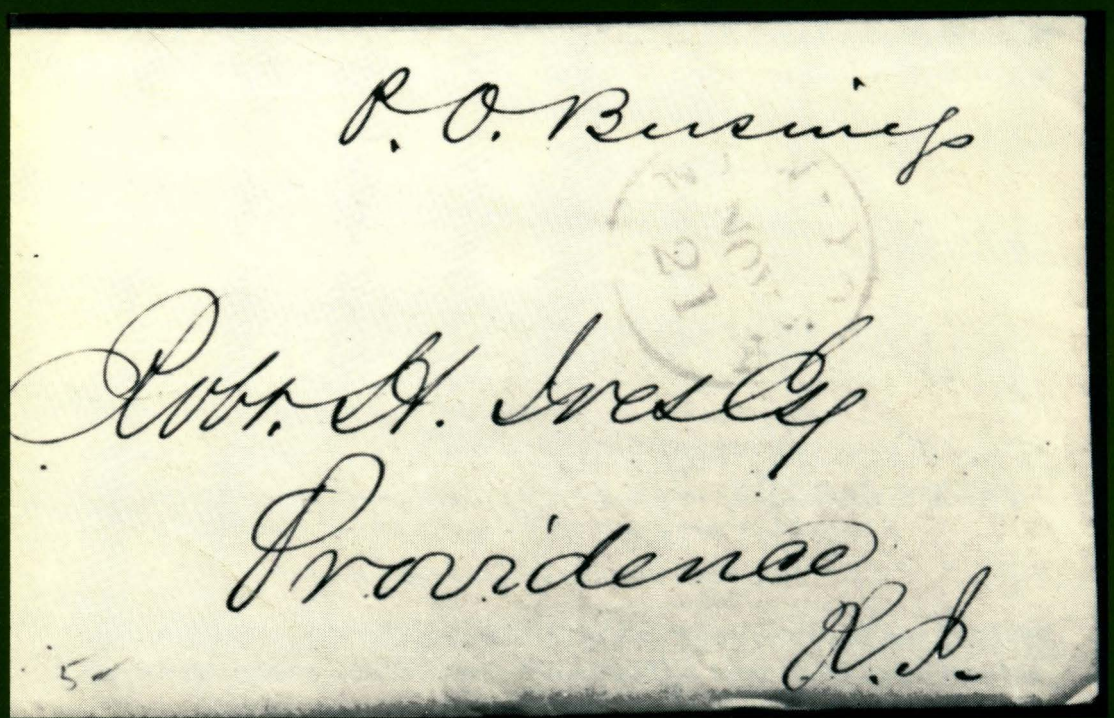
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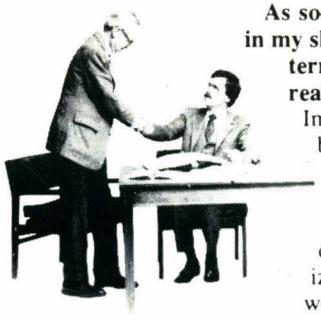


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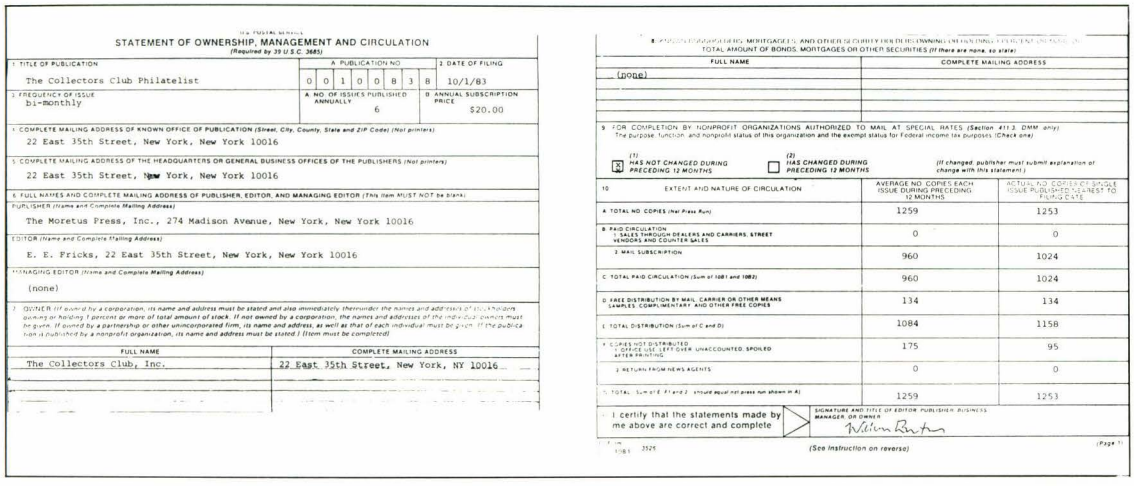
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Volume 63, Number 5 **Sept.-Oct. 1984**

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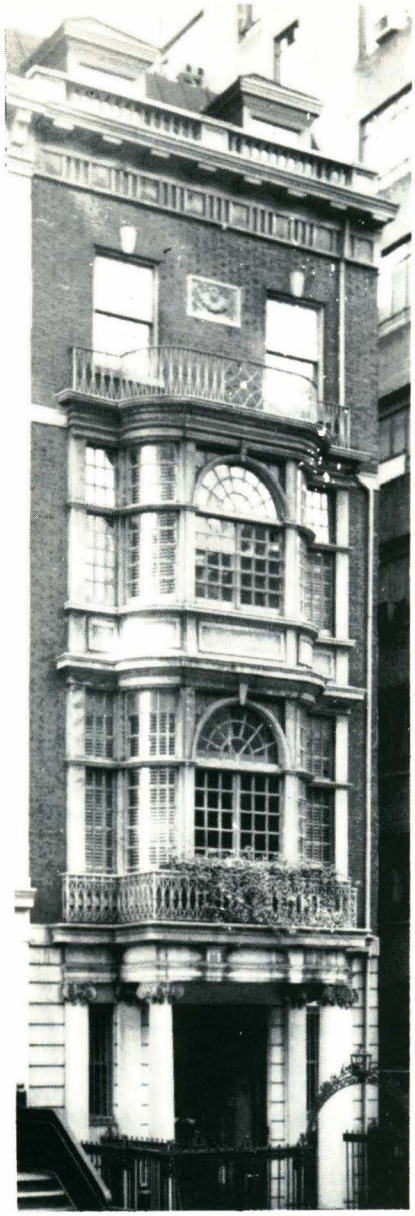
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1982 Dorothy Colby Award for best original article appearing in the philatelic press, to Abbot Lutz for "Post Office Machines: Metered Mail—Coin Fed for Public Use," July 1981.
1983 ESPAMER '82 Medalla de Plata Grande for Volume 60.
1983 Dorothy Colby Award to Philip Silver for "United States: The Beacon Air Mail Stamp of 1928 Revisited".

Postmaster Robert Morris Revisited

continued by Calvet M. Hahn

There was apparently some dissension among the clerks in the New York post office for when Morris had to leave, he left a most interesting letter of instructions for Mr. Monson.

> 237 August 7, 1847 ½ past 5 P.M. Mr. Monson, jr. Esq. Assist. P.M. New York P.O.
> Dear Sir: I am to leave town at 7 P.M. I intended to have stated the following to the gentlemen in the office before I left—preoccupation has prevented me.
> If any altercation or quarrel takes place in the office hereafter between persons attached to the office I will discharge all concerned in it, and will not reinstate them. This will be done irrespective of the usefulness of the persons engaged in it.
> Every clerk upon coming to the office in the morning must put his name upon the book accompanied with the time he reaches it.
> If a clerk enters his name after another, I will deem it evidence that he came after the time specified by him who previously entered his name.
> If any clerk does not enter his name as above desired, and circumstances should show he intentionally made the omission, suspend him, and I will discharge him.
> No gentlemen must absent himself from the office in my absence without your approval and in all cases they must—that is the box clerks, deposit the necessity of absence to Mr. Taylor, the alphabet clerks to Mr. Hallett and all the other clerks down stairs to Mr. M. Clarke. The transcript clerks will only report to you.
> Some of the gentlemen are in the habit of occupying too much time at dinner. Mr. Taylor, as to the box clerks, Mr. Hallett as to the alphabet clerks and Mr. Clarke as to the others will report to you upon the subject.
> Exercise your discretion upon the reports and I will confirm or correct them as the facts may require.
> If gentlemen cannot give their attention to the duties of the office, I must obtain those who can.

Morris returned on Tuesday, August 10th.

> 257 August 14, 1847 Postmaster Boston
> Dear Sir: We received this day thirteen packages of your letters without a way bill. Enclosed I send you the account.

> 269 August 18, 1847 Postmaster Piqua, Ohio
> Dear Sir: Mr. John W. Moore has shown me your letter to

him dated July 25th and requests that I make some search for the missing letter. The offices of the Democratic Review has a box in this office. All letters to the address of Thos. P. Kettill, John W. Moore—Editor or Publisher of the Democratic Review, are placed in such box as soon as they reach this office.
If the letter was lost in the mails or has been abstracted therefrom, it may be traced by your making enquiries of the office to which you send the mails you have for this office for distribution. Please make all inquiries that the importance of the case seems to require and inform me of the result.

In the former of these letters a complete waybill was omitted in the Boston mails — the first reported in the letterbook. In the second, Morris is denying that the letter was lost in New York and shows how any letter can be tracked by reference to distribution office records. This concept is important in understanding how recorded letters were handled prior to the official registration system of 1855.

282 August 24, 1847 George Beacock Esq.
Dear Sir: I have been absent from the City which is the reason you have not been earlier answered.
We make up the mail for Morrisville every morning which with the Journal of Commerce for you is placed in the mail pouch for Trenton N.J.—the only way we have to send the mail to Morrisville. At Trenton the mail is overhalled [sic] and the matter for Morrisville is placed in a bag for that office. I am informed that the mail from this to Trenton reached there about the time that the mail for Morrisville leaves Trenton and they have not time to send the matter on to Morrisville which consequently stays over one day at Trenton. My clerks have noticed your paper and they assure me it leaves my office daily. The delay must be at Trenton. I will write to the Post Master there upon the subject.

283 August 25, 1847 P.M. Trenton
Dr Sir: George Peacock Esq. of Morrisville complains that his paper, the Journal of Commerce does not reach him in some days [four days?] after its date. My clerks say they put that paper in the pouch for your office. Will you give your attention to the matter and see it does not lay over in your office. Will you please write me upon the subject?

The above letters show how mail was routed through Pennsylvania and how, even with the newly introduced distribution points, delays could develop through scheduling problems.

293 NY Post Office August 25th, 1847 PM Philadelphia
Dear Sir: Mr. James Stark and Mr. George F. Hitchcock called upon me and made this statement.
Mr. Hitchcock rec'd a letter mailed to him by Mr. Stark from your office on the 19th which was postmarked the

17th at my office, although he had called at your office for it on the 18th and not obtained it.
Mr. Stark on the 19th of August deposited a letter in my office addressed "Geo. F. Hitchcock Esq. Philadelphia, Pa." which contained money and Mr. Hitchcock had not rec'd it up to yesterday. I enclose to you an envelope addressed in Mr Stark's handwriting. The letter however was white paper. Will you please have search for it made and if found send it to me as both gentlemen are here.

The above shows that even with the recorded systems of both New York and Philadelphia problems could arise. A later letter (page 318), dated Sept. 3rd, 1847, deals with another money letter apparently lost in Philadelphia. It was addressed to care of Mr. Davis on Walnut Street between 4th and 5th. On September 13, page 331, Morris discusses another missing money letter addressed to Philadelphia.

295 New York August 27th to Editors of the [Fan?] Sun: Gents: The Post Master General authorizes me to forward the weekly paper now in my office. Accepted similar papers will not be retained here.

This relates to an apparent change in the regulations on weekly papers.

296 August 28, 1847 to the Postmaster Albion, N.Y.
Dear Sir: Yours of the 23rd was duly received. I have not been able to discover that the clerk we detected, took the letter addressed to the Evening Post, you allude to. When he comes to be tried I will endeavor to discover from him the fact, and will immediately inform you of the result.

Mr. Morris refers here to a fairly well-known mail theft that is recorded in literature.

304 Sept. 1, 1847 E.C. Lyons Esq. P.M. Pitcher, N.Y.
Dear Sir: Yours of the 26th of August was duly received. The reason I presume that the papers alluded to by you were not received in time is this. My clerks have been in the habit of putting the papers addressed to the office for which we do not make up a bag into the Albany bag that the clerks in that office may place them into the Bag for the particular office, that office have the bags of most of the offices of the Northern and Western part of this state. Lately and during my absence from the City, the clerks at Albany for some days sent the whole of their papers back to my office. My clerks not knowing where to send them returned them to Albany, again to be sent back to New York with the accumulation of each day's mail. This was the state of things when I got home. I sent them all back to Albany with a letter to Wesson stating they must be forwarded also requesting him to inform me where the papers could be sent to by my clerks if his office was not the proper place since which I have heard nothing more of them. The Papers you speak of must have been among these.

The letter to which Morris refers is printed by Boggs as no. 66 and Boggs remarks on the "colorful" language used by the clerks in the incident.

> 306 Sept. 1st, 1847 John Marron, Esq. Washington.
> Dear Sir, Your letter to Mr. Dundas of the 27th August was received after Mr. Dundas had left the city and according to your directions upon its back I opened it. I have had the Records of the Surrogates Offices of New York and Brooklyn searched by a friend of mine and a competent lawyer. He reports to me today that no execution or administration has been appointed to the Estate of Chapman S. Monroe. The expenses to the two offices is 50 cts. . . . No charge for services.

Marron is the Third Assistant Postmaster General and head of the Finance Office as well as the man involved in the distribution of stamps. Dundas was the Chief Clerk of the Post Office Department.

> 307 Sept. 2nd 1847 Norman M. Findley, Esq. Poughkeepsie
> Dear Sir: I enclose to you your letter addressed to Alex Robertson. It was found among the letters for females. Took your abbreviation of Alexander for Alice the name of a female. I found it by having all the letters in the office overlooked. Please acknowledge the receipt of it.

This shows that, at least as early as 1847, there was a separate female window at the post office in New York. This window is illustrated in the *Harper's Monthly* 1871 article on the New York post office which has been often reproduced.

> 317 Sept. 7, 1847 Postmaster Louisville, Ky.
> Dear Sir: If a letter addressed to "Paul H. Hempstead Esq., Little Rock, Arkansas" is supposed to have been sent by this office this morning to your office for distribution. If the same reaches you will you please return it to this city, with the enclosed *fac-simile* of its address, under cover to me as the papers enclosed are [needed?] to hand here.

A second letter for the same firm of Sheldon Phelps & Co. went to the Postmaster at Cincinnati referring to a letter addressed to the Cashier of the Ohio Life and Trust. Apparently the contents got switched. What is more interesting is that Louisville was the distribution point for Little Rock and that the so-called "new distribution system" of 1851 was already partially in place in 1847.

> 322 September 8, 1847 Joseph Ide, Esq. PM at Sheffield Vt.
> Dear Sir: Your post receipt for your order for blanks is received stating that the frauds which you suppose are being committed by some person in the Observer office in handing transient papers through the mail without prepayment of the postage.
> I wrote some time since to the Postmaster General upon the subject of publishing offices sending papers to per-

sons who were not subscribers and in answer to that letter the PM General in substance stated that we could not interfere with anything sent from publication offices, if they sent matter to my office heading them subscriber matter, I could not stop it and we must leave to Congress to correct the abuses committed by publication offices. It is impossible for us to detect the papers you speak in envelopes directed & sent from the Observer office among the great mass of papers sent to subscribers. You have a right however to charge 3 cents postage on all transient papers that come to your office although they may have improperly got through my office.

This represents a restatement of the new Act of March 3, 1847 regarding newspapers and circulars. That act set up the first 3 cent rate for intercity mail.

328 September 9, 1847 Joseph J. Roy, Esq. PM Morristown, N.J.
My Dear Sir: I am making an affirmation which requires an answer to the following questions—
How often, on what days, and at what time of the day does the mail leave Morristown for Mansfield, Mercer County, New Jersey?
On what days and at what time of the day does the mail from Eastern Pennsylvania reach Morristown?
You will very much oblige me by answering the above questions by the return of mail.

While it may be unrelated, it is probable that this letter relates to the one cited as no. 282.

329 Sept. 10th 1847, Henry D. Stout, Esq. Cincinnati
Dear Sir: Yours of the 3d of Septembr inst. is received in relation to two letters you state to have been mailed in this office for you on the 29th of July and the other in August.
The letters if deposited in my office certainly were sent from my office. If my clerks by mistake have sent them to an office which they were not intended, time sufficient has elapsed for them to reach you. The letters must have been misdirected. If you will inform me of the name & residence of the gentlemen who wrote them I will see him and endeavour to recover them.

In this case of lost letters, we can again see elements of the procedure used by Morris to track recorded mail. The following letter shows another portion of the registry forerunner procedure.

332 Sept. 13, 1847 Postmaster Otisville, N.Y.
Dear Sir: Yours of the 9th inst. is received. Did you on the 21st August make up and forward the mail containing the missing letter to Philadelphia *direct* or did you send it to this office for *distribution*?
By whom was the letter written and to whom was it directed?
If the letter package was directed at your office to Philadelphia, then it would be impossible for me to give any

information concerning the matter, but if it was sent to this office for distribution I may be able to shew some light upon the subject by receiving answers to the above questions. If you sent to Philadelphia, direct you had better write to the P.M. of that city.

333 Sept. 13, 1847 Mr. Charleston [Charles Stone?] Proprieter of the Pavilion, Rockaway
Dear Sir: Mrs. Joseph Chamberlin of 274 West 22nd Street of this city states that on Monday the 6th inst. a carpet bag of hers was sent from Hempstead to this City. Upon getting to her, however, it was determined that the bag of Maria Sverd in which was a letter written by her dated at your pavilion on the 2nd September. The object of this letter is to find out who and where is that Maria Sverd. Please look at your Books and give me any information you can upon the subject.

A carpet bag switched in the mail is a most unusual lost object for this period and Mr. Morris is contacting one of the early resort hotels on Long Island for information. This Rockaway Pavilion is not among the items reported in the *Long Island Postal History Journal* no. 6 which covered early resort hotels. No example is recorded in the Knapp collection as well.

334 September 14, 1847 Postmaster Niagara Falls, N.Y.
Dear Sir: I am informed by Mr. Wilson Simpson of No. 247 Grand of this city that he forwarded a letter on the 11th of August directed to "John Simpson *Clifton House* Niagara Falls" and that said letter was deposited in this office at 3 o'clock P.M. postage paid.
Mr. Wilson Simpson states that the letter has not been received by him. Please inform me of any information you may obtain concerning the missing letter.

In this case we have a missing letter directed to a hotel where the hotel offered mail service to and from the American post office. The hotel itself was on the Canadian side and during the Civil War was a Confederate sympathizer hangout. This letter may well have had a 10 cent 1847.

343 Sept. 16, 1847 Jonathan C. Hull, Harwich, Mass.
Dear Sir: Yours 13th inst. is received. We have not received any information concerning your missing letter. The presumption is strong that it has been misdirected. In that case it will reach the dead letter office. I would advise you to write to the "Dead Letter Office" stating when and where the letter was mailed, to whom it was written, and also what it contained. You may get some knowledge of it. Your postmaster will direct you how to proceed in the matter.

As shown here, the Dead Letter Office appears to be the last resort for missing letters.

364 Sept. 23, 1847 Postmaster Southamton, England
Dear Sir: By direction of S.R. Hobbie, Assist. PM General I enclose to you one brass mail lock key for the use of



343 A remarkable example of the DLO procedure can be seen in this cover which contains an Abraham Bell & Son money order of Feb. 4, 1845 and sent prepaid with U.S. inland to Ireland. There is the curved red PAID and a red 29mm NEW-YORK/14/JUL/5 cts. circle and a 1/- handstamp due mark for arrival. The addressee was not known at Dunbrock and Dunbought Clough and Ballymeha were also tried so that a blue 28mm BALLYMENA/SE8/1845 is found on the face. It had reached England as the Liverpool backstamp shows on 7/29/45 and was also sent to Ireland on 9/20/45 as indicated by a blue-green Belfast backstamp. It seems to have sat in Ireland for a long time, finally being returned through the U.S. Dead Letter Office on 10/22/1851—five years later.

your office.

365 Sept. 23, 1847 Capt. Howell
Dear Sir: The enclosed letter addressed to the Postmaster at Southampton England is sent to you that it may be delivered to its address immediately after your arrival in Southampton. This is necessary as the letter contains a mail lock key. Your attending will much oblige.

These letters traveled on the second round trip of the Ocean Line's *Washington* which was apparently the first with sealed U.S. mail bags.

367 September 25, 1847 J.O. Novrine Esq. Editor of the Baltimore Journal
Dear Sir: Your letter of the 10th of August asking me whether the *Literary World* can be received by you free as an exchange paper was recd at my office during my absence from the city—was thrown among some papers which have just been overhauled and your letter discovered. You can receive the *Literary World* free as an exchange paper.

The exchange paper was one of the few ways publishers could gain free access to the mails.

On page 370 we find a letter to the Postmaster at Montreal seeking information about a missing money letter which Morris wishes Montreal to return if they find it.

371 Sept. 27, 1847 J. Holbrook, Esq., Special Agent, Boston
Dear Sir: Yours of the 24th is rec'd. I enclose to you the letter from the PostMaster General dated 24th inst. at Washington addressed to you and myself. I have kept a

copy of it.
The Mr. Butterworth mentioned in the PM General's letter called upon me to-day & says he will take the mails, and have them in New Haven in time for the trains for $6,000. He is to call again in a few minutes make his proposition definite & then I will send you a copy of it. I trust to enclose it in this letter.
Capt. Van Dulith [?] called upon me to-day, and stated he had written to the Post Master at Springfield that he was willing to take the New Haven & Connecticut Valley mails for $6,000, but would not include the Boston mails or other mails at that price. This does not meet the views of the Post Master General, as I understand them, and consequently we must accept the proposition of Mr. Butterworth. I am obliged to leave here to-day & may not return before Friday. I leave directions to have Butterfield's proposition [costed?] out, unless the PM General to whom I write upon the subject shall direct me otherwise.

This letter gives us an inside view of a key contract. The route was the steamboat route from New York to New Haven which was reported at $6,000 for route no. 803 from New York to New Haven by steamboat six times a week in the 1847 *Annual Report of the Postmaster General*. The New Haven to Springfield route no. 685 ended up at $8,142 for 12 times a week. In the 1849 *Federal Register*, the New Haven & Hartford R.R. Company ended up with both contracts.

373 September 28, 1847 Thos. Miller Esq. 99 Arch Street, Philadelphia
Dear Sir: Yours of the 27th inst. is rec'd. The letters mailed by you on the 22nd for Foreign Countries have been forwarded by Packet Ships, except for the one addressed to Bremen which did not require to be prepaid and was sent by the *Washington*. I return to you the stamps. /s/ M. Monson Jr.

New stamps and a new service combined to confuse the correspondent who actually sent stamps to the New York post office to cover his overseas mail. This is the end of the freight money period with only the steamer *Sarah Sands* taking freight money at the 25 cent rate. To date I have not recorded a prepaid freight money letter with stamps but same could occur. The picture is still not clear as to how late the packets charged freight money for their sailing trips.

In letter no. 88 Boggs in the last line refers to letters to "Galubridge"; the actual spelling is Salubria.

383 Oct. 2, 1847 P.M. Hastings Oswego Co., New York
Dear Sir: Mr. Stephen London of No. 15 Center Street states that on the 21st Aug. last he mailed a letter addressed to "Ambrose Wright, Hastings N.Y." which should have been sent to *Westchester Co.* and that said letter has not reached the person addressed. If the letter is in your office please return it to this City under cover to me.

A standard problem in the post office is when two different offices have the same name. It is most acute when both are in the same state. In this case, Hastings, Oswego County, was confused with Hastings Upon Hudson, a Westchester post office. The writer did not spell out the full name.

> 386 Oct. 5, 1847 G.F. Lehman, Esq. P.M. Philadelphia
> Dear Sir: Yours of yesterday is received. On Saturday *morning*, 2nd inst., our mail to your office amounted to $24.95 unpaid. About 2 o'clock P.M. of the 2nd we learned at this office that the mail did not leave with the 9 o'clock train, and was lying at the wharf. On the afternoon of the 2nd our bill to your office amounted to $33.39 unpaid, and should have been received at your office at the same time the morning mail was received. What is the cause of the delay it is impossible for me to state.

This letter gives details on the main mail route in the United States. As can be seen the 9 a.m. train bore the morning southbound mail. That directed to Washington would arrive at midnight that day. The afternoon 5 p.m. train did not arrive in Washington until the next day. The 9 a.m. morning mail arrived in Philadelphia normally at 1:30 p.m. (it was scheduled by contract for 2) and the 5 p.m. train would get the mail there at 9:30 p.m.

> 387 October 6, 1847 P.M. Marsh Upper Canada
> The enclosed letter Robert Glenn written by Robert Navak [?] of 145 Bwy Street this city contains $4.

Here we have an example of a cross-border money letter from the U.S. side. Note again that such letters are enclosed in the postmaster's free franked envelope.

> 393 Oct. 9, 1847 J. Porteous Est. P.M. Montreal Canada
> My dear Sir: Yours of the 4th inst. is received. There is now no letter in this office, addressed "S.W. Hitchcock" mailed at your office. If the missing letter was addressed to any street in this City, it has been delivered by the Carrier, that is if it reached this office. If it was merely addressed to New York it has been called for and delivered from the window. I will inform you if I obtain any further information concerning this letter.
> Yours of the 4th in reply to mine of the 27th is rec'd for which I thank you.

This is the last letter I will select to demonstrate that a street address meant carrier delivery. Postmaster Morris underscores the point so well that even the Midwestern postal history "skeptics" will now have to accept it.

> 407 Oct. 12, 1847 Postmaster Utica N.Y.
> Dear Sir: Yours of the 10th inst. making inquiry for a letter directed to "John Brennan Esq. Astor House, N.Y." is received.
> The letter was returned to this office from the Astor

House, where Mr. Brennan still remains. I herein by the direction of Mr. Brennan enclose to you the letter that it may be handed to the writer.

The Astor House was one of the New York hotels offering mail delivery service and it has a well-recorded handstamp as a forwarder. Here we have a refused letter, probably because the postage was unpaid but possibly for legal reasons. A "refused" handstamp is not recorded this early from New York.

409 Oct. 14, 1847 John Barstow Esq. Mail Contractor Bridgeport, Conn.
Dear Sir: Enclosed you will find two certificates—one of service performed by you from July 4th, 1846 to Dec. 13, 1846 and one at time between the 16th August and 2nd Oct. 1847.

Barstow held contract no. 687 at this period, at $3,000 per annum. It is not listed as a rail or steamboat contract in the 1847 *Annual Report* so that it is probably the original land contract from Bridgeport to New York.

412 October 16, 1847 O.V. Hollenback Esq.
Dear Sir: Yours of the 14th is rec'd asking me to inform you "if there is any charge or complaint preferred against you also to tell what they are if any and whether I know the cause for your removal." I have rec'd no complaints against you, neither have I been informed of the cause of your removal. Your official intercourse with me has uniformly been of the most pleasant character. With a sincere desire for your prosperity, I remain, truly yours.

Orson V. Hollenback was a route agent serving from December 28, 1844 to June 30, 1847. He had replaced E.J. Humphrey as the agent for the U.S. Express Mail in New York state. A probable cause for the dismissal was the decision to wind down the express mail as only a few covers are known on the route after Hollenback's dismissal.

418 October 16, 1847 James Belkamp, PM. NewBurgh
Dear Sir: Yours of the 6th, 8th & 14th of October have been rec'd in relation to the missing mail from my office of the 6th of October. I have been much occupied and believing the bundle had been missent & would reach you thus not answering your letters.
The mail consisted of 50 cts unpaid and one free. I [had one?] of my clerks with this. Will you please inform me whether the bundle has been rec'd yet.

This represents a lost mail which may have only been missent.

421 October 17, 1847 J. Porteous Esq.
Dear Sir: Yours of the 16th inst. is received asking whether we received a money letter with your mail of the 15th addressed to James Garrat.
I enclose you a copy of your bill to this office of the 15th which shows that no such letter was sent on that day.

This letter tells us that money letters or "registered" or "recorded" letters were specifically noted on the postbills at least by 1847.

> 422 Oct. 20, 1847 Mr. George Myrick Msrs. Sauls Gent.: The enclosed letter addressed "Mr. George Myrick Mr. Sauls, 83 South Street New York America" "per *Cambria*" was received at my office this morning in the condition in which it now is: with the seal broken, and the face of the letter cut in two.

It would appear that here Morris was making sure that his office was not blamed for an apparent tampering with the mail.

> 423 Oct. 20, 1847 P.M. Towanda, Pa.
> Dear Sir: Yours of the 15th Oct. is received informing me that you received but one letter with our bill to your office dated Oct. 11th which called for 3 letters. An examination of our account of mails sent proves that the bill was correct. Please inform me in what condition the package was when it reached your office, and whether you were led to suspect it had been opened up on the route from its appearance.

Here we have a case of missing mail which may represent theft.

> 436 Oct. 27, 1847 Postmaster Utica
> Dear Sir: Yours of the 26th signed by your assistant requesting Miss Francis Rileys letter to be forwarded is received and I enclose to you one to her address. The letter contains money and you will by the back observe a Mrs. Francis Riley has opened it.

Apparently Miss Riley's mother checked her mail even when it was a money letter. The Utica assistant was probably T.K. Church, the senior clerk in that office.

> 442 Oct. 30th 1847 Mr. Henry Moses
> Dear Sir: Yours of the 28th inst is received. There are now no vacancies in this office. Your application has been filed and should the interests of the Department render it necessary it will be duly considered.

If the application were considered, it was rejected for Mr. Moses does not show in the clerk list of 1849.

> 446 Nov. 4, 1847 P.M. Poughkeepsie, N.Y.
> Dear Sir: Yours of the 3rd inst. is received stating that no mail was received at your office on Monday last from this. Mr. Brown the agent had previously informed me of this matter. My records show that a mail should have reached your office on the above day. I am not able to account for its non arrival.

This is apparently James A. Brown, route agent on the Hudson River steamboats.

> 449 Nov. 6, 1847
> Rec'd from James M. Buchanan Postmaster Baltimore Thirteen (13) No. 2 Canvass mail bags.
>
> 452 November 9, 1847 Messrs. Willis & Co., 65 State St., Boston

> Gent: A letter signed by you and addressed J.J. Brown Esq. New York was opened today by Mr. J.J. Browne of this city and found to contain money and note. It was not intended for him. We suspect you have improperly directed it. Please answer this, and inform me what I shall do with it, as we do not know any other J.J. Browne in this City.

Despite this being a non-street addressed letter it was apparently monitored as a money letter.

> 457 Nov. 10, 1847 P.M. Baltimore, Md.
> Dear Sir: Yours of the 8th inst. is received. Some of the Steamer *Caledonia's* letters were sent to this office for us to send to offices south of this. My clerks do not positively recollect whether the matter for your office was sent here to be remailed or whether it was sent directly from Boston in a pouch labeled Baltimore.

This is an important piece of evidence on the handling of transatlantic mails, for it shows that the Cunard mails coming in at Boston were bagged and shipped for processing at other points. It explains some of the problems students have had with blue markings first applied at Philadelphia on Cunard mail. From this letter we now know that the date of New York, Baltimore, or Philadelphia postmarks on incoming Cunard letters reflects the day the sealed bag arrived at those points.

On the 11th, Morris returned the Browne letter to Messrs. Willis & Co. in Boston to be sent to Portland, Maine. The firm had misaddressed it to New York.

> 459 Nov. 11th, 1847 J. Joslin Esq. P.M. Newport
> Dr. Sir: The Pouch containing your mail of the 8th inst. came back to this office yesterday. It came back with the Eastern Mail. Where it had been to we could not learn. I returned it Yesterday. Yours of the 10th upon this subject was rec'd this morning.

Rather than an individual misaddressing, here we have an entire mail misdirected. It seems to have gone north (Eastern mail) but not to Newport.

> 478 Nov. 19/47 Sylvester Benedict Esq. West Stockbridge Centre Berkshire Co. Mass.
> Dear Sir: I enclose to you /4 which has been received by me from the General Post Office London being the amount due to you on 2/- enclosed to London on the 8th Sept. for postage on letter to your address.

This appears to be a refund of monies demanded by London for unpaid postage on a transatlantic letter to Mr. Benedict. Why the return is four pence is not clear.

> 483 Nov. 20, 1847 Alfred Huger Esq. P.M. Charleston, S.C.
> Dear Sir: Yours of the 15th inst. upon the subject of my contract with Emmerson & Co. is rec'd. I have contracted

with E&Co. and enclose you a sample of the paper they are to furnish, with the price written on each sheet. E&Co. have had the contract that is passed and gave me perfect satisfaction.
I have not before acknowledged the receipt of the Post-bills, and thanked you for them, which I now do: When I have finished with them, you shall have them returned with a statement of the result.

There are apparently two paper contracts involved with Emmerson & Co. according to this note from Morris. One is past and the other is current. It is not clear whether this was to supply paper for postbills and forms or what the function was. However, it would appear to be an official source of paper for the Post Office Department and may even refer to stamps.

485 Nov. 22d 1847 Postmaster Detroit
Dear Sir: Yours of the 16th asking me to forward to you a letter addressed "Hoppock & Co." is rec'd.
I enclose the letter addressed "Hoppock & Co. Carriage Depository New York". The Journal marks upon the back of the letter show my clerks have made efforts to find the Carriage Depository.

Here we learn that before letters are advertised or otherwise disposed of, efforts are made to locate the addressee and that such efforts are journalized on the backs of letters.

487 Nov. 22, 1847 Wm. McGibony Esq.
Dear Sir: The Postmaster General by letter dated the 15th inst. informs me that you are empowered to investigate the delay and loss which has recently occurred in the Charleston office, and directs me to report to you the facts of the case of the loss which occurred between my office and Charleston in July last. I obtained the following facts from the clerk and poster of Messrs. Carpenter & Vermily brokers of this city.
On the 10th of July last, Messrs. Carpenter & Vermily Esq. wrote and addressed a letter to "Henry Trescott Esq. Cashr Charleston, S.C." and enclosed in it $770 in bank notes on the various banks of Charleston. The letters was on a letter sheet having no envelope, and was deposited in this office just before 3 o'clock P.M. of the 10th July and paid. A letter deposited at that hour would have [mine? gone] the same afternoon. In the morning we send a pouch direct to Charleston but in the afternoon, although we make up a mail direct to Charleston we tie all the bundles for Charleston together and place in the pouch of the Potomac Agent and that agent distributes it to Charleston.
The Postmaster General did not inform me where I must direct my letter to you. I therefore will put it under cover to him.

This letter gives us some of the procedures required in tracing lost or stolen mails. It also tells us the procedures used for distributing mails vary with the time of the day.

489 November 22, 1847 John F. Chipman, Esq. Waddington, N.Y.
Dear Sir: William A Waddington Esq. shews me your letter to him of the 16th inst. Your letter of the 3d has not been rec'd by him.
Please inform me whether you put it into the mail so that it would leave Waddington on the 3d. Also inform me upon whom the drafts were. Shew this letter to your Postmaster and give me all the information you can procure to enable me to trace the lost letter. N.B. In the above letter I wrote the 3d as the date of the mailing of the missing letter. Mr. Waddington shews me it should have been the 13th of November. December 4th 1847 RHM.

Further information about the handling of lost letters is contained here.

490 Nov. 22, 1847 W.C. Bryant Esq.
Dr Sir: I return to you a package of your papers addressed "W.H. Elton Upper Red Hook N.Y." One of the papers contains a receipt and upon which there is also other manuscript communication. Were I to forward the package your office would be subject to a fine. Your clerks must have done it through inadvertence. Please see that he does not commit similar acts again.

The writing of manuscript on newspapers classes them as first class mail — a much higher rate in addition to the penalty for fraud.

491 November 22d 1847 P.S. Ely Esq. Victor, N.Y.
Dear Sir: Yours of the 17th is rec'd. I am not aware that Postmasters have a right to frank money letters to Publishers. It cannot be considered Post Office Business.

This interpretation of the regulations on franking speaks for itself.

507 Decr 1st 1847 W. White Esq. PM Raleigh, N.C.
My Dear Sir: Yours of the 27th of November is rec'd in relation to the matter which you state I should send to your office for distribution. The matter you allude to, we are now by Special Order directed to make up direct, which I apprehend prevents my obeying the general order you allude to.
I, this day, send your letter to Mr. Hobbie, First Asst. PM General and inform him that he will also much oblige me if he will comply with your request. This course I adopted at the suggestion of Mr. Childs of the Post Office Department to whom I shewed your letter.

Mr. Childs is a new special agent for mail robbery. He first appears in the 1849 *Federal Register*.

511 Dec. 4, 1847 Sect. L.I.R.R. Company
Dr Sir: I have this morning received the enclosed despatch from Boston. Your attention is called to that portion relating to an express over your road.

Here we have a record of U.S. Express Mail going over the LIRR on the Boston run.

524 Decr 9th 1847 N.G. Babbitt Esq. P.M. Walpole, N.H.
Dear Sir: Yours of the 5th is rec'd. We make up for your office a daily mail, place it in a pouch for you and daily sent it with the New Haven mail. The delay you speak of must take place between New Haven and your office.

This gives us more routing data, according to the new distribution plan.

536 Decr. 14th 1847 James M. Buchanan Esq. P.M. Baltimore
Dear Sir: Yours of the 11th is rec'd. Your office was made up at Boston & not interfered with here. Consequently it came from Boston without lock.

This again shows how the Cunard mails are handled. In this case the Baltimore mail was sent unlocked.

554 Decr 20th 1847 William H. Graham Esq.
Sir: Many numbers of the Graham Magazine each containing a separate and distinct circular are now in this office. The circulars require to be prepaid before I can forward them by the mails. One of your clerks has frequently been requested to inform you of this fact, and he informed my men that he had so informed you, and that you stated you would not attend to it, until you should receive notice from the Postmaster. I hereby give you the notice you require.

Morris also wrote the postmaster at Philadelphia about these inserted circulars which deal with the prepayment of postage. He also noted the *Philadelphia Gazette* included two circulars in each issue. It should be underscored that the 3 cent circular rate of 1847 required prepayment. The earliest date of use on record is March 17, 1847.

557 Dec. 21, 1847 New York Recorder
Gent.: I return to you three packages of your papers, one addressed to "Columbus Ohio", one to "H. Deats, Quakertown, N.J." and one to "J. Realdon Occugan, Va." for proper enveloping.

As far as I can ascertain this is the earliest philatelic reference to Hiram Deats, the first librarian of the Collectors Club as well as a charter member of the APS. He collected revenue stamps from 1878 on but probably also had a holding of 1847's, etc.

576 Decr 28th 1847 Granby Colcraft Esq. H.B.M. Agent for Steamer Packets New York No. 9 Warren Street

This correspondence is reported in Boggs but he did not include the fact that Colcraft was the agent for the Cunarders in New York and that his address was 9 Warren. Boggs reported the reply and made the point the steamer would be at Jersey City. While not reported by Boggs, this trip of the *Hibernia* inaugurated the New York to Liverpool service of the Cunarders which hitherto had gone only from Boston. The *Hibernia* had arrived at Boston on Christmas day and reached New York on the 29th.

The departure was a subject of several news items in the New York papers and one reported that Mr. Coolidge of Harnden & Co. handled the Boston mails. In letter no. 137 in the Boggs book Morris noted that the only reason Harnden was at all involved was because of a direct instruction from Mr. Cunard to turn the mails over to that firm.

> 606 January 6th 1848 H.K. Smith, P.M. Buffalo N.Y.
> Dear Sir: Yours of the 4th inst. written by Mr. Hecox is duly rec'd.
> In answer to your question about the English Steamers, I send to you a copy of an extract from a despatch of the General Post Office London sent to me by their agent in this city.

Smith is the new postmaster at Buffalo, having taken over August 23rd 1846. H.C. Hecox was his chief clerk.

> 616 January 8, 1848 W.W. Van Loan Esq., P.M. Cattskill
> Dear Sir: Yours of the 6th and the mail bag of your construction was duly rec'd. My clerks, and myself, have examined the innovation thoroughly and are unanimously of the Conviction that it is far superior to any thing we have seen. You had better at once get your patent and present the matter to the Post Office Department. I return the pouch in your mail of tomorrow.

Here we have the very beginning of the redesign of the mail bag.

> 625 January 8, 1848 Messrs. Gauly & Mackolrath
> Gents: I return to you the letter from New Marlboro. Unless we are otherwise specially directed we place in the Springfield Mass. bag. This is done by direction of a mail agent upon the Rail Road who informs us that is the most expeditious manner to forward mail matter to New Marlboro. The Springfield bag is sent by morning boat to New Haven from thence forwarded. If your papers do not reach my office until Wednesday P.M. they will not leave my office until Thursday morning. If you write "Hartford" on your papers, it would be sent to Hartford which may cause the delay. I will write the Springfield office, and endeavour to prevent the delay.

This letter gives us information on the routing of mail into Massachusetts and the way in which the Post Office Department makes its choices, e.g. via the route agent. It could be George Collier who was at Hartford on the New Haven and Greenfield run or Abijah W. Chapin who was at Springfield on the Boston and Albany run.

> 638 January 10, 1848 Charles Marsh Esq. Woodstock, Vermont
> Dear Sir: Yours of the 6th [?] is rec'd. All the matter that reached this office for Woodstock we send to Hudson. That is place it in the Hudson bag. It may be that the Post Office in Washington sends matter for your office to Albany to be distributed. If you will inform me what paper at Washington is sent to you, I will have the Wash-

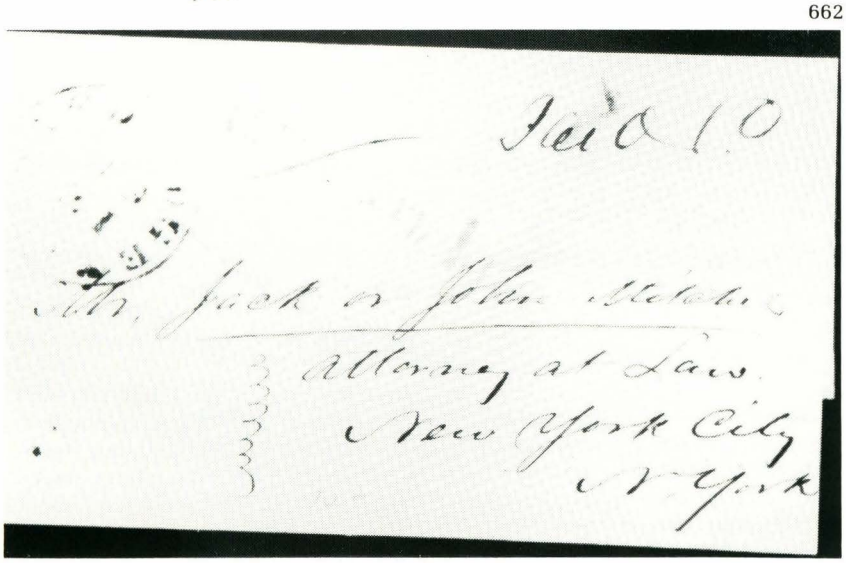
ington mail watched for it and endeavour to learn where the error is made.

Again we have a routing problem. New York sends to Hudson and Washington may send directly to Albany for distribution. As can be seen, a great deal of effort was devoted to ascertain the most effective mail routes. The result is found in the 1851 *Postal Guide*.

644 January 12, 1848 James Smith Esq., Baltimore
Dear Sir: Yours of the 26th of December is rec'd making inquiries in relation to a letter you state you mailed on the 11th of December addressed "William Smith in the care of Mr. Carboy 11 Washington Street New York" which you say contains $6.
My carrier Mr. Wright informed me that he delivered the letter at No. 11 Washington Street. He has called there since I rec'd your letter and is informed that the letter was rec'd, that they have opened it and taken the money because as they say William Smith owed them the money.

This letter gives us the name of the carrier serving Washington Street. This was the old route of John Hallett who now headed the Alphabet Section and who was to become head of the combined Alphabet and Carrier section in 1857. Carriers, it should be noted, are not carried in the official records as published in the *Federal Register*.

662 January 15, 1848 James G. Bennett, Esq., Editor of the *New York Herald*.
Sir: Yours of the 15th is this moment rec'd by me, in which you claim for the *New York Herald* the advertisements, now published by order of the Postmaster General in the *Tribune*, of letters uncalled for in this office.
I this day enclose to the Postmaster General your application and will wait his directions upon the subject.



662 This letter from Tennessee with a black 30mm DANDRIDGE/AUG/21/Ten. and manuscript "Paid 10" to Jack or John Mitchel, attorney, at New York shows the type of monies Bennett was seeking. It has the red 54 x 8mm straightline ADVERTISED 4 cts. used in 1848. The 35th section of the act of 2d July 1836 authorized advertising in more than one paper "provided the cost does not exceed four cents per letter." Under section 26 of Act of 1825 publishers insert ads three times at the rate of 2¢ per letter.

Advertised letters were an important financial asset of a newspaper and Bennett obviously wanted the bonus.

> 663 January 16, 1848 John H. Corning Esq. Postmaster Valatie, N.Y.
> Dear Sir: Yours of the 13th is received in which you state that the mail which comes to your place from New York has a half brass lock upon it. This mistake must be committed in the Kinderhook office, as we do not send a pouch from this office to yours, but place all mail matter for your office in the Kinderhook bag. The brass locks and half brass locks should be used only on the pouches for distributing offices and we are forbid sending keys for such locks to smaller offices.

This letter also explains the distribution system and the type of security used for different size offices.

> 677 January 19, 1848 Postmaster Norwich, New London Co. Conn.
> Dear Sir: Yours of the 18th inst. is rec'd enclosing G.W. Bentley's bill and receipt for carrying the mails to your office from New London for my consideration. I have no authority to settle such accounts, and when such are contracted by me, I send the bills to the Department, which course I would advise you to pursue.

Apparently this refers to route no. 802, the New York to Norwich, Connecticut steamboat route which makes a stop at New London.

> 680 January 20, 1848 Messrs. Jones & Friedel
> Gent.: I have received a letter from Messrs. Sam Kidder & Co. of Charlestown Mass. informing me that letter postage had been charged upon a package addressed to you by them on the 25th Dec. when pamphlet postage only should have been charged.
> If you can show me the original package, or part of the contents, I may be able to correct what may have been an error. /s/ M. Monson Jr.

Monson also wrote Samuel Kidder the same day and stated that if an error were made it would be corrected. Morris was out of town from the 17th through the 24th on a trip to Washington as he noted in letters on page 688 reporting his accounts were settled through September 30th, the date for the Annual Report.

In letter no. 167 Boggs refers to possible overcharges on letters "from Bremen to Washington" but the original reads "from Bremen pr. *Washington*," the American Ocean Line steamer.

> 703 January 26, 1848 Seth H. Field, Postmaster East Springfield Otsego Co. N.Y.
> Sir: Yours of the 23rd requesting me to furnish you with ballances and stamps for use at your office, is received. It will be necessary for you to send your order to Washington as I have no authority to furnish the required articles.

While New York could supply a number of items, balances and

"stamps" meaning handstamps rather than adhesives were not part of the supply.

> 705 January 21, 1848 P.M. Detroit
> Dr. Sir: If there is a letter in your office addressed "*Arthur Rankin* Sandwich Canada West" please put the enclosed stamp upon it to prepay the postage from this to your office and forward it. You will also please answer what you do in the matter.

Here we have a stampless cover to Canada converted to a prepaid one in Detroit. The Detroit office had received adhesives on August 11, 1847.

> 713 January 28 1848 E.H. Mitchell Esq. PM New Haven
> Dear Sir: Attending to your request we had three pouches labelled for service between this and Waterbury, and in them sent the mail direct to Waterbury. The postmaster at Waterbury has neglected to return our pouches to us and we therefore are obliged to send his mail of today in your pouch. If the Pouches for Waterbury are in your office, forward them to us.

Here we have a case of "through bags" for Waterbury where the arrangement broke down. A similar letter on page 714 was sent to the Waterbury postmaster.

> 715 January 28, 1848 E.H. Mitchell P.M. New Haven
> Dear Sir Yours of the 26th is rec'd and in accordance with your request make up the mails for Bristol, Terrysville, Plymouth, Plymouth Hollow & Northfield and place them in your pouch.

These are towns that might otherwise have been routed through Bridgeport and Waterbury and would in the future go in that direction when the Naugatuck R.R. was ready in 1849.

> 716 January 28, 1848 Nathaniel Greene, Postmaster Boston, Mass.
> Dear Sir: Please deliver the enclosed letter to Mr. Holbrook, Special Agent. It is forwarded at his request. The letter is addressed to "Miss Margaret McSorley 115 Amity Street, New York" and was originally mailed at Chelsea, Mass on the 30th Dec. last.

Unless one knew that Holbrook was an investigator into mail depredations, this cryptic note would be meaningless. As it is, one wonders if it relates to one of his cases reported in *Ten Years Among the Mailbags*.

> 722 January 30th 1848 To: C.S. Whitney, Esq. Washington
> Dear Sir: Yours of the 28th is rec'd. I remember perfectly your handing the two letters to me and that you stated one of them contained $10—and also that you requested me to deposit the letter containing the $10 into one of the despatch posts as we then supposed there was no carrier from the Post Office that went as far out as 23d street.

Upon reaching my office I found one of my carriers did go as far as 23d street and had the letter given to him. He informs us that he is personally acquainted with Mr. Wm. S. Slocum and that the letter was delivered to Mr. Slocum. I have directed him to see Mr. Slocum upon the subject.

In this interesting letter we learn that while in Washington Morris was asked to handcarry a letter and give it to a private local but chose instead to give it to one of his carriers because the post office carrier service did extend as far north as 23rd street in 1848.

729 Feby 1st 1848 Mr. Chas. H. Wilson 356 Hudson St.
Sir: Your application for re-appointment in the Post Office dated 31st January 1848 is rec'd. I have no place for you. Respectfully yours.

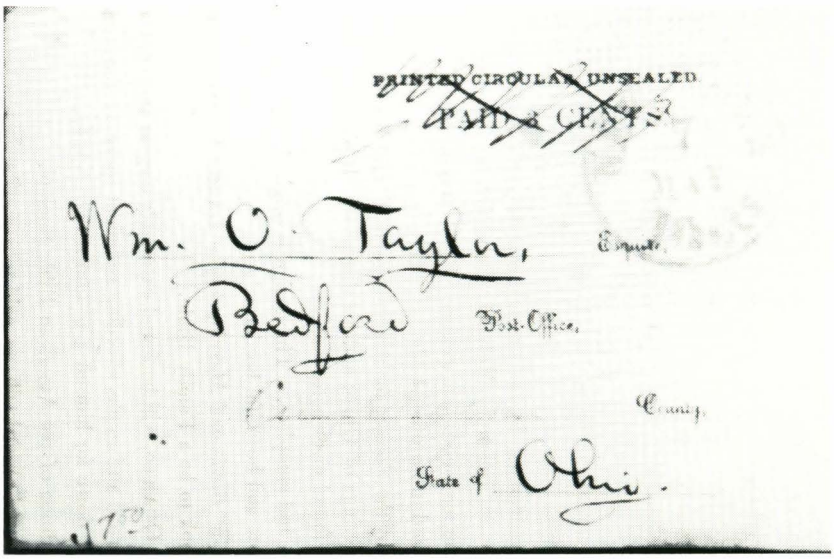
This is a clerk Morris wanted out. He had served to March 1, 1847.

James Gordon Bennett's request reported as page 662 that the *New York Herald* be given the contract for advertised letters was granted in a letter on page 736. On page 737, a similar letter to the Sun, which had the largest circulation, was also sent. The former is reported as Boggs no. 181.

749 Feby 3d 1848 Messrs. Wiley & Putnam 161 Broadway
Gents: I have this morning rec'd from the P. Office Department at Washington an answer to my letter to the 2d Assist. PMGeneral upon the subject of the postage upon "list of new publications." The Department decided it "is subject to circular postage and should of course be prepaid when sent in the mails."

Book advertisements and lists of publications are circulars according to this ruling.

753 Feby 3d, 1848 A.G. Danby Esq. P.M. Utica
Dear Sir: Yours of the 31st of January signed by Mr.



749 This is an example of the handling before the new ruling. This Sear's book circular had a black 47 × 9mm PRINTED CIRCULAR UNSEALED/PAID 3 CENTS. which was crossed out and it was letter rated with a red 30mm NEW-YORK/7/MAY/10 cts. of 1847. It was this type of charge that inspired the new definition of circulars reported in letter no. 749.

Church is rec'd enquiring about the leather pouch from this to your office of the 29th of January last. On the 29th we regularly sent to you the mail in the leather pouch which pouch was returned to us by the Northern mail that reached my office on the evening of the 31st and we again forwarded it to you on the morning of the 1st of Feby inst. The pouch was one of the old pouches with a brass plate bearing both "New York" and "Utica" upon it and either the clerks in some office on the road or the agents on the Rail Road or in the Steam Boat have returned the bag to me instead of forwarding it to you.

This is the old style of mail pouch. The canvas bags that were discussed earlier are the basic ones in use and the one developed by the postmaster at Catskill, New York, the probable successor.

763 Feb 5th 1848 Richard S. Rolph Esq. PM Millington Kent County, Maryland
Dear Sir: The enclosed letter which is written by Francis Thomas of 58 Greene Street New York, a coloured man and addressed to Nancy Brackson contains five dollars. The letter has been to England as you will see by the Liverpool stamp. The error originated from the misdirection and also from its being deposited in this office the same day we were making up our European mail. Will you please see it is delivered and make this explanation. I act for Francis Thomas and he requests me to forward the letter instead of taking it back. P.S. Please *answer* what is done in the matter.

This would make a lovely postal history cover with the "missent to Liverpool" handstamp.

788 Feby 9th 1848 T.J. Marvin Esq., P.M. Saratoga Springs
Dear Sir: Yours of the 5th inst. is rec'd this morning in relation to your mail from this of the 3d of Feby.
We now send your mails in the pouch for Schenectady. Our bag for Schenectady of the 3rd which also contained your mail was returned to us yesterday the 8th inst. having been opened. Some agent or P.Office between this and Schenectady has by mistake returned the pouch to us instead of forwarding the mail. Where the pouch has been we cannot conjecture. All we know is that we sent it out on the 3d and that it came back to us with the northern mail on the 8th.

This letter again shows how mail is routed. One would normally expect this mail to route through Albany rather than direct to Schenectady.

802 February 11, 1848 Postmaster Stockport Columbia Co., N.Y.
Dear Sir: I this day received a letter from Mr. Holmes your assistant making inquiries concerning a missing letter *said* to have been addressed "*Mrs.* G.D. Putnam care of Mr. John Crowly No 23 *Chambers* St. N.Y."
In looking over my unclaimed letters I find the enclosed addressed "*Mr.* C.D. Putnam No. 23 *Eastman* St. care

John Crowley New York" which is probably the letter you refer [to]. The *misdirection* of the writer has caused the difficulty. Should the letter prove not to be the one desired, please return.

This is an interesting case of writer misdirection creating a "lost" letter.

809 Feby 12, 1848 Charles Hardenbergh Esq. P.M. Port Jervis, N.Y.

Dear Sir: Yours of the 9th is rec'd. I am authorized by appointment from the PMGeneral to collect and receive the monies taken by Mr. H. Wisner [?] from the mails, with * . When and as I receive it the amount must be deposited by me with the assistant treasurer of the United States at this place.

You may send the bond to me and Mr. House can pay the amount of it to me.

The word where the asterisk is is unclear (interest?). The theft was by the clerk at Port Jervis who attempted to avoid detection by opening Mr. Hardenberg's mail. As he was a postal official a bond was posted, probably by Mr. House, and the post office was collecting on it. This is one of the key mail thefts that Morris refers to in his discussions with the postmaster at Charleston, South Carolina (see no. 487 and Boggs, pp. 162, 179, 194-7).

815 February 14, 1848 To Messrs Greeley & McElrath Eds Tribune

I return to you one of your papers addressed "Eagle, Memphis, Tenn." and also a circular headed "Splendid premium plates" and signed "John S. Taylor, Publisher, No 1 Nassau Street New York," which was enclosed in your paper above mentioned. This circular is subject to prepayment of 3¢ postage. We have stripped a large number of your papers, each of which have a similar circular in it. Will you please send and take them from the office or prepay the postage.

In this case a well known publisher, Horace Greeley, tried to get away with including circulars with his newspapers. Greeley made his reputation with this paper and gave half of it to McElrath. By this date he owned only about 32 percent and was finally reduced to only a few percent through bad business management. Greeley has gone down in American folklore for his statement "Go west, young man."

875 February 26, 1848 Geo. C. Cowles Esq. PM Farmington, Conn.

Dear Sir: Yours of the 24th is received asking to be informed if a letter addressed to me and enclosing one directed to Ed M. Dixon M.D. has been received at my office and at what date and to whom delivered.

I received from you in due course of mail a letter dated the 7th of February which contained a letter addressed to some other person, the postage upon which was paid as also the postage upon the letter to me. Your letter of the 7th which is now before me, states its enclosed letter was addressed to "Edward F Dixon Md. 5 Mercer Street N.Y."

This letter was taken downstairs by my corresponding clerk and handed to Mr. Hallett, who arranges letters for the carriers. Both these gentlemen inform me that the letter received by me and sent down stairs was placed in the box of Mr. Van Brunt, the carrier on the route in which 5 Mercer Street is.

At this stage of the investigations Edward H. Dixon, M.D. came into my office with your last letter to him upon the subject. I then sent for the carrier, Mr. Van Brunt who, in Mr. Dixon's presence stated that all letters for the Doctor he delivered at this house to him or in his absence to some person in his office . . . that he frequently delivered there. The doctor says he has not received the letter. It may be if the letter was addressed as your letter of the 7th of February which enclosed it stated "Edward F Dixon" "MD" or as your letter of the 24th incl. states "Ed. M. Dixon Md" it has got into some other Dixon's hands. Every effort shall be made to find it and if found you shall be informed of it.

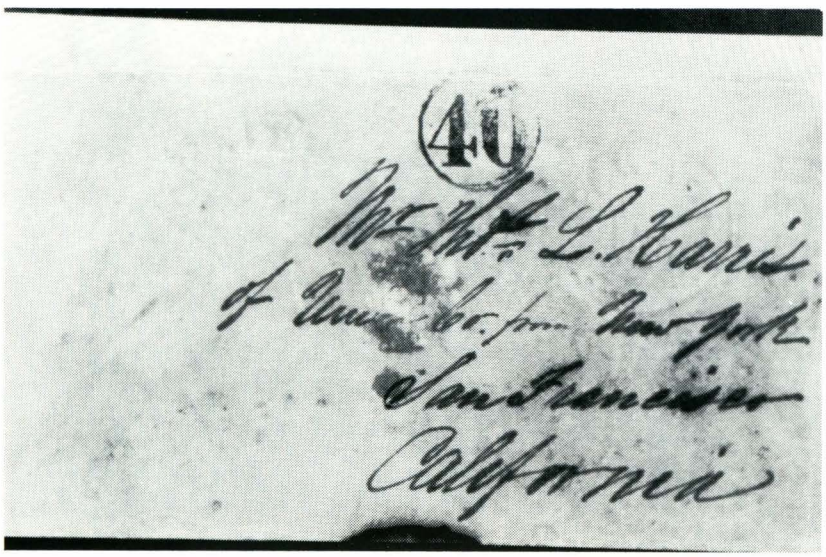
This lost letter gives us several ways in which it could have gone astray. However, the key information in this is that (a) Hallett is in charge of arranging letters for the carriers at this time, which is long before he heads the carrier operation, and (b) it tells us that Van Brunt was the carrier covering Mercer Street.

880 February 26, 1848 Postmaster Eagle, Wyoming Co., New York

Dear Sir: In answer to yours of the 14th inst. which I have forgotten whether I had previously answered. I have to state that your letter cannot be found in this office. It is therefore almost certain that it has been sent to California without having the inland postage paid. This sometimes happens in the great amount of business that we have to perform.

All matter for California or Mexico should be prepaid.

880 While a poor quality envelope, this has the red arc PAID and red 26mm NEW YORK/APR/ 27 circle of 1849 on its way to San Francisco. It has a black 19mm circled 4 0 for the California rate *unpaid*, showing the point Morris was talking about here. The combination red Paids and black 40's in the 1847-50 period make up this unusual class of letters.

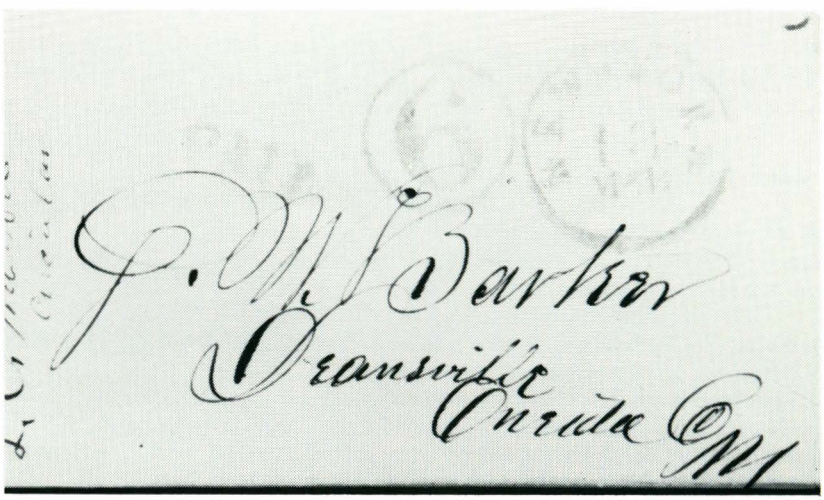


One of the startling remarks in this letter is the one about prepayment of mail to Mexico and California. It is not called for in the postal law setting up the rates, although there is logic to it for the postage was to be used to offset the contracts with the shipping lines at least as early as the law of March 1848. My records do not show the unpaid 40 cent New York City handstamp prior to December 1849 so it is possible that a prepaid rate lasted for several years without being noted as such by postal historians. The phraseology of Morris' statement is that the inland postage has to be paid, e.g., 5 or 10 cents, not the entire postage, but as partially paid letters are not known, the practical effect would be the prepayment of the full rate.

> 885 February 28, 1848 [addressee missing] University Place NYCity
> Dear Sir: There are a number of circulars in the office which were deposited by you on the 17th marked paid 3 cts. The circular is *double* and is subject to 6 cts postage which you will please come and pay or take them out of the office.

This double circular rate of 1847 is quite scarce and collectible. Because the contents are frequently removed many of them pass as post-1851 double rate items of the basic prepaid 3 cents rate.

As can be seen, despite the fact that Mr. Boggs published the most interesting of the letters from this letterbook, there were a number of important letters that had not been published. These letters shed additional light on the postal practices of the period in a number of areas ranging from "recorded letters" or "money letters" to carrier delivery, the workings of the recently created distribution plan to the handling of mail going to California and Europe.



885 Rare double circular rate. Red 30mm NEW-YORK/18/ MAR and 22mm circled 6. and arc PAID, on 2/18/51 circular of Wilson & Co. dry goods. The PL&R are not clear as to what constitutes a double circular, but apparently an enclosure does it. No enclosure is found here.

Pratt Accepts Lichtenstein Award

Philatelically Speaking — Happiness Is

Introduction

I am flabbergasted, overwhelmed, humbled and almost mute in the presence of so many august, learned and obviously expectant people. Tonight, in honor of Philately, I propose to produce, from this pulpit, a pleasing panorama of philosophical prose for the profound pleasure of this assemblage of my peers. It is time that we ascend from fiddling with a partially destroyed dessert, or the silent (and introspective) mental contemplation of ones navel, to listen to the Wise Words of Wisdom that I shall thrust upon this gathering. If you are willing (and by now not asleep) we shall together proceed to the subject at hand—Namely:

Wonderful Words of Wisdom from events in the life of any so-called Stamp Collector

"Philately speaking—Happiness *Is* . . . . .



(1) The complete rapture on being introduced to a society in which all the members have a common means of relaxation and enjoyment, irrespective of and free from any bias because of Sex, Color, Race, Religion, or form of Government.

(2) The bewildering shock of receiving the letter stating that you are about to be granted this fantastic Lichtenstein Award, and then finally, so much later awakening to the pleasure and prestige that the honor will bring.

(3) The thrill of finding yourself, on a night such as this, at the podium, and offering your thanks to those who made it possible.

(4) The realization that some 30 or more recipients of this privilege from many nations have preceded you, and that they were, in all probability, much more deserving than you. I am truly proud to be a member of this illustrious group.

(5) The lonely feeling in the pit of your stomach when you mount your first exhibit, and the relief and pleasure when an "old timer" compliments you on your style and contents.

(6) The awesomeness of your first exposure to an International Stamp Show with its immense expanse of startling white pages, each the bearer of priceless examples of philately.

(7) The pride you feel when you carefully observe and gloat over your first entry into the international arena. "It must be worth a Large Gold" you say to yourself. It finally produces a Silver. (Paradise lost.)

(8) The satisfaction at an international show, when you finally assemble and exhibit a collection that has won its three large gold medals, and now you are passed on to exhibit in the Class of Honor. (Paradise regained.)

(9) The anticipation of again meeting with and enjoying the friendliness of the international group when you greet old acquaintances and competitors amidst the sterility of the empty frame at mounting time.

(10) The fraternal rapport of a companionable chat over a drink at some noisy bar, when you are energetically attempting to extract a morsel of needed data from a willing and knowledgeable collector.

(11) Then another session at the same bar, this time with a dealer friend, who is avidly trying to peddle to you one of his goodies, at an unreasonable price. The satisfaction comes when you obtain it at reasonable cost, but with the price still too high.

(12) The pleasure of a luncheon with foreign friends at the "exclusive" club room provided for those with excess dollars, who thus contribute to the financial and social success of the show.

(13) The delight of your spouse, after you realize that you have spent the family vacation money (and she knows it) on some collection or other, when you dig into your assets to insure that her trip to the Carribbean will not be canceled.

(14) The timidity you felt when you made your first bid at a crowded auction, and the shock that came when the lot was

knocked down to you at a value way above your limit. Why did you hold your hand up so long? (No happiness—only self condemnation.)

(15) The rapture you realize when the so described "thinned" stamp you bought in a mail bid at an auction (on a hunch, for a song) turns out to be a rare and expensive watermarked variety you never thought you could own.

(16) The excitement you experience when you realize, on looking over the auction pages, that the guy who described the lot didn't know what he was talking about, and what is there is really valuable and not junk. (You hope nobody senses your excitement—and sneak a glance around the smoky examining room.)

(17) The fear you feel when that lot is called that someone else will be as aware as you that it has merit and will exceed your ability to bid. Oh what bliss when the lot is knocked down to you at bargain basement prices.

(18) The relief at last from the boredom of looking over four pounds of one auctioneer's catalogues for one sale. Then your despair at the realization of what a total waste of time it has been to find only one lot out of 8,500, and that at a starting price four times the price at which a similar cover was sold recently over here.

(19) The pleasure you feel on viewing an auction catalogue which has been beautifully produced in color, carefully bound, accurately described and marketably priced. Oh how you wish that the material had been in your province of collecting.

(20) The finite pleasure of entrusting to a beginner some of the hard earned knowledge that you have acquired, and the pleased acknowledgement he makes as he uses this data.

(21) The exquisite joy of finding one of your own offspring, a grandson or daughter perhaps, who enjoys with you the pleasures, the experience and the participation in the community of Philately.

(22) The disgust and anquish you feel when Postal Administrations pervert the glory of Philately with the crass commercialism of Seigniorage by issuing unnecessary limited editions or metalic replicas of previously acclaimed stamps. (Happiness strangled.)

(23) The rapture you experience when the results of your labor at typewriter or computer results in a finished article, acceptable to a philatelic editor. (Happiness resumed.)

(24) The horrible feeling you get when another article is summarily rejected by all exposed editors. They must all be dummies. (Happiness gone.)

(25) The euphoria of the dream, when you start on the production of a monumental Postal History, unknowingly committing yourself to years and years of frustrating research and work.

(26) The joy of returning to your rented motel room dead tired at 3 A.M. with dirty hands, dusty clothes, bags under your eyes and a dry pen, finally closing out ten days of intense and rewarding research among the hardly ever looked at letter files of long gone Colonial Secretaries and Governors.

(27) The relief that at last you will no longer have to endure the baleful regard of your good wife, or the telegraphic clatter of your typewriter, or the querulous questions of your secretary regarding the meaning of your document, as the last of twelve hundred double spaced pages emerges from the machine.

(28) The realization that now you are in the hands of your provided editor who must have the will, the desire, and the means to get the damn book into print before you pass on.

(29) The awakening to the onslaught of questions that now are more probing, more explicit, more demanding and sometimes most annoying, as editing progresses. There are times when you debate the wisdom of ever having attempted this book.

(30) The "what do I do now" thought, when the darn thing is finally in print?

(31) The mixture of feelings (anger, hatred, awe and pleasure) when you read the reviews of your long researched and thoroughly annotated symposium. You are suddenly aware that out of the woodwork spring many superknowledgeable critics, after you have provided the continuity of thought that ties the whole together. Where have they been hiding with their superior knowledge?(Temper, temper, temper.)

(32) "Now what do I do?" That same thought occurs again as I have exhausted my store of Wonderful Words of Wisdom. How do I get out of this mess?

(33) Another thought intrudes, maybe I should forget about philately and concentrate on computers. Should I expose this crowd to the wonders of PHILAPUTERY?

(34) Nuff said—I'll go now before you drag me out of here, and again, thanks to those responsible for inviting me to join this select entourage, and also to you all for listening.

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25% DISCOUNT TO MEMBERS

Interesting and Unusual Items from a Specialized Collection of China

Part IX of an Article by Carl A. Kilgas



Fig. 124 Yuan Shih-kai

Yuan Shih-Kai President And "Emperor"[91]

Yuan, the most powerful Manchu military commander and betrayer of the Emperor, was inaugurated President of the Republic, March 10, 1912 (Fig. 124). In 1914, this ambitious individual "arranged" to have himself elected president "for life" and a year later was appointed "Emperor of All of China" by the ruling Congress—to be effective January 1, 1916.

By Imperial Decree, he named his reign "Hung Hsien" or the "Great Constitution Era". Preparing for his elevation to the throne, he commissioned a leading Italian artist, L. George, to design an appropriate "Coronation Issue", using well-known scenes about Peking as subjects. The "specimen" set is shown (Fig. 125).

A "specimen" set was also overprinted for use in Sinkiang Province which was a strong supporter of "Emperor Yuan" (Fig. 126).

Yuan also was arranging to have the current regular issue, the "1st Peking Print", overprinted vertically with characters reading "Chung Hwa Ti Kuo" or "China—Emperor Country".

Some post offices supporting Yuan used a canceling device with the year "1" in Chinese characters instead of 1916. Ironically, the same approach was taken to designate the first year of the republic. Identification of use during the "Yuan Empire" period is simple — the cancel must be used on either the 1913 London Waterlow print or on the 1st Peking print.

The Peking post offices were the first to recognize the existence of the monarchy and handstamped the two characters for "Hung Hsien" on the Express Letter stamps. The characters, in black, were placed directly over the republican "Chung Hwa Min Kuo" on the stamp. The example (Fig. 129) shown was canceled at Peking, January 20th, 1st Year.

The monarchy was not accepted enthusiastically throughout China. Protests against the Chinese Congressional action restoring the monarchy and electing Yuan "Emperor" were immediate and

91. Hughes, J.R. "A Dream of Empire—the Eighty-three Day Reign of Hung Hsien". Hughes East Asia Notes and News. Vol. 1 No. 8. May 1947.



Fig. 125 Specimen set of the Yuan Coronation Set. The 5 cent depicts the Great Ch'ien Gate, the first of series of gates approaching the Forbidden City, the residence of the Chinese emperors since 1421. The 10 cent shows the Great Tien An Gate, the Gate of Heavenly Peace located just before entering the Forbidden City. The 50 cent has the Hall of Supreme Harmony. Within these walls is the principal Throne Room, among several in the Forbidden City. It is the largest building within the palace grounds.



Fig. 126. The specimen set overprinted for use in Sinkiang Province.



Fig. 127. The empire "Specimen" overprint. The second character from the bottom, "ti", translates as emperor.



Fig. 129 The Hung Hsien stamp on the Express Letter adhesive.



Fig. 128. Native cover with "First Year" Hung Hsien cancellation. This closeup of the cancel is on the 6 cent London print and also appears very clearly on the reverse of the cover. The cover was mailed at Urga, in far-away Sinkiang Province on March 31, 1916. This was eight days after Yuan capitulated. Very poor communications was the probable cause for such late usage.

vigorous, not only from Great Britain, France, Italy, and Japan, but from many provinces deeply resenting the abandonment, by Congress, of the acceptable Republican Principles sent down by Sun Yat-sen.

In the postal field, protest extended to the use of wooden hand chops, prepared by local postmasters—such as the ones made at Heng Yang in Yunnan Province (Fig. 130). The horizontal characters mean "Neutral Position".[92] Although these particular overprints may be questionable, they strongly express the feelings against Yuan.

92. Padget, Peter I. "Henyang Neutrality Overprints". *Journal of Chinese Philately.* London. Vol. 15 No. 3 (134) p 63. February 1968.



Fig. 130. Wooden hand chop of protest against the monarchy for Heng Yang in Yunnan.

Opposition to the monarchy was so great, on March 23, 1916—a short 83 days after Yuan became "Emperor"—he decreed that the "Monarchy was Canceled". Only 75 days later, on June 6th, Yuan died mysteriously from "physical derangement, produced by prolonged and intense anxiety and emotional disturbances".

Thus ends the story of Yuan and his dream to become "Emperor of All China".



Fig. 131. The 1916 postal forgeries.

The 1916 Postal Forgeries—50 and 30 cent Peking Print

Forgeries to deceive postal authorities are hard to find on Chinese stamps. During World War I, a clever Chinese engraver made a very fine engraved reproduction of the current 50 cent stamp.

It took the government about a year to locate where the forgery was made, conduct a raid, and destroy the printing plates. A few finished forgeries awaiting perforating were confiscated. Fig. 131 is one from that group.

Although the raiding party was after the 50 cent forgery, much to their surprise, an additional forgery of the 30 cent was also found awaiting perforating. These are also quite rare—all were supposed to have been destroyed.[93]

The $1 Peking Print

A used forgery was discovered on a parcel sent to Tientsin from Shanghai.[94] Tracing the source, the postal investigators located a clerk at the parcel post window of the main Shanghai post office, who was found guilty of putting the forgery on outgoing packages, obliterating it with a very heavy cancel to avoid detection, and pocketing the dollar.

When the story broke, it was called the "Great 1916 Shanghai Postal Scandal". The few used copies found were all canceled "Shanghai". The forgery was photo-lithographed—an excellent job!

The Official United States Surcharges - 1919

Despite the strenuous opposition voiced by the United States government when John Darragh overprinted United State's stamps for use in China, the idea was finally officially approved in 1919. It was found much easier to sell U.S. stamps at the Postal Agency in Shanghai, if the equivalent in Chinese currency, normally worth 50 percent less—could be so indicated on the issue. The surcharged issue appeared July 1, 1919 and was sold along with unsurcharged stamps, which sold for U.S. funds.



Fig. 132 The double surcharged $2/$1 U.S. Postal Agency in Shanghai.

93. Edlmann, F.L. "Forgeries of Republican Stamps of China". *Godden's Gazette* Vol. 3 p 85 1936.

94. Bowker, Howard F. "The Counterfeit One Dollar Peking Print of China". *Collectors Club Philatelist* January 1929 p 19. Vol. 8 No. 1.

The Double Surcharged $2/$1[95]

With the closure of the foreign post offices in China set for December 31, 1921, this unusual error (Fig. 132) was discovered during the last month's operation of the U.S. Agency. The irregularity in the surcharge had been noticed, but since it was the last sheet in stock and the Agency was to close in a few weeks, the sheet of 100 was offered for sale with the regular stock.

The doubling was unusual. Just before the second impression was applied, the sheet rotated slightly resulting in a different degree of doubling on each stamp—from a displacement of 2 mm to one so slight, on a dozen or so, that a magnifier must be used to even find a hint of the doubling. The copy shown has a very distinct vertical shift of 1 mm. Used copies are much scarcer than mint—only 30 used copies have been reported.

This error is similar to the 24 cent air mail invert (Scott (3a)); both were produced in a war-harried Bureau, one in 1918, the other in 1919. Only one sheet of each was issued.

The 2nd Peking Print—1923—The Engraving Surprise

It was generally believed that the simplified design of this issue had been prepared in 1922. However, in 1954, the estate of the Bureau's first director, Lorenzo J. Hatch, who retired in 1914, was auctioned.[96] In the estate were found a few die proofs with the Bureau's official engraving sequence numbers.

With the exception of the 3 and 20 cent dies, the sequence numbers for the cent values (1121-1125) were officially assigned in 1922, giving the impresion that the set had been designed in 1922.

Shown (Fig. 133) is the original 3 cent die proof with an assigned engraving number 238. The 20 cent was numbered 239 and the dollar values 288 and 289. All of these numbers came from the sequence assigned in 1913, proving without a doubt that the designs for the 1923 issue had actually been produced in 1913. These were the designs by Hatch and engraved by William Grant who were so dismayed when Waterlow took their dies and added a lot of

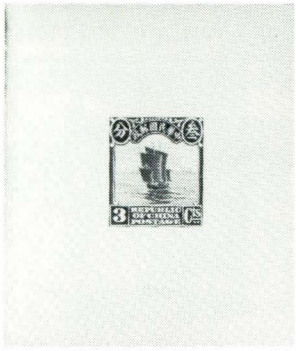


Fig. 133 Original die proof of the 3 cent second Peking printing.

95. Canman, Richard. "Double Surcharge" p 26.

96. Hughes J.R. "Hatch" Auction. January 1954.

the embellishments found on the 1913 issue. At last in 1954, the delightful simplicity of their original creations was finally recognized.

Trial Printings on Watermarked Paper

It is not generally known that both the 1 and 4 cent exist on watermarked paper. These were submitted by a German firm, interested in obtaining a stamp printing contract.[97]

Perforation Varieties

One sheet (20x10) of the ½ cent was found at Sin An, near Peking, with one vertical row of perforations missing. M.D. Chow purchased two blocks of four, imperforate between, and had both canceled at Sin An, on July 26, 1926—the day he made the purchase. One of the blocks is shown (Fig. 134).

Also in 1926 at the Sin An post office, a clerk found a full sheet (20x10) of the 1/2 cent completely imperforate vertically. He bought it, said nothing, and laid it away until he safely retired in 1930. Dr. C.W. Luh, an eminent Chinese specialist, heard about the sheet and finally, after a great deal of persuasion, was told the story of the find and was able to purchase the larger part of the sheet—143 stamps—all others had been sold.[98] Fortunately, the multiple he purchased had all four plate number imprints complete. Shown is one of the four, purchased from Dr. Luh by Dr. Ruland, the first editor of the *China Clipper* and one of the founders of the China Stamp Society. Imprint and Plate number 100 (Fig. 135).

The Spectacular "Kwei" and "Ch'ien" Overprint Discovery

Fees charged by the postal department for the transportation of money were so high, because of rampant banditry, that merchants used high-value postage stamps to transfer funds.

To discourage banditry and the looting of post offices, high value stamps were overprinted in Chinese with the name of the province in which the stamps were sold. This limited their use to the province indicated. It was generally believed the existence of all those overprinted by the Bureau were well known: Manchuria, Sinkiang, Szechuan, and Yunnan. But this is not so.

When Chiang's album of Chinese stamps, that he had given to



Fig. 134 Block of four of the ½ cent second Peking printing imperforate vertically.

97. Kilgas, Carl A. "1926 Experimental Printing of the Junk Issue on Watermarked Paper". *China Clipper* Vol. 3, p 28. February 1939.

98. Luh, C.W. "The One-half Cent Stamp Imperforate Vertically". *China Clipper* Vol. 3, p. 28. February 1939.



Fig. 135 Imprint strip of 3 of the imperforate ½ cent second Peking printing.



Fig. 136 Three copies with the "Kwei" overprint.



Fig. 137 Five copies with the "Ch'ien" overprint.



Fig. 138 Two copies used with the "Ch'ien" overprint.



Fig. 139 Peking martyr vertical re-entry. Top quarter and the sun circle at top doubled. Circle on lower stamp normal.

President Roosevelt, was auctioned in 1946, these two previously unknown overprints were offered: "Kwei" for Kwangsi Province and "Ch'ien for Kweichow Province Unknown for 20 years, it was first presumed they were never issued, but two used copies with the "Ch'ien" overprint were found canceled in 1926—one clearly canceled on October 27th (Figs. 136-138).

40 Cent Peking Martyr Print - Vertical Re-Entry[99]

On The Basic Stamp

This variety was not discovered until 1940—years after the printing of the Peking Martyrs had ceased. As a result most copies, particularly mint blocks, were broken up or destroyed. About 50 re-entries probably exist, one to a sheet position 116/200. This estimate includes any later overprinted or surcharged (Fig. 139).

On the Sinkiang Overprint

After the variety had been found on the basic stamp, it was finally determined it came from Plate 3 and that a few sheets from this plate had been sent to Sinkiang (Fig. 140). So the search centered in this area. A block of nine with the re-entry in the center (Fig. 141) was located. So far, only eight blocks have been reported—five mint, three canceled.

On the 8 cent/40 cent Surcharge

There was also the distinct possibility the re-entry could be found on this surcharged issue since it occurred after a rate increase in 1937. This became quite certain when post office records revealed a

99. Denison, Ellery. "Re-entry of the 40 Cent Martyr". *China Clipper* Vol. 15, No. 1, p 2. November 1950.



Fig. 140 The re-entry on Sinkiang overprint.

Fig. 141 The block of nine with the re-entry and Sinkiang overprint.



Fig. 142 Re-entry on the 8 cent/40 cents surcharge

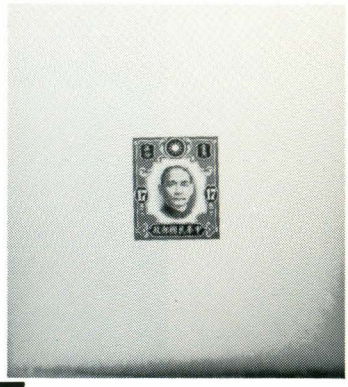


Fig. 143 Die proof of the American Bank Note Company 17 cent "war issue".



Fig. 144 The 16 cent Central Trust issue perforated 11.

few sheets from Plate 3 had been used for the 8 cent surcharge. The search was much more difficult, since each sheet had been broken up into panes of 50 for surcharging. This destroyed the "easy" way to find it by the position in the sheet. To date, only six mint blocks have been reported (Fig. 142).

The "War Issues"

American Bank Note Company Die Proof

With Japanese invading forces sweeping further into China and the supply source of Chinese stamps—Hong Kong—was threatened, an emergency issue was ordered from New York. This die proof of the 17 cent is reported to be one of two known (Fig 143).

The 16 Cent Central Trust Issue

Hong Kong fell December 25, 1941 and China's normal source of postage stamps disappeared. The Central Trust of China, producers of Nationalist banknotes, located in remote Chungking the headquarters for the Nationalist government and the General Post Office, was given the task for furnishing the necessary stamps.

On September 15, 1942 the first stamps prepared in Chungking were issued. Included was a 16 cent value, the domestic letter rate, destined to become one of the most interesting stamps during the entire war period. Within months, it became the victim of inflation, overprinting, surcharging and re-surcharging. In the process, some of the rarest stamps ever issued in China were created![100]

100. Maynard, Fred. "Surcharged 16 Cent Central Trust". *China Clipper* Vol. 15, No. 1, p 2. November 1950.

The Basic Stamp

Produced under the stresses of war and shortages of supplies, the stamp was valid for a very short time of two months. Four paper companies supplied the printing stock.[101]

1. Central Paper Company at Tungliang in Szechuan near Chungking. Smooth on the face, coarse on the reverse. Paper yellowish.
2. Chung Yuan Paper Company—similar but without grainy appearance.
3. Lung Cheng Paper Company—wood free but coarse, resulting in rough perforations. Locally made.
4. An unidentified imported paper—tough, perfs clean cut.

Shades

On basic stamp: Olive-brown to a greyish olive-brown. On surcharged issues: Light to dark olive-brown; yellow-brown and light to dark grey olive-brown.

Perforations

The gauge 13 perforating machines in use at the beginning were in good shape and did a good job. The only variety recorded on the basic stamp was one sheet of 200 perforated 11 (Fig. 144), more commonly listed at 10½. All but the one sheet were used for the overprint and surcharge issues.

During the 50 cent provisionals, the perf 11 machine began to show signs of wear with gauges ranging from 10.2 to 10.9 and in various combinations. Re-surcharged combinations exist thru 11.3. A relatively small number of left, right, and bottom margin imperforates can be found.

Plates Used and Major Die Varieties

A study of the sheets used for surcharging finds the format to be identical to the size of the plate. Surcharging was completed before



Fig. 145 Blocks showing variations mounted together to illustrate varieties. The leftmost block shows the first variation. To the right are three blocks showing progressive deterioration of the second variation. Fourth from the left is a block of eight showing the third variation. Finally, at the right is a block of six with the fourth variation.

101. *Postage Stamp Catalogue of the Republic of China 1878-1977.* p 153. Directorate General of Posts, Taiwan. 1978.



Fig. 146 Bottom frame break in position 161.

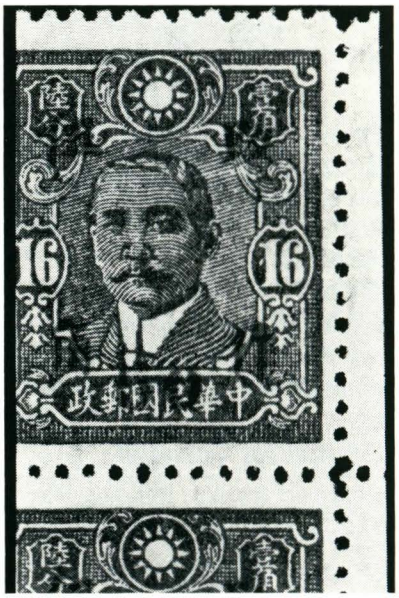


Fig. 147 Small dot to left of "1" in right 16.



Fig. 148 Diagonal dash over left 16. Occurs in positions 161 and 181. The stamp immediately above shows the bottom frame break.



Fig. 149 Horizontal inner border line break near top.



Fig. 150 Thin "16" at right.

the sheet was cut into panes of 100 (10x10). A search for blocks of eight from the lower right corner of the right pane reveals four major plate variations (Fig. 145) in the location of the eight character vertical imprint.

First Variation

The top three characters of the imprint are opposite position 160/200. The bottom of the second character is 1mm above the bottom of the stamp opposite.

Second Variation

The seven top imprint characters are opposite position 160/200 and the eighth is opposite 180/200. As printing progressed, the imprint was damaged; first the second characters dropped out, then later both the second and sixth characters are missing.

Third Variation

The first imprint character is opposite 140/200, the other seven opposite 160/200. There is no sign of an imprint character opposite positions 180/200 or 200/200.

This plate was damaged and repaired, as evidenced by several prominent varieties:

1. Bottom frame line break—5 mm from right—161/200 (Fig. 146).
2. Small dot or dash to left of "1" in right 16—180/200 (Fig. 147).
3. Diagonal dash over left 16 — 181/200 (Fig. 148).
4. Horizontal inner border line has break near top 4mm from the left—182/200 (Fig. 149).
5. "Thin 16" at right—200/200 (Fig. 150).

Fourth Variation

Only 2½ top imprint characters are opposite 160/200. The bottom of the second character is now even with the bottom of the stamp in this position. This was a new plate prepared specially for surcharging.

To be continued.

Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

Further to Mr. C. M. Yohn's article in *CCP* Sep/Oct 1983 - "A 90-Cent Goodhue Cover"; in the last paragraph "Instead, the letter ..... Mauritius-bound steamer" it is mentioned the depicted 1867 cover in the article was carried aboard a P & O steamer - I think this is probably incorrect, as the Pacific & Orient Line terminated their Suez/Aden/Mahé/Mauritius and return contract in July 1866. [Ref: R. Kirk - *The P & O Bombay & Australian Lines 1852-1914* - page 4].

It is more likely the Messageries Maritime steamer ERYMANTHE leaving Suez 17 October (or EMIRNE 17 November) arriving Mahé the 30th (in both instances) [Ref: R. Salles -*Les Paquebots de L'Ocean Indien* Vol: VI - Page 37]. The mail for Zanzibar was then carried by a naval sloop to Zanzibar on the monthly Zanzibar/Mahé and return service (1863-1871) [Ref: K. Pennycuick - *Postal History International* June 1972].

Hope this may be of interest to Mr. Yohn and possibly other Indian Ocean postal history collectors.

Incidentially, the "Dr. Brooks,/Seychelle Isles" printed on the cover depicted on p. 249 was Dr. J. Henry Brooks, Chief Medical Officer for the Seychelles from 1858-1897.

Sue Hopson (Mrs.)

Dissertations

John D. Dowd

Philatelists often overlook information resources not published in philatelic journals. A perusal of the catalog of University Microfilms International shows a large number of dissertations and theses which have been microfilmed and are available to the public. This listing will identify dissertations of philatelic interest. Copies may be obtained from UMI, 300 North Zeeb Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48106. Where no order number is indicated, the educational institution mentioned should be contacted directly.

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Necrology — Julian Gros

It was with considerable sadness that I learned of the death of one of our honorary members, and old friend, a quiet and gentle man, Julian Gros. He was elected to membership in the Collectors Club on September 29, 1937. This was only a few months after my own election, so naturally, we drifted together as we were among the very small number of younger members at that time.

Julian collected the proofs and essays of the United States. He had been introduced to this field by Dr. Clarence Brazer, the leading specialist collector of proofs at the time. Julian formed a magnificent collection of these rare items. Probably the best of its type that has been done, it could not be duplicated today with so many fine pieces now resting in museums.

He became governor of the Club in 1947 and remained on the Board until 1958, but continued his interest in the well-being of the Club to the very last. In the past ten years he found it difficult to get into New York and did not attend as many of the meetings as he would have liked. Julian could always be counted on to support many of the Club's activities. When he retired from business and active collecting, he donated a portion of his collection to the then new concept of the Capital Fund. He was equally generous in his support of philately, always ready to work and support the exhibitions and other activities which took place in New York.

In recognition of his active interest and support over the years and his accomplishments, Julian was elected an honorary member on February 25, 1970. His passing will be mourned by all of us who remembered and worked with him .
H.D.S.H.

ANNUAL REPORT
The Collectors Club, Inc.

Minutes of the Annual Meeting January 11, 1984

Carole Edlin, Executive Secretary

On Wednesday, January 11, 1984, the Annual Meeting convened at 8 PM with President Louis Grunin in the chair. Present were 30 resident members.

The reading of minutes was dispensed with, and the officers and chairmen proceeded to deliver their reports. The members approved Herbert Bloch's motion to accept the actions of the Board for 1983.

The Board recessed and returned to report that the posted slate of governors was unanimously elected, and that all of the officers would continue in office. A motion was passed to accept all of the committee reports, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

President's Report

Louis Grunin, President

The year 1983 has been one of a gathering of momentum on the part of the Club's movement towards a more active future. The general meeting room has been wired so that speakers now can move about freely with their voices being easily heard in all parts of the room. Tapes are being made of all talks so that they can be referred to for write-ups for the *CCP*. We are almost finished with our new mounting system for the wall frames. The lighting will be renovated, also. Moving upstairs, one can now see a book-copying Xerox machine in place for general and researcher use.

The one-frame annual exhibition to be held at the Club and open only to members has been reinstated. Information about it will be out with the 1984 dues billing. We feel that this exhibition is an important one and is much enjoyed by our membership.

An open house was held at the Club in conjunction with the Fall ASDA show held in New York which was thoroughly enjoyed by all. It is hoped that this will become an annual event along with our Christmas open house.

An award for meritorious service to the Club was given to Sol Whitman for his week-in and week-out "being there" when needed. This is a first for us in an attempt to show the Club's appreciation to its worker-members.

A special building fund committee headed by Rudy Wunderlich, a new addition to our board this year, has been established, dedicated strictly towards the goal of renovating our beautiful and valuable building, so as to make it the showplace of philatelic clubs throughout

the world. We have set an initial goal of $150,000 and actions are already under way towards raising this money.

Our Board size is being increased from 15 to 18 members so that we can broaden our national and international status by bringing in a limited number of non-New Yorkers. Our by-laws are being scrupulously followed in this regard. We feel that a broader base of support and perspective can be obtained by this move. Robert Paliafito, of Phoenix, AZ, one of the premier collectors in the country, has joined our Board along with Joe Foley, fresh from his stint with the APS. We feel that the experience of these two can be quite helpful to the Club.

We hope to see in 1984 the fruition of many of the plans started in 1983.

At this point I would like to thank all the members of the Board and our general membership for the wonderful support shown me in my first year as your president.

Secretary's Report

Helen M. Galatan, Secretary

The day to day mechanics of offering our membership a smooth running, comfortable environment in which to enjoy the various activities of our Club have taken much of my energy this past year.

A membership list will soon be distributed that will show a heartening growth in membership. This, along with the increased turnout for our programs, and stepped up general interest show that we are very much alive and vital.

A major area of my concern during the past months has been the exterior repair of our "special" Clubhouse, and I look forward to the commencement of this project in earnest in the very near future.

Finally, it is the annual sad duty of the secretary to report the losses of members through death. Please rise as I read their names and join me in remembering them once again.

Name	*Number*
Seymour R. Goldhagen	*5904*
Julian Gros	*1360*
Fernald Hutchins	*154*
Peter Shek	*5836*
Jules Plancquaert	*5639*
George Hargest	*4574*
Sydney A. Lazarus	*5140*
Charles McLellan	*4102*
Ray L. Artusy	*4101*
Arthur Bateman	*4850*
Ralzemond Parker	*4237*

Treasurer's Report

Ernest C. Wilkens, Treasurer

As in past years, the Collectors Club experienced a loss on its operations for the year 1983. No major projects to repair and refurbish

the building were undertaken in that year. In 1981 and 1982 there were completed a number of substantial projects, and we do anticipate the need for repair work in 1984 and 1985. Expenses, except for insurance which increased, were kept at levels comparable with past experience.

The operating deficit of the Club is made good by income from the Capital Fund. All members are urged to support this fund, so vital to all our interests. A complete report will be published in a forthcoming annual report.

Program Committee

Ira Zweifach, Program Chairman

We are pleased to report a successful conclusion to 1983's presentations. All in all they comprised a fairly balanced series of talks which had something for every type of collector. The programs ranged from top U.S. classics to such rarely seen exotics as The Great Barrier Island Pigeon Post, German East Africa, and Orange Free State and Orange River Colony.

We are pleased also to report that not only were the programs well received, but attendance was up. We would like to thank all those who participated, often traveling great distances to do so. We would also like to thank Alex Rendon, our ever-ready back-up man who stepped in almost without notice to replace a speaker who at the last minute couldn't make it.

It is our hope that you, the audience, were as entertained and enlightened as much as we enjoyed putting the program for 1983 together.

Nominating Committee

Alex Rendon, Chairman

The Nominating Committee having met as prescribed by our Bylaws, we are nominating the following members of the Club for the Board of Governors.

Class of 1986
John D. Dowd
Joseph E. Foley
Ernest A. Kehr
Abbot Lutz
Rudolf Wunderlich
Ira Zweifach

Planning Committee

Elliott H. Coulter, Co-chairman

I am pleased to announce that of my suggestions for improvements for last year, I have been able to reduce the list of recommendations from 7 to 3. The main reason for this reduction is that we have an active president who is co-chairman of this committee and has been very aggresive in attempts to improve the image and the functions of the Club. The following are the recommendations for the year of 1984.

1. A continued effort to have the Board structured so that a member could not be on the Board for more than six consecutive years without at least spending one year off the Board. This will help (a) to turn the Board to the point where non-productive members would be rotated off the Board when their turn came up; (b) the non-constructive members need not then almost automatically be re-elected to the Board and the accomplishment for the Club would be a greater interest in the accomplishment of each Board member rather than his continued sitting in an ineffectual manner.
2. Another repeat item that is still not toally resolved, assignment of a social chairman with a budget.
3. Somewhat of a change where I have asked previously to have the programs rotated so that they are consistently held on the same night at the same time. The effort there was to help bring in a change in audience and possible broadening of the audience. Although this is still desirable I feel that a modification of this should be that an effort should be made to develop further participation from local members including those around the 50 mile limitation area on a letter and phone call basis that will enable us to bring more people to meetings and also develop a broadening of our audience.

I am still anxiously soliciting your thoughts to the development of increasingly constructive development for our membership. I am looking forward to working constructively with our president in the development of these plans.

Awards Committee

Ira S. Zweifach, Chairman

Collectors Club Philatelist Medal — 1983
Awarded to: Carl A. Kilgas, Pacific Palisades, California, for his fine four-part article: Interesting and Unusual Items From a Specialized Collection of China.
Honorable Mention to: Philip Silver, Elberon, New Jersey, for his excellent article: The U.S. Beacon Air Mail Stamp of 1928 Revisited.

Medal For The Best Program — 1983
Awarded to: William H. Miller, Jr., New York, N.Y., for his entertaining and enlightening showing of the Great Barrier Island Pigeon Post, 1898, the program of October 5th.
Honorable Mention to: John O. Griffiths, Vista, California, for his fine showing of the Penny-Tuppence, Great Britain, the program of November 16th.

House Committee

M. E. Ruggiero, Co-chairman

Building contractors were contacted so that estimates could be obtained on the writing of specifications and/or for estimates on major repairs to the building.

A separate hot water heater was installed so that in the Spring, Autumn, and Summer seasons, the main oil burner system can now be shut-down, thus, conserving energy and reducing overall energy costs.

Separate circuit breakers were installed for the display case lights in the main lecture hall. This is the start of removing all electrical systems from the present fuse system.

Several minor repairs were accomplished throughout the building.

Publications Committee

E. E. Fricks, Editor

The *Collectors Club Philatelist* published 356 pages of outstanding philatelic scholarship, opinion, and advertising. The *CCP* was entered in Stampshow '83 in August and was awarded a vermeil medal. Our journal was not entered in international competition during 1983 for lack of a literature competition at that level.

We published two issues of the *Bulletin* to bring Club information to our membership. This publication has met with general membership approval and will be continued.

The publications committee finished and brought to market John Chapin's *A Census of United States Plate Blocks* which has received appreciative reviews and has been the subject of positive critical comments. An update with new information is in preparation for publication in the *CCP* during 1984. Dr. Frits Staal's *Postage Stamps of Jammu and Kashmir* is practically finished.

Work is proceeding on Col. Robert H. Pratt's *A Postal History of Newfoundland* with the first chapters undergoing initial typesetting at this time. We are also working on John Harris' two handbooks on the postal markings of Ecuador and Central America during the pre-adhesive era. It is our intention to have the Ecuador publication available in time for the international in Madrid. Both will be published in English and Spanish.

As in past years, I must also recognize the continuing yeoman efforts and contributions made by John Dowd, our business manager. They are substantial and are deserving of special commendation.

During 1984, the *CCP* will make a special effort to increase our coverage of United States philately at the request of our membership. We have assurances from many within the membership that they will consider the *CCP* as a primary outlet for their literary productions. We will not diminish our activities and coverage of non-U.S. subjects but plan to improve the overall coverage of the magazine. With enthusiastic support from the membership, this is achievable.

Lichtenstein Award

Ernest A. Kehr, Chairman

To obtain a wider and more equitable list of possible prospects worthy to receive our prestigious Award in recognition of their contributions towards the advancement of serious philatelic objectives, I communicated with every previous winner still living, asking for nominations, rather than consulting with only the very few who could con-

veniently attend a New York meeting.

The response was unanimous with many suggestions. A second communication was dispatched listing the nominees, asking that original proposals might be confirmed or reconsidered. Finally we were able to present our recommendation to the Board of Governors. After deliberations, Robert H. Pratt, of Milwaukee, was selected to be our 1983 recipient.

Library

Louis K. Robbins, Chairman

The past few years have seen an astounding growth in the number of new philatelic works, probably more in the last decade than in the previous twenty or thirty years.

For some time the Library, because of limited resources, has been unable to cope with the flood of new publications, but this past year, a more aggressive and selective accessions program carried out by our Librarian, Werner Elias, has enabled us to add a number of new and significant periodicals.

Expansion of the Library calls for more space and shelving. The purchase of shelving is in the program for the coming months. Rearrangement of the room housing stamp catalogs and auction catalogs together with the new shelving units will enable us to provide greater access to this important division of the Library. To this end we are calling for volunteers to assist the Library Committee in the task of sorting, filing and arranging some of the hundreds of items which have been accumulated. The work is more than a librarian can manage on his own and members who are interested are invited to discuss their availability with Mr. Elias or the Library Chairman.

Thanks are due to Werner Elias for his continued efforts to maintain the functions of the Library on an on-going basis, cheerfully and energetically.

As always, the Library is the heart of our activities; our goal must be to keep it in the forefront as the most important source of philatelic knowledge in the country.

Financial Statement
December 31, 1982

To The Board of Directors
The Collectors Club, Inc.
New York, New York 10016

September 1, 1983

Gentlemen:

I have examined the Balance Sheet of The Collectors Club, Inc. as of December 31, 1982, the related Statement of Operations and Surplus and the Statement of Changes in Fund Balances for the year then ended. My examination was made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, and accordingly included such tests of the accounting records and such other auditing procedures as I con-

sidered necessary in the circumstances.

In my opinion, the accompanying statements present fairly the assets and liabilities of The Collectors Club, Inc. at December 31, 1982, arising from cash transactions, the revenues collected and expenditures made by it, and changes in fund balances during the year then ended on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.

Patrick D. Pilla
Certified Public Accountant

Balance Sheet
December 31, 1982

Assets

Current Funds:			
Cash—Chemical Bank			$ 16,347
Plant Investment Fund:			
Real Estate		$ 69,781	
Furniture and equipment		28,986	
Library		30,293	129,060
Other Funds:			
House replacement Funds:	Cash—Seamen's Bank for Savings		$ 32,317
Marketable securities at cost (Market value $42,441)	34,761	67,078	
J. Brace Chittenden Memorial Fund:			
Cash—Seamen's Bank for Savings	19,478		
Marketable securities at cost (Market value $28,932)	12,422		
Due from Capital Fund	1,774	33,674	
Theodore E. Steinway Memorial Publication Fund:			
Cash—Manhattan Savings Bank		1,312	
Dr. Harry Mark Daggett, Jr. Fund:			
Cash—Seamen's Bank for Savings	1,628		
Merrill Lynch Government Fund	20,677	22,305	
Life Membership Fund:			
Cash—Bowery Savings Bank		3,403	
Capital Fund:			
Cash—Union Dime	14,300		
Cash—N.Y. Bank for Savings	110,512		
Merrill Lynch Government Fund	61,099		
Marketable securities at cost (Market value $145,782)	158,934		

Due from Other Funds	22,047	366,892	
Total Other Funds			494,664
Total Assets			$640,071

Liabilities and Capital

Current Funds:			
Payroll taxes payable		$ 2,525	
Miscellaneous payable		1,024	
Current fund deficit		(8,512)	
Due to Capital Fund		20,000	
Deferred income		1,310	
Total Current Funds			$ 16,347
Plant Investment Fund			129,060
Other Funds:			
House Replacement Fund:			
Due to Capital Fund	$ 3,821		
House Replacement Fund	63,257	67,078	
J. Brace Chittenden Memorial Fund		33,674	
Theodore E. Steinway Memorial Publication Fund		1,312	
Dr. Harry Mark Daggett, Jr. Fund:		22,305	
Life Membership Fund		3,403	
Capital Fund		336,892	
Total Other Funds			494,664
Total Liabilities and Capital			$640,071

Statement of Operations and Deficit
For the Year Ended December 31, 1982

Current Fund

Income:		
Contributions - Membership	$37,269	
- Other	604	
Miscellaneous income	724	
		$38,597

Operating Expenses:	24,120	
Office	4,138	
Club activities	54,432	
House	5,668	88,358
Library		(49,761)
		3,185
Cost of publishing *Philatelist*		(52,946)
Excess of operating expenses over income		42,490
Transfers from Capital Fund		13,070
Transfers from House Replacement Fund		(120)
		55,440
to Steinway Fund		2,494
Net Change in 1982		(11,006)
Fund deficit 1/1/82		($ 8,512)
Fund deficit 12/31/82		

Statement of Changes in Fund Balances
For the Year Ended December 31, 1982

Plant Investment Fund

Balance, January 1, 1982 and December 31, 1982	$129,060

House Replacement Fund

Balance, January 1, 1982			$ 45,111
Add:	Interest and dividend income	$ 5,456	
	Gain on securities	20,760	
	Transfer from Steinway Fund	5,000	31,216
			76,327
Deduct:	Transfer to Current Fund		13,070
Balance, December 31, 1982			$ 63,257

"From The Clubhouse"

Account of the May 2, 1984 Meeting
John Eggen:

A Review of Mail Carried on Domestic Waterways of the United States.

The topic of my presentation tonight is mail carried on the domestic waterways of the United States. For some of you, my comments will be a review and for others it will hopefully clarify some of the postal history of the subject. In any event, I hope that there will be something to stimulate your interest in the steamboat era.

Early mail was carried by either post rider, wagons, or stage coach. The development of the steam engine fostered both steamboats and the railroad as additional methods of transporting mail. But before we begin with the postal history, we should take a brief look at the steamboats themselves.

Even though steam-powered boat experiments began in 1707 in France, Robert Fulton's *Cleremont* is credited as the first successful steam navigation. Shortly after her first trial voyage in August of 1807, she began regular trips between Albany and New York City on the Hudson River.

Spurred with success, Fulton then turned his eye to the Mississippi River and wangled from Governor Claiborne and the territorial legislature an 18 year monopoly to operate steam vessels on the waters of Louisiana. This effort resulted in the building of the boat, *New Orleans* by Nicholas*Roosevelt, who was a member with Fulton of the Mississippi Steamboat Navigation Company.

At the cost of $38,000, the *New Orleans* was launched at Pittsburgh on March 17, 1811. She was 116 feet long, 20 feet wide and had a draft of five feet. Her historic voyage down the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers started in September, 1811, and she triumphantly steamed into the port of New Orleans on January 12, 1812. Her running time for the two thousand mile trip was 259 hours or about eight miles per hour — thus setting the stage for successful use of the Mississippi River for commercial transportation. The fabulous age of steam on the rivers began.

Before the steamboat, only flatboats, rafts, and keelboats had been utilized to carry cargo on the rivers. The voyage against the current upstream was so difficult and hazardous that very few hardy souls attempted the trip. On the vast western waters of the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers, many of these craft could only make

the trip with freight downstream; they were simply dismantled and sold for the salvage value of their timber when they reached their destination.

While the steamboat, as developed by Fulton's group, enabled navigation upstream against the strong currents, there were many problems to overcome in the design and building of steamboats before they proved to be a practical means of transportation. There was also the strangling monopoly created by the Mississippi Steamboat Navigation Company.

Henry Miller Shreve, an ex-flatboat captain, was the man who fathered the concepts which set the standards for the steamboat as we remember them. Whereas Fulton's boats were patterned after ocean-going ships, Shreve used the lessons learned from the earlier river craft to create a flat, shallow hull. When decked over, the hull became a platform for the boilers and engines; and the superstructure was then constructed around these basic elements. The early versions were mostly side wheelers — that is a paddle wheel at each side. After several attempts, Shreve launched his prototype the *Washington*, in 1817.

The introduction of the steamboat on the river opened the pages of one of the most colorful chapters of transportation in America. The first crude boats were replaced by larger and more lavish steamers accommodating travelers in luxurious quarters with multidecked superstructures. At their zenith during the "Golden Age" of steamboating in the decade before the Civil War, their cabins were splendidly appointed with carved furniture, crystal chandeliers, heavy carpeting, and with dining accomodations featuring exquisite china and cut glass. In contrast to the small early vessels, the *Eclipse* was 365 feet long, and the *Thompson Dean* was reported to have cost $400,000.

The early boats faced great obstacles. They *burned wood for fuel and many a boat was lost by fire or explosion of their primitive boilers.* The river currents and changing conditions made navigation hazardous. There were none of the modern aids to navigation. Night travel was accomplished with only torch lights and the skill of the pilot and crew. *The river changed character on almost every trip — the height of the water level, the moving and changing sandbars and channels, ice in the water, low water in summer, and floating debris all tested the skill and luck of the boat's crew.* The records of steamboat disasters bear grim testimony to the pioneer spirit required by the early steamboat men on the western waters.

Within a year after the *Orleans* appeared on the Mississippi, the postmaster at Natchez realized that letters were being sent privately by steamboat to New Orleans. This "private" mail was being carried faster than the mail sent overland through the post office. Therefore, in June of 1813, the Post Office Department authorized Postmaster Hankinson of Natchez:

> to contract with the Cap't of the steamboat to carry a regular mail between New Orleans and yr. office and to pay him

therefor at the end of each quarter for each letter delivered from the one office to the other 6 cents. ***You will then advertise the existence of such contract and inform the citizens that when they wish to send by this conveyance, they will mark on them 'By Water'.

However, irregularity of service, particularly in the winter months because of ice, must have caused abandonment of any agreements because by early 1819, no river mail contract existed. The mail between Louisville and New Orleans was carried 956 miles by land three times a week (a 14-day journey). At that time, a group of steamboat men approached Congress with a proposal to carry the mail by steamboat. They proposed to make the 1600 mile river trip once a week, taking six days downriver and 15 days upriver.

On March 2, 1819, Congress passed an act authorizing a steamboat mail contract between New Orleans and Louisville specifying that the expense was not to exceed that of transmitting the mail by land. No records are known to indicate that this service was initiated. The then current letter rate probably rendered river mail economically unfeasible in relationship to the operating cost of the boats versus land transportation.

The number of letters carried by steamboat grew so rapidly that by 1825, the *Postal Laws and Regulations* officially recognized the new mode of transport. Thus, the "steamboat" accounting mark was created.

No river mail contracts existed from 1819 until the Louisville-New Orleans water route was initiated with the establishment of Route 3330 in 1837. This contract expired June 30, 1842. Even though this route was not very successful because of irregularity of service, new contracts were let, starting in 1843, for the St. Louis-New Orleans run—three weekly trips for the 1250 mile water route.

The first successful mail service on the Mississippi began in August 1854 with route contract No. 7309. This route contract and its successor, Route 8165, bear particular significance in the postal history of river mail. After the many unsuccessful attempts by the post office department to utilize steamboats for regular mail service, Route 7309 was the first punctual and dependable service.

The Post Office Department awarded to mail contractors Shaw and Zunts of New Orleans the mail route contract, No. 7309, calling for three weekly trips from New Orleans to Vicksburg. They hired boats on an individual basis by the trip, and their poor performance led to their contracts being taken over by a partnership of two river captains, Leathers and Holmes.

Captains Thomas P. Leathers and Truman C. Holmes had a reputation for punctuality and integrity. They officially assumed Route 7309 on February 1, 1855, and fulfilled their contract with

continued service until July 1, 1858. The contract was extended as Route 8165 to the same operators, so that the same steamboats or their substitutes continued to carry the mail as before until interruped by the war in the spring of 1861. Captain Leathers actually started his assumption of Route 7309 earlier than called for in his contract; he commenced service with his fourth *Natchez* (the Saturday boat) on January 18, 1855.

Letters carried by steamboats can be classified into six distinctly different categories. For lack of better terminology, we shall classify these as: "Steam", "Way", "Route Agents", "Regular Mail", "Bills of Lading", and "Private Carriage".

Steam: These letters were received by the clerk aboard a boat not under contract with the post office enroute between post offices. They were carried to the nearest post office and deposited in the mails; there, the postmaster stamped the letter "Steam" or "Steamboat" as an accounting function and paid 2 cents to the clerk of the vessel for his effort. The postmaster also applied a town mark if the letter was to be delivered beyond the point of receipt.

Way Markings: Some steamboats had official contracts with the Post Office Department to carry mail. These boats also received letters enroute and the clerk carried these letters to the first post office at his arrival for deposit into the mail system. These loose letters picked up enroute were termed "way" letters and 1 cent was paid to the carrier in addition to his regular yearly contract sum for his trouble. They were marked "way" by the receiving postmaster.

Route Agents: Certain contract vessels had sufficient volume of mail that a paid postal employee was on board. This Route Agent was allowed to receive letters enroute. He canceled them either in manuscript or with his official handstamp marking and placed them in the locked mail bags for delivery. These bags were kept separate from the other locked "through mail" bags.

Regular Mail: The last official category are the letters received by a postmaster, placed in the locked mail bags, delivered to a ship and carried to the postmaster at the destination point. Since these letters were carried from one postmaster to another, they will not bear any additional waterway markings.

Bills of Lading: Information relating to cargo transmitted on board the same vessel required no postage to be charged provided that they were left unsealed. Since these Bills of Lading did not enter the postal system, these letters will bear no official marks, that is, "Steam", "Way", or a "Town Mark".

Private Carriage: These were letters carried as a private favor by an individual or by private express. This practice was so common that by 1845 legislation was enacted by the Congress to prohibit this from competing with the postal system. By 1852, private carriage was officially permitted provided that the letter was enclosed in a stamped envelope to pay the normal postage due as though it had traveled within the postal system.

In addition to the official "Steam", "Way", and "Route Agent"

markings described above, private markings were frequently applied by the pursor or clerk aboard the vessel to letters carried by steamboats. These steel, brass, or wood handstamps contained the boat's name and other words as desiredd by the boat's owner. The true significance of these markings is unknown; however, they are thought to be either advertising or receiving markings. Regardless of their postal significance, they provide a colorful and interesting study in themselves.

Book Reviews

Surveys Of The Confederate Postmasters' Provisionals Edited by Francis J. Crown, Jr. Published by Quarterman Publications, Inc., 5 South Union Street, Laurence, Massachusetts 01843. Hardbound in gray buckram, 6 1/8" X 9 1/4", 752 pages. From the publisher at $100.00 postpaid.

Once again Frank Crown and Al Hoch of Quarterman Publications have done a service for students of Confederate postal history. In this instance they have collaborated in publishing in one volume the three major survey listings (Phillips, Hart, Crown, Jr.) of the Confederate postmasters' provisionals.

The first of these surveys was done by the former English dealer, Charles F. Phillips. In the 1930s he attempted to record the provisionals in the great collections of that time. The results were published in a series of articles which appeared in *Stamps* magazine from November 18, 1933 to April 30, 1938. While somewhat limited, it did provide a descriptive record of many of the rarest provisionals as well as their provenance.

As the years went by more provisionals were found and the Phillips survey became antiquated. One of the Confederate collectors who found it so decided to do a revision. This was Frank E. Hart who had commenced specializing in the provisionals in 1953.

His survey also appeared in *Stamps* magazine. It ran from January 8, 1955 to October 13, 1956. He increased the town listings from Phillips' 79 to 124. Included herein are the famous Livingston, Alabama provisionals which strangely were missing in the Phillips survey.

In the early 1970s Frank Crown decided to record the provisionals from one state, Georgia. This survey appeared in the *Confederate Philatelist* during the period January 1972 through March 1977. As a result, additional listings occurred.

Before finishing his survey, Crown saw the need for the compilation of three surveys in one volume. Fruition was reached some seven years later in the form of this book.

The format of the original listings has been utilized with the provisionals listed by type and value. Since the Phillips' survey listed the provisionals under the owners name, regardless of type and value, Crown broke out the provisionals by type and value to correspond with the other surveys for consistency. Published additions to both the earlier surveys as well as an update of the Crown survey have been incorporated within this book.

In addition, many illustrations of provisional covers have been incorporated. However, their quality is not up to that en-

countered in past Quarterman publications. Nevertheless, the photos plus the cuts of the provisional markings are useful for record purposes.

Rounding out this book are various appendices. The first is a selection of listings of provisionals from individual towns (i.e. Emory, Va.; Lenoir, N.C; Marion, Va.; Memphis, Tenn.). The second is a listing of recognized provisionals which were not included in the Phillips or Hart surveys while the third is a sample of markings which may merit provisional status with additional information. Interestingly enough, one of them has achieved provisional status—that of Limestone Springs, S.C. The catalog listing cover is not shown within this grouping however.

The last appendix is a table of the number of provisional covers *recorded in this work* and not necessarily the number known, especially of the more common types. The instructions with it should be carefully read so that the student will comprehend just what this table represents.

Hopefully this book will provide someone with the impetus to compile a listing of all the known provisionals with the genuine separated from the non-genuine. The Crown work points out the more obvious fakes but others not so obvious are not so marked.

This book is a useful addition to the library of the serious student who either does not have access to the original records or prefers to have the information in a centralized unit. However, the price may well be a major factor in the student's decision as to whether or not to acquire this book. Part of the price can be explained in the run of 500-525 copies which is a small printing. Nevertheless, the factor remains that many collectors prefer philatelic "treasures" to literature, especially that in the three-figure range.

Brian M. Green

Stamp Keeper, Version 1.0 by Garland S. Choate. Quill Software Services, Texas, 1982; $44.00, distributed by The Home Software Guild, P.O. Box 2031, Nashua, New Hampshire 03061-2031 (800) 227-1929.

System Requirements. Apple II
- Apple DOS Operating System
- One 5¼" Floppy-disk drive
- 48K RAM

Philatelists, the computer age beckons. *Stamp Keeper* is a sophisticated filing/inventory program that has been designed with the stamp collector or philatelic professional in mind.

The computer automatically assigns each entry an inventory number and asks you to make preliminary designations, citing the country and condition of the entry and whether it's a mint sheet or plate or cover. Aside from these points, you decide what facts will be useful to you in your records.

Various files allow you to record purchase price, sale price, current market value of the stamp, and any profits you may have made. When a stamp leaves your collection, you may elect to delete it from your records or use the History File, which records all items you have sold during a given period of time.

The Stamp Inquiry function allows you to view, with one command, all the information you have on a specific stamp.

Print Inventory lets you print hard copy of all or any part of your inventory.

It's fairly easy to edit, enter or delete information, but read the documentation carefully. You must be thorough or the program's value as a cross-indexed inventory will be lost.

Stamp Keeper is well thought out, but it was designed for the serious collector—someone who buys, sells or trades on a regular basis. The casual collector who wants to list his collection might find his needs better served by a basic home filing system.

This program will support only a parallel printer.

For other home computer software for the Apple, Atari, Commodore 64, IBM PC, TI994A and VIC20 call (800) 227-1929 or (603) 882-1455 for your copy of the Home Software Guild Buyer's Guide.

John D. Dowd

Publications Received

Werner Elias

Airmails—International

Union Postale Universelle. *Liste des lignes aériennes, des pays desservis et des surtaxes aériennes*, 6th edition, 1936. Le Bureau International de l'U.P.U. 551 pp., hardbound. Purchased with library funds.

Andora

W. A. Jacques, *Andorra—Andorre*, 1974. Robson Lowe Ltd., London. 68 pp., illustrations, hardbound. Purchased with library funds.

Baltic States

Baltia, *Baltic Postage Stamp Catalogue 1948/49*, 1948. Baltischer Philatelisten-Verein, Augsburg, West Germany. XIII + 190 pp., illustrations, softbound. Gift of Dan J. Capinski.

Costa Rica

Hector R. Mena, *Index to Costa Rican Philatelic Literature Part II: 1973-1983*, 1984. Society of Costa Rica Collectors, c/o Henry P. McGhee, 1696 Georgetowne Blvd., Sarasota, Fla. 33582. 32 pp., softbound. Gift of publishers.

Cuba

Wm. McP. Jones and R.J. Roy, Jr., *Handbook of Cuba Part II: The U.S. Administration*, 1984. Published by the authors, c/o W. M. Jones, Box 2284, Winter Park, Fla. 32790. 43 pp., looseleaf, price $10.00. Gift of publishers.

Cyprus

Brenda M. Goodwin, *Cyprus Booklet No. 1: Mail Services of the pre-1974 Invasion Period*, 1982. Philip Cockrill, Gt. Britain (Cockrill Series Booklet No. 35). 48 pp., illustrations, stiffbound. Purchased with library funds.

France—Maritime

Henry Grout, *Les Services Maritimes Postaux en France*, 1908. Doctoral Dissertation, University of Paris. 193 pp., hardbound. Purchased with library funds.

France—Postal History

François Geny, *Des droits sur les lettres missives*, 1911. Recueil Sirey, Paris. 400 and 452 pp. (2 volumes), hardbound. Purchased with library funds.

France—Postal History

W. Laurent, *Les Transports par Colis Postaux*, 1906. Doctoral Dissertation, University of Paris. 208 pp., hardbound. Purchased with library funds.

Germany—Catalogues

Michel Deutschland Spezial-Katalog 1984/85, 1984. Schwaneberger Verlag, Munich, West Germany. 1272 pp., illustrations, stiffbound, price $29.95. Gift of and available from: Lighthous Publishers, 274 Washington Avenue, Hackensack, NJ 07601.

Liechtenstein

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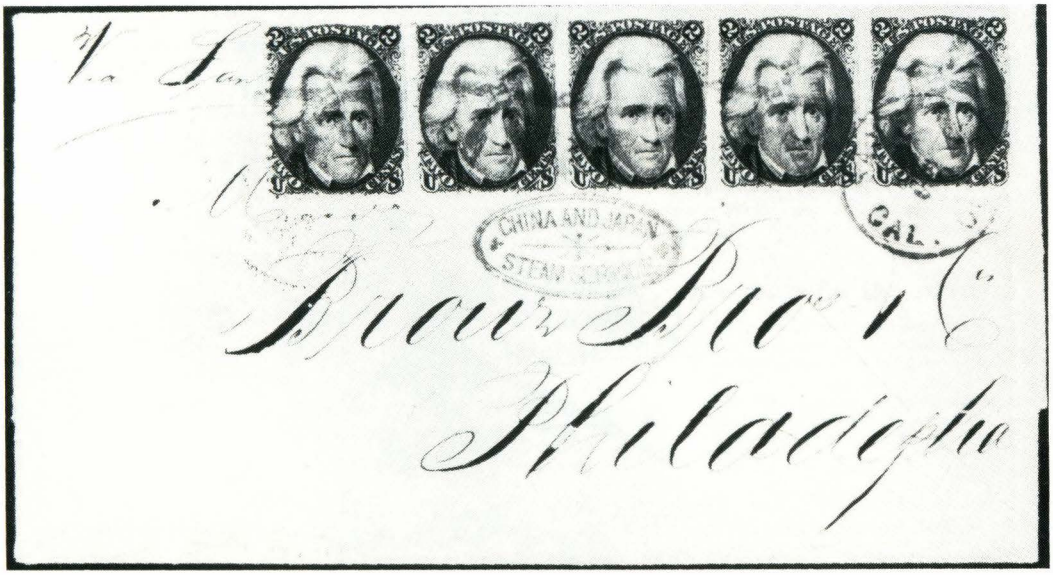
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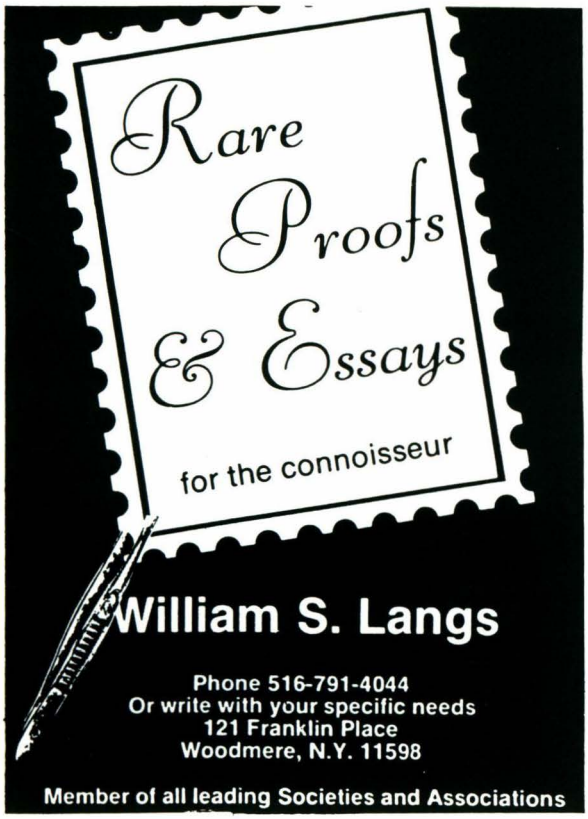
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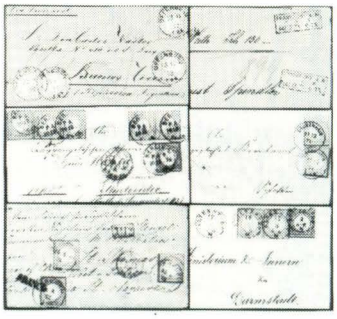
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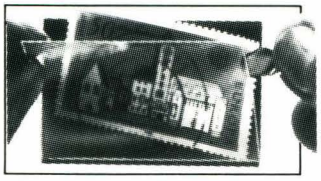
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