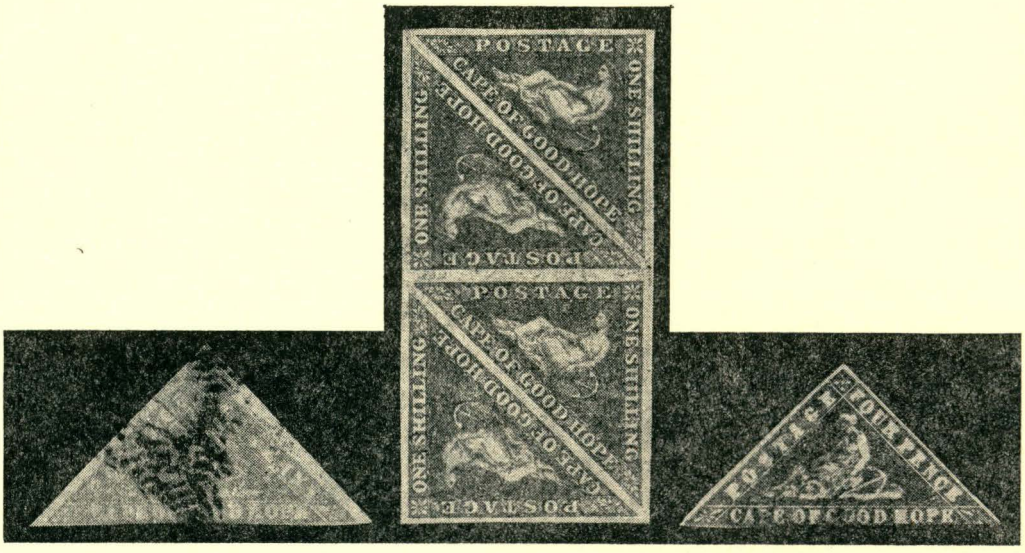


The Collectors Club

PHILATELIST

Volume 42 Number 6
November 1963



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in Nov. 21, 22 Auction

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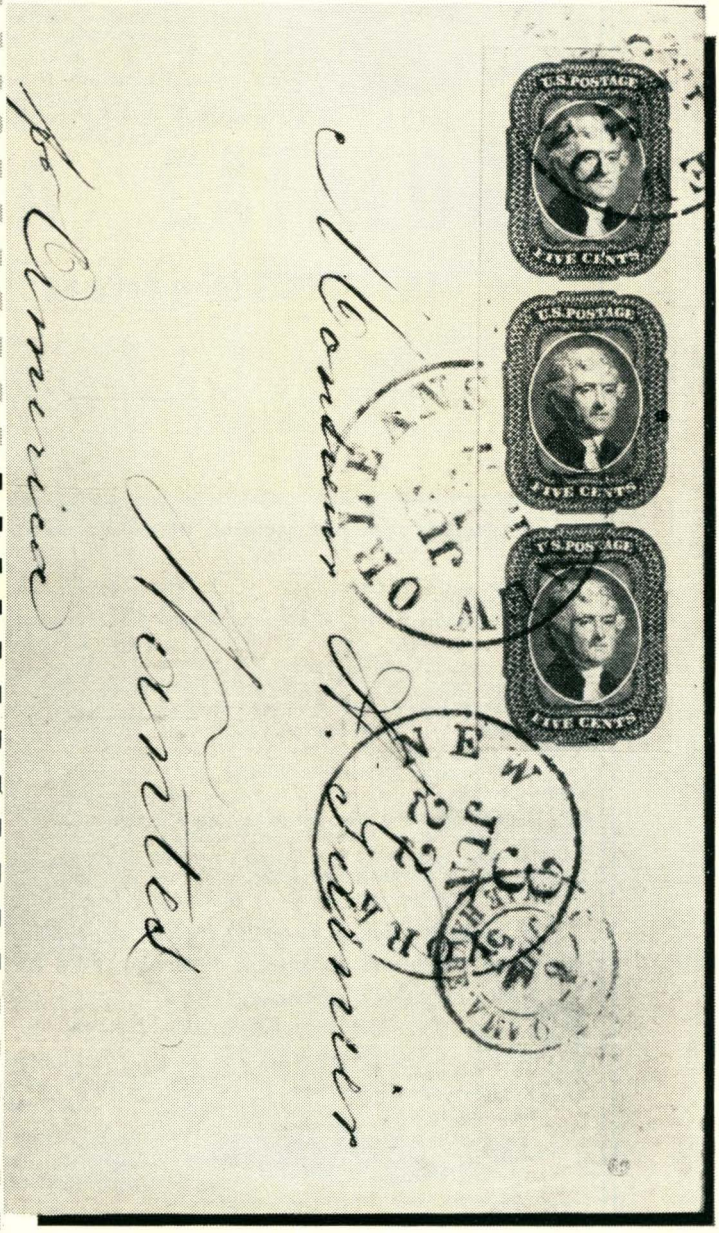
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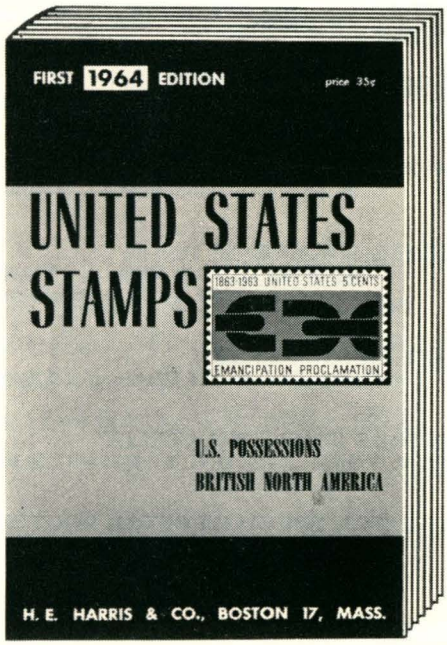
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The Collectors Club PHILATELIST

Volume 42 Number 6
November 1963

Editorials

The Cover Controversy

Among the new trends in stamp collecting, one regarded unfavorably by old school philatelists is the unaddressed envelope, usually with a first day cancellation along with a very large printed cachet prepared and sold by the trade. Philatelists disapprove of them and see no reason to call such material covers.

The popular demand for these unaddressed envelopes has reached a point where a first day cover that went through the mails and has an address is blackballed. An addressed cover for the new generation of collectors and dealers is an undesirable item regarded in almost the same light as a philatelist views a stamp with a pen, revenue cancellation — worth only a small fraction of the postally used price and frequently spurned as not wanted at all.

What galls the philatelist most is the very minor and insignificant interest evidenced by the first day cover collectors in the postage stamp, the cornerstone of philately. They admit that the printed cachet is the star attraction while the stamp is of secondary interest to them.

This is completely meaningless to the mature philatelist who has been collecting for many years. Through his experience, he knows the history of cover collecting.

Stamp collecting is more than 100 years old. But cover collecting did not take hold until after this century began. It was the cancelled stamp that grandfather collected which, in time, aroused interest in a cover. With these, one had not only a cancellation on the stamp to study but also postmarks on the front and back of an envelope or the earlier folded letter. Cover collecting opened a new field and did much to advance philately.

One cannot escape the fact that the close study of the stamp is the top achievement in philatelic research and study. Nothing is as challenging nor as difficult and laborious as the study of a stamp's printing and production. It requires a keen philatelic acumen and intense concentration with resultant eyestrain and fatigue. But no written or oral description of this study ever can do justice to it. To hear a philatelist explain his printing plate studies to an audience or reading a plating article is boring, except for a very few sharing the same interest.

A cover led to postal history, a topic with much more general appeal. The cover helped humanize philately, broaden its interest and gained many more readers of philatelic literature. Thus, covers became almost synonomous with the study of postal use and the postal services. The story connected with a Civil War, Pony Express or pioneer air mail cover is far more thrilling to read than what has been studied on the stamp affixed to such covers.

Came the collector of unaddressed envelopes to completely discard all philatelic precedent. Postal use — who cares? The stamp — so what? What was the required postage rate — why bother? Instead the new one disregarded all these to feast his eyes mostly upon the printed cachet, the fancy first day cancellation and the nice, clean envelope unsoiled by passage through and handling in the mails.

Of course, a conflict of views was a logical development. The seasoned philatelist could not understand the demand for unmailed, unaddressed envelopes. The new collector resented this critical attitude, especially from one he pictured as an old fogey living in an ivory tower with a passion for minutia — the unattractive, little postage stamp and its countless variations.

Controversy might have been avoided had philately created a definition for the unaddressed cacheted envelope to distinguish it from a cover. As it is, a cov-

er is a cover is a cover, regardless of its philatelic status.

In voicing a critical attitude towards the new method of cover collecting, the philatelist falsely was accused of dictating the ways of collecting. Disapproval is not a sign of dictatorship. The philatelist told the unaddressed envelope collector to continue having his pleasure. But he did object to the new collector saying that he collected covers in the accepted philatelic sense.

Arguments still continue, and no end seems in sight unless new, distinguishing definitions for covers and unaddressed envelopes can be agreed upon and accepted.

There is, however, one evident factor that the unaddressed envelope collector cannot escape. Stamp collections (covers included) have a strong recovery value. Of course, this is most variable. Some stamps, when sold, will realize prices far above their cost. Others show no price increment, while many sell later below the original cost.

Observers of philatelic auction sales (not the reserved bid mail sale type) see the relatively poor position of unaddressed, cacheted envelopes when sold at auction. In regard to recovery value, such material does about the poorest.

There is nothing basically wrong with this. People still can collect unaddressed, cacheted envelopes with great pleasure. But from contact with these collectors, one sees that they are collecting under a delusion. They anticipate that their material will increase greatly in value. No one has taught them the facts of philately. Furthermore, these collectors are so taken with their fancy first day envelopes that they do not care to listen to facts and refuse to believe them when properly informed.

Consequently, the veteran philatelist is not impressed with the "ignorance is bliss" aspect to the argument. Were the new collectors better informed, more conversant with philatelic knowledge, more able to command respect, then criticism would subside.

At this stage, one matter seems certain. No collection of unaddressed, cacheted first day covers will gain a top award at any reputable stamp show. As a matter of fact, the chances of such an exhibit winning even a silver medal are not good. It is very questionable if the unaddressed envelope with its printed cachet ever will gain status among the mature and experienced philatelists.

A Paper Dealer

On a recent trip to Europe, at a philatelic dinner, it was our pleasure to sit next to a successful wholesale stamp dealer in new issues. The entire evening's conversation was about stamps and stamp collecting.

As editor of this magazine and also a member of America's Expert Committee, our own views of philately revovled about the more studious side of philately. In sharp contrast, this European stamp dealer was interested only in the commercial end. The profit motive was his first and foremost concern.

Despite this wide divergence of viewpoints, the conversation was exceedingly pleasant and friendly.

At one point, a certain stamp issue was mentioned. We happened to remark that we had written an article on this issue and that it had proved rather popular. We inquired if this dealer had read it.

He replied: "No, I never have the time to read any stamp articles. The only things I read are my competitor's advertisements to see the prices they are charging for stamps.

"I have never studied one stamp," he continued, "and never expect to." I receive my supplies in full sheets by lots of from 100 to 1,000. Then, I break them into single sets or blocks or four. All I know is what I paid for the stamps and at what price I can sell them to make a fair profit.

"Certainly, I'm no philatelist in the true meaning of the word. You know most of the time I seldom stop even to examine my stock. I guess that I'm not even a stamp dealer, but a wholesale paper dealer."

14,500,000 Stamp Savers; 500,000 Collectors

This column has often challenged the statement of 15 million stamp collectors in the United States as a phony statistic. Nevertheless, there is hardly a week that goes by without some American newspaper or magazine reporting this exaggerated statistic as a fact.

A number of philatelists have wondered about the source of such a hyperbole. We think that we may have come upon it.

Every time we go to the New York G. P. O. to buy stamps for our postage requirements, there are people in line ahead of us. And never have we failed to overhear the following conversation.

"I *save* number blocks. I want to buy a full sheet of the latest commemorative stamps to get mine."

This is not unique for New York City, but must be happening all over the country. Millions of people say they are *saving* stamps. They never say they collect stamps. They probably have never seen a stamp album or catalog. Hinges, tweezers, watermark detectors — all the fundamental philatelic tools — are not familiar to them. They only *save* stamps by buying a sheet of every new United States issue, removing the number block (as they call it) and then store it just as a squirrel buries nuts.

Consequently, there must be 14,500,000 *stamp savers* in this country but only 500,000 stamp collectors.

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United States

Mails To France In 1870

The "Phantom" And Actual Prepaid Rates

By George E. Hargest

This is the story of a "phantom" rate. There was no use to which it could be put at the time of its creation and when it should have been used, no announcement of its availability was made to the public. Yet the New York Exchange Office used it. This anomalous situation was very confusing at the time; collectors have been confused by it ever since. What it was and how it came about evolves as the story is told.

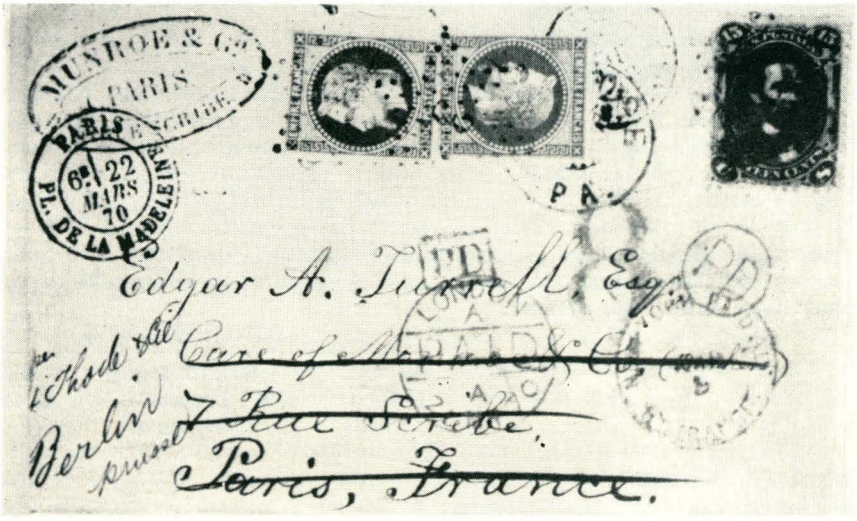


Fig. 1. A "Phantom" Rate Cover showing the 8 cents credit to Britain. The 15 cents prepayment was probably intended to pay the old "treaty" rate. Munroe & Co. forwarded the letter to Berlin and prepaid the postage with two thirty centimes stamps. (J. David Baker Collection).

On December 31, 1869, the postal treaty between France and the United States was allowed to expire without a new one being signed. The United States had tried during nearly four years of negotiation to reach agreement with France, but the demands of the French were considered to be impossible and the proposals of the United States were rejected. All direct postal intercourse between the two countries was, therefore, suspended on January 1, 1870.[1] It was not until August 1, 1874, that a new treaty became effective.

Arrangements With Great Britain

Anticipating the day when direct postal relations with France would come to an end, the United States signed three new postal treaties with Great Britain[2] which included provisions that would enable the United States to send letters to England from whence they could be forwarded to France under

1. *Annual Report of the Postmaster General,* 1870, p. 16.

2. On June 18, 1867, November 24, 1868 and December 14, 1869. 16 U.S. *Statutes-at-Large,* pp. 832, et seq.

existing Anglo-French treaties. Interest centers, of course, upon the pertinent provisions of these treaties which were in effect on January 1, 1870. They were as follows:

> The authorized weight for a single rate was 15 grammes in the United States and one half ounce in the United Kingdom.
> The single rate for an international letter was 6 cents in the United States and 3 pence in the United Kingdom.
> Each country was to make its own arrangements for the dispatch of mail and any sea postage to be accounted for was to be retained by the dispatching country.
> Each country was to account to the other for 10 cents per ounce or per 30 grammes, according to the weight in bulk of each class of international correspondence. (This included sea postage).
> Each country was to account to the other for 2 cents upon every single paid letter. (This was for inland postage).

There is no ready explanation for the adoption by the United States of the metric system (grammes) in preference to avoirdupois ounces. Domestic rates were based upon the ounce and local post offices were not equipped to weigh in grammes. All foreign rate information supplied local postmasters, therefore, was translated into rates per quarter ounce, per half ounce, and so on, rather than being stated in grammes. The above treaties, as well as the Anglo-French, held an ounce to be equal to 30 grammes when it actually weighs only 28.35 grammes. This caused a discrepancy in rating between the local offices and the exchange offices which weighed in grammes. The following table shows how the several treaties equated grammes to ounces and the actual grammes these rates represented:

	SINGLE RATE		
Treaties	*Ounces (Great Britain)*	*Grammes by Treaties (France & U. S.)*	*Actual Grammes (Local Offices)*
Anglo-French, 9/24/56	¼	7½	7.09
Anglo-French, 9/21/69	⅓	10	9.45
	⅔	20	18.90
U. S. — British, 1867-69	½	15	14.18
	1	30	28.35

The discrepancy in rating occurred in this way. Assume a letter that actually weighed 14.5 grammes was taken to a local office for mailing to a foreign country. The postmaster checked his rate schedule and found the rate to be for a letter not exceeding one half ounce in weight. His scales showed it to weigh in excess of one half ounce (14.18 grammes) and so he charged postage for a double rate letter. At the exchange office, however, the letter weighed not over 15 grammes and was rated at a single rate. Since the postage paid at the local offices was always more than the exchange office credit on these marginal letters, the difference represented a "built in" provision for overpayment of postage.

Although the treaty does not provide for it in this manner,[3] Postmaster General Creswell got what he wanted, i. e., a 6 cents rate divided as this — 2 cents for the inland postage of each country and 2 cents sea postage.[4] Since the

3. Actually, the sea postage was on a bulk weight basis. The U. S. share was, therefore, arrived at by subtracting the 2 cents British inland postage from the 6 cents international rate.

4. *Annual Report of the Postmaster General,* 1870, p. 21.

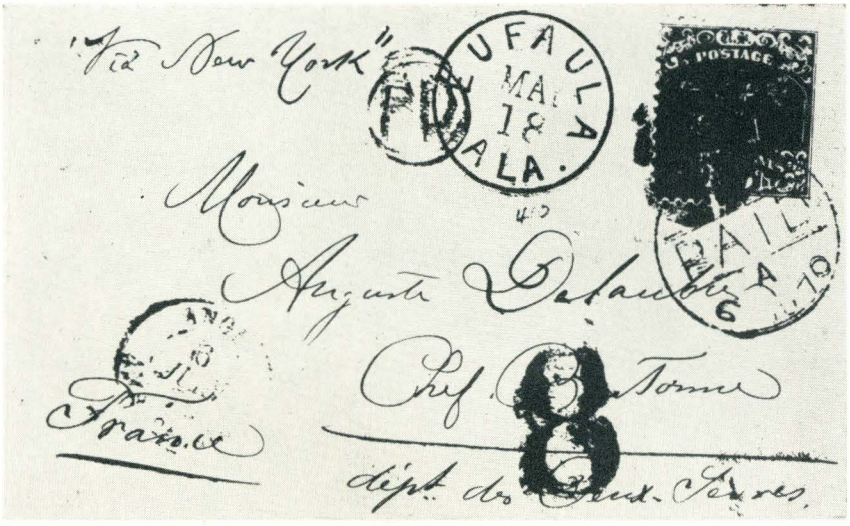


Fig. 2. A "Phantom" Rate Cover originating in Eufaula, Ala. on May 18, 1870. This cover bears a New York/Br. Transit marking on the reverse and the large red "8" on the face. London applied its circular "paid" marking in red, while the travelling post office from Calais used the black double circle " Angl./Amb. Calais" mark and the small circular "PD" (paid to destination) marking in red. These markings typically appear on "phantom" rate covers. (Lester L. Downing Collection).

sea as well as the United States inland postages were retained on mail dispatched, a United States share of 4 cents paid a transit letter to the British frontier.

On these transit letters it was necessary for the United States to credit Britain with the foreign as well as the British inland postages. The problem of giving Britain the proper credit for the foreign postage must have complicated matters for the United States Post Office. This problem was alleviated by including in the detailed regulations[5] to the treaties a schedule of *credits* to be made by the United States to Britain on prepaid letters posted in the United States addressed to foreign destinations included in the schedule.

There was also a schedule of *debits* to be made by Britain on unpaid letters posted in the designated country addressed to the United States. These schedules listed the names of 155 countries or destinations and beside the name of each was set the amount of the credit or debit. Not only did the list include those countries customarily served by British Mail, but also those countries that were normally served by French Mail.

These detailed regulations were signed on November 24, 1868, about ten months after the United States had served notice to France of its intention to terminate the French treaty.[6] Certainly, the framers of these detailed regulations were preparing for the day when direct postal relations with France would be suspended. This is suggested by the expansion of the list to include those countries normally served by French Mail. But the inclusion of France and Algeria in the list makes this a certainty. Set beside the name of France in the "Paid Correspondence" column is "8 (a)." The "8," of course, means a credit of 8 cents, while the "(a)" means, "Increase by an additional rate for every 7½ grammes, or fraction thereof."[7] There was no debit for unpaid correspondence.

5. *British and Foreign State Papers,* vol. 58, p. 86.

6. *Annual Report of the Postmaster General,* 1869. Notice was served on January 8, 1868.

7. *British and Foreign State Papers,* vol. 58, p. 86.

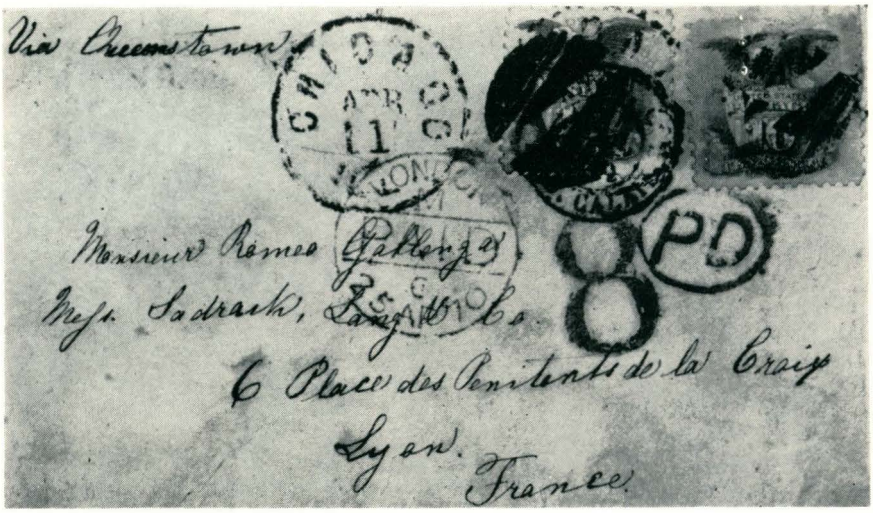


Fig. 3. A "Phantom" Rate Cover that the 20 cents prepayment was probably intended to prepay double the 10 cents "direct" rate. At the New York Exchange Office, however, the letter did not weigh over 7½ grammes. New York forwarded the letter, via England, as fully prepaid by crediting Britain with 8 cents. Although the mailer of the letter had no way of knowing it, a prepayment of 12 cents was all that was required by the "via England" route.

The same "8 (a)" is set beside the name of Algeria with no figure for unpaid mail. It should be emphasized that Algeria was considered a part of metropolitan France and all postal treaties (at least since 1843) joined France and Algeria as one contracting party, setting the same rate for each.

The Rate Denied

When the French treaty expired, therefore, a 12 cents, fully prepaid rate to France, via England, should have been immediately available. This rate and its progression should have been as follows:

	U. S. Share (per 15 grammes)	*British Share (per ¼ ounce)*	*Total Rate*
Not over 7½ grammes	4¢	8¢	12¢
Over 7½, but not over 15 grammes	4	16	20
Over 15, but not over 22½ grammes	8	24	32
Over 22½, but not over 30 grammes	8	32	40, etc.

It seems strange, indeed, that no announcement of this rate has been found. It was carefully prepared for use at a time when it would not be used. Actually, the rate was available on January 1, 1869, but it, of course, could not be used until the French treaty expired. On January 1, 1870, it should have been announced to the public, since it was the only available fully prepaid rate to France. The public, however, was not informed of its existence.

Except for occasional issues of the U. S. Postal Laws and Regulations, postmasters depended upon the "U. S. Mail and Post Office Assistant" for foreign rate information. Although a private publication, it was officially recognized.[8]

8. "Postmasters must bear in mind that the foreign rates are in constant change . . . Any change that may occur will from time to time be announced in the *United States Mail*, a monthly journal, published in New York." *United States Postal Laws and Regulations*, 1866, Sec. 259, p. 38.



Fig. 4. The latest recorded use of the "phantom" rate. This cover weighed more than one half ounce at the Cape Elizabeth Depot, Me. post office (14.18 grammes) and required a prepayment of double the 10 cents "direct" rate. At the New York exchange office (New York/Br. Transit, on reverse) the letter weighed not over 15 grammes. New York credited Britain with 16 cents and forwarded the letter as fully prepaid. This is one of two covers known to the author that bears a credit of 16 cents.

Tables of foreign rates were included and distributed monthly to subscribing postmasters. The table for April, 1870, does not show a 12 cents rate to France. Certainly, if the rate were announced, it should have been included in the table for that month. The entries for France and Algeria were:

	Not exceeding quarter ounce	*Not exceeding half ounce*	*Prepayment*
Algeria, via England	12¢	20¢	Compulsory
France		10	Compulsory
do , open mail, via England		4	Optional

The above 4 cents rate was a part payment rate to France which prepaid the letter only to England.[9] The 10 cents rate was designed as a "blanket" one, established by Sec. 8, Act of July 1, 1864, to provide service to those countries not covered by postal convention. When the French treaty expired, therefore, it was applied to mail conveyed directly to France and paid the letter only to the frontier.

In the case of the rate to Algeria, the United States was doing what France was never willing to do, i. e., establishing a separate rate to what the French considered to be part of metropolitan France. The United States, evidently, viewed Algeria as a French colony (regardless of how France wanted her postally treated) and she, along with other French colonies, was accorded a rate set at 4 cents above the scheduled credit. If the 12 cents rate was announced for Algeria, it should also have been for France. Obviously, the denial of this rate to France

9. For a discussion of the 4c rate, see — Mack, Millard H., United States 4c Part Payment Rate to France 1870-74, *The Collectors Club Philatelist*, vol. 38, No. 4, (July, 1959) pp. 159-64.



Fig. 5. 10 cents Fully Prepaid Rate, via England, to Algeria. When this letter arrived in Calais on January 19, 1871, Paris was still under seige. It, therefore, was nine days in transit from Calais to Oran, Algeria, arriving on January 28, 1871 (the day Paris surrendered). On the reverse is the New York/Br. Transit marking in red, as well as the Oran receiving mark. The large credit "6" was used until the late months of 1871, when the old "treaty" rate handstamp was revived. Early in 1873, new New York handstamps showing a credit "6" appear.

was deliberate.

Why The Rate Was Denied

The position of the United States Post Office in denying this rate to France may be explained by certain events that transpired between September, 1869, and July 1, 1870. What these events were can be well established; why they occurred is obscure. On September 21, 1869, while the United States was still in negotiation with the French and before the French treaty expired, France signed a new postal treaty with Great Britain that reduced rates and abandoned the 7½ grammes weight base. This treaty was merely additional to the treaty of 1856, changing only Article XIII[10] of the original treaty.

Article XIII, however, was the treaty provision upon which the United States and Britain had based the 8 cents credit included in the 12 cents rate. This article had provided that the amount to be collected in Britain on paid letters addressed to France and Algeria was to be 4 pence for every one-fourth ounce, or fraction of one-fourth ounce. Since 4 pence was equal to 8 cents, this amount had been agreed upon as the credit the United States was to make to Britain on paid letters addressed to France. The additional treaty superseded this article by providing that the amount to be collected in Britain on paid letters addressed to France and Algeria was to be 3 pence for every one-third ounce, or fraction of one-third ounce. This change meant that the United States would now credit Britain with only 6 instead of 8 cents and the total rate would be reduced from 12 cents for every 7½ grammes letter to 10 cents per 10 grammes.

Although this treaty was signed on September 21, 1869, it did not come into operation until the ratifications were exchanged. Usually, this required only a few days and it was probably anticipated that the exchange would be effected

10. *British and Foreign State Papers*, vol. 46, p. 202.

long before the U. S. - French treaty expired. Nine months were to elapse, however, before ratification was achieved. The United States was, undoubtedly, prepared to place in force a fully prepaid 10 cents rate to France, via England, on the day after the French treaty expired. When that date arrived, however, the treaty had not yet been ratified and, although the exchange was momentarily expected, the rate could not be made effective. The 12 cents rate, therefore, should have been announced for France as well as for Algeria, but the United States apparently preferred to wait.

While the United States Post Office waited, a general confusion about the rates to France existed among the public. People, for many years, had been accustomed to place 15 cents in stamps upon a letter addressed to France and post it in a mail box or at the post office. Not realizing the rate had changed, they continued to do so. A deluge of letters bearing 15 cents prepayments continued to pour into the exchange offices. They were, of course, forwarded with the first mail at the 4 cents rate, if they went via England, or at the 10 cents rate if they were conveyed directly to France. Overpayment of postage was common and often inexplicable amounts.

The "Phantom" Rate

Covers indicate that sometime early in March, 1870, the New York Exchange Office began to forward some letters to France, via England, by crediting Britain with 8 cents, provided they were prepaid with at least 12 cents. Since the two published rates to France were less than 12 cents, these letters were usually paid with the old treaty rate of 15 cents, or occasionally, with double the 10 cents direct rate.

The rarity of covers showing the 8 cents credit is such as to indicate that it was used sporadically, rather than regularly. With one exception, all covers noted were used during March, April or May, 1870, which gives further credence to the statement that the 12 cents rate should have been included in the table for April, 1870, if the rate had been announced. The exception is a cover used on June 10, 1870, from a small office in Maine as shown by Fig. 4. This cover is

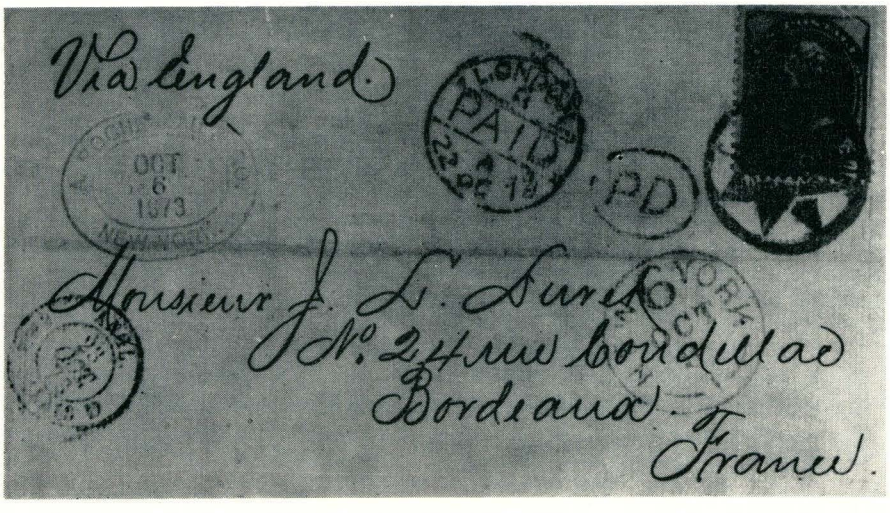


Fig. 6. 10 cents Fully Prepaid Rate, via England, to France. This letter weighed not over one third of an ounce and required a 10 cents prepayment. New York credited Britain with 6 cents. London marked the letter "Paid," while the travelling post office from Calais applied the Angl./Amb. Calais marking and the oval "PD" mark. These markings are characteristic of the fully prepaid rates, via England.

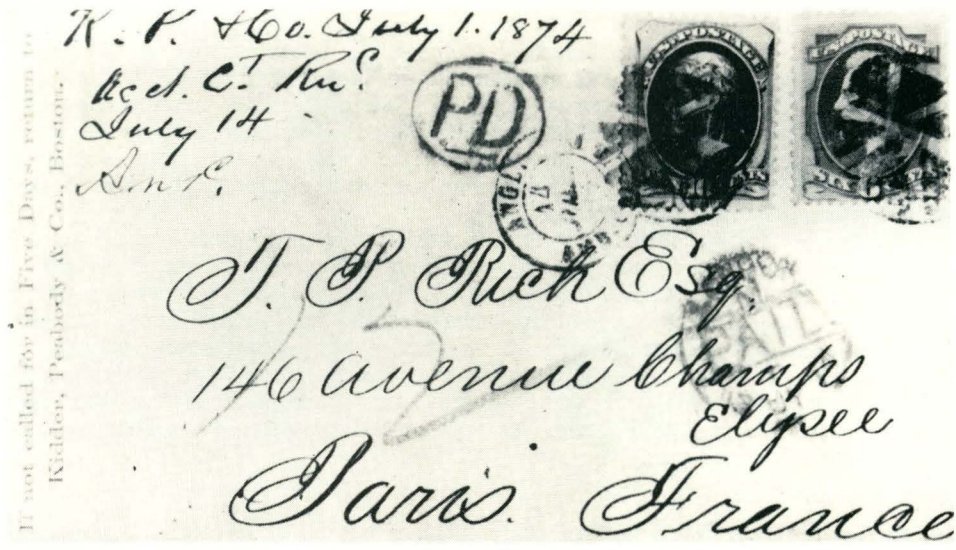


Fig. 7. 16 cents Fully Prepaid Rate, via England to France. Boston Exchange Office. Boston Foreign Mail "killer" is marking #976, Blake and Davis, "Boston Postal Markings to 1890." Throughout the period, Boston showed credits in red crayon. This letter weighed more than 10 grammes, but not more than one half ounce.

also exceptional because it bears a double rate credit of 16 cents, one of two covers bearing this credit known to the author.

This was, indeed, an anomalous situation. Undoubtedly, it could be unique in postal history. There was no official rate, but there was an officially established credit to Britain and an implied United States share of 4 cents. There was a framework without a body. The rate was available to the exchange offices, but unannounced to the public and unknown to the person mailing the letter. Yet, the intent of the mailer was carried out, but only at the caprice of the exchange office. The illusionary nature of this rate suggests the term, "phantom" rate, as being descriptive of it.

The Obstacle

Although it was anticipated that the ratifications would soon be exchanged, an obstacle was encountered. The British law required that any change in a secondary standard of length, weight or capacity should be duly authenticated by comparison with the imperial standard;[11] that it should be made effective by an Order in Council which was to be laid before both Houses of Parliament and published in the London, Edinburgh or Dublin Gazette.[12] The Order in Council appears to have taken some time to secure, but was finally issued on June 4, 1870:[13]

> "Whereas the Lords of the Committee of the Privy Council for Trade have represented to her Majesty that, in order to carry out the terms of a Postal Convention with France, it is expedient that secondary standards of the weight of one-third of an ounce avoirdupois, and two-thirds of an ounce avoirdupois should be legalized. . ."

11. *The Standards of Weights, Measures and Coinage Act,* 1866 — Section 6 (29 and 30 Viet. c82, sect. 6).

12. *ibid,* section 8.

13. *British and Foreign State Papers,* vol. 65, p. 1213.

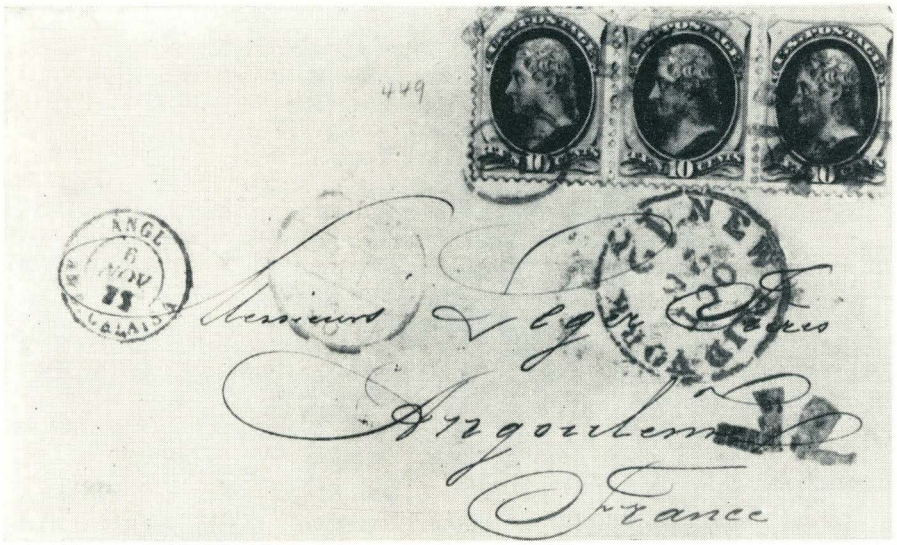


Fig. 8. 20 cents Fully Prepaid Rate, via England, to France (10 cents overpaid). One can only guess the rate the mailer of this letter intended to prepay. At the New York Exchange Office, however, the letter weighed over 10, but not over 20 grammes, necessitating a credit of 12 cents to Britain. This is an example of one of the many overpaid covers of this period. The "New/Paid/York/12" marking is the old "treaty" handstamp which was revived late in 1871. (Melvin W. Schuh Collection)

The above Order in Council was debated in the House of Commons on June 13, 1870.:[14]

> "Mr. Crawford said, he would beg to ask the Postmaster General, whether, when the intended reduction of Postage on letters passing between this country and France has been carried into effect, it will not be fair and equitable to make a corresponding reduction on the postage of letters passing therough France by the Overland Mails to and from the East.
>
> The Marquess of Hartington, in reply, said the additional postal convention agreed upon last September, which was to come into operation on the 1st of next month, provided only for the rate of international letters and was not connected in any way with the transit rate payable for mails conveyed through France. . ."

The ratifications were exchanged on June 16, 1870[15] and, according to the above, the reduced rate became effective between Great Britain and France on July 1, 1870. The United States, however, failed to announce the 10 cents rate, via England, to France, but sometime prior to January, 1871, reduced the rate to Algeria to 10 cents. To what extent the decision not to announce the rate was influenced by the Franco-Prussian war is not known. Certainly, it was not until responsible government was re-established in France that the rate was finally announced.

The New York Exchange Office, however, lost no time in putting the rate into use. The earliest cover bearing a 10 cents prepayment and a 6 cents credit recorded by the late Stanley B. Ashbrook was dated June 28, 1870.[16] The Atlan-

14. Hansard's *Parliamentary Debates*, vol. CCI, p. 1944.

15. Hertslet, Edward, *Commercial and Slave Trade Treaties*, vol. 13, p. 542.

16. Ashbrook, Stanley B., Special Service, Sixth Series, p. 569.

tic cable was then in operation and news of the ratification was probably received on the day of the exchange. Since any departing steamer would require at least a week to reach England, the rate could have been used as early as June 24, 1870.

The 10 cents rate, via England, and its progression was first announced in the U. S. Mail rate table of November, 1871. Covers showing its use prior to November, 1871, were forwarded by the New York Exchange Office under a rate that was unannounced and unknown to the local offices or to the public. After that date, they were forwarded by at least the New York and Boston Exchange Offices under a regularly established rate. Because the 10 cents rate was finally announced and regularly used, while the 12 cents rate was never announced to the local offices or to the public, the term "phantom" is applied only to the 12 cents rate. Nevertheless, covers showing use of the 10 cents rate, via England during the "unannounced rate" period are both very scarce and of great historical interest. The few seen by the author bear a large numeral "6" used by the New York Exchange Office to indicate the credit.

The progression of the 10 cents prepaid rate, via England, is as follows:

Over		*Not Over*		*U. S.*	*British Share*	*Total*
Ounces	*Grammes*	*Ounces*	*Grammes*	*Share*	*(Credit)*	*Postage*
—	—	⅓	10	4¢	6¢	10¢
⅓	10	½	15	4	12	16
½	15	⅔	20	8	12	20
⅔	20	1	30	8	18	26 etc.

While covers showing a credit of 6 cents are not scarce, those showing credits of 12 cents or 18 cents are seldom seen.

The Reported French Decree

In 1956, the late Stanley B. Ashbrook indicated that he knew there should



Fig. 9. 26 cents Fully Prepaid Rate, via England to France. This letter weighed over 20 grammes, but not over one ounce (28.35 grammes), requiring a prepayment of 26 cents and a credit of 18 cents to Britain. Covers showing a credit of 18 cents are rare. (Melvin W. Schuh Collection)



Fig. 10. Prepaid for the 10 cents per one-half ounce "direct" rate at San Francisco, this cover was found to weigh not over 10 grammes at the New York Exchange Office. It was forwarded to France, via England, as fully prepaid to destination. The large numeral "6" (under the PD in oval) was used by the New York Exchange Office to indicate the credit to Great Britain. Only a few covers showing this large numeral "6" have been noted. (J. David Baker Collection)

have been a 12 cents prepaid rate to France in 1870.[21] Hill and Konwiser[22] included a 12 cents rate to France in their table of United States postal rates to foreign countries. What appears to have troubled students is the fact that, while they knew there should have been a 12 cents rate, there were no known covers bearing 12 cents in stamps and a credit "8" to Britain. On the other hand, there were a few such covers bearing a prepayment of 15 cents. Hence, when Ashbrook, early in 1957, unearthed a newspaper article in the "New Orleans Bee" of April 10, 1870, which stated that the rate to France, via England, was 15 cents, he believed that the information it contained was correct. The significant portion of this newspaper article reads as follows:[23]

> "Washington, April 5, 1870. — By a decree of the Emperor of the French, the postage on a letter Via England, of 10 grammes, or three-eights of an ounce, from any part of France to any part of the United States, and *vice versa*, is seventy centimes, or fifteen cents United States money, prepayment not required either in France or the United States. . . ."

A thorough search of all available sources that should normally contain the above decree has failed to disclose it. However, every published decree includes the statement that it was ordered to be published in the "Bulletin of the Laws," which seems to imply that some decrees were not so ordered and, hence, not published. New postal rates were customarily made effective by imperial

21. Letter from Stanley B. Ashbrook to Millard H. Mack. (Courtesy of Mr. Mack.)

22. Hill, George S., and Konwiser, H. M., *Foreign Rates of the United States Post Office* 1847-1875, *Stamps,* April 13, 1935 - July 6, 1935.

23. Ashbrook, *Special Service,* Sixth Series, p. 572.

decree and it is possible that this method was used to make the 70 centimes rate to the United States effective. If such a decree were issued, however, it could not have legislated a postal rate for the United States. *Under no circumstances could Napoleon III have made a rate of 15 cents, or a rate in any amount, effective in the United States.* That is obvious.

Not so obvious, perhaps, is the admixture of fact and fancy in the article. If the content is analyzed and the facts known to be correct are segregated and extracted, they would read as follows:

". . . (1) the postage on a letter Via England . . . (2) from any part of France to any part of the United States . . . is seventy centimes . . . (3) prepayment not required . . . in France . . ."

Conclusion

The numbered omitted portions are analyzed as follows:

(1) There is no proof that a decree was issued, but it is probable that one was used to place the 70 centimes rate to the United States in effect.

(2) Since an Order in Council was required to legalize the one-third ounce (10 grammes) weight, Britain could not have allowed this weight to be used in April, 1870. The three-eights ounce weight is an enigma. One suspects that it might have been a bit of poor arithmetic on the part of the reporter, if he had attempted to convert 10 grammes into ounces.

(3) A fifteen cents rate could not have existed. The U. S.-British treaty provided for a 4 cents United States share of the postage and a British share of 8 cents. A 15 cents rate would have allowed the United States a 7 cents share. This was 3 cents in excess of the legally established amount. Since there was no legal basis for the excess, it would have had to have been constructively construed as a tax. The Post Office Department does not have the power to levy taxes.

Seventy centimes was equal to 14 cents and not 15 cents. The Post Office Department was well aware of that fact, since the exchange offices were marking numerous unpaid letters from France with 14 cents to be collected in the United States. These letters had been dispatched by France at the 70 centimes rate. A 15 cents rate would have placed the Post Office Department in the untenable position of saying that 70 centimes was worth 15 cents on a prepaid letter, but on an unpaid letter it was worth only 14 cents.

Despite the incorrect information contained in the above newspaper article, it does represent the only public announcement of a rate involving the credit "8" to Britain. It certainly required the efforts of a distinguished scholar to find it. One wonders how many 15 cents covers from New Orleans are in existence today because of the publication of this newspaper article.

COMING 1963 MEETINGS

November 20th	— *U. S. Postmaster Provisionals*—John Pope — *Memphis Postmaster Provisionals*—Mrs. John Pope
December 4th	— *Air Mails*—Henry M. Goodkind
December 18th	— *Board of Governors*—Open House

The Clubhouse

Meeting of February 6, 1963

Panama Stamps Used Before The Republic

John N. Myer, specialist in the stamps of Columbia, presented the program for the meeting of February 6, 1963. Because of a misunderstanding, this meeting has not been reported until now. Mr. Myer presented, both in the frames and on color slides the stamps used before the establishment of the Colombian Republic in 1903.

The exhibit fell into three categories: (1) regular Colombian stamps used in Panama, 1859 to 1887; (2) special issues of the national government for use in Panama, 1887 to 1903; and (3) an issue of the State of Panama, 1878.

Since Panama was an integral part of Colombia until November 3, 1903, the regular Colombian stamps were used to carry mail. Thus the cancellations employed in Panama was the subject of discussion in the first part of the lecture. An interesting point brought out was that there were only two post offices on the entire isthmus — Panama City and Colon. Therefore, only these two names are found on covers. This part of the exhibit included the Colombian issues to 1887 on and off cover showing the various types of cancellations used. The excellent slides did much to make this material clear and understandable.

In 1887 the government at Bogota issued a series of stamps for use exclusively in Panama, the Map stamps (Scott, Panama Nos. 8-14). This was done because Panama continued to use metallic currency while the rest of the country went on a paper currency basis. These stamps were lithographed at Bogota by the government's contractor, Demetrio Paredes. In addition to the stamps unused and used on and off cover, Mr. Myer showed proofs and essays prepared by Senor Paredes. He also displayed what are usually referred to as "reprints" of this issue. However, he pointed out that since these were made while the stamps were still in use, they should rather be called a "special printing." It is suspected that they were prepared for philatelic purposes.

A second issue of Map stamps was made in 1892, engraved and printed by the American Bank Note Company. These also were well represented, unused and used on and off cover. Mr. Myer also exhibited a complete set of die proofs of this issue, and, what may be unique, a progress proof of the 10 centavos before addition of lines of latitude and longitude.

A provisional issue consisting of overprints of new values was made in 1894. Mr. Myer showed a considerable number used on cover, a condition in which they are quite difficult to come by.

The climax of the lecture was a showing of the stamps of 1878 (Scott Nos. 1-7) which is an issue of the State of Panama for internal use. Mr. Myer gave an elaborate display of the various printings, unused and used, and in complete sheets. Also, he showed complete sheets of the reprints made in 1890 and demonstrated how to distinguish the reprints from the originals.

Another interesting feature of the showing was a large number of covers of both the first and second French Panama Canal Company.

Once again, we would like to point out that the use of color slides, a feature that is becoming more and more popular with speakers at the club, greatly enhanced Mr. Myer's interesting and informative lecture. (*Ira Zweifach*)

Meeting of June 5, 1963

Great Britain

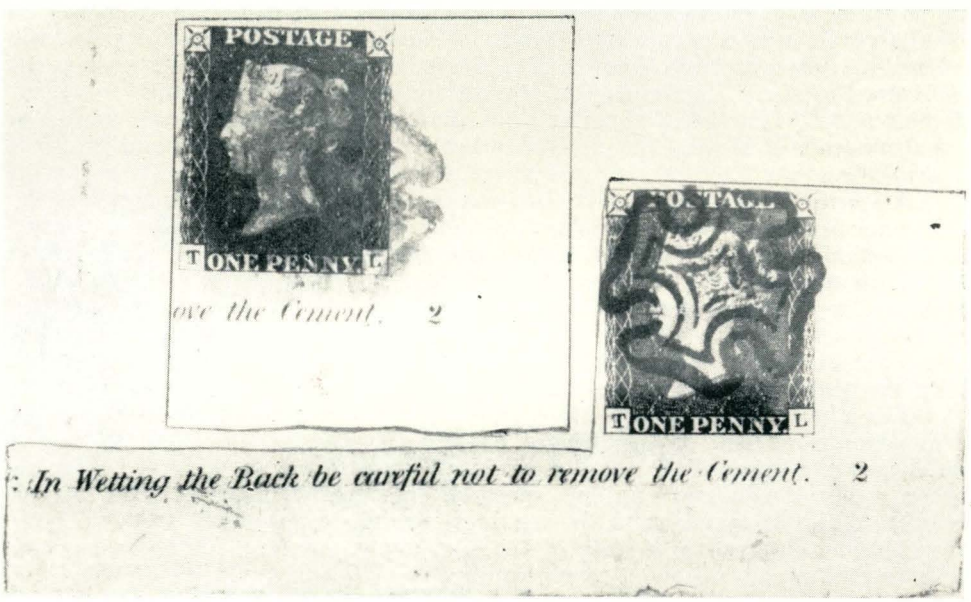
Facets of Great Britain philately in the mid-Victorian era was the subject presented at the June 5 meeting by Wallace W. Knox of Oakland, Calif. His discussion was illustrated by more than 100 colored slides showing highlights of the twenty frames exhibited. The material displayed was selected to show that early Great Britain has something to interest every collector.

Starting with the Bishop and Dockwra type marks and other early cancellations, Mr. Knox explained the early postal system with its inefficiencies, high rates and abuses. Then, he discussed Rowland Hill's successful drive for postal reform, which began in 1837. This resulted in outlawing free franking and doing away with charges based on distance and the number of sheets of paper contained in each communication.

Uniform Penny Postage became effective on January 10, 1840, and on May 6 of that year was implemented by the world's first postage stamps, the penny black and the 2d blue, and the Mulready envelopes and wrappers, which were printed by the government to serve as prepaid envelopes.

The method of preparing and printing the line-engraved stamps was discussed and illustrated with slides showing all of the principal varieties, including re-entries, the various flaws, double letters, as well as vertical and horizontal guidelines. Included were very fine copies of "BA" from the 1d red Plate 77, one with the void "A" and the other with the missing letter restored, as well as the "OP-PC" error on the 1½d of 1870 and the Stock Exchange forgery showing the impossible, bogus lettering "ES."

There were several frames of penny blacks, 1841 reds and 1840 and 1841 2d blues. All of the black plates were represented, both on and off cover, with examples of the various Maltese Cross and 1844 cancellations. Items included were a superb pair of Plate 10 on cover and a cover dated February 22, 1841, with



TL matched (Upper Right) Penny Black and (Lower Left) Penny Red. Both have Plate No. 2. The Black has part of the marginal imprint, while the Red has the full one. Also on the Penny Red the "T" shows doubled.



Mulready Caricature No. 12 published by William Spooner of London. Used from Harrogate September 17, 1840 with a Penny Black from Plate 2.

a "DC" from Plate 11 tied with a Maltese Cross and showing the Shaftesbury datestamp on the front. Another bore a strip of six of the 1841 2d blue from Plate 3 franking a letter dated September 17, 1844, sent by James Buchanan, later President of The United States, from Edinburgh by the Cunard steamer Caledonia to his Wall Street stock broker. Mr. Knox included a page of matched pairs in black from Plates 1A and 1B as well as matched reds and blues from some of the other plates, a block of six from Plate 2, a block of four and a strip of six from Plate 5. An unusual item was the "TL" position from Plate 2 matched in red and black, both showing a full imprint as well as the plate number. There was an exceptional copy with Wotton-under-Edge Maltese Cross on "HE" from Plate 8.

Prior to 1840, envelopes counted as an extra sheet and thereby incurred additional postage, so they were little used. With uniform Penny postage their use became practicable. Mr. Knox showed two varieties of J. W. Buchanan's 1840 prepaid letter sheets and the Houses of Parliament, House of Lords and House of Commons paid envelopes used for a few months prior to the introduction of the adhesive stamps. There was a first-day Mulready envelope used on May 6, 1840, and one that slipped through the mail a day early — on May 5 — when it was not recognized and charged the usual rate. The Mulready section included various uses and a range of advertisements on the wrappers.

The Mulready was an innovation which created surprise and laughter. It was soon smothered out of existence by ridicule and caricature.

The exhibit included a Thackeray caricature, Fore's Comic Envelope No. 1 drawn by John Leech used June 2, 1840 with a penny black, and postally used caricatures by Southgate, Spooner and Menzies as well as Punch's Anti-Graham envelope franked with 1d red.

From caricatures the exhibit went to Fore's comic envelopes drawn by Doyle Brothers, a range of Hume's comic and musical envelopes, Lesage's clerical envelope and ocean penny postage, universal brotherhood, anti-slavery, tem-

perance, free trade, anti-vaccination, vegetarian society, phonography, evils of monopoly, Sunday observance and peace propaganda. These were followed by several frames of pictorial, commercial and exhibition covers, all picked for interest and condition.

Next came a frame with "Ship Letter" cancellations of the seaport towns. When the early ships first touched land, the captains were required by applicable laws to deliver all mail to the postal authorities

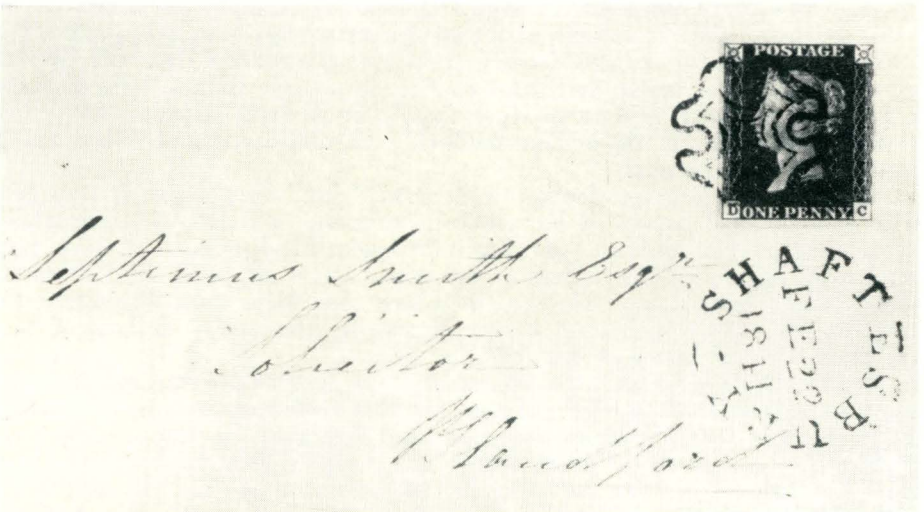
The following two frames showed pictures of the early steamships and covers carried by each. The first of these was the 703-ton B & A Steam Navigation Co. "Sirius," the first vessel to steam continuously across the Atlantic and said to be the first steamer to carry mail. It left Cork April 4, 1838 on its maiden voyage and arrived in New York just a few hours ahead of "the Great Western," which left four days later. Also represented were covers carried on the British "Queen," "Washington," "Sarah Sands," the four Collins Lines steamers and the "Britannia," which inaugurated the Cunard service on July 4, 1840, together with a group of representative Cunard ships.

The early trans-Atlantic rates were explained and illustrated with retaliatory rate covers and envelopes going in both directions, showing rates and usages both before and after the treaty which resulted from the retaliatory action taken by the United States Congress.

Other subjects illustrated and discussed were the embossed stamps and their usage, "Care of Mr. Waghorn" covers, both westbound to Suez and eastbound to Alexandria in the 1838-39 era, covers from various countries showing London transit marks, early registered mail, covers from the wrecks of the P & O Steamers "Ava" on February 16, 1858, and "Colombo" on November 19, 1862, a letter from a prisoner taken at the Battle of Waterloo, the 1799 Army Bag cancellations, believed to be the first of the military handstamps. Last was one frame of Used Abroad covers, including the mailboat cancellation "B57" and a combination cover used January 27, 1868, with the "C63" of Tampico tying



Anti-Vaccination Propaganda cover from Dewsbury postmarked January 14, 1879.



Cover from Shaftesbury postmarked February 22, 1841 with a Penny Black stamp cancelled with a black Maltese Cross. This copy is from Plate 11 from which only 700 sheets were printed. Also this copy is exceptional with wide margins.

a 4d 1865 vermillion to a cover to Vera Cruz which also had a pair of 1868 Mexico 12c green stamps.

This exhibit and lecture fittingly closed the first half of the 1963 program.

Meeting of September 18, 1963

France and Colonies

The France and Colonies Philatelic Society opened the second half of the Meeting programs at The Collectors Club on September 18th with a display of philatelic material that, in the words of program co-chairman, H. D. S. Haverbeck, "has not been seen on these walls in a long time."

He introduced *Charles Bretagne,* Corresponding Secretary of the organization, who then took over the meeting. Mr. Bretagne gave a brief history of the society and its purpose. He then introduced the speakers. They were: *Gustave Wittenberg,* who showed five frames pertaining to the postal history of France from Roman times to the present; Ira Zweifach, editor of "The France and Colonies Philatelist," who spoke on a truly superb collection of the General Colonies of France belonging to *Robert G. Stone.* Mr. Stone is the author of the excellent Steinway Fund handbook, "French Colonies — The General Issues." He was followed by *Jan Kindler,* who displayed what is probably the most complete and highly specialized collection of the 10 centime red Sower issue in existence. Mr. Kindler followed himself and spoke for *William J. Connelly,* who unfortunately could not be present at the meeting. Mr. Connelly's exhibit, which was both in the frames and in color slides, was from his award-winning specialization of the Definitive Issue — 1900-06 of French Congo.

Among the excellent pieces shown by Mr. Wittenberg was an edict by Louis XIV dated 1669, which gave the regulations, benefits and duties of the postmasters of that time. He also showed a large number of the fancy cancellations of the 18th century from such cities as Paris, Toulouse, Bordeaux and several smaller towns.

Mr. Wittenberg also spoke of the military postal service inaugurated by

Napoleon Bonaparte and showed several interesting examples of letters carried by this service to the far corners of the conquerer's empire.

Tracing the history of the French mails from the earliest days, Mr. Wittenberg also covered the origin and usage of French postage stamps. He discussed the printing methods used to produce these stamps from 1849 to the present and showed examples of the various methods involved, changes of issues and development of new designs.

Next came the Stone collection of General Colonies. The five frames devoted to this classical aspect of French collecting was studded with remarkable pieces, many of them unique. Mr. Zweifach began his discussion of these pages with a brief history of the origins of the postal issues supplied the French Colonies in those early days. He explained how each issue came about and how finally in the 1890's with each colony producing distinctive designs of their own, these General Issues at last fell into disuse.

Mr. Zweifach discussed the killers of "lozenges" of dots used to cancel these stamps from 1860 to 1876, pointing out that each post office had a different type (sometimes several) which might be identified when on stamps off cover.

Also discussed were the many shades and varieties to be found among these interesting issues which range from the issue known as the "Eagles," little square vignettes showing a crowned eagle within a medallion, through the Ceres, Napoleon heads and Sage and Alphee-Dubois types.

Among the covers shown by Mr. Stone was one remarkable piece with two strips of five of the 10 centimes Eagle, each strip containing the extremely scarce sidewise variety. Another cover dated 1869 showed the earliest usage presently known of the Sage stamps in Guadeloupe.

Extremely rare were two covers locally used in Guadeloupe, each with a strip of four of the 5 centimes Napoleon issue, a very scarce stamp in general, and of which only 15,000 were sent to that colony. Printed-matter mail with the General Issues is also very scarce; the rates involved use of the 1 centime stamps. Several of these items were shown. The formula-type post card which had to have adhesives affixed are also difficult to find. Mr. Stone showed several of these.

There were also covers cancelled by the anchor-in-dots or the line postmark of the French Mail packets, as well as those of British packets. A number of covers showed the special reduced rate for military personnel (Correspondances d'Armees), and the special postmarks used to indicate them.

Of interest was a cover with the rare "GPE" lozenge in use only one year.

In addition there were many, many covers from the small town post offices in Guadeloupe and Martinique, all very difficult to obtain, as well as many single stamps to show shades, varieties and postmarks. This most interesting collection showed much research and thought.

Mr. Kindler with his highly specialized collection of the 10 centimes red Sower now took the floor. He began with a discussion of the printing methods, plate construction and the amazing variety of inks and paper used to produce these popular stamps, which remained in use from 1906 to 1922. He also called attention to the several different dies and reworkings of dies that were brought into being to meet the tremendous demand for this widely distributed stamp.

In addition to the printing history of this issue, Mr. Kindler discussed numerous varieties both old and recently discovered. He pointed out that the Sower stamp with the ground beneath the feet, which is generally accepted as a regular issue, is in truth an emergency issue made from the design of an unadopted stamp, a fact little known by collectors.

To illustrate this complex issue, Mr. Kindler showed booklets, sheets, blocks, singles, die proofs, essays, original drawings, postal forgeries and unusual usages such as encased postage, bisects on cover, overprints and cancellations from many different countries and French colonies. *(Ira Zweifach)*

Afghanistan

Its Twentieth Century Postal Issues — Part 13

By Frank E. Patterson III

(*Continued From Page 301*)

CHAPTER X

Essays, Proofs And Specimens

Essays:

From personal observation it would appear that not many of the various types of essays prepared for the 20th century issues have found their way into collectors' hands. Of all that must have been made during the past fifty years, the writer has seen only relatively few items and has been unable to locate any others.



Fig. 216

About half of the elusive essays seen were prepared in 1931 for the "1st Monument" regular postage series, and consist of prototypes for the 10, 15, 40 and 50 poul denominations (Fig. 216). Copies of the 40 poul value are the commonest. The "Bala Hisar" and "Memorial Pillar" motifs were ultimately used on the 15 and 40 poul stamps of the issued set. These essays come in the following states:

— Die proof of the 10 poul with a medium blue frame and sepia center on thin card;
— Ditto of the 10 poul vignette in sepia on thin card
— Ditto of the 50 poul frame in turquoise blue on thin card
— Color trials consisting of a block of 6 (2x3) in reverse impression (transfer laydown?) in the center of a large plain background sheet on medium wove paper. The background is in the same color as the essay block and is separated from it by an irregular colorless frame. Examples seen include sheets of the 10 poul in venetian red, turkey red and black-purple, the 10 poul vignette in dark sepia, the 40 poul in deep indigo blue and the 50 poul frame in turquoise blue;
— Plate proof sheets of 36 (6x6) of the 10, 15 and 40 poul in light turquoise blue on ungummed toned batonne laid paper with a manufacturer's watermark;
— Similar sheet as above of 15 poul in medium blue.
— Die proof of 40 poul alternate design in darkish chestnut on gummed wove paper. Design is vertical rectangle with enlarged view of Memorial Pillar against a half-tone sky.

The next interesting group consists of an odd assortment of regular postage stamps of the 1921 thru 1929 issues surcharged for air mail usage. The overprint (Fig. 217) consists of star-rayed National Seal, measuring 11mm overall with the French legend "Postes Aerienne" underneath and a new value in afghanis below. This legend is curved upward on the vertical format stamps but is in a straight line on those of horizontal design. On the 7½ afghani, the new denomination is enclosed in a scroll frame. These items are very scarce, regardless of their origin, and, therefore, could not have been produced in quantity.

After seeing the first three varieties, the writer considered the possibility that these unknowns might represent essays prepared by the Post Office about 1928 for a provisional air mail issue. Amanullah's progressive government had a small fleet of planes piloted by Russian aviators, and air mail service was probably under consideration prior to the revolution. However, when one of Nadir Shah's definitives was reported with a similar surcharge by W. S. Boggs, an overprinting date of 1930 or later was indicated (Fig. 217a). The following



Fig. 217



Fig. 217a

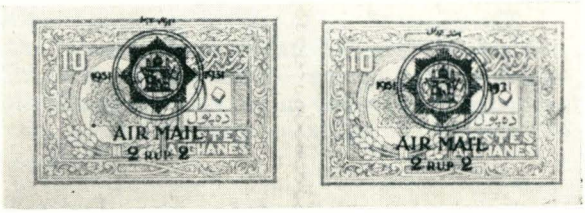


Fig. 217b

varieties have been seen:

Fig. 21 40 poul ultramarine surcharged in red — 7½ Af
Fig. 22 50 poul carmine red surcharged in black — 7½ Af
Fig. 18 60 poul bright blue surcharged in red — Af 15 Af
Fig. 12 10 poul rose imperf. surcharged in green — 25 A
Fig. 18 60 poul gray black surcharged in red — 25 A

Another scarce set of air mail overprint essays exists from the same period that is even more baffling than the first one. The only reference seen on these is found in the anonymous handbook "An Airmail Collector's Notebook." But no information other than an incomplete list of varieties is given. The surcharge itself (Fig. 217b) is composed of the star-rayed National Seal enclosed within a double-lined circle measuring 11mm in diameter with a short legend in Arabic script above and the date 1931 repeated on each side. This legend, occuring both normal and inverted, is almost indecipherable but appears to be in Urdu rather than Farsi. Below the Seal are the words "AIR MAIL" and the new value expressed in rupees. The following denominations are reported:

Fig. 19 10 poul brown surcharged in black — 2 Rup 2
Fig. ? 30 poul dk blue green surcharged in red — 3 Rup 3
Fig. 16 15 poul rose, imperf, surcharged in black — 4 Rup 4

The "handbook" also lists three other items in this group, namely: "AIR-MAIL" on large format, on toned paper, perforated; 6 rup on rose, long format, perforated; Red on dark grey, perforated. However, these descriptions defy recognition in the absence of the actual specimens and the writer can provide no further details. In any event, the use of English and the term "rupee" makes these labels highly suspect. In the author's opinion, they are most probably private productions rather than government essays.

* (Fig. 19) 10 poul brown surcharged 2 afg in black, imperf
* (Fig. 17) 30 poul dark green surcharged 3 afg in red, imperf
* (Fig. 16) 15 poul rose surcharged 4 afg in black
* (Fig. ?) ? poul rose surcharged 6 afg in ?

Essays of the first definitive air mail series were made about 1938-39 and closely resemble the actual stamps. They are sometimes offered as copies of the 1947 imperforate set. However, their true character is readily apparent when it is noted that all three denominations are the same size and measure 21¾mm x 35¼mm. Only the 5 and 10 afghani values of the real definitives are of this size while the 20 afghani, as issued, is noticeably smaller and measures but 20½mm x 33½mm. Minor design differences will be noted upon close observation. The most easily seen variations are found in the lower corner value tablet numerals and lettering. These are of relatively thick, variable Roman type on the issued stamps. On the essays they are very thin and are formed by

*"An Airmail Collector's Notebook"

lines of even width. The colors of the two lower denomination essays are bright and match the issued colors. That of the 20 afghani essay has a decided olive green cast. The essays are well printed on a good medium white wove paper with a vertical mesh pattern and come in imperforate condition.

Proofs

With few exceptions, proofs of the 20th century issues are not common, most are scarce and some are rare. Functionwise, they can be separated into three basic categories, namely: die or plate proofs in black or shades of blue, trial color proofs and final issue color proofs. The majority of the proofs since 1931 have been printed on a special ungummed medium-hard white surfaced wove paper, while the proofs of earlier issues were made on the normal stamp paper of the period. All were released imperforate. Paper and perforation exceptions are noted where applicable. The writer has made no extensive effort to build up a comprehensive group of these items and only lists here, for the record, those proofs known to him. Some examples have been invalidated by crossed pen or pencil lines, or even by a postal cancellation, presumably to prevent their use for postage. In spite of this, proofs are known cancelled on cover, some of which have passed through the post, but these can only be considered as philatelic favors. If the writer had so desired, he too could have originated similar examples of such "postal usage."

1892-1906 Definitive Issues
Plate proofs on standard colored wove tissue paper, pasted on sheets of a thin tough pinkish-buff paper and certified with a round black handstamp, 26mm in diameter, applied in the center of each block of four subjects. The imprint is often blurred and resembles a bottle cork blot, but on clear strikes the colorless National Arms and an inscription can be discerned.

1909 Definitive Issue
Plate proofs of all values in dull black on "H & J" watermarked wove paper.

1932 "National Council" Issue
Issue color proofs on the surfaced paper, both perforated 11¾ and imperforate. Complete sheets of the imperforate proofs are not uncommon.

1932 Definitive "1st Monuments" Issue
Die proofs singles on thin card and issue color proofs on the surfaced paper, imperforate. Individual denominations on the surfaced paper are found perforated 11¾.

1934 Definitive "2nd Monuments" Issue
Issue color proofs on the surfaced paper, imperforate. The 3 afghani value is known perforated 11.

1939 Definitive Issue
Trial color proof of the 1 afghani on the surfaced paper with the design plate printed in black over a solid light rose lilac background plate. This item could also be considered as an essay for a bi-colored two plate printing.

1941 23rd Independence Issue
Plate proofs of both values in greenish indigo on the surfaced paper.

1942 24th Independence Issue
Color trial of the 35 poul in dull yellow green on a poor grade of ungummed and unsurfaced wove paper with a distinctive mesh.

1943 25th Independence Issue
Plate proof of the 1.25 afghani in cobalt blue on yellowish newsprint.

1944 Definitive Issue
Plate proofs of the 35 and 70 poul denominations in blue and darkish blue respectively on the surfaced paper.

1932-38 Newspaper Issues
Final proofs in the various issue colors on the surfaced paper.

1909 Official Issue
Plate proof in dull black on "H & J" watermarked wove paper.

1939 Official Issue
Reverse impression die proof (transfer laydown?) of the 45 poul in jet black on hard ungummed white wove paper with a crown watermark.

1921 Parcel Post Issue
Trial color proof of the 10 poul in turquoise blue on soft wove paper.

1928 Parcel Post Issue
Die proof of the 2 afghani in issue color on gummed paper.

1929-30 Parcel Post Issue
Trial color proof of the 3 afghani in purple on the gummed white wove paper used for the issued stamps.

1950 Surtax Issue
Plate proof of the "Royal Welcome" issue in turquoise blue on the surfaced paper.

1931 Postal Stationery — Postal Cards
Definitive "Numerals" Issue
Cliché proof of the 4 poul in green. Vertical pair on thinnish cream wove paper.
Cliché proof of the 8 poul in gray brown. Three vertical pairs widely spaced on medium toned wove paper with map of Khost campaign on back.
Plate proof (4 subjects) of 8 poul in brown on very thin toned wove paper.

Specimens

So far as the writer can ascertain, only the 1929 and 1932 issues of King Nadir Shah were overprinted to indicate specimen status. Furthermore, their use as such appears to have been primarily for internal purposes. All Afghan stamps distributed through the Universal Postal Union, from 1928 to date, have been in normal 'issue' condition except for some of the said 1929 series. The overprint on these consists of a 2.6mm high capital S, handstamped in purple ink. This S overprint was not equally applied to all sheets and generally only one or two values of the reference sets sent out by the UPU were so imprinted. The 10 poul denomination is the one most commonly encountered with this handstamp.

The overprint on the several 1932 series consists of the Farsi words "batil shod" (invalidated) and it exists in several types which differ only in overall length. It was machine-printed in black on final color plate proof sheets and on special die proof sheets apparently prepared for the purpose. The special sheets were typographed on both thin card and on an ungummed medium hard-surfaced white wove paper. Two such sheets comprised a set, the first of which contained the die proofs of fourteen revenue stamps and five postage stamps to the 25 poul, while the second contained fifteen die proofs consisting of the balance of the "1st Monuments" series, the 80 poul "Liberation Monument" and the "National Council" set. The subjects were so arranged that the sheets could not be perforated with the line machines available. The overprint on such sheets measures 7.25mm.

Many of the above specimens are found cancelled with the PM-26 type

postmark dated 28.2.46 from Kabul. These come from a quantity of surplus sheets released from the files of the Kabul main post office in early 1946.



Fig. 218



Fig. 218a

The following varieties are known:

Overprint 7.25mm long; (on die proofs) (Fig. 218)
— All values of the "National Council" and "1st Monument" series on thin card, imperforate
— Ditto on the surfaced paper, imperforate

Overprint 9.25mm long; (on plate proofs)
— All values of the "National Council" and "1st Monuments" series on the surfaced paper, imperforate
— Ditto perforated 11¾
— The 2 afghani "Monument" on double paper, perforated
— The 80 poul "Liberation Monument" on surfaced paper, perforated

Overprint 10mm long (Fig. 218a); (on plate proofs)
— The 2 poul and 20 poul on the surfaced paper, imperforate

CHAPTER XI

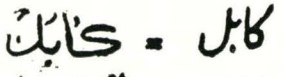
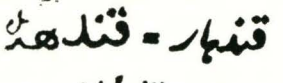
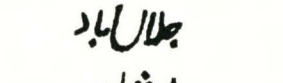
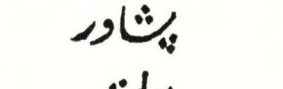
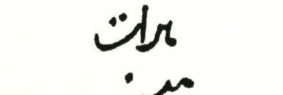
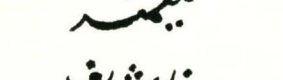
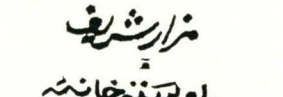
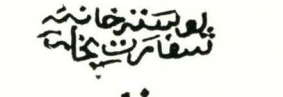
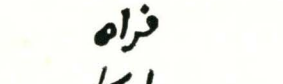
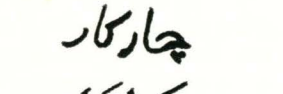
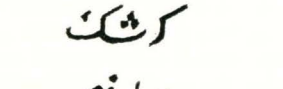
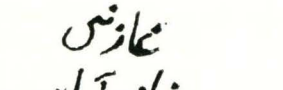
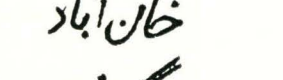
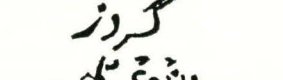
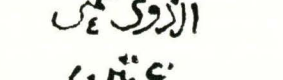
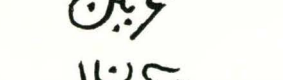
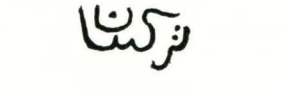
Postal Markings

The various types of markings used by the Afghan Postal Administration on letter and parcel mail are few in number and straightforward in their employment. The following categories are or have been used, namely: plain cancellations (PC), regular dated postmarks (PM), special postmarks (SPM), transit postmarks (TPM), registry postmarks (RPM), registry markings (RM) and postage due cancellations (PDC). These initials, together with a number, serve as a reference to the markings described and illustrated full-size on Plates I, II, III and IV in the subsequent text. Some of these can be found only showing usage at Kabul. Most of the postal markings since 1910 have been applied in black ink and exceptions are noted where applicable.

These markings, excluding the Kabul foreign mail postmarks introduced in 1928, were monolingual until early 1932. Lest the Arabic script and numerals used should tend to discourage anyone from attempting to correctly place and date the various specimens encountered, it seems pertinent to give a general resumé of the subject prior to discussing the individual markings themselves. Determination of the point of origin of legible impressions is thus facilitated. The number of post offices provided with cancellation equipment before 1930 was limited. A list of those most commonly encountered is provided below with their names shown in the corresponding Arabic script. Different type fonts were employed so some variations must be expected from the examples shown.

Converting Cancellation Dates

The following Afghan post office names are the ones most commonly found on the postmarks prior to 1930:

Kabul	
Qandahar	
Jalalabad	
Peshawar	
Herat	
Maimana	
Mazar-i-Sherif	
Bokhara Embassy Mazar	
Ferah	
Charikar	
Kushk	
Ghazni	
Khanabad	
Gardez	
Hq - National Forces	
Ghartin	
Turkestan	
Tashkurghan	
Qataghan	

Conversion of the indicated dates to those of the Gregorian calendar, however, is much more complex and requires a basic understanding of Afghan dating practices. Briefly, the Islamic lunar year calendar of 355 days duration was in official use when the first dated cancellations were introduced with the new year of 1325 A.H. (February 1907). The dates read from right to left and the month name, in the center, was indicated by an appropriate abbreviation. This system continued until the end of the lunar year 1338 A.H. (14 September, 1920), when the Islamic solar calendar year of 365 days, which had been gaining in popular favor since 1915, was adopted for general use by the government. The official change-over appears to have been scheduled for the beginning of solar 1300 (21 March 1921) which was the 20th of Rajab 1339 lunar.

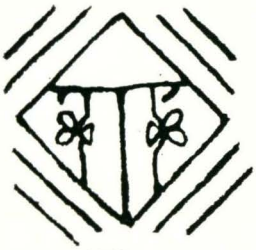
Obviously, the calendar changeover was attended by considerable confusion and evidences of this are to be found in the postal markings from late 1920 through 1921. During this period the markings may carry the lunar year dates of either 1339 or 1340, or that of solar 1300. Scarce specimens are known with the solar date of 1299. The year 1300 was often indicated by the number 13 followed by a blank space instead of the correct two Arabic zero dots. Examples are not uncommon of mixed lunar and solar calendar indica, so care must be exercised in correctly recognizing and dating these.

By the end of 1921 most Afghan post offices had received and placed in use the solar month indica, and postmark dating thereafter generally presents no difficulties. In 1922, for some reason, probably political, the extra-territorial post office at Peshawar departed from the newly established standard and re-introduced the lunar calendar dating in all its markings. This anomaly continued until 1925, when public mailings through that office ceased. The only other reported deviation from the solar calendar is understood to have taken place at Kabul under the rebel Amir in 1929. His reign lasted from Shah'ban, 1347 to Jamadi I, 1348 (Jahdi 1307-Mizan 1308) (January - October 1929), and these lunar year dates were used on the overprinted stamps and coins of the Saqao regime. Their use in the postal markings would appear to be a reasonable assumption, but evidence is lacking.

To recapitulate; the lunar year is ten to eleven days shorter than the solar year, so Islamic lunar dates never coincide with the same Islamic solar or Gregorian dates of the preceding or subsequent years. Therefore, when converting dates from the lunar to the Gregorian calendar, it is first necessary to know when the particular lunar year started, and to balance the appropriate number of lunar month days against those of the Gregorian. Conversely, since the Islamic solar and Gregorian years are equivalent in length, and the corresponding annual dates coincide, except during leap years, they can be compared to each other by using the formula of 1/1/1300 A.H. equals 21/3/1921 A.D., and then adding to or subtracting from each side the same number of years, months and/or days. Comprehensive tables are included at the end of this chapter that will enable the interested collector to determine precisely the Gregorian usage dates of cancelled stamps and covers.

Regular Postmarks

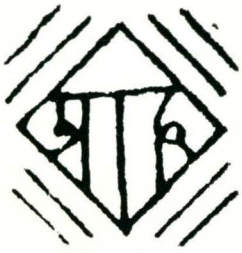
Returning to the subject of the postal markings themselves, we find that although the extra-territorial post office at Peshawar used its own special round postmark during the Sher Ali period (1871-78), the first general Afghan cancellation was not introduced until about 1891. This cancel (type PC-1), was continued in use until 1906. Examples occasionally are seen on stamps of the 1907 and 1909 series. It was also employed as a precancel to indicate "postage paid" on envelopes mailed during certain periods in 1903 and 1906 (PSA) when postage stamps were not available. Sepia and dull violet inks were often



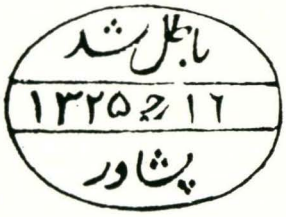
PC-1

۱ : 1	۶ : 6
۲ : 2	۷ : 7
۳ : 3	۸ : 8
۴ : 4	۹ : 9
۵ : 5	٠ : 0

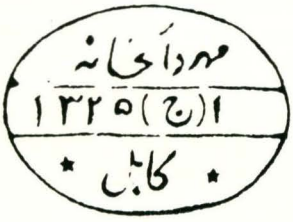
Arabic Numerals



PC-IX



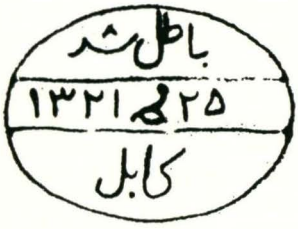
PM-2



PM-3



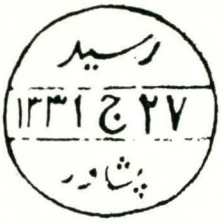
PM-3A



PM-2X



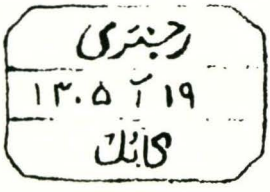
RPM-4



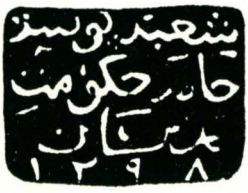
TPM-5



TPM-5A



RPM-6



SPM-7



PDC-9A



PDC-9B



PDC-10

Plate I



PDC - 10



SPM-8



PDC- 9 ¢

Plate II

utilized. The squared diamond design of this cancel is rather unusual and has been referred to as the "batila" on the basis that the decorative side bars are formed by the word "batil" (invalid) in Kufic caligraphy. The writer regards them are merely ornaments. A wide range of colors can be found, but can generally be grouped into four classifications; black mixtures, reds ranging from brick to orange, blues blending from greenish to dark, and purples shading to magentas. Other colors appear to be accidental mixtures of the above. Several counterfeits of this cancellation have been made and they are often seen in dull grey purple or dirty greyish black, as well as in other colors. PC-1 is a typical example of these fraudulent marks.

Oval regular postmarks (types PM-2 and PM-3), made their appearance with the engraved postage series in Muharram, 1325 (February 1907). Type PM-2 was issued to all central and major regional post offices and remained the standard canceller until replaced by type PM-24 in 1932. The inscription at the top reads "Batil shod" (cancelled) and the name of the post office appears at the bottom. The date line has the day on the right, the year on the left, and the month name abbreviation in the center. Year dates from 1325 to 1348 are lunar calendar, while those from 1299 thru 1314 are solar calendar. Postmarks dated 1325 to 1327 are found in all the colors noted under type PC-1; with later dates they are usually in black. Examination of several hundred examples does not confirm previous suppositions that each province employed a separate color to show origin. On the contrary, the evidence indicates that the various colors denoted the type of service performed or provided. The writer's conclusion is that each post office, prior to 1910, used black on originating, blues on transit, purples on incoming mail for local delivery, and reds on registered mail.

Replacement cancellers were provided as needed during the long period that type PM-2 was in use and minor variations can be noted. Similarly, different date numeral indica and month font can be recognized by the specialist. A fairly good counterfeit of this type with Kabul imprint, see PM-2x, was made in the early 1930's. It is not uncommon and can be found on all postal issues from the 1907 to the 1931 issues, as has been noted previously. The date on this counterfeit never varies, reading 25 Muharram 1321 (April 1903!), thereby anticipating the appearance of the genuine postmark by four years. The writer has only seen it in black.

Type PM-3 was apparently issued to the main post office at Kabul only. It differs from the standard type PM-2 in that the inscription at the top reads "Muhr dak khana" (Mark of the Postal Service) instead of "batil shod," the month name abbreviation is in parenthesis, and stars appear before and after the name "Kabul." Normal ink color practices were followed. This foreign mail cancel was replaced in 1916 by a somewhat similar one (type PM-3A), which has the same inscription but is without the parentheses and stars. This



SPM-11



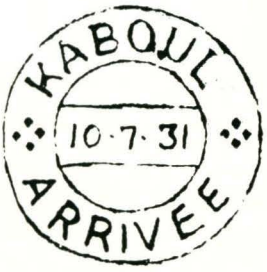
TPM-12



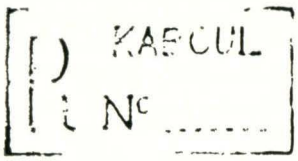
PM-13



PM-13A



TPM-14



RM-15



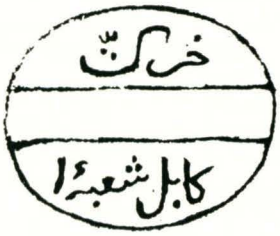
RM-16



SPM-19



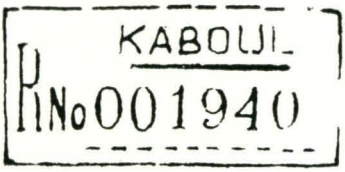
TPM-20



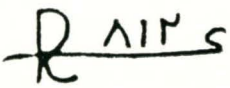
SPM-23



RM-22A



RM-21



RM-22B

Plate III

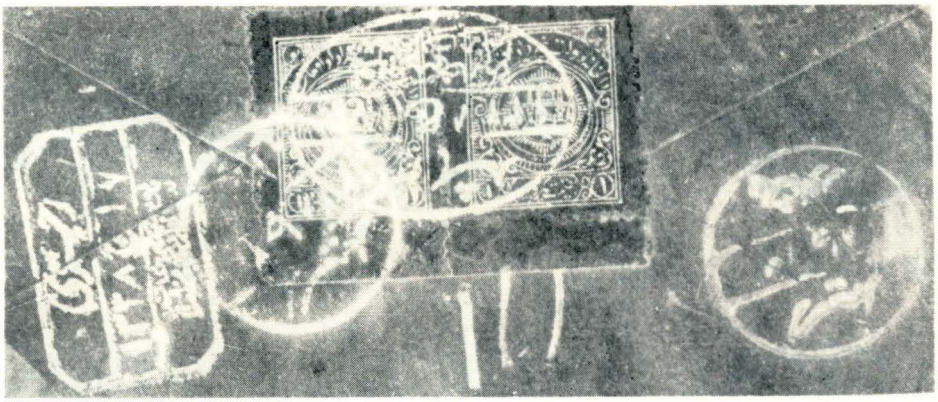


Fig. 219. Typical example of 1909-1929 postal markings usage. Cover mailed at the Bokhara Postal Agency in Mazar-i-Sherif on 17 Jamadi I, 1338 (7 Feb. 1920). Stamps canceled with standard oval postmark and registration status indicated by rectangular registry postmark. Receipt at Kabul on 3 Jamadi II (26 Feb.) noted by round transit marking on stamps. Similar marking on left shows final receipt in Peshowar on 12 Jamadi II (8 March). (Courtesy of Major Adrian Hopkins)

latter was withdrawn about 1921, being rarely found in any color except black.

Two new supplementary postal markings came into service about mid-1909 and, with their introduction, the use of the many different colored inks practically ceased. The rectangular marking (type RPM-4) is inscribed "Rejistry" at the top and the post office name is at the bottom. It was normally impressed on the envelope in conjunction with the regular oval postmark, and only rarely used as a cancel. The round marking (types TPM-5 and TPM5A) inscribed "Reseed" (Received) at the top, was normally backstamped on incoming or transit mail. It seems to have been used only as a postmark on stamps reaching the post office uncancelled. This practical visual recognition system, with oval regular, rectangular registry, and round transit postal markings, continued in general use for nearly twenty years and greatly simplifies correct philatelic identification and classification.

About May, 1913 a large registry mark with more sharply angled corners (Type RPM-6) appeared on covers from Mazar and Peshawar. The writer has no evidence of its use in Kabul prior to October, 1918. This type ultimately replaced those handstamps of the previous design as they were retired by the individual post offices. This marking is fairly common on the various stamp issues through 1931. It was apparently intended to be used as a cancellation on registered mail instead of the regular postmark. After 1929 it occurs oftener in blue or green ink than in black.

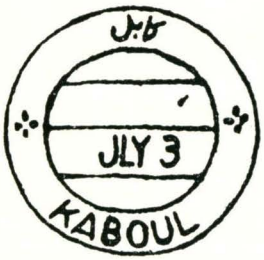
An elusive non-standard rectangular cancellation (type SPM-7) is occasionally seen on stamps of the 1918 and 1921 series in blue, purple or black. The inscription, colorless against a solid background, reads "Shuhbeh posteh - hasar Hakumat - Lamqahn - 1298" (Postal Section - Government House - Lamqahn - 1298). The Lamqahn district, better known as Laghman, had no post office of its own prior to the late 1930's, and local mail was normally handled through Jalalabad, some 20 miles or more away.

The Laghman region contains beautiful wild mountain country and it was very popular with the royal court for resort and hunting activities during the first quarter of the 20th century. On such outings a postal clerk was in attendance to service the court correspondence. His headquarters was probably in the old citadel at Kalat-us-Saraj. Long lacking a postmark, it would be practical for some progressive clerk to have one made locally. The plain design, learned phrasing, and early official use of the Islamic solar calendar date of 1298 (1919), suggest such origin. The latest dated usage of this cancel seen by

(Text Continued on Page 364)



PM-24



PM-24X



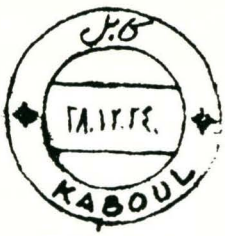
SPM-25



PM-26



PM-26A



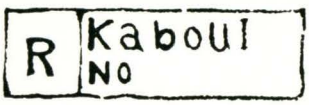
PM-27



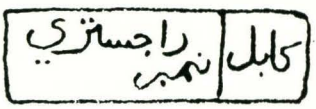
RM-28



RM-29



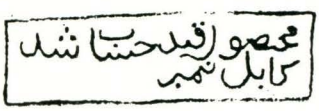
RM-30



RM-31



RM-29A



RM-32

Plate IV

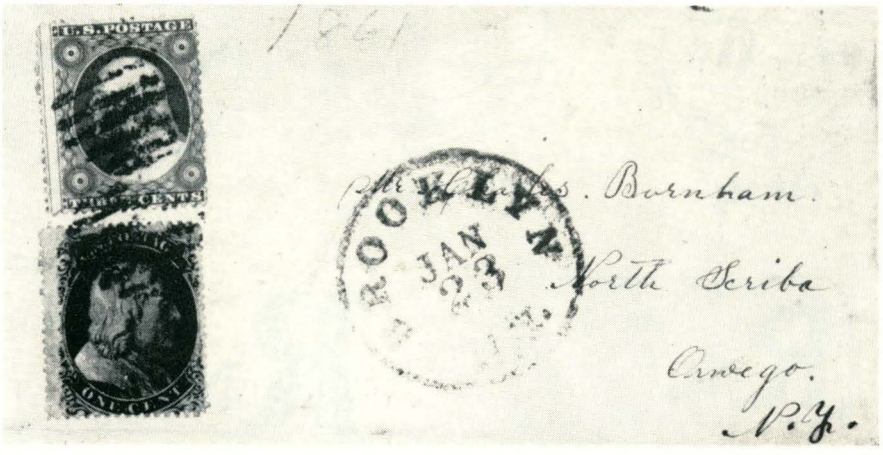
Uncommon Use Of Common Stamps

What our readers wish to see is a properly used cover having a common stamp that catalogs for $10 or less. But on cover this item's value is many times the standard catalog price for the stamp off cover, either unused or used.

You may own such material. Then it is hoped that you will send it to The Editor, Collectors Club Philatelist, 22 East 35 Street, New York 16, N. Y.

United States

1c Postage Stamp Used As A Carrier Stamp



(Photo by Boutrelle)

This cover postmarked "Brooklyn, N. Y. January 23, 1861" has on it both a 1-cent blue and a 3-cent red of the 1857-61 issue.

The reason for the 1-cent stamp was to prepay the Carrier Fee, so that it took this letter to the Post Office in Brooklyn, N. Y. The 3-cents stamp, of course, carried this cover from Brooklyn, N. Y. to Oswego, N. Y.

Afghanistan *(Continued from Page 362)*

the writer was on a cover backstamped at Jalalabad in Mizan 1303 (Oct. 1924), but it was probably employed through 1926.

Type SPM-8 is representative of a group of special circular postal markings that occasionally are found on both regular and official stamps from about 1919 through 1930. Earlier usage is possible. The round designs of varying sizes consist of a pattern of colorless lettering on a solid background and are known handstamped in purple, green and black. The impressions are usually blurred and impossible to fully decipher. The writer is of the opinion, based on cover evidence and the scarce readable Farsi word, that these are military field post cancellations.

(To Be Continued)

United States

The 1851-57 Twelve Cent Stamp — Part 6

By Mortimer L. Neinken

(*Continued From Page 283*)

Supplementing the above, are some additional facts. 28R3 is one of the best shifts on the plate.

The spacing between 18R3 and 28R3 is about ¼ MM, whereas, the spacing horizontally always measures at least ⅞ MM.

The blur on 58R3, 48R3 and 38R3, in the "S" of "U. S." is located in exactly the same place on each of these stamps, and therefore was surely the result of some foreign substance that adhered to the relief, and this same relief rocked three adjoining positions in a vertical row.

No. 8R3 is the regulation distance of ⅞ MM above 18R3, but still it measures about ½ MM below 7R3 and 9R3.

Why Toppan Carpenter used a one relief roll in making Plate 1 of the twelve cent in 1851, when they were using three relief rolls to make other plates, and why this firm nine years later used a one relief roll to make a similar 12 cent plate, when they were using multiple relief rolls in making other plates, cannot be explained by us at this time. It is logical to suppose that the same One Relief Roll used in 1851 was again used in 1860.

From Plate 3 come the varieties of the 12c stamps, known as "double side lines." It has been incorrectly stated in articles in the past that these double side line stamps come from both the right and left panes of Plate 3, "but the partial reconstruction of this plate by Col. Tracy virtually proves that all such varieties originate only from the left pane. These extra side line varieties are the result of vertical lines ruled from the top to the bottom of the plate, and while not always continuous, they generally are found extending the full length of the stamp.

It is believed that each position in the third vertical row had an extra line to the



Fig. 55. (Positions 93 and 94L3).

right of the right outside frame line, and each position in the fourth vertical row had an extra line to the left of the left outside frame line.

Thus two extra vertical lines were ruled between the 3rd and 4th vertical rows. The distance of these extra lines varies from what appears to be on some copies as a doubled appearance of the frame line to ⅜ MM (Figure 55).

Both of these extra lines are of about the same thickness as the outside frame lines.

On some of the positions in the fourth vertical row the extra line is so close to the outside left frame line, that it has the appearance in single copies of an attempt to recut the frame line; however, such was not the case. (Figure 55).

Between the 7th and 8th vertical rows of the left pane is a single line, which we believe runs from the top to the bottom of the plate. This line measures from ½ to ¾ MM to the right of the right frame line of stamps in the 7th row, and about 1½ MM from stamps in the eighth row, and is heavier than the other extra lines, and therefore heavier than the side lines of the stamps.

Figure 56 shows part of a block of 4 which includes 87L3, 88L3, 97L3, and 98L3.

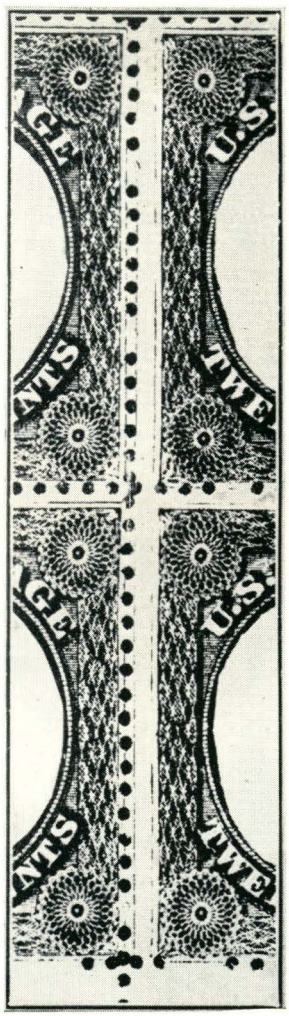


Fig. 56

The extra line can be distinguished in the cut just to the right of the perforations. This extra line is very similar to the center pane line, as the distance between the right and left panes measures only 1¾ to 1½ MM, which is less than the distance between certain vertical rows on the plate.

In reference to the Center Line of the plate, this line is heavily drawn, especially so at the bottom, and measures ⅝ to ¾ MM from stamps in the right pane, and ⅞ to 1 MM from stamps in the left pane. (Figure 57).



Fig. 57

There is a slight break in the Center Line at the top, opposite the top of the stamps in the top row.

Stamps showing the Center Line generally show a straight edge at right or left along the Center Line, whereas, stamps from the 7th and 8th vertical rows are always perforated.*

Thus it will be noted that out of every 200 stamps printed from Plate 3, there were 30 copies which had extra side lines exclusive of those showing the regular pane or Center Line.

We do not know at this time why these extra lines were drawn on the plate.

While the reconstruction of the plate is not complete, the distribution of the guide dots seems to be as follows:

Dots are found in or near the lower right hand corner of nearly all positions. except the 10th vertical rows of each pane.**

This confirms our theory that Plate 1 was rocked from top to bottom and Plate 3 from bottom to top, as dots in the top row of Plate 1 are above the upper right and left corners of the designs, with no dots below the positions in the bottom row, whereas, on Plate 3, dots are found below the lower right corner of the design of the bottom row and also in the top row, but no dots are found above the designs in the latter row.

The dots on Plate 3 are not consistent in size, shape, or position, but vary greatly.

Another point confirming our theory regarding how the two plates were rocked is as follows: Plate One has the greatest number of shifts in the top row, whereas Plate Three has the greatest number in the bottom row.

The principal shifts on Plate 3 are 8R3, 28R3 (Figure 58), 38R3, 92R3 (Figure 59), 95R3, 98R3 (Figure 60), and 92L3. Shift 92R3 is the most pronounced on the plate. Other minor shifted transfers have been noted, but their positions are unknown at this time, due to the fact that the reconstruction of the plate has not been completed.

*Refers to the extra vertical lines between the two rows. (*M. L. N.*)

**There are no guide dots on the designs of the tenth vertical row of the right pane but in the author's collection are four singles from the tenth row of the left pane, each showing a guide dot. Therefore, it can be assumed that nearly all of the designs in the tenth vertical row of the left pane had a guide dot. (*M. L. N.*)

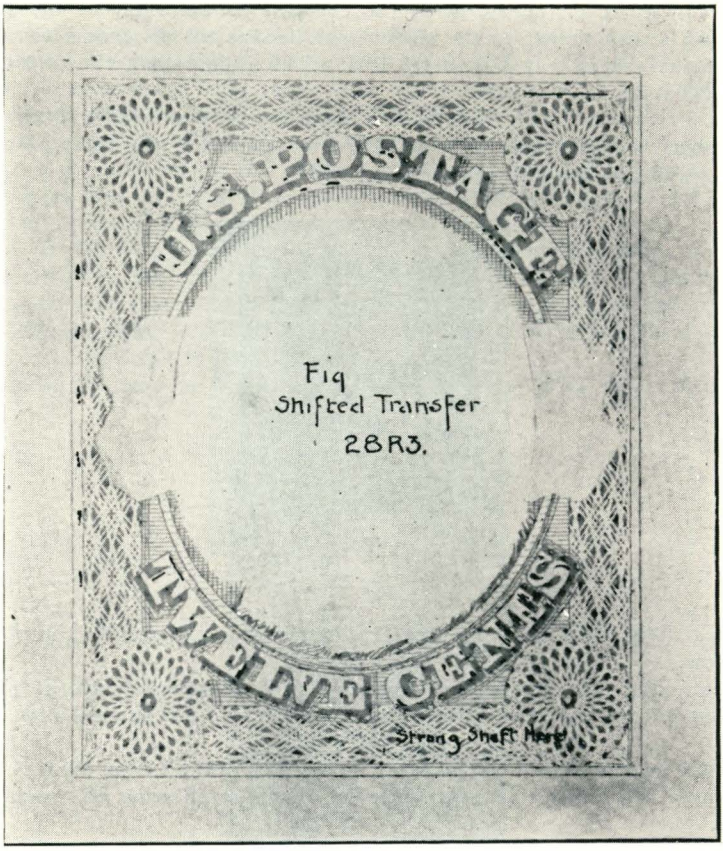


Fig. 58

Fine hair lines are found in the spacings between many positions and are nothing more than scratches on the plate caused by the wiping of same, during the process of printing.

The extra line to the right of 67L3 is broken opposite the lower right rosette (Figure 61), but starts again opposite the upper right corner of 77L3.

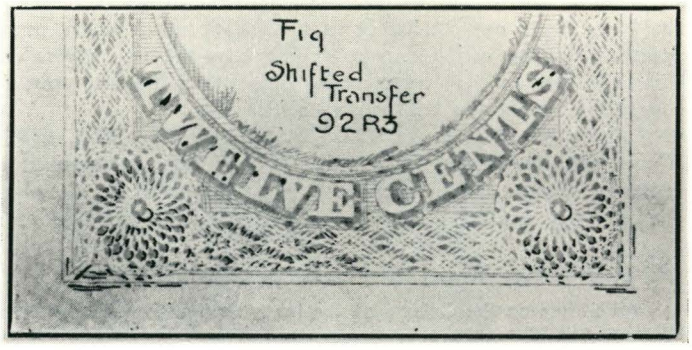


Fig. 59



Fig. 60

Many positions on the plate show almost a total absence of one or more of the frame lines. Figure 62 illustrates position 96L3 and shows most of the left frame line missing. In working on the reconstruction of this plate, several other varieties are perhaps worthy of mention.

If a pair of 7R3 and 8R3 be closely examined, a faint line will be noted running from the lower right rosette of 7R into the lower left rosette of 8R3. This line has been mistaken for a crack, but we believe it to be simply a flaw caused by some foreign substance adhering to the relief.

Another variety of 95R3, which has a vertical line about 3 millimeters long running thru the left part of the lower left rosette (Figure 63), which may be a trace of a former entry, or it may be simply a scratch on the plate. It is an interesting plate position and worthy of mention.

Plate 3 — Large Multiple Pieces

The author has attempted to locate for study, large multiple pieces from Plate 3, but has not been too successful. There is a mint block of twenty-four (8x3) in the Philip H. Ward Jr. collection, positions 3-10R to 23-30R. In the Ashbrook records there is a photograph of a block of forty-two, positions 54-60R to 94-100R, with complete right and bottom sheet margins, the complete right imprint and the number "3." In the author's collection, there is a pen-

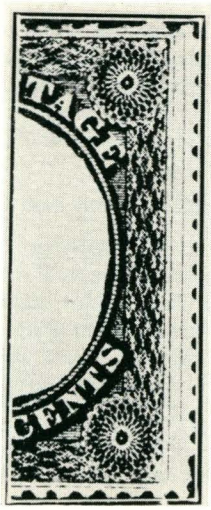


Fig. 61

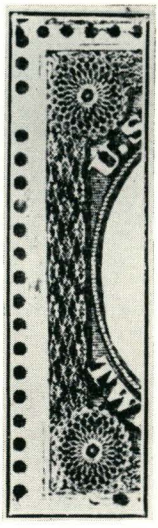


Fig. 62

cancelled block of twenty, positions 72-77 to 92-98R3, and an unused corner block of eight with top and right sheet margins, positions 7-10 to 17-20R. Ward in his Mekeels column wrote:

> "Forty years ago or more, Scott found several panes of these stamps all stuck together, soaked them apart and broke up most of them into blocks and singles. One pane* of one hundred from this lot is now in the Jeffries collection in the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia. Most blocks of this stamp existing are from these panes and therefore, have no gum."

Imprint

The imprint used on Plate 3 is of the last variety used by Toppan, Carpenter & Co., and reads as follows:

"Toppan, Carpenter & Co., Philadelphia"

in small white faced capitals on a tablet of solid color with square ends. There is a thin line parallel to the top and sides of the tablet, but none at the bottom. Below this is the figure "3". This is the same variety of Imprint as used on Plate 12 of the One Cent and on the 30c and 90c Plates of 1860. None of the other plates had this style of Imprint. It measures 2 MM from stamps of the right pane and 2½ MM from stamps of the left pane (Figure 64).

Shades, Paper and Gum

Plate 3 stamps are generally found in shades running from a gray black to a jet black, and also a deep smudgy black. While copies from this plate are known showing a fairly fine impression, the general run have a smeared-up appearance.

Unlike the earliest perforated copies from Plate 1, the paper used for Plate 3 was soft and fairly thick as a general rule. The gum was almost brown.

Cancellations

Cancellations as noted by Col. Tracy occur in about the following proportion:

*Right pane. (*M. L. N.*)

Black Town	29
Red Town	5
Blue Town	5
Green Town	6
Black Grid	22
Red Grid	31
Blus Grid	1
Brown Grid	1
Black Paid	3
Red Paid	1
Black Target	1

Remainders

The outbreak of the Civil War caused the 1857–1860 issue to become obsolete, and they were declared invalid by the Postmaster General. At a period long subsequent to 1861, a large quantity of these stamps were in the possession of the Post Office Department. These existed in whole sheets, unused, and were subsequently acquired by several well known Eastern dealers, which accounts for the reason that unused copies of the 12c stamps from Plate 3 are much more common than used copies.

The 1875 Reprints

The Reprints of the 1857–1860 issue were made by the Continental Bank Note Company of New York.

Mr. Luff states that a new plate for the 12c value was made from the old transfer roll. The Reprint plate was made with a one relief transfer roll, and from all appearances, it was in fact the one used to rock the original plates.

The Reprint Plate had neither Imprint nor Plate number, and consisted of 100 designs arranged 10x10.

The Reprints can be readily distinguished from the originals, as they are perforated 12 instead of 15, the impressions are very clear, the paper is very white, they are without gum, and the shade is generally a greenish black. Mr. Luff states that only 489 of the 12c were sold, though the Department had 10,000 printed.

All of the common India and cardboard proofs of the 12 cent stamp come from the Reprint Plate.

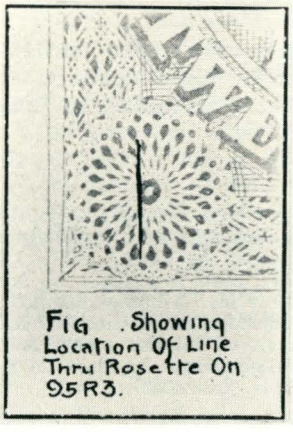


Fig. 63

The Imperforates From Plate 3

In studying the Twelve Cent Stamp and after a careful perusal of the "Tracy-Ashbrook" brochure, the writer had toyed with the assumption that the so-called "imperforates from Plate 3" actually came from Plate 2 and with another theory that Plate 3 was not produced in 1860 but was actually made in 1851. The assumption that the imperforates mentioned above came from Plate 2 has been disproved, but the theory that Plate 3 was made in 1851 may be investigated in the future by other students who will be able to come to a factual conclusion.

In "the Ashbrook Special Service* - Issue No. 4 of August 23, 1951" appeared the following:—

A Valuable Contribution To Philatelic Research Work

At the CENEX, held in Philadelphia last month, Mr. Philip H. Ward, Jr. was host at a luncheon to a number of his friends and exhibited for the first time, a copy of a document that had recently been called to his attention. This amazing bit of U. S. Postal History was the Receipt given to Toppan, Carpenter & Co., for the Dies, Transfer Rolls, and Plates which they had used during the term of their contract for supplying U. S. postage stamps to the Post Office Department for the period 1851–1861. Mr. Ward very kindly gave me a copy and permission to convey this information to subscribers to this service. The Receipt reads as follows:

Received Phila. Aug. 14th 1861 of Toppan, Carpenter, and Co., the following stamp plates:

29	plates of	Three Cent Stamps
14	plates of	One Cent Stamps
2	plates of	Five Cent Stamps
2	plates of	Ten Cent Stamps
3	plates of	Twelve Cent Stamps
1	plate of	Twenty-four Cent Stamps
1	plate of	Thirty Cent Stamps
1	plate of	Ninety Cent Stamps
4	plates	Frail and broken
1	plate of	Carrier's Stamp Franklin Head
1	plate of	Carrier's Stamp Eagle

also

10 Dies of Stamps
24 Rolls of Stamps

The above Rolls, Dies and Plates are the property of the U. S. Government and delivered in accordance with the terms of the Stamp Contract between the Post Office Department and Toppan, Carpenter & Co., as verified by Jonathan Guest, as Special Agent, P. O. Dept.

I. H. Walton, Treas. U. S. Mint.

*The Ashbrook Special Service was a service inaugurated by Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook for a small, select group of philatelists who were especially interested in early United States postal history. The first one appeared on June 1, 1951, known as Issue #1. This Special Service appeared regularly, monthly, until Issue #81 in December, 1957. The January 1958 issue was in preparation at the time Mr. Ashbrook became ill, and unfortunately this most valuable compendium of information terminated with Mr. Ashbrook's death in January, 1958. It included discussions on all items of interest to the serious collectors of United States stamps from the 1847 through the 1869 issues. Hundreds of covers and stamps were illustrated with full explanations of markings, cancellations and rates. Also fraudulent covers and counterfeit stamps, of these early United States issues were described in detail. Less than thirty complete sets of this service are now in the hands of collectors, and undoubtedly, in time, it will become a scarce "collector's item."

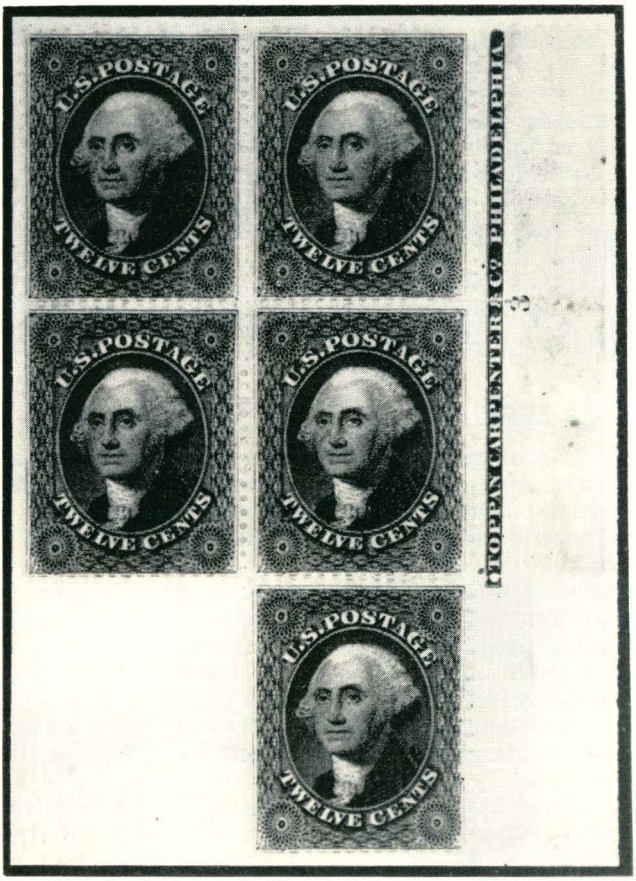


Fig. 64

Plate 3 Problems

This 1861 receipt from the U. S. Mint conclusively proves that three twelve cent plates were completed. There is reasonable certainty that all of the imperforate stamps issued to the post offices came from the plate known as number 1, and, all of the perforate stamps from both plates numbers 1 and 3. Therefore, this leaves one mystery plate, known as number 2. Apparently no stamps from this plate were ever placed on sale for postal use.

A study of the imperforates from Plate 3, first referred to on page 276 has been hampered greatly by the scarcity of material. Two imperforate pairs and photographs of one block of four and several pairs, indicated an absence of guide dots on every design. This fact plus the clarity and sharpness of the impressions led the author to believe that these imperforates were not produced from Plate 3, but from the missing Plate 2. Shortly before publication of this study, Mr. Earl Oakley discovered an imperforate single which showed a continuous additional vertical line to the left of the frameline which indicated that his copy came from the third row of the left pane of Plate 3. (See Figure 55 on page 365).

A minimal amount of material is available for study from the left pane of Plate 3, and information is unavailable as to how many of the positions

show guide dots similar to those of the right pane. The Oakley single has no guide dot, but the location of the extra frameline checked exactly with that on position 93L3 (from a pair 93-94L3) indicating that this single copy was from the third vertical row of the plate. It appears exceedingly improbable that designs on the missing Plate 2 could have such an extra frameline in exactly the same position as this one on Plate 3. But conclusive proof was necessary. By an unusual coincidence the author in examining lots in an auction which was shortly to be held by Samuel C. Paige of Boston, Mass., discovered a cover with a pair of perforated stamps, one of which showed the extra frameline and which plated exactly with the Oakley single. This quite definitely determined that the pair on cover came from the second and third vertical rows of the left pane of Plate 3. Therefore, all of these imperforates must be from Plate 3, and not from the mystery Plate 2. For some reason or other Plate 2 was never put to use.

When Was Plate 3 Made?

The earliest known use of a stamp from this Plate 3 is June 1, 1860. Is it probable that the firm of Toppan, Carpenter & Co., with ten years of experience in making numerous plates for many denominations, could come up with such an extremely crude product as this twelve cent from Plate 3 in the early part of 1860?

All of the plates, which were sent to press from 1857 to the end of the contract, were transferred from multiple relief rolls except the twelve cent Plate 3. At this late date, why should a plate be produced from a single relief transfer roll, if a better one could be made, much more efficiently, by using a multiple relief transfer roll?

The author advances the theory that Plate 3 was not made in 1859 nor 1860 but that, at the inception of the contract, in 1851. The firm of Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co. made *two* twelve cent plates. On Plate Number 1 the designs on every position were recut. Inasmuch as a large amount of twelve cent stamps were not needed, the other plate was set aside. Early in 1860, when it was believed that an additional twelve cent plate was required, this second plate was taken from the vault and the new type of imprint with the number "3" was added. This plate was used for the production of perforated twelve cent stamps.

Future studies and further examination of copies probably will prove or disprove this theory.

Acknowledgements

The cooperation of *Tracy W. Simpson* in assisting the author with information and of *J. David Baker, Milton Edelman, Earl Oakley* and *Philip H. Ward Jr.* in supplying plating material, is gratefully acknowledged. Also thanks to my secretary, *Miss Ina Capelet,* for typing this manuscript and to *Maurice Golove* for the many hours that he spent in mounting the guide dot and plating drawings. Finally, the efforts of the editor of the COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST, *Henry M. Goodkind,* who worked many hours to prepare this for publication, is warmly appreciated.

The End

For those, who would like to possess this series of articles in a unit, later on it is planned to issue a book on "The 1851-57 Twelve Cent Stamp" in a very limited quantity, published by The Theodore E. Steinway Memorial Publications Fund of The Collectors Club.

Book Reviews

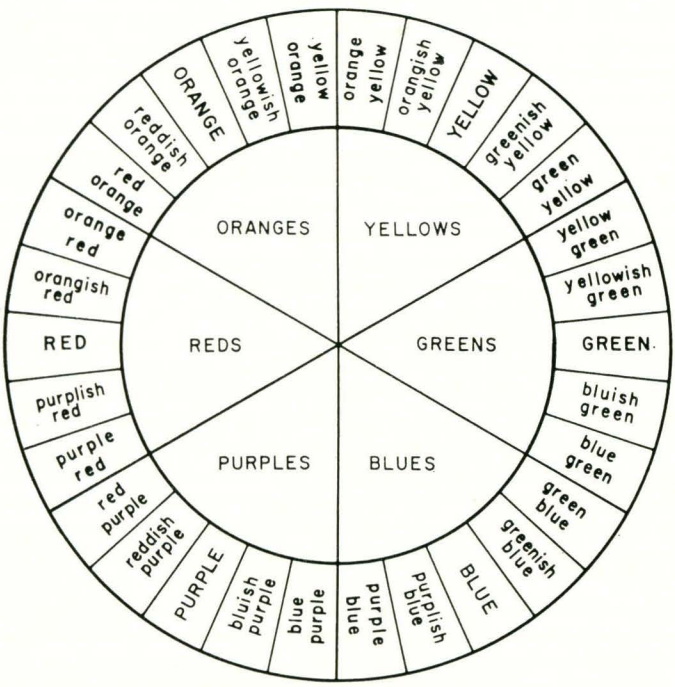
Reinhold Color Atlas by A. Kornerup and J. H. Wanscher. Copyright 1961 in Denmark by POLITIKENS FORLAG. Copenhagen, Denmark. Published in the United States of America in 1962 by Reinhold Publishing Corporation, New York. Size 5x7 inches. 224pp. Clothbound. Price $10.00.

This Color Atlas, like so many that have gone before, is not designed specifically for stamp collectors, but it may have possibilities in that direction. If certain necessary revisions were made, this general purpose Atlas could be put to philatelic use.

Let us see what it has to offer. It has three main parts. The first part is text dealing with the organization and use of the Atlas. Pertinent aspects of color appraisal are presented clearly and to the point.

The second part of the Atlas consists of 30 color plates, each one has 42 color patches of the same basic hue, ranging from a vivid, highly saturated hue to a dark one which is barely discernable. This wide range is obtained in a unique way. Only one color impression is made using ink of the prescribed hue. The color saturation is diminished in seven successive color patches in all six vertical columns by reducing the size of the color dots. This exposes more and more neutral white paper between the dots. Each horizontal row is rendered darker in successive patches to the right by additional impressions of neutral gray ink. There are 1260 color patches in all, and somewhere in this array one may expect to find a color patch that comes close to matching the color of any postage stamp.

As an aid in making color comparisons, a paper finder with three windows is provided. If a stamp is inserted behind one of the windows, then the other two can be used to locate the two swatches that most closely approximate the color



of the stamp. The reference number of the swatch that is selected is then looked up in the third part of the Atlas where the color names are classified and listed.

There are 30 pages devoted to the classification of color names, one page for each of the 30 color plates. At the top of each page is a diagram of the color plate. Spotted here and there are asterisks to indicate the location of a color swatch that is to be given a name. The selected names are listed at the bottom of the page, together with a reference number that indicates the location of the color swatch.

The difficulty that now arises for a stamp collector has to do with the choice of names. More than half of the names that are shown in the Reinhold Atlas have never appeared in any stamp catalogue and many names that are to be found in the catalogues are not mentioned in the Atlas. This is obviously a situation that must be remedied in any Color Atlas devoted solely to the identification and naming of postage stamp colors.

The same thing holds true of the alphabetical list of color names that is shown in the third part of the Atlas. This list could well be shorn of verbal descriptions and comments. It could be reduced to a mere index of color names plus their swatch number.

Also to be found in the third part of the Atlas is a Color Circle that is used to illustrate in a rough way the relationship between the precise basic hues of the 30 color plates and the general color area to which they belong. From a philatelic point of view it would be far better to come right out and state the precise name of each basic hue, somewhat in the manner shown by the accompanying illustration. (*J. F. Westerberg*)

The Library Committee reports the acquisition of the following:

Canadian Duplex Cancellations of the Victorian Era, 1860-1902 by E. A. Smythies, C. I. E., F. R. P. S. L., F. C. P. S. Second Edition. A Handbook of the Canadian Philatelic Society of Great Britain. 56 pages. Illustrated. Paperbound. Gift of the author.

Die Briefmarken von Grossbritannien 1960-1962 by Ernst Ehrmann. Heft 12 der Schriftenreihe Neues Handbuch der Briefmarkenkunde. Frankfurt am Main, Germany. 1963. 46 pages. Illustrated. German text. Paperbound. Gift of the publisher.

Die Briefmarken von Pleskau-Ljady-Luga by Dr. H. Rommerskirchen. Heft 13 der Schriftenreihe Neues Handbuch der Briefmarkenkunde. Frankfurt am Main, Germany. 1963. 12 pages. Illustrated. German text. Paperbound. Gift of the publisher.

Die Briefmarken von Niederlandisch-Neuguinea by Dr. Roel H. Houwink. Heft 14 der Schriftenreihe Neues Handbuch der Briefmarkenkunde, Frankfurt am Main, Germany. 1963. 19 pages. Illustrated. German text. Paperbound. Gift of the publisher.

A History of Religion on Postage Stamps, Volume 2, by F. Harvey Morse. Published by the American Topical Association, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. 135 pages. Paperbound. Courtesy of the publisher.

Festnummer zur 75 Wiederkehr der Klub-Grundung. Januar 1963. Berliner Philatelisten-Klub von 1888. 154 pages. Illustrated. German text. Unbound. Courtesy of Dr. K. Th. Meyer.

The New South Wales Philatelic Annual for 1962-63, edited by E. J. Garrard. Published by The Philatelic Society of New South Wales, Sydney, N. S. W. 30 pages. Paperbound. Courtesy of the publisher.

Aerophila 63 Catalogue and List of Awards. Brussels, Belgium. Gift of Mr. Henry M. Goodkind.

Die Nummern-Zierstempel der Departamentos von Uruguay by Prof. Dr. Albert Narath, Berlin. Published by the Berliner Philatelisten-Klub von 1888. 1961. 61 pages. Illustrated. German text. Paperbound. Courtesy of the publisher.

The Air Arm of the Confederacy by Joseph Jenkins Cornish, III. Published by the Richmond Civil War Centennial Committee, Richmond, Va. 1963. 48 pages. Illustrated. Paperbound. Gift of the author.

Les Vols de Gand 1913 by Raoul Hubinont. Published by the Societe Aerophilatelique Belge, Brussels, Belgium. 1963. 73 pages. Illustrated. French text. Paperbound. Gift of the author.

La Poste Maritime Francaise, Addendum au Tome I, edited and published by Raymond Salles. 24 pages. Illustrated. French text. Unbound. Gift of Mr. Robert G. Stone.

Sesquicentennial of the Post Office, Pleasant Valley, N. Y. 1813-1963. Committee for the Sesquicentennial Celebration of the Pleasant Valley Post Office. 128 pages. Paperbound. Courtesy of Mr. Gustav Detjen, Jr.

Malaria Issues United Nations by Marian Carne Zinsmeister. Published by Van Dahl Publications, Inc., Albany, Oregon. 1963. 26 pages. Illustrated. Paperbound. Courtesy of the publisher.

Boy Scout and Girl Guide Stamps of the World by Gordon Entwistle. Published by Cassell & Company Ltd., London, England. 1957. 82 pages. Illustrated. Hard cover. Gift of Mr. Albert P. Cohen.

Sieger Zeppelin Post Katalog, 1962. Sieger-Verlag, Lorch (Wurtt). 266 pages. Illustrated. German text. Paperbound. Gift of the publisher.

Gabriel Katalog Christlicher Markenbilder, 1963 by Pater Clemens Anheuser, OFM and Pater Gabriel Schmidt, OFM. Sieger-Verlag, Lorch (Wurtt.). 188 pages. German text. Paperbound. Gift of the publisher.

Katalog der Flugpost der Neuen Deutschen Lufthansa 1963. Sieger-Verlag, Lorch (Wurtt.). 115 pages. Illustrated. German text. Paperbound. Gift of the publisher.

Osterreichischer Flugpost Katalog, 1961. Sieger-Verlag, Lorch (Wurtt.). 74 pages. Illustrated. German text. Paper cover. Gift of the publisher.

La Familia Tassis, Correos Mayores del Reino by Juan Mancheno. Biblioteca de "Madrid Filatelico," Madrid, 1946. 41 pages. Illustrated. Spanish text. Paperbound. Gift of Mr. Paul P. Lindenberg.

De Postvluchten Nederland-Indie, Nos. 1 and 2, 1946, by J. Boesman. Published by Luchpostclub B. Z. P. C., Den Haag, Netherlands. 48 pages. Dutch text. Paperbound. Gift of Mr. Henry M. Goodkind.

Speciale Catalogus van de Postzegels van Nederland en Overzeese Rijksdelen, 1964, 23e editie. Nederlandsche Vereeniging van Postzegelhandelaren, 's-Gravenhage, Netherlands. 465 pages. Illustrated. Dutch text. Hard cover. Gift of Mr. Johannes de Kruyf.

Sieger Weltraumfahrt Astronauten, Sputniks und Raketen Spezial-Katalog. Sieger-Verlag, Lorch/Wurttemberg. 1962. 74 pages. Illustrated. German text. Paperbound. Gift of Mr. Henry M. Goodkind.

Scott's Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue, Volume I, 1964. Scott Publications, New York, N. Y. 986 pages. Illustrated. Hard cover. Courtesy of the publisher.

Stanley Gibbons' Postage Stamp Catalogue 1964, Part Three. Stanley Gibbons Ltd., London, England. 1155 pages. Illustrated. Clothbound. Courtesy of the publisher.

Kottelat Katalog 1964 Schweiz-Liechtenstein. E. Kottelat, Bern, Switzerland. 170 pages. Illustrated. Ring binder. Paper cover. German and French text. Courtesy of the publisher.

Zumstein Europa Catalogue 1964. Zumstein & Cie, Bern, Switzerland. 1648 pages. Illustrated. Clothbound. German text. Courtesy of the publisher.

Stamps of the United States, U. S. Possessions and British North America. 1964. H. E. Harris & Co., Boston, Mass. 160 pages. Illustrated. Paperbound. Courtesy of the publisher.

Muller Briefmarken-Katalog 1964, Schweiz/Liechtenstein. Marken-Muller AG., Basel, Switzerland. 244 pages. Illustrated. Paperbound. German text. Courtesy of the publisher.

Stanley Gibbons' Postage Stamp Catalogue 1964, Part One. Stanley Gibbons Ltd., London, England. 849 pages. Illustrated. Clothbound. Courtesy of the publisher.

Scott's Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue, Volume II, 1964. Scott Publications, New York, N. Y. 1517 pages. Illustrated. Hard cover. Courtesy of the publisher.

Scott's Specialized Catalogue of United States Stamps 1964. Scott Publications, New York, N. Y. 655 pages. Illustrated. Hard cover. Courtesy of the publisher.

Purchased By The Library:

The Essays, Proofs and Reprints of the First Issued Stamps of British India of 1854-55. Supplement No. 2 to the Postage and Telegraph Stamps of British India by E. D. Bacon, C. V. O. Third Edition, 1927. Published by the Philatelic Society of India.

The Air Post in Siam, 1919-1935, edited and published by C. W. Fawdry, London, 1935. 26 pages. Illustrated. Paperbound.

Liechtenstein im Markenspiegel by Dr. Bertrand Adams and Dr. Gerhard Dittrich. Sieger-Verlag, Lorch/Wurttemberg, 1960. 96 pages. Illustrated. German text. Paperbound.

The Illustrated Philatelic Record, edited and published by E. F. Hurt, Harpenden, England. Nos. 1-5, 1939-40.

Statement and Comments upon the Result of a Proffered Gift to the University of Oxford, edited and published by F. A. Bellamy, Oxford, 1926. 9 pages. Paperbound.

Journal of the Queen Elizabeth II Commonwealth Collectors Society, Danvers, Mass. Vols. I-IV, 1958-1962.

Gifts were also received from:

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PHILATELIC LITERATURE

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

See page 324 in the Number for the complete listing of books that are currently available.

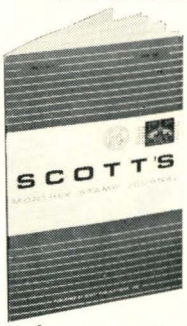
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3046	3d Ribbed vertical pair, just clear to large margins 4-Ring "5" Brantford cancel	$250
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All first row of 10 stamps is regular —other 90 stamps have second ovpt.

Position #91 to 100 from setting are printed on bottom margin.

Since ovpt. is also transposed from left to right—it is necessary to collect this error in horizontal pairs.

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