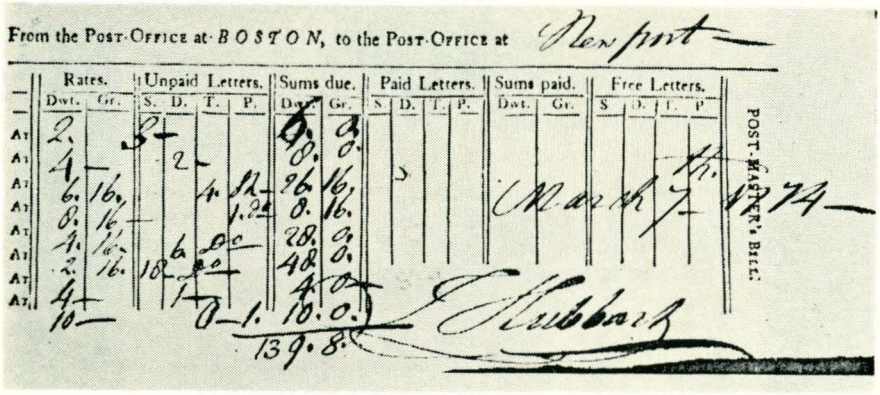


Figure 19. Postbill signed by Tuthill Hubbard, the Parliamentary postmaster of Boston, for March 7, 1774. Handwriting comparison shows he did not rate the Boston cover.

and received a black 39 x 4mm WESTERLY straightline and a separate JAN 22 date stamp above, as well as a manuscript 'Wy'. This letter from the Yale Archives is illustrated in *The Posted Letter in Colonial America* by Alexander ter Braake.

In examining these four covers for consideration as 'provisionals', it is desirable to see how the mail was carried in lower New England at the time. There were two post roads — one from New Haven north to Hartford and then across to Boston, and one called the lower post road, that ran along the coast from New Haven to New London, Westerly, Newport, Providence and Boston. It was possible for the mail riders to carry both the Parliamentary mail and subscription mail at the time, or mail for their own account. The *Journal Kept by Hugh Finlay 1773-4,* pg. 32, reports Thomas Vernon, the royal postmaster at Newport since December 27, 1754, as follows:

> "He says that theres two Post offices in New Port, the King's and Mumfords, (Peter Mumford the rider between Newport and Boston) and that the revenue of the last is greatest. It is the same in Boston, both Mumford and the rider of the upper Stages (Hyde) receive much postage for which they do not account. It is common for people who expect letters by Post finding none at the Post office to say '*well there must be letters, we'll find them at Mumfords.*' It is next to impossible to put a stop to this practice in the present universal opposition to every thing connected with Great Britain."

Subsequently on pg. 33, Finlay notes, on November 3, 1773:

> "Peter Mumford took the oath of a Post rider, and sign'd proper bonds. I warned him of his danger in carrying letters privately for his own emolument, and that my instructions might make a deep impression on him, I wrote him a letter shewing him what he is bound to perform and enclosed a copy of his bond and oath."

On page 35, Finlay notes in regard to John S. Miller, the Deputy Postmaster at New London for Parliament, appointed June 18, 1769:

> "The whole income of his office goes to pay the rider Benjamin Mumford between Saybrook and New Port, a distance of 60 miles, with five ferrys, on the whole the most difficult and as dangerous as any in America; the road without exception the worst, for which service he is paid £55 Str. pr. ann; he says that the number of horses he hurts thro' the badness of the roads

runs away with all his profit, and that as there's no manner of perquisite for a rider between Saybrook and New Port, his wages are too small to provide him in horses and maintain his family. I firmly believe it.

It is the custom on every stage that I have surveyed, for the Post rider to execute commissions on the road — I have been informed that Peter Mumford the rider between Newport and Boston makes above £100 Str. yearly of his employment over and above his wages from the Post office.

Benjamin Mumford petitions that his stage may be between New Port and New London and no farther, and that he may be allow'd his present salary for that service.''

A little further on, Finlay reports that on November 11th he wrote to Mr. Babcock the Deputy Postmaster at Westerly whom he did not see on his way to New London. Col. Josiah Babcock had been made postmaster there in 1763.

At Saybrook, Conn., one third of the way south between New London and New Haven, Finlay met 'old Herd the Western rider'. Hurde and Peete, both of whom lived just south of New Haven at Stratford, alternated in carrying the mail to New York from Saybrook. Finlay comments on Hurd,

''This man Herd at 72 is strong and robust, he has been in the service 46 years; he pretends that he makes nothing by it and says 'he will give it up — that at present he only rides for his ''healths sake' which induces him to keep it.'' '

It is well known that he has made an estate by his riding, and it is said, in the following way,

Way letters he makes his own perquisite, or rather he has done so in former times, at present each office checks him a little — He does much business on the road on commission, he is a publick carrier, and loads his horse with merchandise for people living in his route; he receives his cash, and carry's money backwards and forwards, takes care of return'd horses, and in short refuses no business however it may affects his speed as a Post. But for delays occasioned by his own affairs, he might perform his ride in time, in any weather. 'Tis ridiculous to see his Majesty courier, metamorphos'd to a snail paced Carrier. He has the address to be punctual in his arrivals at New York.''

In viewing the possibility of a future 'provisional' subscription post along this route a year later than these reports, it is important to note the extent to which Finlay noted the private carriage of mail. Mumford carried letters privately. Hurd was a 'publick carrier' and made way letters a personal perquisite. Note that both the Westerly and New London letter originated away from the towns where they were first stamped with a town mark. Further, Mumford did use his own house as a private postoffice, in Newport.

The next stop by Finlay was at New Haven where he stopped with Christopher Kilby, the Parliamentary postmaster on November 13, 1773. Kilby who was appointed September 1, 1769 to replace Luke Babcock, commented,

''That the riders come loaded with bundles, packages, boxes, canisters, &c. — every package has a letter affixed to it, which the rider claims as his own property and perquisite; nay sometimes a small bundle of chips, straw or old paper accompanys a seal'd packet or large letter, and the riders insist that such letters are exempted from postage.

The riders have told Mr. Kilby that the Devil might ride for them if these way letters and packets were to be taken from them. In short, they come so loaded that it is impossible for them to come in time. The load of newspapers is so very great that the printers can afford a sum of £60 yearly for the bare carriage.

The Portmanteaus seldom come locked: the consequence is that the riders stuff them with bundles of shoes, stockings, canisters, money or any things they get to carry, which tears the Portmanteaus, and rubs the letters to pieces — this should be prevented by locking the mails."

Journal, pg. 40-41

Finlay goes on to give the schedule of the royal post in Connecticut as follows:

"Herd takes it up from Peate on his return home (to Stratford) and proceeds with it to the office at:

Norwalk on Friday	22	miles
New York on Saturday	55	"
Norwalk returning Tuesday	67	"
New Haven on Wednesday	33	"
Saybrook on Thursday	44	"
Stratford where Peate takes it Friday	58	"
	279	

Peate takes the same Tour, and so alternately taking eight days to ride 279 miles, which is but 33 miles a day . . .

The upper rider or he who goes to Springfield, Hartford &c. to Boston shou'd arrive at this office from New York on Saturday morning 8 o'clock but he makes it frequently 11 or 12 ere he gets in. He returns from Hartford on Monday night at 7 o'clock. It is remark'd that when the sons ride (Herd often employs his sons) they get in in time, they are young men and not so much employ'd in the commission business . . .

While I was in the office the rider for Hartford arriv'd, it was 11 o'clock. His Portmanteau was not lock'd, it was stuff'd with bundles of different kinds, and crammed with newspapers; the letters for the different stages were not put up in bags, the rider had saddle bags quite full besides, so that his horse (a poor looking beast) was loaded too much to make the necessary speed."

Th High Sheriff is quoted as telling Finlay that,

"Andrew (old Herds son) is a careful man, but Ebenezer (another son) exacts and is careless."

The Sheriff then went on to make a set of remarks that has particular significance to the possibility that Hurd carried a subscription Constitutional Post mail in 1774-5,

"He informs me Herd not long since deliver'd to him a letter from New York mark'd in red ink 2, which he did understand to be 2 dwt. or 6d, Str., but the rider wou'd not deliver it to him, unless he would pay him two shillings lawful money equal to ⅓ of a Spanish milled dollar, which he has oblig'd to do knowing the letter to be of consequence — he show'd me the office mark, it was a single letter mark'd 2 dwt. — he further says that this is an ordinary practice with the post riders, and it has more than once happened to him.

A letter was deliver'd to the rider at New York as it was too late to go in the mail; he brought it here, but wou'd not deliver it without receiving 3s for it tho' but single."

At Norwalk, Conn. Finlay quotes the royal postmaster, Mr. Belding, as stating,

"that the riders undoubtedly pocketed the money collected for way letters, of which there comes many as he says, within his delivery. The riders sometimes inadvertently put letters into the office which they wish to conceal, not a great while since there was one put into the office by the rider mark'd

Postage paid. Mr. Belding demanded the money of him for that letter, but he obstinately refus'd to pay it, insisting that all letters he cou'd pick up between any two offices were of right his perquisite.

As a proof that the couriers conceal large sums from the office which are raised from way letters, Mr. Belding's information is sufficient.

Before he had charge of the office the riders used to leave many letters under his care, for which he collected the money, and he accounted with them weekly, but since he has been appointed Post Master they do not shew him one single letter; yet he knows that they bring many every trip and leave many behind them with a friend who collects the money for them in their absence.

In short, I find that it is the constant practice of all the riders between New York and Boston to defraud the Revenue as much as they can in pocketing the postage of all way letters . . .

Every Post Master making complaint, or giving official information, begs that his name may never be mention'd as having made any of those representations."

In considering whether or not a provisional route existed for a subscription post it seems clear that the usual Parliamentary posts were not adverse to handling mail on the side as well as serving in the Harnden express tradition. The parliamentary post officers were intimated and did not wish their protests known. Goddard, as a former postmaster on this route and as a publisher's assistant in New Haven knew the riders and was undoubtedly familiar with the situation. It was have been easy for him to line up such men.

Further, it is clear that a pre-existing private service did exist. Mumford held an office at his house. Hurd and Peete had a friend at Norwalk who collected postage for them and kept letters. The riders were known as 'publick carriers' and took all sorts of items along with the mail including newspapers, which classified them as 'subscription posts' in any case as will be shown subsequently in a detailed analysis of the private posts of the period.

Christopher Kilby, the royal postmaster at New Haven and one of Finlay's informants was replaced at New Haven just prior to the first of the potential 'provisional' handstamp uses in lower New England — that of New Haven on January 6th, 1775. We find in the *Connecticut Journal* of Wednesday, December 28, 1774:

"Mr. Elias Beers has been appointed Deputy Post Master for this town in the Room of Mr. John Kilby, resign'd; the office will be removed from Mrs. Kilby's to Mr. Beers' Shop on Thursday, the 5th of next month."

Mr. Beers' appointment was discuussed in the previously cited *Minutes of the Deputy Postmasters General Meeting* of November 24, 1774 which took place while Finlay was in New York with the heads of the Parliamentary post in America,

"The Secretary laid before the Board a letter from Mr. John Kilby of New Haven, giving his Reasons for returning the Commission made out for Mr. Lyman Hitchcock, and recommending Mr. Elias Beers for Deputy in New Haven. Ordered, that the Secretary write Mr. Kilby, to know what way of life Mr. Beers is in, and the Names of those who are to be his Securities."

Most of the postal officials in southern New England in early 1775 where the possibility of a 'provisional' subscription Constitutional Post is being considered are known Goddard sympathizers. When the Constitutional Post advertisements were run in the post-Battle of Lexington period we find that the

lower New England riders are those referred to here. Peet and Hurd were the Constitutional Post riders from New London to New York on the lower road as well as the riders from Hartford to New York. Peter and Benjamin Mumford were the riders from Cambridge to Providence, Newport and New London.

The newly appointed New Haven postmaster, Mr. Beers, was listed as the Constitutional Post at that town. Thus, he could be assumed to be a strong supporter of Goddard's 'subscription post' when first appointed although that fact would not have been known to the Postmasters General. William Ellery was the Constitutional Post at Hartford while Nathaniel Shaw served at New London. Interestingly enough, there was no Constitutional Postmaster reported at Providence, Newport or Westerly. The Committee on Correspondence handled the first two offices and the third was unmentioned. Subsequently the Rhode Island Assembly renamed John Carter on June 2, 1775 at Providence and named Nathaniel Otis to replace the dismissed royal postmaster, Thomas Vernon, at Newport. They also appointed Joshua — not Josiah — Babcock at New London (Joel Babcock was appointed there October 10, 1775).

Hugh Finlay's *Journal* recorded that the Providence postmaster, John Carter, was a publisher. He was also a Goddard associate. In New London, the postmaster was known for extracting news from the papers before sending them on. At that time this man was John S. Miller — not the subsequent Constitutional Post, Mr. Shaw. However, the publisher of both the New London and the New Haven newspaper was Timothy Green, a known Patriot, who may well have made arrangements for the 'subscription post'; he was known to Goddard. Green's brother, Samuel, became the Charlestown, S. C. postmaster at the close of the Revolution, and several of the Green family were associated with the Annapolis post office.

Pulling together the known data and the specific covers, it would seem reasonable to conclude that the two New Haven markings were applied by a subscription 'provisional' Constitutional Post service in light of, a) the stylistic characteristics of this postmark, b) the subsequent political position of both Mr. Beers and the Connecticut post riders, c) the known willingness of the riders to handle mail privately and to set up their own men in towns to collect, d) the fact that much mail did go outside the Parliamentary post though through the Parliamentary service in 1773. A possibly clinching point is the fact the January 6, 1775 cover was carried outside the mail from New York and is from "The Friends of Liberty" at New York according to the Meyer catalog. Thus it met the condition of 'way' letter and was of a nature to suggest that it would not be allowed into hands of a Parliamentary sympathizer. The fact that the handstamps are red rather than black, as in the rest of New England on the provisional candidates, is probably insignificant.

The matching nature of the New London cover, the fact that both New London and New Haven had the same publisher — a known patriot — and the fact that the post riders involved were subsequently Constitutional riders suggests that this too is a valid provisional cover. The fact that Shaw, a Member of the Committee on Correspondence, handled the New London office for the Constitutional Post as did Wesley Hobby at Middletown, where the letter was written, also supports the thesis that this is a probable provisional post item. This

letter, too, had a "way" association, having taken ten days to get to New London where it was handstamped, upon reaching the New Haven/New London route. The manuscript 2d rate was correct for New London to Providence, the destination.

There are several reasons for not considering the Westerly cover a provisional. First, it is in a different handstamp style, albeit only slightly, from all other candidates in that it does not have the colon date. Second, the Newport R. I. *Mercury* issue of February 6, 1775 contained a 4-inch deep list of letters in the post office including one for Mr. William Goddard. A Goddard letter would certainly have been handled differently if the local offices in Rhode Island were all in the hands of dual agents, as in the case of New Haven, at this time. Third, the known Goddard post records of early 1775 list no offices in Rhode Island although there are Constitutional Post riders — the Mumfords. The offices are to be handled by the Committees of Safety and Correspondence. Fourth, this cover is the only candidate in lower New England to be written off the post route served by Hurd and Peete, whose riding stopped at Saybrook until July 6, 1774 and later at New London for both the King and the Constitutional Post. It is, of course, possible that this was carried by the Mumfords and turned over to the lower posts at New London. Fifth, no Westerly office is recorded under the Constitutional Post, or its successors for many years. despite the naming of various Babcocks to the position by the R. I. Assembly in June and October of 1775. The first return recorded in the Franklin ledger is October 30, 1776 — after Franklin had left the country — rather than January. 5, 1776 as with New Haven and New London where accounts for the Fall of 1775 were reported. Thus, I would conclude that this marking is from the Parliamentary office at Westerly, where we know Mr. Babcock was the Deputy from Finlay's *Journal* pg. 37. It is not quite clear whether this is Franklin's old friend, Col. Josiah Babcock, or one of his sons.

To Be Continued

Wonderful Holiday Gifts

PHILATELIC BOOKS

For over 40 years, The Collectors Club has published numerous Handbooks relating to almost every field of philately. Some have been soldl out long ago, now only being obtainable at an auction sale at prices far above their original selling price.

See Page 332 for the books currently available.

The Clubhouse

The Meeting of May 1, 1974

Swiss Evening at the Collectors Club

Presented by the Helvetia Stamp Society

My Basel Dove

By Ernest A. Kehr

My maternal family having come from the famous city of history, culture, art and industry, I've always had a love of and interest in the famous stamp issued by Basel just 139 years ago.

It's one of the great classics of stampdom and one that has a more unusual direct and indirect philatelic association than any other of which I know — past or present. From a pure technical point of view, the "Basel Dove" was the first stamp in the world to be printed in more than a single color; the first to use more than one printing method in its production, and the first to depict a bird.

But its philatelic associations run much deeper and it's that aspect I'd like to share with you this evening. Zurich and Geneva had copied the adhesive stamp idea from Great Britain and successfully used them for a year when Johannes Bernouilly, derector of the Postal System of Basel, on Jan. 10, 1844, got the city council to authorize the introduction of one for the 2,000-year-old city above the banks of the Rhine. As letters weighing up to 15½ grams cost one lot, or 2½ rappen its face value was put at that amount. Melchior Berri, a native architect, created the striking design — a black bishop's staff (crest of Basel) at top; the dove in the center and appropriate inscriptions within attractive framing.

The drawing was sent to the printing firm of Krebs, in Frankfurt a/M, Germany, where copper plates were engraved by a craftsman whose name never was recorded as far as I have been able to ascertain. After the printing in blue, red and black, the dove flying with letter in beak, was embossed in an uncolored portion of the carmine center.

Assording to records, 1,250 sheets of 40 stamps (five rows of eight subjects) were printed and delivered to Mr. Bernouilly, and placed on sale on July 1, 1845.

Now let's get to some interesting philatelic assiciations of the popular classic. At the end of the last century, a correspondence was uncovered — all the letters with their Basel Dove frankings simply addressed to one Carl Ryhiner. This gentleman was the son-in-law of Johann Jakob Burckhardt, the banker and guild leader whose portrait was used as the subject of the 5+5 centime value of Switzerland's 1947 Pro Juventute set. Melchior Berri, the designer, was incidently, the brother-in-law of Burckhardt, so it all seemed to be a family sitution.

Ryhiner acquired a house on the Aeschenvorstadt, today a well-known street of banking houses and exclusive shops, and located almost exactly on the site of the Drachen (Dragon) Hotel, built and operated by Switzerland's distinguished stamp dealer, Ernst Mueller. Then called, "Zum Goldene Loewen"

(Golden Lions), one of the old house's suites was rented by Ryhiner to a namesake of the Collectors Club's governor and trustee, one John G. Boker, who had been appointed by President Andrew Jackson, as the first diplomatic legate accredited to Switzerland from the United States, in April, 1830.

Just before the Basel Dove was issued, Ryhiner accepted the post as American Consul and consequently handled a good many of the doves — not only on letters sent to him, but also unused ones. He not only bought supplies from himself, but kept them available to friends and neighbors who didn't want to hike the half mile down to the "Ship Landing" of the Rhine, where the postoffice was located — just in front of what today is the Three Kings Hotel.

The Basel Dove is a rare and valuable stamp today — not so much because few of the original 50,000 remain in existence, but rather because so many connoisseurs have established a fantastic demand for specimens, for generations.

Largest known multiple today is the magnificent mint block of 15, presently owned by the Swiss Postal Museum, in Bern. Originally it was found in the back of a secretary-desk, where it had slipped half a century before. It was acquired by the late Alfred F. Lichtenstein, who considered it to be the "most beautiful philatelic item he had ever seen," prizing it above and beyond his cover franked with two Post Office Mauritius stamps for which the Weill Brothers paid the incredible $380,000. It remained in the AFL collection until 1937, which Ernst Mueller bought for one million Swiss francs in cash. The block then went into the Iwan Bally collection, and later was acquired by the Swiss PTT.

One block of four, mint, OG and with corner margins, was in the Ferrary hoard and, on Oct. 12, 1925, was sold to Maurice Burrus, who had outbid both Arthur Hind and Theodore Champion. It had been sold to Ferrary through an auction staged by Hekker, of Amsterdam, in 1906.

Another margin block of four, but of the essay rather than the issued stamp ,also is known to exist. It was sold during a sale between May 9 and 16, 1927, by Ed. Luder, of Zurich. On April 24, 1972, Jack Luder, his son and head of the famous CORINPHILA auction firm, offered a block of 14 (3x5 less the right lower marginal single) of the essay which fetched considerably more than its Zumstein valuation of 43,500 and Luder's estimate of 40,000 Swiss francs. Whether this is the same item (then a block of 15) reported, in the "Berner Briefmarken Zeitung," to have been sold to Ernst Zumstein to one Mr. Damora, of Turin, at an undisclosed price, in 1910, or not, cannot be ascertained.

While the Basel Dove was intended solely for local city mail, it was possible to affix two to letters sent beyond Basel's limits. This accounts for the extreme scarcity of pairs; as of 1972, only 15 such pairs are known to exist.

One of the novel features conceived for the INTERNABA 74 exhibition, was the idea of inviting philatelists in all parts of the world who owned some, to send them to Basel where they would be mounted in the Court of Honor. According to Chairman Max Guggenheim, more than 100 singles on and off cover, pairs and at least one block have been promised. "Basel Doves fly back to Basel" will be the title of this display of more copies of the stamps than ever before had been displayed at one time.

Switzerland's Sitting Helvetia Issues 1862-83

By Harlan Stone

Switzerland's "Sitting Helvetia" stamps, long neglected, are recognized today as the country's first modern issue. New postal rates gave the postal authorities the opportunity to introduce these stamps with perforations, true safety paper and the neutral Latin word "Helvetia" in place of the previously used German, French and Italian inscription. As a result of the improvements in production, these seamps cost much less than the preceding "Strubeli" issue. They also bore larger, more distinct figures of value and provided a critical public with a more attractive representation of Helvetia.

J. P. Riess, engraver at the Bavarian Mint, designed the Sitting Helvetia stamps after Switzerland's coins and engraved the design. The Swiss postal authorities printed the stamps at Switzerland's Federal Mint in Bern. There the stamp paper was gummed, surface color printed, embossed, impressed with a safety control mark to guard against counterfeiting, and finally perforated 11¾.

The control mark shows the Swiss Federal cross in a double oval. A plate impressed this mark simultaneously on every stamp in each sheet of 400. All control marks on the Sitting Helvetia stamps are a "wide" version. Later stamps also bear a "narrow" version which conforms to the heraldic specifications for the Swiss Federal cross.

The Swiss postal authorities created a great variety of now scarce Sitting Helvetia proofs during extensive laboratory tests to develop printing and cancelling inks that would prevent the cleaning and reuse of used stamps.

Because of their long period of use, the Sitting Helvetia stamps are rich in color varieties, printing plate flaws and postmarks. The chief differences among the three issues are:

First issue	— Paper: medium thick, opaque, off-white.
1862-63	Gum: brownish.
Second issue	— Paper: thin, semi-transparent, white.
1867-78	Gum: colorless.
Third issue	— Paper: thin, granite (blue and red threads).
1881	Gum: colorless, brittle.

In the first issue metallic inks were used to produce the two highest values. The 60 centimes and 1 franc stamps have special metallic colors which the printers achieved by sprinkling the still wet stamps with special powders, then shaking off the excess. The 60c. has dark red ink covered with bronze powder, and the 1fr. has yellow-brown ink covered with gold powder. Some 1fr. stamps were mistakenly embossed on paper color printed for the 60c., resulting in a 1fr. bronze color.

From Oct. 1, 1862, the day the first four Sitting Helvetia stamps appeared, to July 31, 1863, the last day the Strubeli issue was valid, it was possible to use stamps from both issues on the same letters. This type of mixed franking became possible again at the end of the Sitting Helvetia issues. From April 1, 1882, when the succeeding cross and numeral stamps and Standing Helvetia stamps appeared, to Sept. 30, 1883, the last day the Sitting Helvetia stamps were valid, the public could use a combination of the different types.

The Sitting Helvetia stamps with granite paper remained in use only from 1881 (exact date unknown) until Sept. 30, 1883. In contrast to the stamps in the first and second issues, these are thus much more uncommon in used rather than mint condition.

The most well known printing variety involves a double impression, one inverted, of the values and words "Helvetia" and "Franco" on a few of the Sitting Helvetia stamps.More common varieties include colored shield tips, broken and split frame lines, partial control marks, and control marks impressed on the front instead of the back of the stamps.

The Swiss postal authorities overprinted the word "Specimen" on the Sitting Helvetia (and succeeding) stamps to mark them as samples for three different reasons:

To distinguish printers' proofs.

To set aside stamps to be used for the training of postal employees or for record-keeping purposes.

To designate stamps to be submitted to the Universal Postal Union or foreign postal authorities.

The overprint appears in two forms, the first large and blue or black, the second small and black.

On Oct. 1, 1883, the Sitting Helvetia stamps became obsolete. From May 14 that year, the date of the demonetization decree, to June 30, 1887, the public could exchange mint Siting Helvetia Stamps for the succeeding issue. The postal authorities decided to sell these obsolete stamps to the public at below face value for collection purposes, and began to do so apparently before the exchange period ended.

To prevent purchasers from trading in the stamps a second time at face value, the authorities overprinted some with "Ausser Kurs" for "out of currency," using two different types of lettering.

A large number of these remainders subsequently flooded the market, and the Sitting Helvetia issues became unpopular. The postal authorities have never repeated this method of disposing of obsolete stamps.

Swiss Internment Cancels and Other Markings

By Robert C. Ross

These remarks are based on a handbook in progress being prepared by Karl Sharp and myself. This booklet contains a preliminary draft of that handbook and is intended merely as a working paper and *not* as a definitive study. The work is incomplete in several respects, and some statements must be treated as speculation.

The frames contain only a small portion of the material available. I am indebted to Reverend Albert Adams for the 1871 label on cover.

Collectors with information on this subject are urged to contact Karl Sharp at 1136 White Oak Drive, Verona, Pennsylvania 15147 or me at 28 Kenmore Place, Glen Rock, New Jersey 07452.

Swiss Internment Cancels and Other Markings;

Franco Prussian War and World Wars I and II

Switzerland acted as an innkeeper for tens of thousands of the participants of the last three great European wars. This working paper is a prelimnary study of the postal markings from those wars. Errors and inadequacies are certain to exist in the material here presented; interested collectors are urged to communicate with the authors in an effort to improve the work.

Franco Prussian War (1870–1871)

Military internment camps were first established in Switzerland during the Franco Prussian War. On February 1, 1871, 87,000 troops led by the French General Bourbaki crossed the Swiss frontier rather than surrender to the Prussians.

A special label was issued by the Red Cross and printed by the P.T.T. These labels were used for less than two months by French soldiers sending letters to France. The Swiss granted internees free correspondence to France or within Switzerland; other correspondence was charged the normal rate less regular, domestic postage. Correspondence was required to carry the legend "Gratis" or one of these labels.

The labels were hurriedly printed on various shades of lilac paper and were inscribed: "Militaires français internés en Suisse. Gratis." They are listed first in the franchise stamps group in Zumstein's specialized Swiss catalog.

During this war, internment mail was handled by the Swiss Post Office. According to postal directives, cancels were not to be applied to the gratis labels, but only elsewhere on the face of the cover. Nevertheless, cancelled copies exist either through error or habit on the part of postal clerks.

The normal Swiss circular or, more rarely, straight line cancels appear on these covers. We know of circular cancels from Aarau, Basel, Friebourg, Herisau, Luzern, Neuchâtel, Sarnen, Schweiz, St. Gallen and Zürich, and a straight line strike of Oron.

Copies of this label on cover, cancelled or not, with proper posting and arrival marks are scarce and are the most desirable Swiss internment camp material.

First World War (1914–1918)

At the outbreak of World War I, the Swiss mobilized and again became a haven for combatants and refugees. Most internees were from France, Belgium and the United Kingdom. In addition to guarding the borders, the Swiss Army was placed in charge of internment camps. Nevertheless, the federal post office was responsible for delivering most internee mail.

Internees were entitled to send letters and cards free of charge to addresses within Switzerland and to their homelands; but other correspondence abroad, special delivery letters and registered mail was charged normal postage less the normal domestic rate. Internee mail was censored by the Swiss army.

Army personnel hand-stamped mail with a two line straight line mark reading "Internement des Prisonniers de Guerre" or "Kriegsgefangenen-Internierung" on the first line and the name of the camp on the second line. In some cases, the phrase "en Suisse" or "in der Schweiz" appears on the first line. Mail was then delivered to the regular civilian post offices where the normal, dated postmarks were applied.

We know of the following postmarks on internee mail from World War I. (In addition, Strowsky lists 110 camps or villages where French troops were interned, but it is not known how many of these camps and villages had their own hand stamps or cancels.) Those marked with an asterisk used a straight line cancel; we do not know the types of the others.

Adelboden
Aeschi p. Spiez
*Basel
Bazel
Beatenberg
*Bex
Blonay
Bougy-Villars
*Brunnen
Caux
*Château d'Oex (2 types)
*Chatel St. Denis
*Chur
Corseaux
Davos-Dorf
*Davos-Platz
Engelberg
Genève
Genève (Centre)
Gersau
*Glion
Grandvillard
Interlaken
Kandersteg
*Lauterbrunnen
Leysin
Loëche-Les Bains
Marchach
Meiringen
Montana
Mürren

Neuchâtel	*Salvan	Vernayaz
Oberhausen	Spiez	Visp (Viege)
*Oberhofen	*St. Niklaus-Suisse	*Weesen
Oberwaid b/St. Fiden	*Teufen-Appenzell	*Weggis
Region Oberland — Bernois	Tour de Tremel	Wolfenschiessen

The Oberland mark was for an administrative center handling the following camps in that area: Spiez, Interlaken, Kandersteg, Mürren, Meiringen, Lanterbrunnen, Beatenberg, Aeschen, Adelboden and perhaps Chateau d' Oex.

Military postmarks are sometime found on internee mail although there is no official sanction for this usage.

Many items of postal stationery were imprinted for the use of interned troops. The Red Cross and other groups printed various types. The British command printed a special envelope, and many hotels issued special postcards.

Second World War (1939–1945)

As the Second World War began, Switzerland again mobilized and opened her borders to refugees. A large number of Polish troops entered Switzerland in 1939, but this group generally left for France or Great Britain soon thereafter. After the fall of France, over 50,000 French, Polish and Belgian soldiers entered Switzerland, but a significant number of the French and, perhaps, Polish soldiers left after a treaty with Nazi Germany and Vichy France in late 1941. As the war continued, camps were established for American and British fliers, Italians, Greeks, Yugoslavs, escaped prisoners (perhaps criminal internees or perhaps escapees from Nazi prisons), and others. (No dates appear on these marks so any chronology is somewhat speculative.)

American and British fliers were kept at the expense of their governments at hotels, primarily in the Bernese Oberland. Some internees attended colleges. The great majority, however, were forced to work on farms or in construction. A few were confined to hospitals and to the prison at Hutwilen.

The Swiss Army was placed in charge of the administration of the camps, but mail did not normally flow through the regular postal system. Instead, the Army used its fieldpost system, and civilian cancels were not normally used. Each camp was assigned a cancel (if it was large enough), and these cancels occur in several types. The last three pages in this booklet illustrate the major types.

As far as we know, no special camps were established for the first wave of Polish internees; they may have stayed for so short a time in Switzerland that no official action was necessary.

First, No Camp Name Marks

The second major influx of internees began on June 16 and 17, 1940. By June 19, the section of the Military Internees Post began operating under the direction of Lt. Col. Frutiger. The first marks consisted of a double lined circle with the Swiss cross in the center and with phrase "Internment de militaires français en Suisse" in the outer ring. This handstamp was withdrawn in a few days because it did not indicate that the mail went post free; this short usage makes it a very rare mark.

The first mark was quickly replaced with a similar mark without the Swiss cross and with the text "Franc de port" in its place. (This mark is known both with and without the small square periods in the uoter circle.) The inscription "Internement de Militaires français en Suisse" was not adhered to literally because it is found on mail from Belgian and Polish soldiers as well.

Later, according to the 1940 BBZ article referred to in the bibliography, this mark was used as an official and as a provisional marking. These two marks (with a variation in the case of the first) are found on the first line of the chart.

Camp Name Marks

Sometime before December, 1940, a third type of mark was used. The outer text reads "Camp Militaire D'Internement Suisse" or "Kriegsgefangeneinternierung Schweiz", in either sans seriffed capitals or sans seriffed capitals and lower case letters. The camp name appears in the inner circle, and there is no Swiss cross or "Franc de Port". We believe that there are about 20 cancels of this type, and the five known to us are shown on the type chart on the second and third lines of the first page of types.

By December, 1940, BBZ reported a type of mark "entitled to be called the last, and definitive, type of mark . . ." Again there is a double lined circle with outer text either "Camp militaire d'internement Suisse" or "Militar-Interniertenlager Schweiz". At the top of the inner circle appears the phrase "Franc de port" and in the center appears the name of the camp. On single line cancels, a small Swiss cross appears under the name of the camp.

Normally, the French language cancels (the most common) have two five-pointed stars in the outer circle while the German language cancels have two six-pointed stars. Most cancels are in sans serif text, capitals and lower case letters, but a few of the inner names of camps appear in italics, either in whole or in part.

Most cancellations have a single line for the camp name. Double line names occur because of the length of the town name, in order to indicate the canton, or in order to indicate the location of a camp located at a town with a duplicate name elsewhere in Switzerland. Three line cancels occur for the third reason only.

Nine representative examples of this type of cancel are shown on the second page of the type chart.

Most cancels are in black, although we have seen a few blue cancels and one in red.

The number of these cancels is not known to us. The 1940 SBZ article indicated that there were then 345 different handstamps of all types. Schild has reported informally that there were 602 different cancels authorized by the Federal government. Thomas reported "some 600" camps out of "a rumored 1140 total", but he may have been talking about camps without marks as well. We have prepared a list of over 600 cancels, but it is based in part on published lists with apparent typographical errors and cannot yet be considered definitive. Unfortunately, the Swiss government still considers this classified information (almost 30 years after the end of the war!), and there may never be a definitive list.

Miscellaneous Circular Marks

Sometime after December, 1940, several other circular types were used on internment mail, examples of some of which appear n the third page of the type chart. These are in German, French and Italian, with various texts. Some of these marks appear to have been used for large areas; for example the first German language type is from a letter from an American flier interned in a hotel. The "Thur" cancellation is for an administrative region and may more properly belong in a military cancellation collection.

There are at least two other varieties similar to the French language mark.

In the first, the stars in the outer frame are small, solid squares; there is no Swiss cross; and "Franc de port" appears on two horizontal lines in the center of the inner circle. The second is the same as the example in the chart except that the text in the outer frame is "Camp militaire d'internement Suisse".

Another, possibly military, mark is similar to the "definitive" type with a Swiss cross and "Franc de port" in the inner circle. The outer text, however, reads "Internement de militaires en Suisse Berne" and the inner text reads "Bureau de renseignements".

Several other marks of a circular type are known, including marks used by a camp for escaped prisoners and a military hospital for internees at Leysin. No doubt there are many types not yet known to us.

Straight Line Marks

We have not yet found any straight line cancels used by camps, although the two Liechtenstein camps at Ruggell and Schaan used two line, straight line cancels.

However, straight lines marks are common on internment mail. Most of this mail was censored, and the censor marked the envelope with a three digit number, in each case beginning with "3". Most censor numbers are in purple or violet, although grey and black are sometimes found. Censors also sealed some envelopes with white tape carrying the following legend:

"Geöffnet — Zensurstelle fur Interniertenpost
Ouvert — Service de Censure de l'Internement
Aperto — Servizio di Censura per l'Internamento"

Several straight line marks are found in the nature of a return address from the various administrative officers or simply as a return address, for example: "Internierten Abschnitt Nollen", "Arbeitslager Poln. Int. Ringlikon", and "Eidg. Kommiss. für Int. & Hospit. Abschnitt Aargau".

A three line mark was used to indicate that the addressee was not, or was no longer, an internee: "Ne figure pas dans le/ fichier des internés/ militaires en Suisse". In some cases the handwritten notation "Evades" explains the reason.

A two line, boxed handstamp reading "Zuzustellen/ Feldpostdirektion" is known to us only in red and may be translated "Deliver to addressee/ Fieldpost Headquarters." This mark is often found on mail from outside Switzerland to internees within the country; apparently the Post Office applied this mark for forwarding letters to the Fieldpost service. The mark is also found on some covers forwarded from one camp to another; perhaps there was no field post service from those areas, and civilian postal service was used for a portion of the trip.

Civilian Internees Post

A related, straight line mark was used on mail of civilian internees, who also enjoyed free postage according to the 1940 BBZ article, but on what basis we do not know. The mail was impressed with a two line mark reading "Franc de port/ Interné civil".

Civilian internees did not live in camps but were lodged in various parishes in Freiburg. These internees, again according to the BBZ article, handed their mail in at the post office in the normal way and not to the fieldpost. The local postmasters did not mark the mail in any way, but forwarded it to Berne where it was postmarked and forwarded. Incoming mail was censored at Berne and forwarded to Romont for distribution. By December, 1940, all civilian internees had been sent home to France, and this post was terminated.

Civilian Postmarks

As noted earlier and unlike World War I, the civilian post office did not have primary responsibility for internee mail. However, as indicated above, some internment mail was carried by that service. In addition, mail from certain camps (and from some camps from certain periods) bears regular postal markings of a nearby town; for example, mail from interned students at the University of Neuchâtel seems invariably to carry the normal civilian cancellations. There are also reports of covers cancelled with both camp and regular cancels as was the World War I practice, either intentionally or in error.

Guard Mail

Unlike the practice in World War I, mail posted by guards at the camps was not normally cancelled with internee postmarks. Instead each guard unit was assigned its own cancel as were other, regular Army units. These cancels may bear a four digit Fieldpost number or a legend such as "Bewachungstruppen". However, this regulation was not carefully followed. Jesse B. Thomas examined some 30,000 covers addressed to the Red Cross during 1945. He indicated ". . . it has been impossible in some cases to differentiate between the covers from the prisoners (*sic*, most internees were not prisoners) themselves and those from the camp staff and troops or constabulary presumably guarding them . . ., since fieldpost cancels in many cases are used on covers bearing unmistakable MS return addresses of individual prisoners — and conversely, rubber stamps of the administration often appear with the distinctive camp cancels used for internees' mail."

Stamps and Postal Stationery

Neither the Swiss government nor the Army issued special stamps or stationery for internees. However, there are two stamps and at least four items of postal stationery printed by internee groups. In addition, the Red Cross and several other organizations printed envelopes for the use of internees.

After reconnoitering through our findings from these three wars, shake off your battle fatigue and report the new items that are interned in your collection.

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December 4th	— *UNITED STATES USED ABROAD*—Henry Stollnitz, Forest Hills, N. Y.
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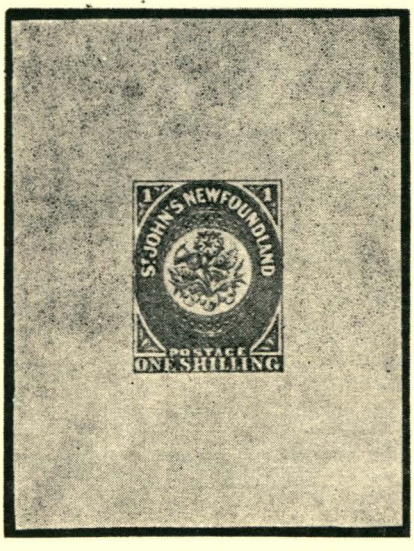
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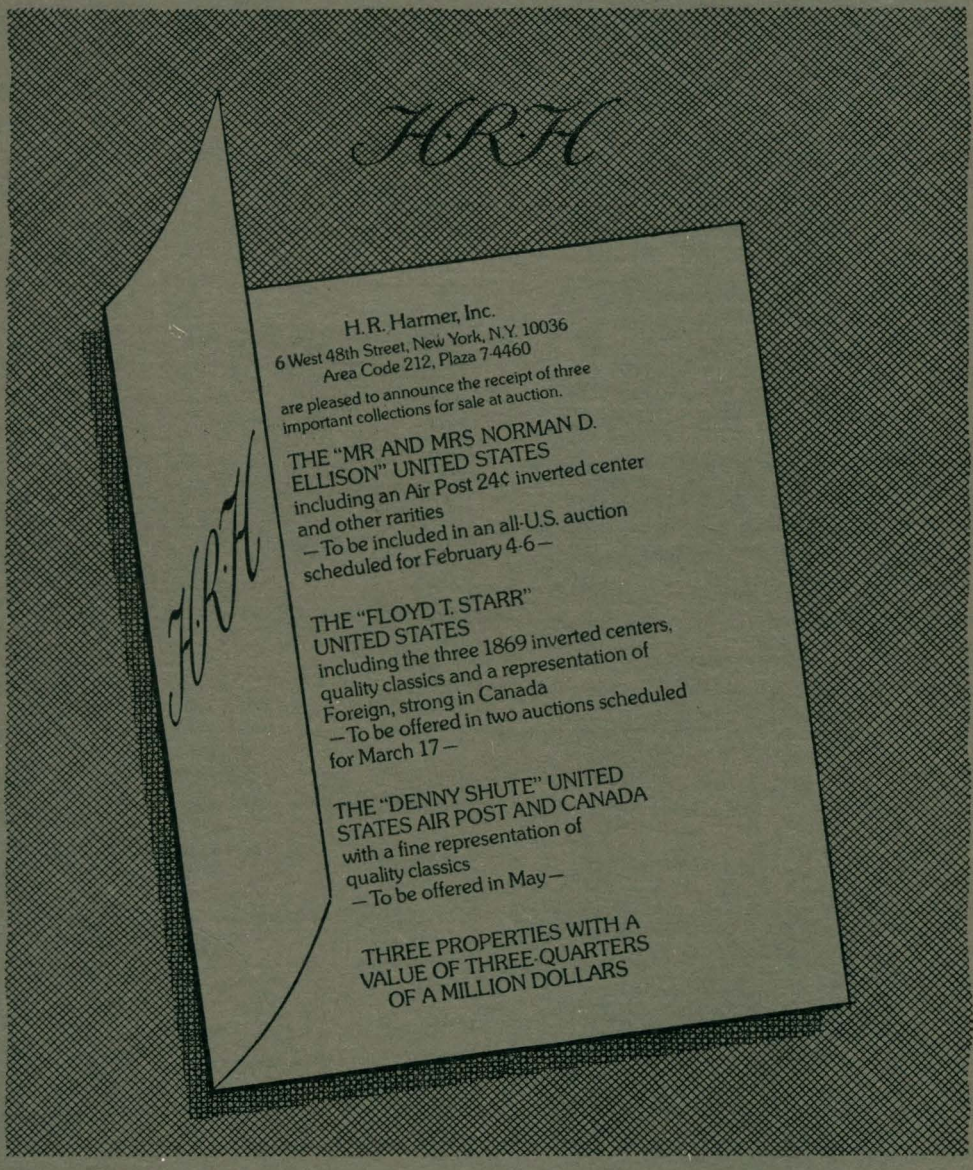
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