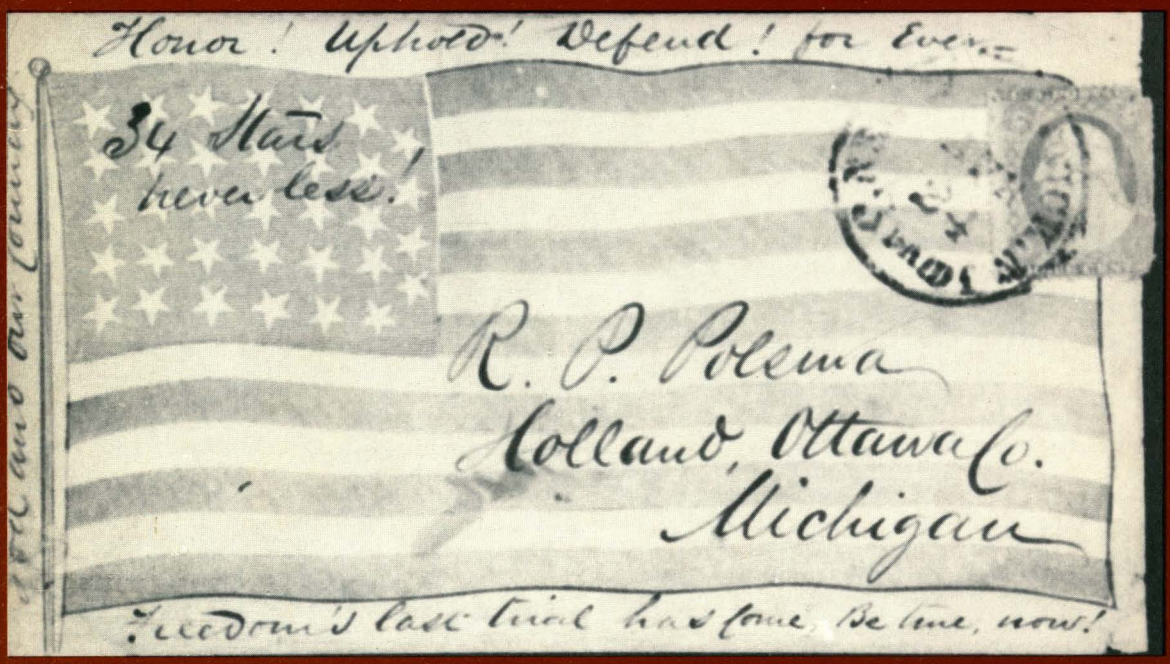
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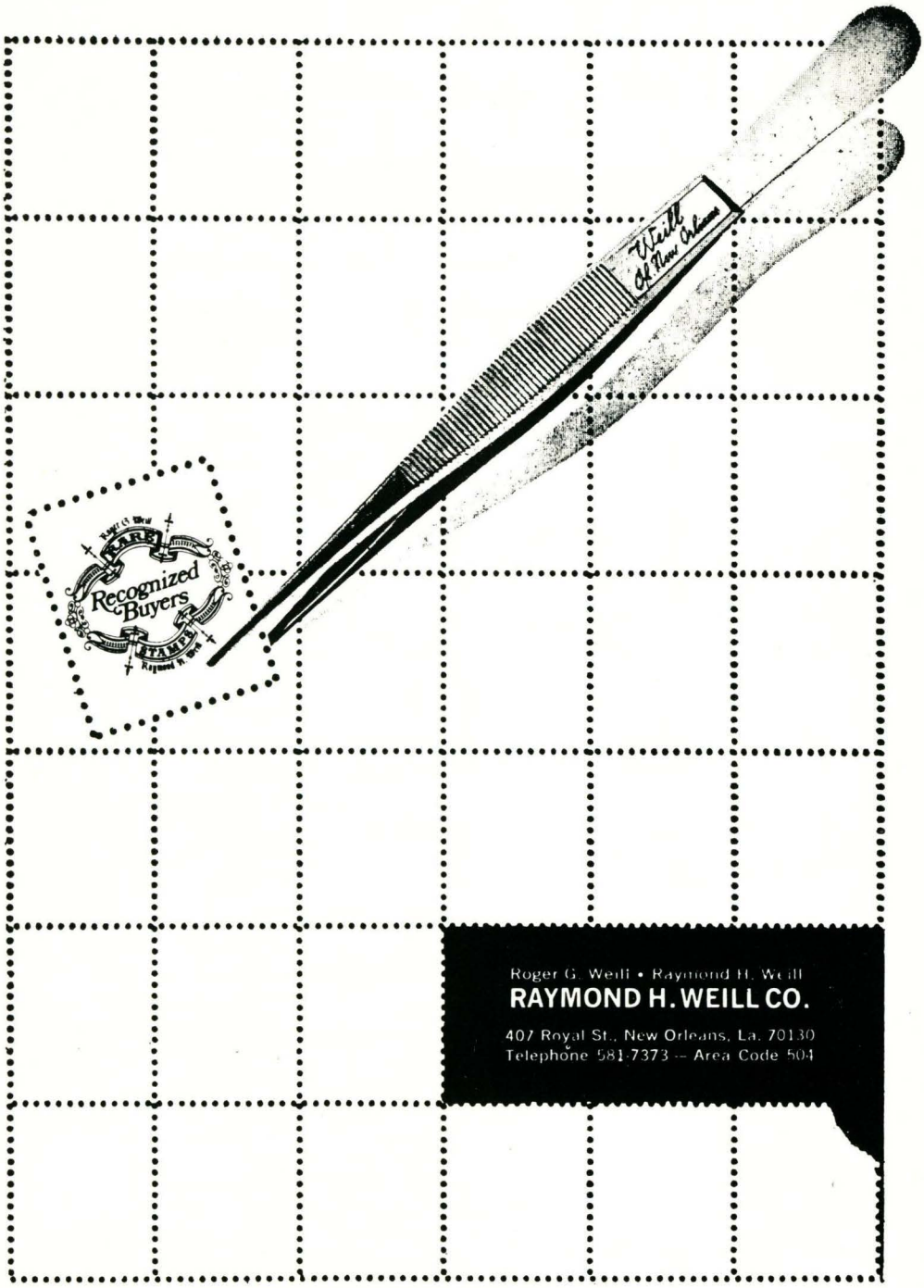
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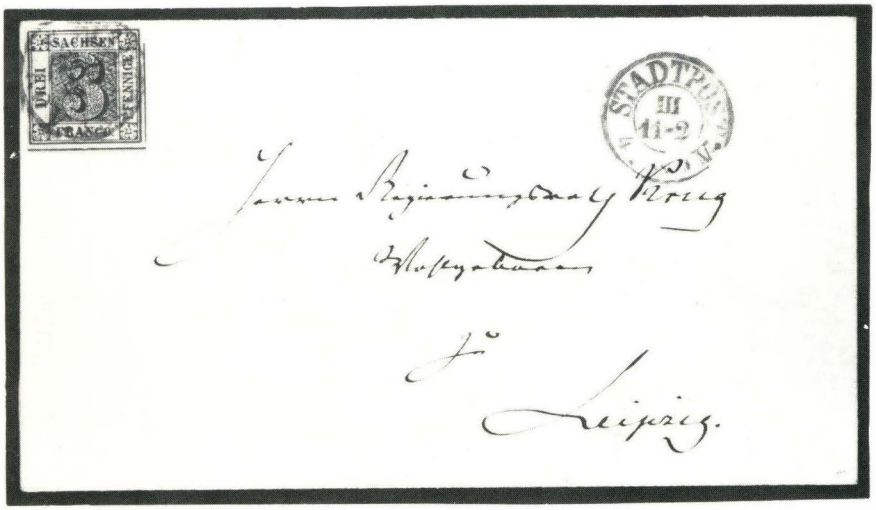
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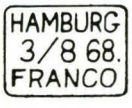












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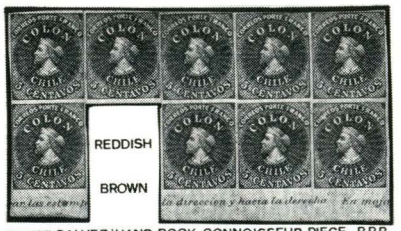
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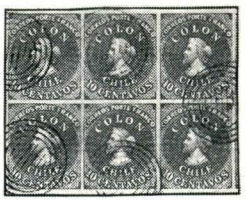
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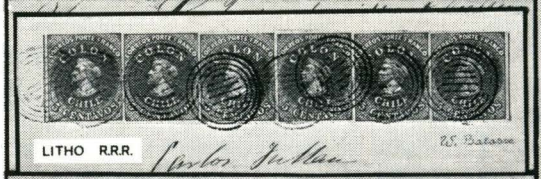
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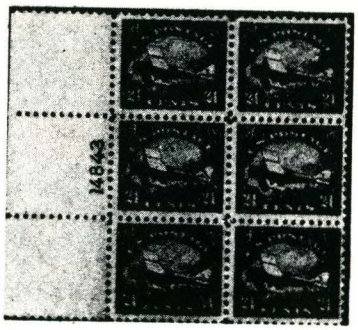
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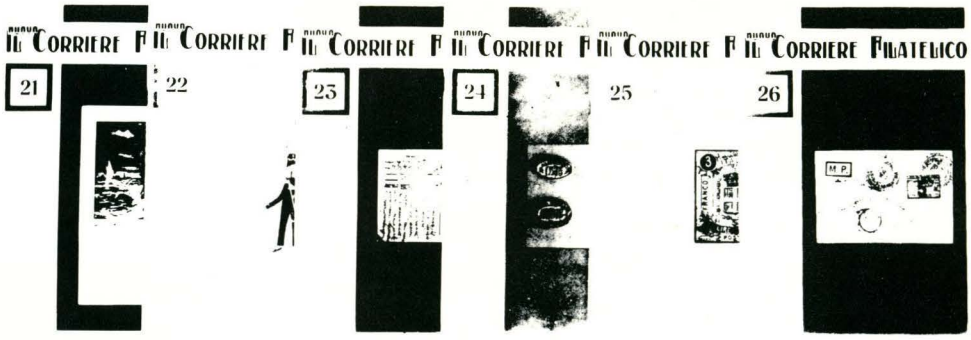
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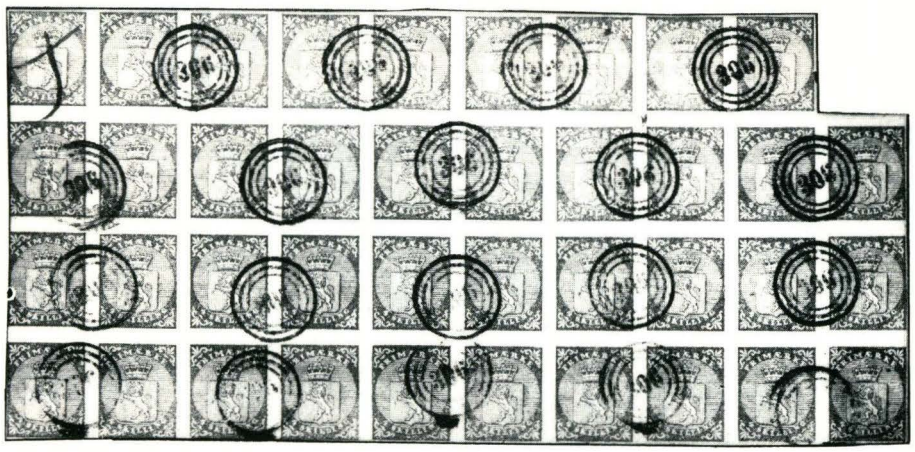
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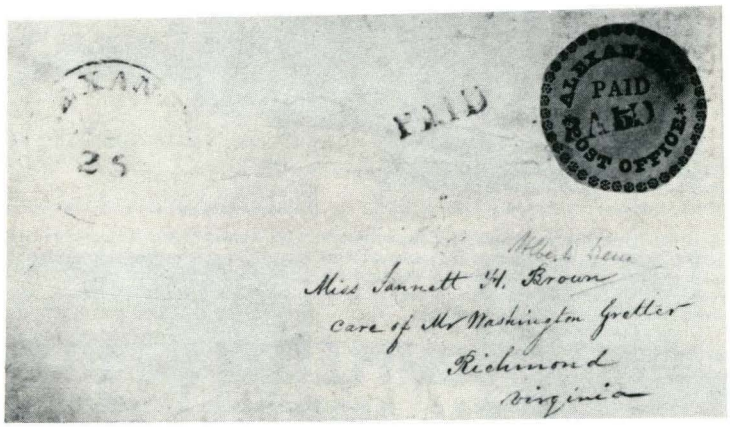
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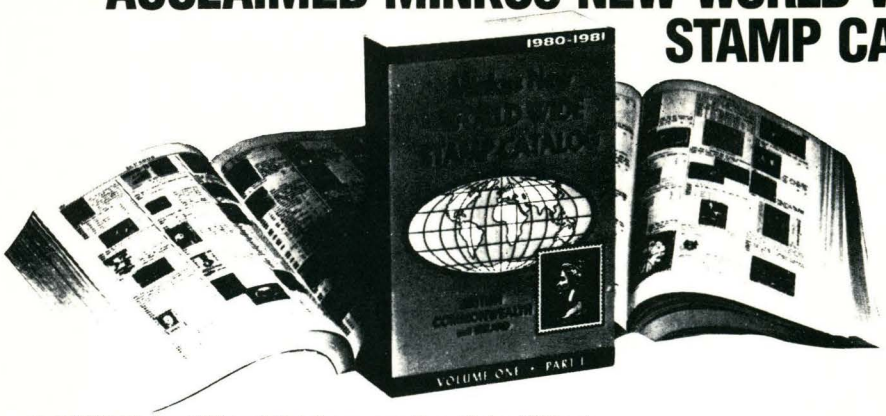
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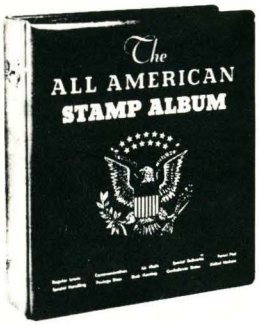
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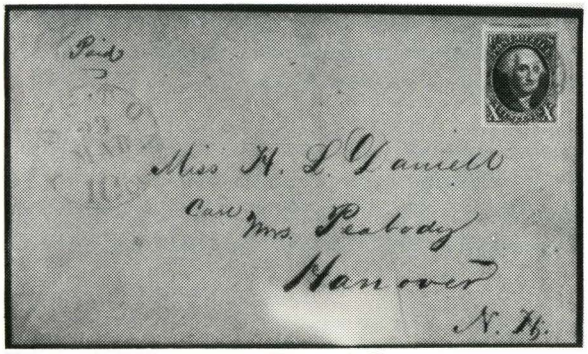
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The Collectors Club Philatelist

Volume 60, Number 3 **May 1981**

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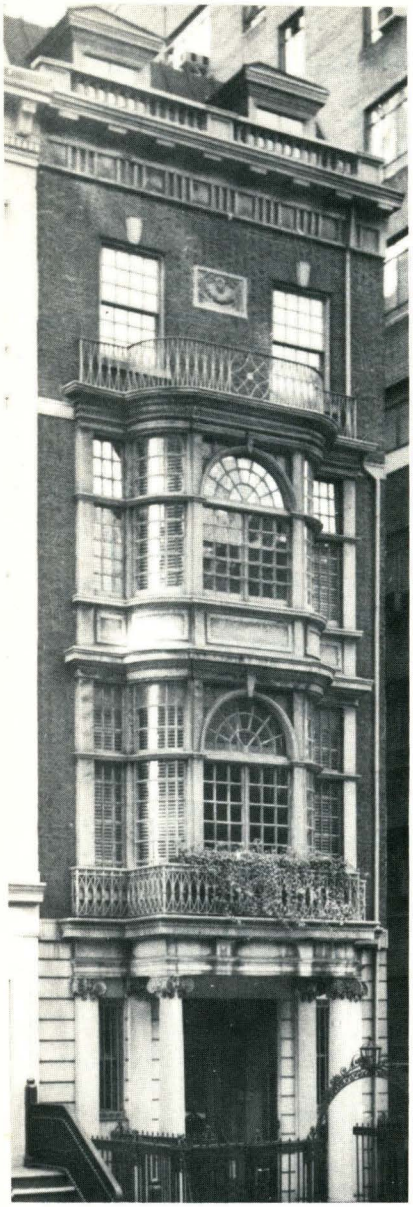
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Rare Classical Cancellations of Berlin

Walter Kruschel

For a long time, the classic cancellations of Berlin exhibited a Sleeping Beauty syndrome. Of course, there were always a few collectors who did their own research and who formed collections of these items. However, the majority of the public simply did not wish to be bothered with these cancellations. The reason is simple as well as instructive: the area is so large and of such vast scope that this circumstance alone sufficed to frighten prospective collectors. Furthermore, the collector who specializes in Prussian and subsequent Berlin cancellations found such a plethora of examples that without further thought they were degraded into the "common" category (and therefore not worthy of collecting). [*Translator's Note*: The same tendency can be observed today with modern issues, noteably from India and the so-called Sand Dune issues.]

The seemingly limitless number of items resulted in another important and negative effect: no one has the courage to perform the enormous task of preparing a useful handbook or catalogue. I frequently come across folders with manuscript notations in the estates of well known collectors and dealers. In one case, the widow of such a collector informed me of her husband's intention to prepare such a catalogue, but, alas, the time was too short for such an effort.



Figs. 1 and 2. 1800-1806. Cancels of private footpost.





Figs. 3-9. 1829-1860. Letter collection cancels of the suburbs.

Collectors Club Philatelist Vol. 60, No. 3, May 1981. The Collectors Club, Inc.
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For myself, as the great friend of the stamps and cancellations of all the Old German States, there arises today a very noteable principle. Inasmuch as even the Swabians have recently relinquished their restraint and presented philatelists a particularly well-prepared catalogue of their Württenberg philately, complete with precise listings and values of all known cancellations, one can now find in any well supplied library handbooks with tables of cancellations and valuations of all Old German States with the single and notable exception of the Berlin Cancellations.

Of course, there always existed a series of often very good articles on this topic. Every serious philatelist in the field knows the *Zusammenstellung der Preussischen Poststempel (Compilation of Prussian Postmarks)* published in 1925 by Friederich Wilhelm Thalmann, in which he points to a few rare forms of the Berlin cancellation. While this is a first class work, it is not as complete and is completely without any attempt at valuation.



Fig. 10. 1826 single straight-line cancel Zehlendorf.

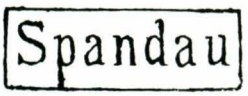


Fig. 11. 1866-1867 Station cancellation known as Prussian.



Fig. 12. 1806-1813 war period. Cancels of the Grand Armee, Berlin and Spandau.

The first (and until now sole) valuation was attempted by Marbach in his 1927 *Taschenbuch der Preussischen Aufgabe-und Nummerstempel (Pocketbook of the Prussian Posting and Number Cancellations).* Here we find a first and all-encompassing attempt to catalogue and evaluate the cancellations of Berlin. However, with all due respect, it must unfortunately be said that this valuation is completely useless. The previous owner of my *Marbach* already made so many corrections that little is left of the original.





Figs. 13 and 14. 1827-1851 District cancels of the Berlin city post—only moderately rare. These cancels (and those in figs. 15 through 17 as well) are from the pre-stamp period. Such cancels on letters with stamps are very rare.

At IPOSTA 1930 in Berlin, the best known of the Berlin collectors, Paul Simson, dared for the first time to display his significant collection. The result was shattering: it was not even sufficient for a bronze medal—Simson merely received a certificate of thanks for participating. There is in my possession a postcard between Simson and H. Westphal, an equally well known collector and Berlin author of that day, which makes very clear the enthusiastic and serious manner with which these people approached this subject, but all in vain: Berlin cancellations remained common material and not worthy of competing with other areas of cancellation collecting.

This view remained the rule until only a few years ago when a well-known German auction house offered a wonderful collection of Berlin cancellations as a combined (*geschlossen*) lot. What else could they do with this miscellany? There was no one around who understood anything about this field. One merely had heard the two-color experiments in violet of the POST-EXP.7 and the P.E. No 8 at the beginning of 1867, but everything else was apparently totally without interest.



Fig. 15. 1847 experimental cancel used only in this year; reappears in 1873 on German (Deutsches Reich) stamps.



Fig. 16. The first train station cancels, rare St. Bahnhof and Frankfurter Bhf.



Fig. 17. Later stations types, common Magdeburger Bhf; others rare.

My unfortunately too early deceased colleague, Henry Passier, was the first to dare offer lots of single cancellations in his auctions. He was in a good position to do so for two reasons: first, he commanded an excellent knowledge of the material; and, second, he consciously kept his business expenses so low that he was able to make offers of single items at very low prices.



Fig. 18. The first dispatch office with roman numerals, rare V.X. and VX.



Fig. 19. Four-line cancels of suburbs are rare, on letters with stamps very rare.



Fig. 20. Three-line station cancels without numbers: rare Niederschl Mark.Bahnh., very rare abbreviated also very rare Spandau Bahnhof.



Fig. 21. Three line cancels of suburbs are rare, particularly with arabic numbers.

In order to give a short overview of today's situation, I will compare the auctioneer's estimated prices in 1966 with the approximate net price of today.



Fig. 22. This cancel on Prussian stamps is rare: P.E. 30 Lichtenberg, P.E. 31 Friedriechsfelde, P.E. 32 Rixdorf, P.E. 33 Templehof, P.E. 34 Ostbahn, P.E. 36 Gorlitzer-Bahnhof. The latter in four lines on Prussian stamps has not yet been reported.

	1966	Today
Stampless letter Moabit, Pankow, Schoenerg (Fig. 17)	10 DM	400 DM
Stampless letter Berlin-Stettiner Bhf (Fig. 23)	12 DM	400 DM
On Prussian 3 Silbergroschen (Scott 20) (Fig. 27)	50 DM	1000 DM
Double circle cancellation P.E. No. 8 in violet on Prussian 4 Pf green (Scott 15)	50 DM	3000 DM

If one compares this growth in price, a growth which holds true for almost all of the other Berlin Cancellations as well, it appears that



Fig. 23. Rare on Prussian stamps, but later frequently encountered.



Fig. 24. On Prussian stamps P.E. 35, also later P.E. 21 with thick periods on addition of H.P.A.



Fig. 25. Several numbers known, some of which are rare.



Fig. 26. Military cancel of 1870-1971 is rare.



Fig. 27. 1873-1874 on stamps is rare, on stampless letters more common. This type with the addition P.B. from 1873 is rare.

these increases, even when compared to other areas of collecting, are rather remarkable. It appears as though the sleeping beauties of the Berlin Cancellations are awakening.

While it is not in the scope of this article to note all the rare cancellations, I have pointed out a good selection of the more interesting Berlin Cancellations that can still be obtained at reasonable prices (see captions under the illustrations that accompany this article). The cancellations illustrated are intended to whet the reader's appetite and to encourage a review of all the cancellations in your collection. Please write me if you have any further questions. It is extremely difficult to determine the exact value of a single cancellation because of the abundance of material, of course. But *common* material? I don't think so!

[*Editor's Note:* Herr Kruschel can be reached at Zaehringerstrasse 2, Berline 31, Germany.]



Fig. 28. Package cancellation not possible on stamps (not especially rare).



Fig. 29. Experimental cancel on Prussian stamps (rare).



Fig. 30. Experimental cancel of 1866, mostly on back of letters. Rare.



Fig. 31. Experimental cancel: rare on Prussian stamps, PP letters very rare.



Fig. 32. Not rare in this form. Rare with addition of H.P.A. on Prussian stamps.

The Postal History of New Brunswick, New Jersey (continued)

E. E. Fricks

The War Between the States affected the social and economic structure of the United States in fundamental ways. From the viewpoint of the post office, new ways of handling the mails, and communications in general, became necessary. The soldier in the field required frequent contact with home to maintain morale. Federal control of the West required that rapid and secure communications be available. A number of steps were taken to address both problems.

For the former, lettersheets (a form of postal stationery with embossed stamps) were authorized by the Postal Act of February 27, 1861 to conveniently provide writing paper to the troops without the necessity of adding postage stamps. A lack of demand and the granting of the franking privilege led to their withdrawal in 1864. (117)(118)(119)(120)

For the latter situation, the telegraph and the transcontinental network of railroads were pushed across the country.

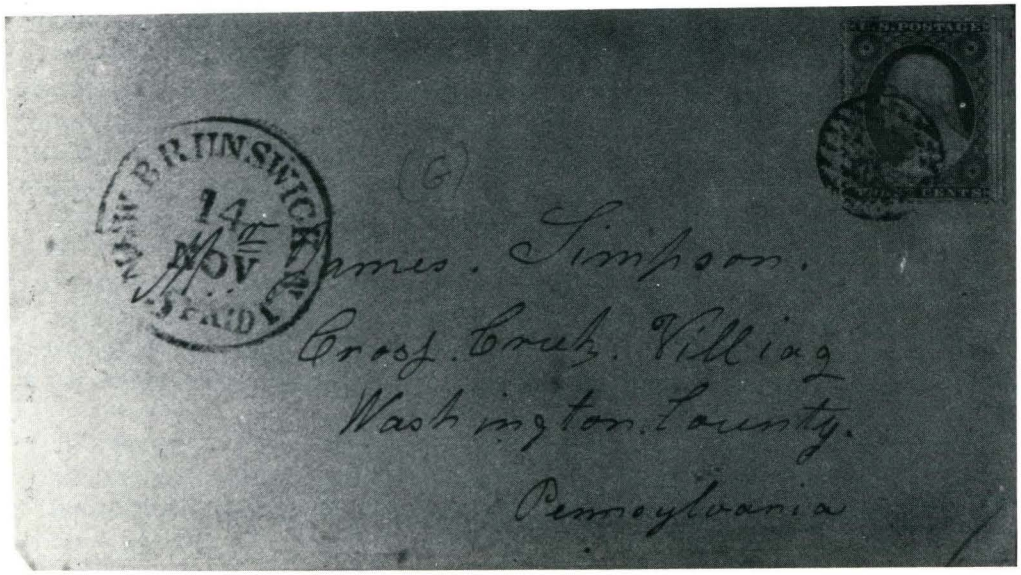


Fig. 46. The PAID remains in this example of the 34 mm circular markings with the 3 cent of the 1857 issue.

Collectors Club Philatelist Vol. 60, No. 3, May 1981. The Collectors Club, Inc.
0010/0838/81/3/153-163 $3.00 + $.25

Lincoln's call for troops to quell the rebellion brought a rapid response in New Brunswick. Almost immediately, Stephen Moore formed Company K, Third Regiment of the Jersey Brigade, to serve for three months; Moore was chosen as lieutenant colonel. Several other companies were subsequently formed with longer enlistments. Companies F and G, 1st New Jersey Volunteers (NJV), participated in all eastern campaigns from First Manassas to Cold Harbor. The *Fredonian* printed a letter in the May 18, 1861 edition from a member of the 2nd NJV, regarding garrison duty along the railroad from Annapolis to Washington.

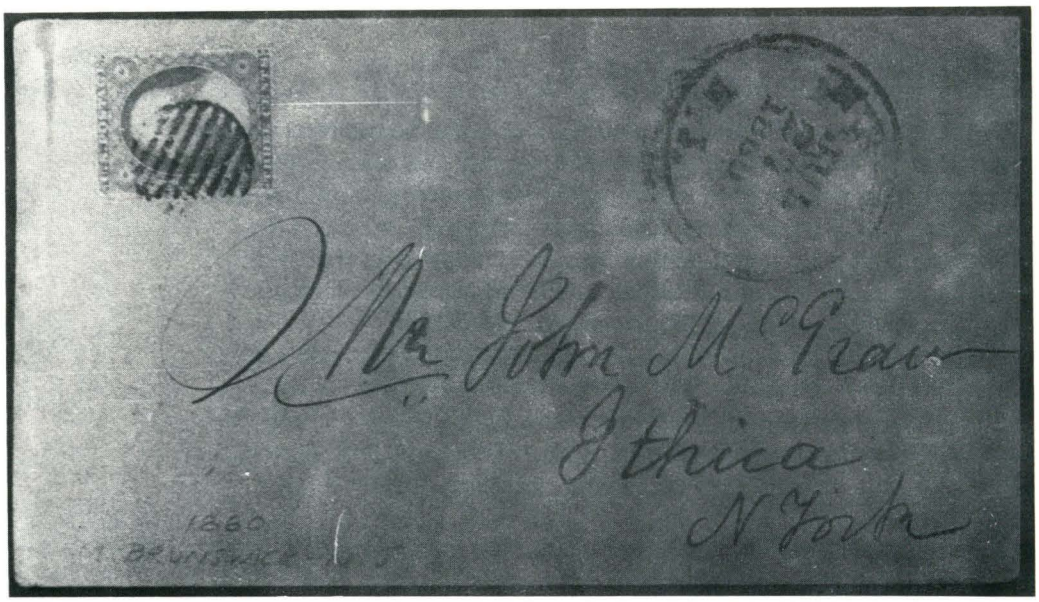


Fig. 47. This marking, from 1860, is notable for the initials 'N.J.' at the bottom. The stamp is the 3 cent of the 1857 issue.

Early in the war, envelopes bearing patriotic sentiments appeared on both sides. These remained popular until casualties began to mount to horrendous proportions and war-weariness in the North developed. Despite the fact that 783 New Brunswick men were serving in the Union forces (121), almost none of these so-called patriotic envelopes have been noted in several years of searching displays at philatelic exhibitions and auction catalogues. Fig. 48 represents the one of two examples seen to date.

Similarly, envelopes with political advertising made appearances periodically, usually about the time of a presidential election. The lone example seen from New Brunswick is a Lincoln-Johnson cover canceled December 3, 1864 to Newark with a 3 cent of the 1861 issue affixed. (122).

No notice of the demonitization of the 1851 and 1857 issues has been seen from New Brunswick, nor have any examples of usages surfaced with the typical markings ("Old Stamps Not Recognized," etc.) from here. However, newspaper files from this period are incomplete so notices and any discussion of this process may have been included there.

Henry Sanderson had been appointed postmaster on March 22,

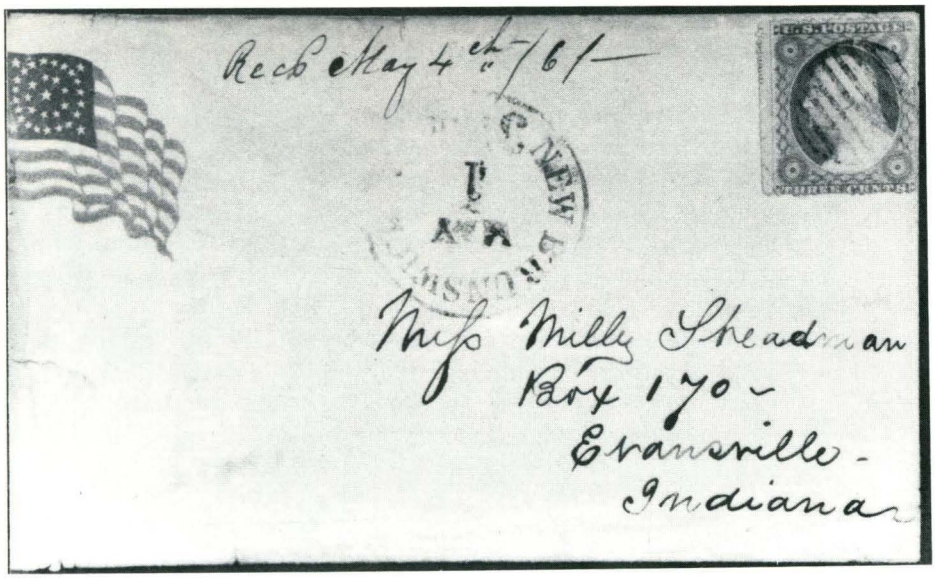


Fig. 48. One of two reported examples of a Civil War patriotic, this cover is franked with the 3 cent 1857. (Krumwiede Collection, Rutgers University)

1853 at the beginning of Pierce's administration. He served uneventfully until 1861. There are periodic notices in the *Fredonian* (123) over his name but scant else. In the July 2, 1862 issue is a notice of his serving in the Union Army as a brigadier general.

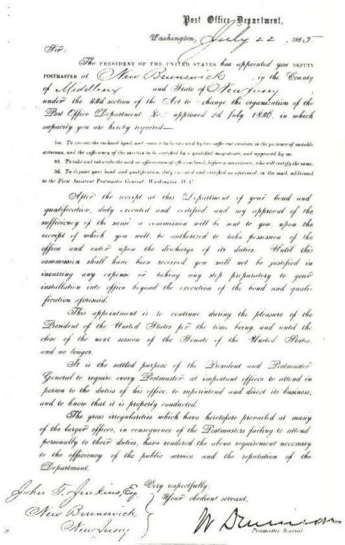
Lincoln's inauguration brought John T. Jenkins' appointment as postmaster on March 11, 1861. Although Jenkins had served as a major in the New Jersey militia in 1854, by the outbreak of the war he was 40 years old and thus did not serve. An alderman and realtor, he was influential in mustering support for public schools in New Brunswick; his provision of property underwrote the first black school in the city. Segregated schools were abolished in New Jersey in 1882.

Fig. 49 shows Jenkins' certificate of reappointment as deputy postmaster at New Brunswick, dated July 22, 1865. The notices of letters appearing during this period are signed by Jenkins as postmaster; Jenkins concurrently served as mayor from 1865 to 1867. On March 4, 1868, he was appointed a notary and he died on October 12, 1872.

One communication from the Post Office Department to Jenkins still survives, dated January 23, 1865:

> "The receipt of Enos A. Davidson for $125.00 for services as a 'Letter Carrier' at your office for the quarter ending December 31, 1864 forwarded by you, is received.
> Please State when Mr. Davidson commenced his services as Carrier at your office.
>
> Very Respectfully,
> Abm W. Randall
> 1st Asst. P.M. Genl"

New Brunswick was designated a "money order postoffice on July 3, 1865. (124) The *New Brunswick Directory, 1866-67* lists the post office at 38 Dennis street, next door to the *Fredonian* office. Wall indicated


Post Office Department,
Washington, July 22, 1865

Sir:

The PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES has appointed you DEPUTY POSTMASTER at New Brunswick, in the County of Middlesex and State of New Jersey, under the 43d section of the Act to change the organization of the Post Office Department, &c., approved 26 July, 1850, in which capacity you are hereby required—

1st. To execute the enclosed bond, and cause it to be executed by two sufficient sureties, in the presence of notable witnesses, and the sufficiency of the sureties to be certified by a qualified magistrate, and approved by me.

2d. To take and subscribe the oath or affirmation of office on the bond, before a magistrate, who will certify the same.

3d. To forward your bond and qualifications, duly executed and certified as aforesaid, in the mail addressed to the First Assistant Postmaster General, Washington, D. C.

Upon the receipt at this Department of your bond and qualifications, duly executed and certified, and my approval of the sufficiency of the same, a commission will be sent to you, upon the receipt of which you will be authorized to take possession of the office and enter upon the discharge of its duties. Until this commission shall have been received you will not be justified in incurring any expense or taking any step preparatory to your qualification into office beyond the execution of the bond and qualification aforesaid.

This appointment is to continue during the pleasure of the President of the United States for the time being and until the close of the next session of the Senate of the United States, and no longer.

It is the settled purpose of the President and Postmaster General to require every Postmaster at important offices to attend in person to the duties of his office, to superintend and direct its business, and to know that it is properly conducted.

The gross irregularities which have heretofore prevailed at many of the larger offices, in consequence of the Postmasters failing to attend personally to their duties, have rendered the above requirement necessary to the efficiency of the public service and the reputation of the Department.

John T. Jenkins Esq. Very respectfully,
New Brunswick Your obedient servant,
New Jersey W. Dennison
Postmaster General.

Fig. 49. John T. Jenkins' certificate of reappointment as 'deputy postmaster.' (Special Collections, Rutgers University)

the office was later moved to 202 Neilson street. If so, it was for a very short time. No other documentation of such a move has been noted.

The concentric ring circular datestamp was used in New Brunswick from about December 1861 to January 1865. The datestamp was used with the year date inverted from about January 11 to December 14, 1863. A cover in the Krumweide collection on the 3 cent value of the 1861 issue exists with the concentric ring dated January 17, 1865, while another, dated January 20, 1865 has a single line date circle.

Examples of the other values of the 1861 issue are quite scarce. A perhaps unique surviving use of the 10 cent value shows four copies on a cover to Hong Kong, Fig. 50. Canceled with the concentric ring circular datestamp on March 18, 1862, it is routed by way of Southampton; a London receiving mark has been applied. The cover has a notation 'Ans. Oct 12, 1862.'



Fig. 50. Use of the concentric ring circular datestamp with the 10 cent 1861 to Hong Kong. (William Herzog Collection)

With Grant's election, Joseph F. Fisher was appointed postmaster on April 5, 1869. (125). He apparently relocated the post office to 240 Burnet street, on Commerce Square, soon after his appointment. (126) A notation in the *Directory* for 1883-84 lists Fisher Bros., coal and masons materials, also on Commerce Square. Fisher served as a director of the State Bank in 1873 (apparently reorganized as a result of the Panic of 1873), and the New Brunswick Fire Insurance Co. Fig. 51 provides a contemporary view (1873) of Commerce Square. The old iron and tin shop of Lewis Stout and sons is immediately in view, as is the cap and fur store of Otis D. Stewart. The horse and buggy sit in front of the post office.

The Joint Companies lost their monopoly on cross-state transportation during this period. The annual report showed passenger receipts for 1869 at $1,440,768.64 and receipts from mail contracts of $17,612.87. Total receipts from the canal portion of the enterprise were $912,107 so the railroad clearly had the upper hand. (126)

Local news coverage included agitation for nonpolitical police appointments and the movement for a toll-free bridge at Albany street;

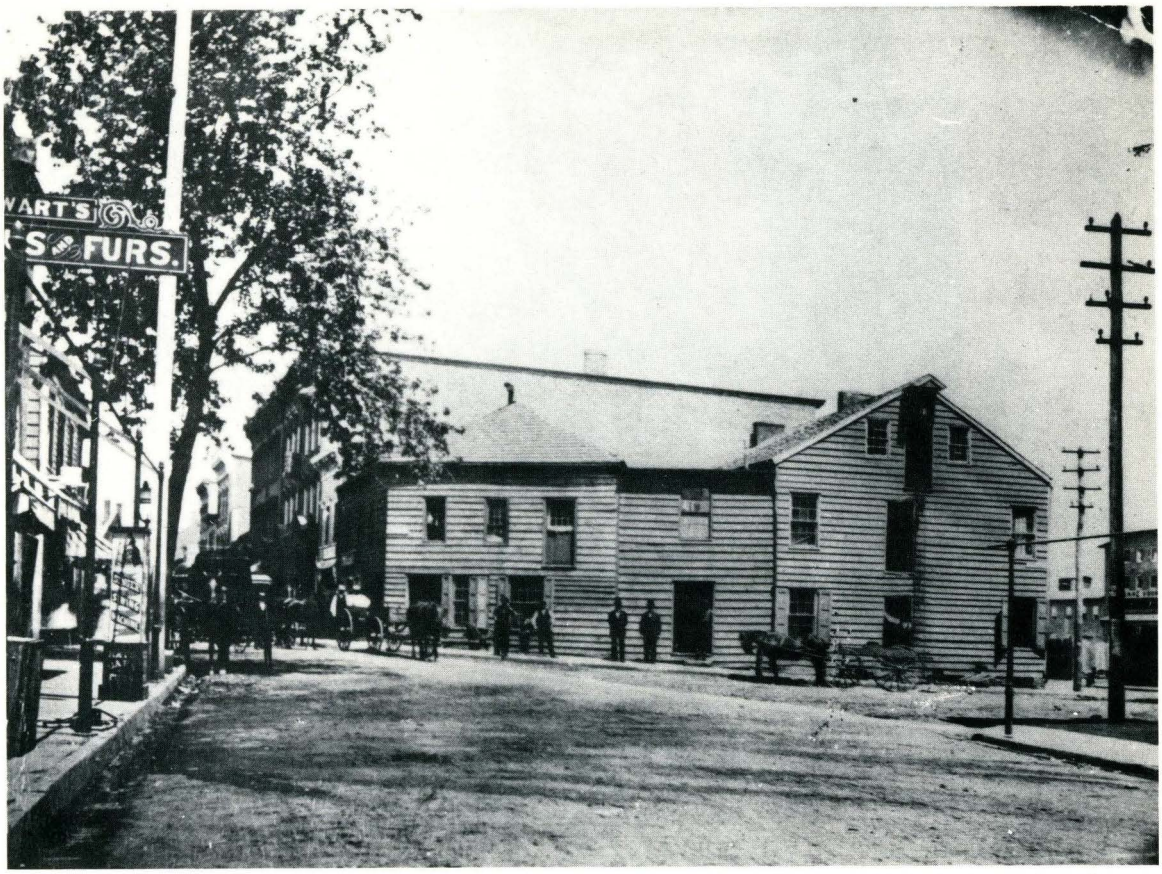


Fig. 51. An 1873 view of Commerce Square. The horse and buggy sit in front of the post office. (Special Collections, Rutgers University)

Senator Sumner's bill for cheap ocean postage was discussed. (127) Advertising, too, had changed, with much more space given to real estate and much less to such things as patent medicines.

Fig. 52 illustrates a usage of the 3 cent of the 1869 issue from New Brunswick. The 1 and 2 cent values used from this post office have not been seen. The 1 cent would have been used for the circular rate and any examples may not have survived. The 2 cent was primarily issued for the local drop letter with carrier delivery rate; only Trenton, Newark, and Jersey City had delivery service so New Brunswick would have had no need for this value. The higher values have similarly not been reported.

Fig. 52 illustrates the 3 cent envelope of the 1870 issue; note Krumweide's notation of an 1872 date. The Registered Package Envelope in Fig. 53 has a very similar marking (except for the killer) and is dated September 21. This official stationery, printed in red on manila stock, was used to transmit and account for registered letters. This is the earliest reported usage of such official use stationery. (128) The datestamps in Figs. 54, 55 and 56 are quite similar but with the time of cancellation added. Fig. 56 is a 1 cent envelope of the 1874 issue, Figs. 55 and 56 carry the 1 cent value stamp of the 1879 issue, printed by the American Bank Note Company. All three may have carried circulars.

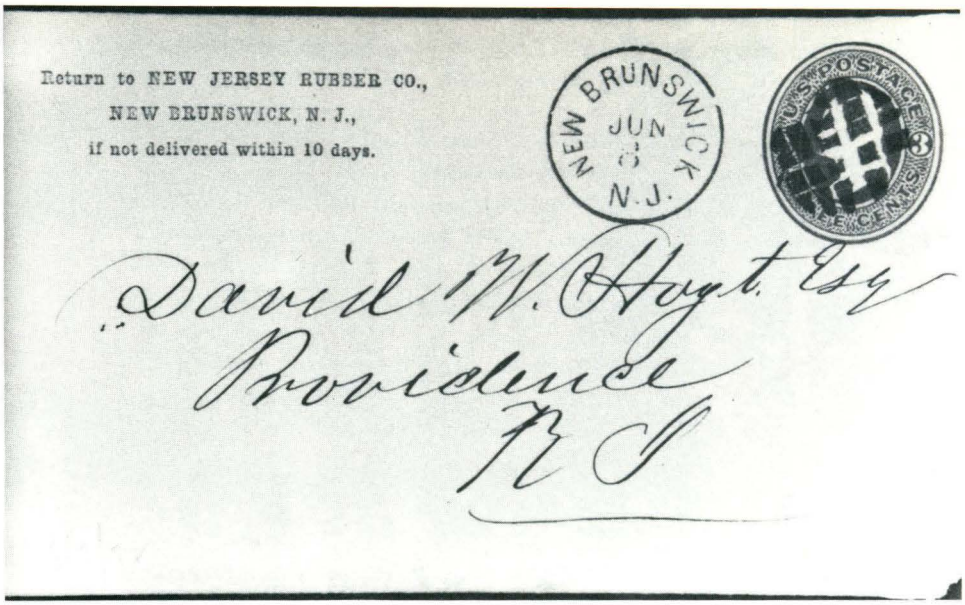


Fig. 52. The 3 cent envelope of 1870 used from New Brunswick.



Fig. 53. Registered package envelope used from New Brunswick. This is the earliest reported usage of this type of official stationery. (Krumweide Collection, Rutgers University)

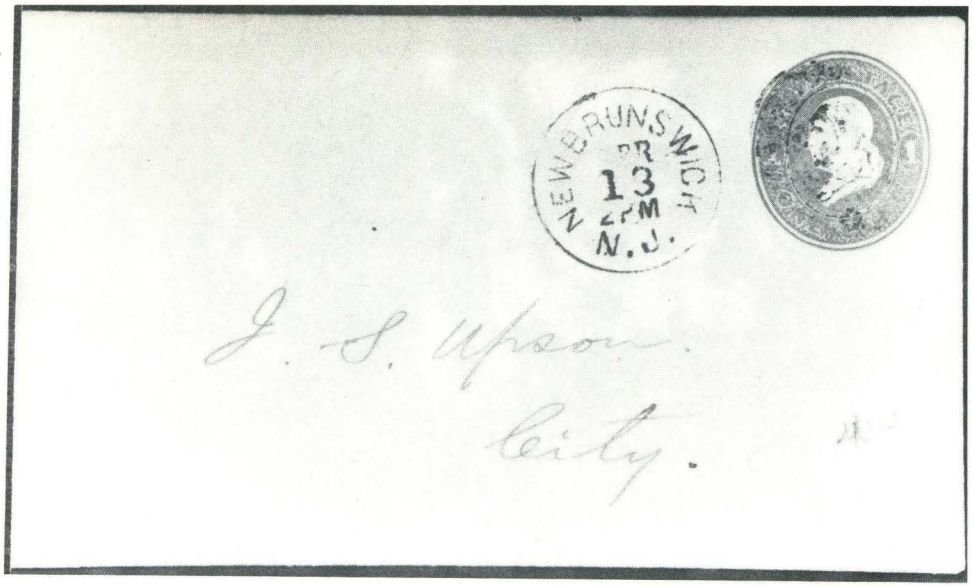
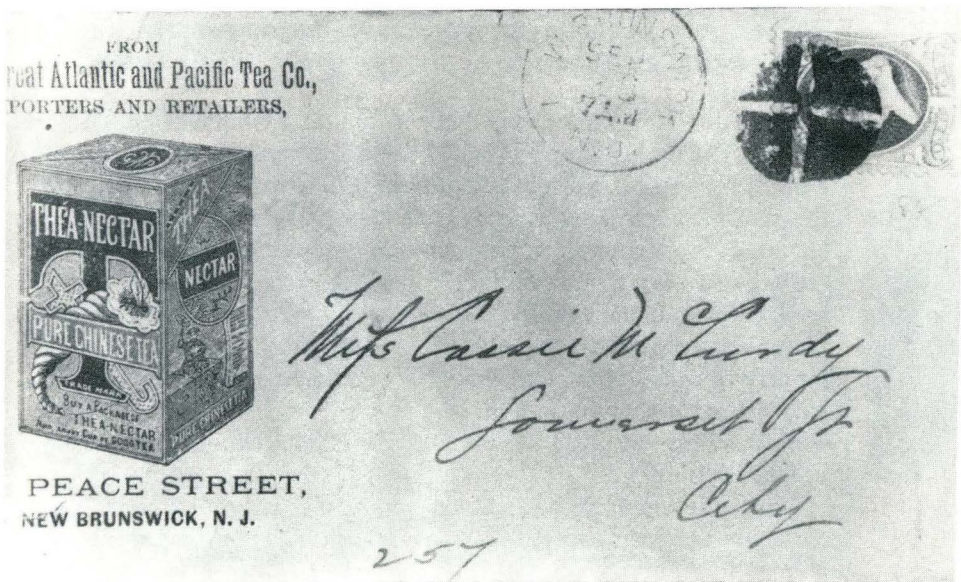


Fig. 54. Use of the 1 cent envelope of 1874. The killer is quite similar to that in Fig. 59.

On May 30, 1873, the *Fredonian* editorialized:

> "Editorial note: The publicity given to messages written on postal cards is not relished by a good many people, who have on this account refrained from using them. One way to get the best of those handling them is to write in cipher, but this would necessitate the sending of a key to each party written to. In France, invisible ink is used to prevent publicity and it will no doubt be soon introduced here. One kind of ink used requires the material written upon to be held to the fire when the writing at once comes out in bold relief. This would prove a check to the inquisitiveness of post-office clerks who have not time to make the application, and if they had, their detection would follow as a matter of course."

Fig. 55. The 1 cent 1879 on an A&P advertising cover. The killer is a segmented cork-type cross. (Krumweide Collection, Rutgers University)



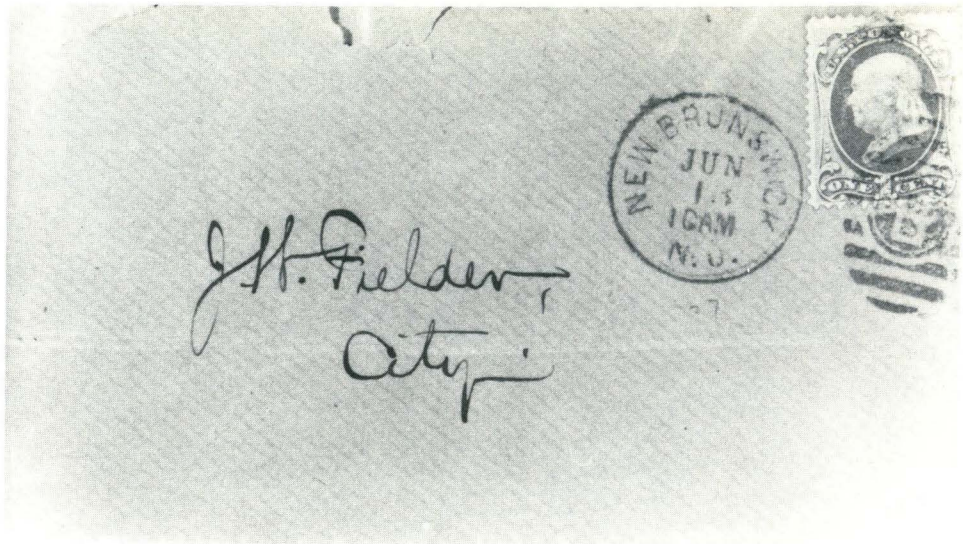


Fig. 56. The ellipse handstamp with letter 'B' on a 1 cent 1879. This ellipse type is similar to those advertised by Goldsborough in the *Post Office Assistant.* (Krumweide Collection, Rutgers University)

Fig. 57 shows usage of the 1873 postal card with the 25 mm date circle similar to Figs. 54 and 55. Fig 58 has the date circle with time on the second issue of card; the New York receiving mark is dated 1883. Fig. 59 with the 3 cent Banknote issue also has the time date circle and a notation of receipt in 1877.

Fig. 60, from the September 7, 1871 *Daily Times,* provides the hours of operation of the New Brunswick post office. A similar notice, in the *Fredonian* for March 15, 1875, shows the Sunday closing time moved back to 6:30 pm as well as other minor changes in delivery times for the various mail routes. Of greater importance, this notice also listed all the postage rates and fees to which the American user of the mails were subject. The occasion for this was the announcement of a change in rates for printed matter and newspapers, which the *Fredonian* attributed to a sinister plot by the Adams Express Company.

"The New York Times says there is no doubt whatever that the public owes the new changes in the Postal Laws to Adams Express Company. That company employed active lobbyists at Washington, and the clause was smuggled through in silence and secrecy, for the sole purpose of increasing the business of a very wealthy corporation, at the expense of every man who has occasion to send a newspaper or book by post. It is a very discreditable transaction, and one which is not calculated to increase the popularity of the Adams Express. The pinch will be felt by all classes of the people, who have been in the habit of posting a newspaper or a book to friends at a distance. It is as well, at any rate, that the victims of this trick should know who are the authors of it."



Fig. 57. The 25 mm date circle with "ink blob" on the 1873 issue postal card. (Photography by Donald F. Gilliam)

Fourth class mail was established in 1879 as a designated category to deal with merchandise; printed matter (other than regular newspapers and periodicals), some seeds, and samples remained third class. (129) The rates of January 1, 1875 did not differentiate classes of mail

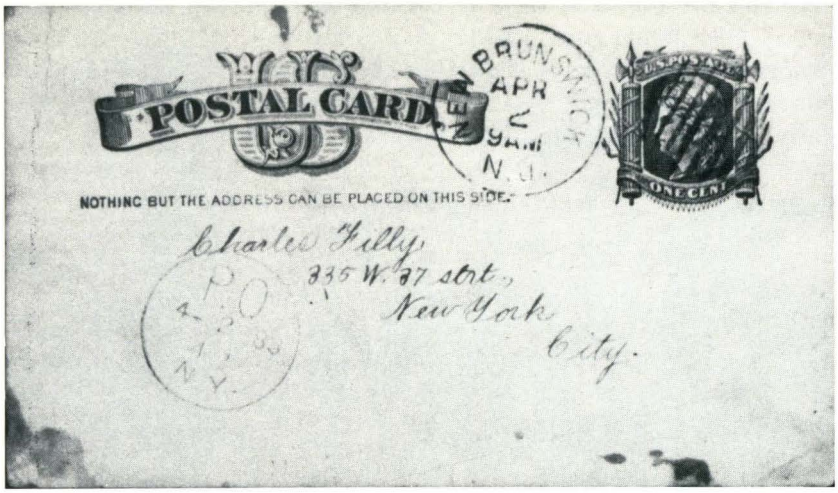


Fig. 58. The 25 mm date circle with time used in 1883 on the 1875 issue card. (Photography by Donald F. Gilliam)

and were set at 1 cent per two ounces to a limit of 4 pounds; the rate for fourth class mail after 1879 was 1 cent per ounce with the 4 pound limit being retained.

Fisher continued to serve as postmaster during the Hayes Administration. The election of 1876 saw Tilden denigrated as a supporter of the peace party during the war; Peter Cooper, candidate of the Greenback Party, was characterized as "the only simon pure candidate of the inflation party, unless it be Thomas A. Hendricks" (Tilden's vice presidental running mate). (130)

Another of the postmasters about whom we know very little, Levi D. Jarrard, was appointed on October 26, 1881, well after the beginning of Garfield's administration. His tenure was brief for he was replaced on June 7, 1883 by John Franklin Babcock, the editor of the *Fredonian*.

An orphan, Babcock apprenticed to a printer in the early 1840's. It is not known when he came to New Brunswick from the Old Northwest, but by 1860, he had assumed control of the *Fredonian*. Apparently not a wealthy man, he had minor financial interests in such en-

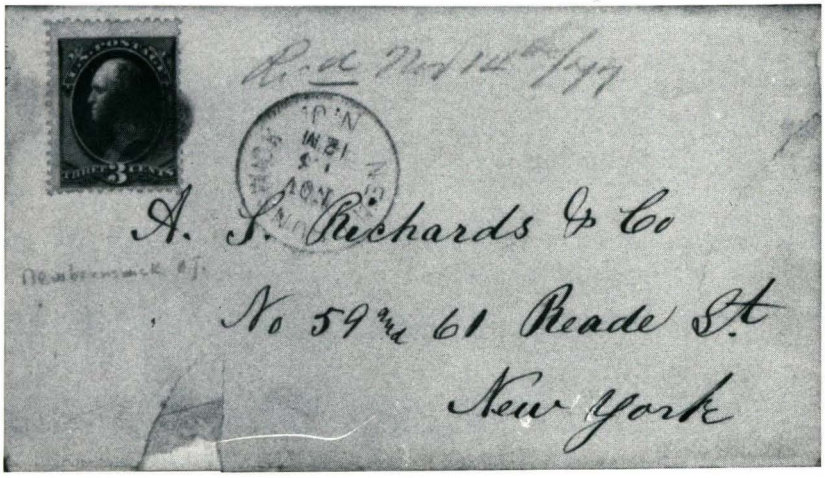
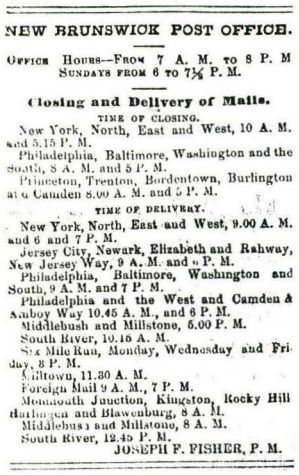


Fig. 59. The 25 mm time date circle on a 3 cent Banknote. (Photography by Donald F. Gilliam)



NEW BRUNSWICK POST OFFICE.

OFFICE HOURS—FROM 7 A. M. TO 8 P. M
SUNDAYS FROM 6 TO 7½ P. M.

Closing and Delivery of Mails.

TIME OF CLOSING.

New York, North, East and West, 10 A. M. and 5.15 P. M.
Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington and the South, 8 A. M. and 5 P. M.
Princeton, Trenton, Bordentown, Burlington and Camden 8.00 A. M. and 5 P. M.

TIME OF DELIVERY.

New York, North, East and West, 9.00 A. M. and 6 and 7 P. M.
Jersey City, Newark, Elizabeth and Rahway, New Jersey Way, 9 A. M. and 6 P. M.
Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington and South, 9 A. M. and 7 P. M.
Philadelphia and the West and Camden & Amboy Way 10.45 A. M., and 6 P. M.
Middlebush and Millstone, 5.00 P. M.
South River, 10.15 A. M.
Six Mile Run, Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 8 P. M.
Milltown, 11.30 A. M.
Foreign Mail 9 A. M., 7 P. M.
Monmouth Junction, Kingston, Rocky Hill Harlingen and Blawenburg, 8 A. M.
Middlebush and Millstone, 8 A. M.
South River, 12.45 P. M.

JOSEPH F. FISHER, P. M.

Fig. 60 Notice of Hours of post office operation, 1871.

terprises as the Independent Ice Co. and was a member of the New Jersey Association and State Board of Trade. Babcock saw that if New Brunswick were to grow, the center of commerce must shift from the narrow streets along the Raritan. The commercial center was particularly prone to water damage during the recurrent floods which afflicted the area.

Babcock determined to move the post office and selected the Masonic Hall at the corner of George and Albany streets for a new location. When the move was announced, Babcock was denounced by the commercial groups. Contemporary accounts tell of mass meetings to protest. The post office provided the focal point for business downtown and the merchants feared, rightly so as it turned out, the loss of business with the move. Babcock was not to be denied and he moved the office.

The Masonic Hall was completed in 1873 at a cost of $280,000. Begun in the last flush of prosperity before the depression beginning in that year, its construction had seen large cost overruns; these were underwritten by the State Bank, with notes endorsed by some of the leading citizens. With the failure of the bank during the crash, these backers lost heavily. The building contained a large theater (hence the building was frequently referred to as the 'Opera House'), assembly and banquet rooms, lodge and office compartments. The area which the post office occupied had previously been the quarters of the Opera House Drug Store, operated by Fred Kilmer. He advertised his dismay at being evicted in the *Fredonian*, selling out his entire stock. (131) Fig. 61 shows the new location of the post office.

Babcock, however, did take steps to alleviate some of the impact of the move on local business. Six "penny carriers" were hired to deliver the mail in town; these pennies represented the carriers' wages.

As the outspoken editor of a vocal Republican newspaper, Babcock's days as postmaster ended with Cleveland's election, the first Democrat placed in the White House in 25 years. Robert Corson was appointed on February 27, 1885, even before the new administration took office. **to be continued**

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117. Baker, J. David, *The Postal History of Indiana*, 1978.

118. Hahn, Calvet M., "Adams 'Free For the Regiment' Postmark, A Philatelic Front Page Story," *American Philatelist*, Vol. 87, No. 1, January 1973.

119. Stevens, Theodore A., "Civil War Soldier's Letters," *SPA Journal*, Vol. 40, No. 10, June 1978.

120. Graham, Richard B. "Civil War Military Postal History," *Chronicle*, No. 47, June 1964.

121. Wall, *op. cit.* Wall has been quoted often in these notes. While he wrote extensively, he left few references and citations for verification of information. He, however, entered the employ of the post office in New Brunswick in the 1870s, so that information



Fig. 61. The post office located in the Masonic Hall at the corner of George and Albany street. In the foreground is the Second Presbyterian Church which later burned.

from that period is taken from personal experience and observation and is likely to be reasonably accurate.

122. Zimmerman, Al, 36th Auction, Lot 515, New York, May 17, 1976.

123. *Fredonian,* November 1, 1859.

124. Neufeld, Gerard, "Early Money Order Post Offices," *NJPH* Vol. VIII, No. 2, March 1980.

125. "Notice of Nomination," *Fredonian,* April 3, 1869.

126. *Daily Fredonian,* March 8, 1869.

127. *Daily Fredonian,* April 14, 1869.

128. *The Pantograph of Postal Stationery,* UPSS, Vol. 9, No. 4, Aug-Sep 1980.

129. Gobie, Henry M., *U.S. Parcel Post, A Postal History,* Miami, FL 1979.

130. *Daily Fredonian,* July 27, 1876.

131. *Daily Fredonian,* June 13, 1884.

The 1922-1924 Issues of Monaco (continued)

M. H. Ludington



10c. Green, deep green, (slight shades of each)

There were three Plates: Plates 1 and 2 in one State each, Plate 3 in two States.

Varieties in vertical rows on the 10c. only, (all three Plates), (duplicate "strip die" flaws).

Note. The differences in the shapes of the figures of value in each vertical row are very small.

2nd row, A8. Large dot inside frame opposite lower right petal of rosette.

4th row, H4-5. Faint line down from lower right side of "O".

4th row, I3. One dot to left and two dots to right of "P".

Major varieties on individual stamps of the 10c. Plate 1.

Many of these were on units of the mold and so are repeated on Plates 2 and 3. They are marked * in the list. The rest appeared on the printing plate.

No. 3, A4. Guide mark on frame and two dots to the left.

No. 11, E1. Guide dot and three faint dots above.

No. 15, E8. Guide dot (faint).

No. 23, I4. Guide mark with trace of line down to marginal cross.

No. 1, *I6, I7-8. "C" weak. Bottom of "ER" missing.

No. 2, *A2. Vertical line up from frame, (guide line).

No. 3, *I7. Small flaw below second "E" of "CHEFFER".

Collectors Club Philatelist Vol. 60, No. 3, May 1981. The Collectors Club, Inc.
0010/0838/81/3/164-170 $3.00 + $.25



Fig. 6. 20c. State ii, nos. 4 and 5. Cracked plate along the bottom frames of both stamps.



Fig. 7. 20c. State i, nos. 7 and 8.
No. 7. "C" and most of "H" of "CHEFFER" missing. Repaired in State ii.
No. 8 Top right corner heavily retouched, (both States).



Fig. 8. 20c. States i and ii, nos. 16, 17, 21 and 22.
No. 16. Bottom frame extended at right end.
No. 21. Top frame heavily retouched at left end.





Fig. 9. 10c. Plate 3, nos. 15 and 20. No. 20. Top frame damaged at right end.

No. 4, *A6. Vertical line up from frame, (guide line).
No. 4, I8. Right leg of "R" partly missing.
No. 5, *I6-8. "H.CHEFFER" weak. Right leg of "R" partly missing.
No. 6, Left of DE1. Cracked plate (horizontal in sheet margin). Note. The crack may have lengthened into the design of no. 6, causing Plate 1 to be discarded.
No. 6, *A8. Flaw between rosette and right frame.
No. 6, *B3. Large flaw in triangular panel below "P".
No. 6, C4. Flaw on forehead near hairline.
No. 6, *I2. Flaws on and in "N".
No. 7, I3-4. Horizontal scratch 1.75mm. below frame, (see also no. 12).
No. 7, I6-7. Bottom of "H.CHEF" missing.
No. 8, A2-3. Frame thin.
No. 8, *A4. Small dot northeast of "O".
No. 8, I8. Blurred dot outside corner.
No. 9, *I5. Flaw outside frame below "E M" of "DE MONACO".
No. 9, I7-8. Bottom of "FFER" missing. First "E" and the rest of "R" weak.
No. 10, *D4. Prominent flaw on nose.
No. 10, *I6. Initial "H." almost completely missing. Bottom of "C" broken.
No. 11, *A1. Left frame at corner trimmed diagonally for 0.5mm.
No. 12, A3-4. Horizontal scratch 1.75mm. above frame, (see also no. 7).
No. 14, *I7. Bottom of second "E" of "CHEFFER" missing.
No. 14, I8. Small blurred dot southeast of "R".
No. 15, I1. Small blurred dot outside corner.
No. 16, *A8. Small dot inside extreme corner of frames.
No. 16, I8. Right side of "R" weak.
No. 20, A7-8. Top frame normal, (weak on Plate 2, broken on Plate 3).
No. 22, *I2. Vertical line down from frame, (faint), (guide line).

Major varieties on individual stamps of the 10c. Plate 2.
Flaws on the mold, found also on Plates 1 and 3, are marked *.
No. 3, A4. No guide mark.
No. 11, E1. Faint short line starting 1.5mm. left of frame.
No. 15, E8. Faint short line starting 1.5mm. right of frame.
No. 23, I4. No guide mark.

No. 1, *I7-8. Bottom of "ER" missing. ("C" normal).
No. 2, *A2. Stub of vertical line up from frame, (guide line).
No. 3, *I7. Very faint flaw below second "E" of "CHEFFER".
No. 4, *A6. Short vertical line up from frame, (guide line).
No. 4, I8. Right leg of "R" missing.
No. 5, I6-7. "C" and second "F" slightly weak. Flaw under "FF".
No. 6, *A8. Flaw between rosette and right frame.
No. 6, *B3. Large flaw in triangular panel below "P".
No. 6, *I2. Flaws on and in "N".
No. 6, I7, I8. Small flaw below second "E". Right side of "R" weak

and right leg partly missing.
No. 7, I4. Small flaw right of top of "E".
No. 7, I6, I7. Bottom of "H.C" missing. Bottom of first "E" weak.
No. 8, A3. Frame weak above "P", (further to right than on Plate 1).
No. 8, *A4. Small dot northeast of "O".
No. 9, *I5. Flaw outside frame below "E M" of "DE MONACO".
No. 9, I7-8. Bottom of "EFF" weak. Bottom of "ER" missing.
No. 10, *D4. Prominent flaw on nose.
No. 10, *I6. Initial "H." almost completely missing. Bottom of "C" broken.
No. 11, *A1. Left frame at corner trimmed diagonally for 0.5mm.
No. 13, I2. Large flaw on lower part of "C".
No. 14, *I7-8. Bottom of "ER" missing.
No. 15, I8. Right leg of "R" missing with faint flaw below.
No. 16, *A8. Small dot in extreme corner of frames.
No. 16, I8. Small flaw southeast of corner, (also on Plate 3, State i).
No. 18, D1. Dot outside frame opposite rosette.
No. 20, *A7-8. Top frame thinner than normal.
No. 22, *I2. Trace of vertical line down from frame, (guide line).
No. 24, F1. Large dot left of frame.

Major varieties on individual stamps of the 10c. Plate 3, States i and ii. Flaws on the mold, found also on Plates 1 and 2, are marked *. Flaws occur on both states unless otherwise mentioned.

Nos. 3, 11, 15 and 23. There are no guide marks of any kind.
No. 1, A8. Faint scratch diagonally upward from lower right corner of rosette, (State ii).
No. 1, *I7-8. Bottom of "ER" missing. ("C" normal).
No. 2, *A2. Trace of vertical line up from frame, (guide line).
No. 4, *A6. Trace of vertical line up from frame, (guide line).
No. 4, I8. Right leg of "R" partly missing.
No. 5, I6-7. "H.CHEFFE" weak.
No. 6, *A8. Flaw between rosette and right frame.
No. 6, *B3. Large flaw in triangular panel below "P".
No. 6, *I2. Flaws on and in "N".
No. 6, I7, I8. Small flaw below second "E". Right side of "R" weak and right leg partly missing, as on Plate 2.
No. 7, I4, *I4. Dot right of top left serif of "T". Small flaw right of top of "E".
No. 7, I6-8. Bottom of "H.CH" missing. Bottom of first "E" weak. Bottom of "R" missing.
No. 8, A3. Frame weak above "P", as on Plate 2.
No. 8, *A4. Small dot northeast of "O".
No. 9, *I5. Flaw outside frame below "E M" of "DE MONACO".
No. 9, I7-8. Bottom of "EF" weak. Bottom of "FER" missing.
No. 10, *D4. Prominent flaw on nose, (State i). Flaw almost completely removed, together with some shading dots, (State ii).
No. 10, *I6. Initial "H." almost completely missing. Bottom of "C" broken.
No. 11, *A1. Left frame at corner trimmed diagonally for 0.5mm.



Fig. 10. 15c. Plate 1, nos. 4, 5, 9, 10, 14 and 15. Nos. 4, 9 and 14. Top right corner damaged.
No. 9. Flaw on collar.
No. 10. Flaw below first "S" of "POSTES".

No. 12, I5. Large dot southwest of initial "H.", (State ii).
No. 13, *I2. Large flaw on lower part of "C".
No. 14, *I7-8. Bottom of "ER" missing.
No. 15, *I8. Right leg of "R" missing with faint flaw below.
No. 16, *A8. Small dot in extreme corner of frames.
No. 16, H5. Small dot in value tablet.
No. 16, I8. Small flaw southeast of corner as on Plate 2, (State i).
No. 18, H6. Large flaw between frames below "N".
No. 20, *A7-8. Top frame thin, missing at corner.
No. 22, *I2. Very faint trace of vertical line down from frame, (guide line), on State i only.
No. 23, A6-7. Large flaw on top of triangular panel.
No. 24, F1. Large dot left of frame.

15c. Bright carmine (shades), carmine-red (shades), rose-red (shades). There were two Plates, each in two minor States.

Varieties in vertical rows on the 15c. only, (both Plates), (duplicate "strip die" flaws).

Note. The differences in the shapes of the figures of value in each vertical row are quite distinctive, particularly of the "5".

1st row, I6. Prominent flaws joining "O" and "N" and on serif of "N" below.
3rd row, H1. Flaw joining bottom of panel to left frame.

4th row, AB8. Right frame weak, completely missing at corner on Plate 1. On Plate 2 the right frame has been retouched on nos. 4, 9, 14 and 24, but no. 19 was missed. See varieties on individual stamps, Plate 2.

4th row, I8. Right frame weak to almost broken at corner on Plate 1. On Plate 2 the right frame has been retouched on nos. 9 and 14 only, and nos. 4, 19 and 24 were missed. See varieties on individual stamps, Plate 2.

Major varieties on individual stamps of the 15c. Plate 1 only, both States. Flaws occur on both States unless otherwise mentioned.

Nos. 3, 11, 15 and 23. There are no guide marks of any kind.

No. 1, I8. Right leg of "R" short.

No. 2, A2. Vertical line up from frame, (guide line).

No. 4, A6. Faint vertical line up from frame, (guide line).

No. 4, I5. Dot above "DE".

No. 4, I7, I8. Second "E" weak. Right side of "R" very weak.

No. 8, H3-4. Dot between frames above "V".

No. 9, E5. Flaw on collar. Smaller flaw on line of chin nearby.

No. 10, A4. Large dot below "S".

No. 10, I7-8. Flaw between frames above "R".

No. 11, A1. Blurred scratches on top frame at corner.

No. 11, I8. Right leg of "R" very weak or missing.

No. 12, C5. Small cross in hair above ear.

No. 12, I8. Bottom of loop and right leg of "R" very weak (State i). Bottom of loop and most of right leg of "R" missing (State ii).

No. 15, A3. Flaw above and between "P" and "O".

No. 15, I5. Dot above "DE". Small dot left of initial "H.".

No. 16, I6, I7-8. Bottom of "H.CH" and "ER" missing.

No. 17, I7-8. Bottom of "E" and entire "R" almost entirely missing.

No. 18, I6. Break in bottom of "C".

No. 19, I4-5. Small dot above "D".

No. 20, A4-5. Blurred scratch on top of "ST" and small dot outside frame above right side of "T".

No. 20, I8. Right leg of "R" partly missing.

No. 21, A5-6, A6-8. Blurred scratches between frames.

No. 21, H1. Dot 1.25mm. left of frame.

No. 22, I2. Vertical line down from frame, (guide line).

No. 25, A8. Faint scratch, sometimes blurred, extending top frame.

Major varieties on individual stamps of the 15c. Plate 2 only, both States. Flaws occur on both States unless otherwise mentioned. Portions of the engraver's name on many stamps have been reengraved or touched up, even when no sign of damage showed on Plate 1. The touch ups are revealed by slightly smaller or larger or differently shaped letters, joined serifs on the letter "H" and particularly by more prominent right legs to the letter "R".

No. 3, A4. Guide dot.

No. 11, E1. Guide line with dot above.

No. 15, E8. Guide line.

No. 23, I4. Guide dot.

No. 1, A6. "Period" after "S".

No. 1, I8. Right leg of "R" repaired.
No. 2, A2. Vertical line up from frame, (guide line).
No. 4, A6. Faint vertical line up from frame, (guide line).
No. 4, A7-8. Top and right frames repaired. Both extend beyond corner.
No. 4, I6. Dot left of initial "H.".
No. 4, I8. Corner not repaired.
No. 4, I7-8. "ER" repaired.
No. 6, A1. Short diagonal scratch outside corner.
No. 6, H4. Flaw right of "1".
No. 6, I6-8. "H.CHEFFER" touched up.
No. 7, A7. Scratch upward from rosette through top frame.
No. 7, I6-8. "H.CHEFFER" reengraved in slightly larger letters. Right leg of "R" long and curved.
No. 8, A6-7. Top frame slightly thinner.
No. 8, I6-8. "H.CHEFFER" touched up.
No. 9, A5-8. Top frame slightly thinner.
No. 9, I8. Right frame repaired and extended slightly beyond corner. "R" repaired, (long curved foot).
No. 10, I5. Flaw outside frame below "E" of "DE".
No. 10, I6. Initial "H" repaired.
No. 11, A1-8. Portions of horizontal scratch 0.5mm. above frame, heavy in A7-8 and continuing to no. 12.
No. 11, I1-2. Bottom frame weak and uneven.
No. 11, I8. Right leg of "R" repaired, (short straight foot).
No. 12, A1-2, A3-4, A6-7. Portions of horizontal scratch from no. 11, 0.5mm. above frame. Heavy in A1 and A6-7.
No. 12, I8. "R" repaired, (long straight foot).
No. 13, I6-8. "CHEFFER" touched up. "R" slightly larger.
No. 14, A8. Corner "repaired". Top frame short, right frame extends beyond corner.
No. 14, I7-8. Bottom frame thin above "FER" and short of corner. "H.CHEFFER" reengraved with "FER" larger.
No. 15, I1. Bottom frame thin.
No. 16, I6-8. "H.CHEFFER" reengraved with long straight foot on right leg of "R".
No. 17, A1, A3-4. Horizontal scratch 0.5mm. above frame. Heavy in A3.
No. 17, I6-8. "H.CHEFFER" reengraved. Initial "H." smaller.
No. 18, A6. "C" repaired.
No. 19, A8, I8. Right frame not repaired.
No. 19, I8. "R" touched up and right leg curved.
No. 20, I8. "R" touched up and right leg long and curved.
No. 21, A2-6. Broken horizontal scratch 0.5mm. above frame.
No. 21, A7. Dot and flaws above frame.
No. 21, I8. "R" touched up and right leg long and curved.
No. 24, A8. Right frame repaired but slightly uneven.
No. 24, I8. Right frame not repaired.

to be continued

New Dating for a Hoster Cancellation

Abbot Lutz

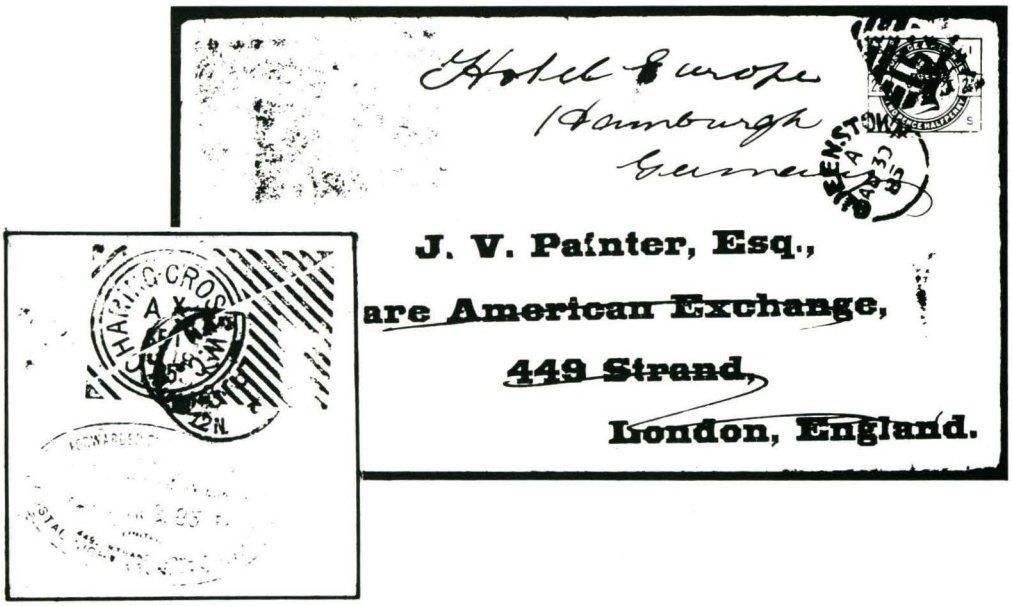
For a number of years there has been a three inch pile of postal cards and a few covers, all with London cancellations, sitting on a ledge in my office. Ted Proud, Angus Parker, Michael Goodman (who only deals in London post marks) have been some of the many who have eyed the stack, asked the price ($65.00) flipped through the pile, and put it back, always with a "No, thank you."

A short time ago I realized that the dust was a bit thick on this little pile, so I picked it up to see what was in it and dust it off at the same time. On flipping through the stack I came across one cover that did not have a London cancellation. I pulled it out and turned it over—and experienced a small heart attack. There, on the obverse side, was a "Charing-Cross Hoster" cancellation. Only five are known on cover and I now own two of them.

The earliest known usage for this cancellation is 16 September, 1885. Now we have a new date of early usage 1 September, 1885.

By the way, the balance of the stack is *still* worth $65.00 in today's market. Any takers?

The innocent letter and (inset) the "Charing-Cross Hoster" cancellation on the obverse.



Collectors Club Philatelist Vol. 60, No. 3, May 1981. The Collectors Club, Inc.
0010/0838/81/3/171-171 $3.00 + $.25

Book Reviews

Essays for U.S. Adhesive Postage Stamps by Clarence W. Brazer. Buckram-bound 310 page reprint illustrated catalog with numerical index. Available postpaid for $30.00 from Quarterman Publications, 5 South Union St., Lawrence, Mass. 01843.

Essays are one of the so-called back of the book areas that have grown in popularity over recent decades. They are perhaps the most important group of non-Scott catalog items that are widely recognized as an integral part of basic philately and many exhibitors include essays of their stamps in the exhibits. The leading student and authority on essays for almost half a century was the late Clarence W. Brazer; this work incorporates the results of his years of research.

Quarterman has reproduced the initial 1941 Brazer catalog as well as the three addenda that make up about a quarter of this volume. There are also ten pages of definitional notes by Mr. Brazer on both essays and proofs as well as an introduction by Barbara Mueller, editor for many years of the *Essay-Proof Journal.*

While no more complete catalog of U.S. essays is yet available, the *Essay-Proof Journal* is preparing a completely revised catalog which is being published serially in the *Journal.* Eventually, it will be put out in book form. Meanwhile, this is the only U.S. essay catalog available. Even when the new work is available in book form, students will want this work for reference as to what Mr. Brazer found.

The nature of the material makes a priced catalog meaningless. However, this work does identify unique pieces and gives an indication of rarity when only a few examples exist.

For those who have always wondered why U.S. stamps have turned out as they have, this work is full of interesting insights. It shows the "might have beens" for most 19th century and a substantial number of 20th century U.S. stamps. A number appear more asthetically appealing than the issued versions. This book is for those who wish to know more about their stamps and how they evolved.

Calvet M. Hahn

United States Postal Guide 1851 by Eli Bowen. Buckram bound 354 page reprint of the 1851 original. Available at $20.00 from Arno Press, Inc., 3 Park Ave., New York, N.Y. 10016.

The original of this is excessively scarce, yet it is a basic reference work for collectors of early U.S. classic stamps. It provides data hard to find anywhere else, while the author is reliable having worked in the Post Office contract office.

The book is divided into ten parts (one labeled XI), but for philatelic

purposes it can be viewed in three. The first (79 pages) consists of the first seven sections and the last. This consists of a historical section, a current operations section including data prepared for the Postmaster General's annual report, rail and steam routes, mail routes from Washington, a discussion of both domestic and foreign postal rates, the current Postal Laws and Regulations including special comments on the new 1851 postal laws, and some miscellaneous data.

The second portion lists every post office, its postmaster and county, and the routes serving it. The third section gives detailed data on each route. For postal historians these last two sections are very important for they enable us to track the movement of every letter from its city of posting to its destination. This can be extremely useful in expertizing certain unusual usages to see if they are physically possible. Classic postal history exhibitors may find it useful in writing up covers.

Although this work can be recommended for its great utility and comparatively low price, it is this reviewer's obligation to point out that the Wisconsin Historical Society copy from which this reprint was made was imperfect so that there are three parts of the original that are missing. Two are important. The most critical is the distribution map of how mail moved around the country. This map clarifies the routings between postoffices and is a highly desirable reference although not absolutely essential. The second omission is a pullout postal rate chart for domestic and foreign mails that is equivalent to about seven pages of text. Much of the data on this chart can be found in other philatelic texts such as Hargest and Ashbrook, so its omission is not serious for collectors having those texts.

The third and most minor omission is the 40 page advertising section. This had some philatelically interesting ads such as one for Kinsley & Co.'s express and one for Berford & Co. for its overseas letter and freight operations in the Pacific.

Calvet M. Hahn

The Boston Revenue Book by G. L. Toppan, H. E. Deats and A. Holland. 423 pages including a 5 page index, library buckram bound. No illustrations. Available at $35.00 postpaid from Quarterman Publications, 5 South Union St., Lawrence, Mass. 01843.

While this classic reference work was originally published in 1899 by the Boston Philatelic Society, this book still has considerable value as a source document because of the approach taken by the original authors in quoting original documentation extensively. Many subsequent specialized studies have been made on U.S. revenues, especially by the active American Revenue Society, which has updated and expanded the material contained in this work.

The work divides into three sections. The first 118 pages comprise the general revenue issues including the documentary and proprie-

tary stamps up to and into 1898 (not all currently catalogued 1898 items are included). The authors recognized a 4th and 5th issue not presently marked separately in the catalog but included Scott numbers R151 and R152, in addition to the classic first three issues. They reversed the present position of documentary and proprietary items and, naturally, only include the first playing card items for the others (stock transfer, potato, wine, future delivery, cigarette) fall outside the time frame of the book.

Private proprietary stamps, notably the match and medicine items, take up the next 238 pages. As the Scott catalog devotes under ten pages, it can be seen that this work is a major supplement for the private die proprietary collector. This is one of the more fascinating collecting areas in U.S. philately with many items of great rarity, but not excessive price. The reason is the rarity is so great that serious collecting must be confined to just a few people. Elliott Perry, a key student of these stamps, once remarked that there were only enough match and medicine stamps for two really first class collections. Yet the catalog lists no items as high as $1,500.

For one of the rarest of the match items, Scott number RO137, the New York Match vermillion eagle, this book not only tells us that 123,500 were issued on silk paper but even gives the ink formula as of 1870. Reading between the lines, we can see that the rare Maryland Match Company watermarked variety (RO131) resulted from a few sheets of the watermarked paper from the predecessor Excelsior Match printing having been included. The data on match and medicine stamps is such that collectors can readily look for corner cards and other interesting items to dress up their album pages.

There is a short addenda and then a 55 page reference list and a page of errata.

While it might seem this work is of interest only to revenue collectors, this is not so. The discussion and citation of source documents tells all classic collectors about the problems of stamp production in the last half of the 19th century. There is a fascinating discussion of color changlings in 1871 found on pages 69-70. It is also interesting to see the connection of the Adams Express Company and the Treasury to the handling of stamps.

Calvet M. Hahn

The Post Office Department by Daniel Tompkins Leech and W. L. Nicholson. 110 page reprint in blue buckram of the 1879 edition. $10.00 postpaid from Arno Press, Inc., Three Park Ave., New York, N.Y. 10016.

This work was developed for the centennial of the post office and is a brief compendium, administration by administration of what happened. Mr. Leech, the basic writer, developed the work from post office sources through 1868 at which point the Post Office Topographer

took over and brought the data up through 1879 and included a number of miscellaneous tables.

The best thing about this work is its price. It does give a brief history of the post office for those who need it. However, despite the official nature of its sources it will mislead the student who depends upon the "facts" in it. Mr. Leech did not reexamine each of the old documents but picked up material for the early years from later writeups and thus incorporated numerous errors, or misinterpretations. As this work has undoubtedly been used by postal history students as a source document for years, these misinterpretations have become embedded in numerous reference works. While he did pick up the fact that contract steamboat mail began February 27, 1813, he skips over the war rates, ascribes the origin of carrier operations to the PL&R of 1825 (ignoring the fact that the PL&R merely repeated data from years earlier) and misses a number of other points. The accuracy improves as the work falls into the period personally known by Mr. Leech and Mr. Nicholson. Thus, it can be used as an original source document for the 1860's and 1870's. The work can be useful for someone who needs only a quick review and who is not relying on this work for scholarly accuracy. It is, in this sense, about as good as the POD's *United States Domestic Postage Rates 1789-1956* or other dates.

Calvet M. Hahn

Old Waybills (The Romance of the Express Companies) by Alvin W. Harlow. A 504 page reprint of the 1934 original edition, bound in blue buckram that includes an index, 9-page bibliography and 80 illustrations. Available postpaid for $35.00 from Arno Press, 3 Park Ave., New York, N.Y. 10016.

This work is probably the best single volume book on the private express companies. It is a companion to Mr. Harlow's other works in the fields of transportation and communication such as *Old Postbags* and *Old Towpaths*. It covers the private express companies from the early days into the air express operations of the 20th century.

Collectors who enjoy Pat Herst's writings will like Harlow's approach, for he is a very readable writer although not quite as good a raconteur as Pat. Students will be exasperated by the fact that there are no footnotes as to sources of some of the interesting facts Harlow has included. However, Harlow is a careful student and having worked with many of the same source documents I have seldom found him in error.

While acknowledging a colonial past, Harlow begins his express history by citing a 1789 advertisement. He gives data on a half dozen express men who preceded Harnden in the 1830's including Silas Tyler who had an express "car" in 1835 and sold out the next year to W. C. Gray of the Boston and Lowell express.

The first six chapters of the 27 are devoted to the Eastern expresses. Harlow opens up the subject of the West by reminding us of Jake Meeks, the Hudson's Bay express rider of the early 1840's and Charles Cady's Sutter's Creek to San Francisco express of 1847. It isn't until chapter 13 that we get to the "big pony".

Following an analysis of the consolidation of the Western expresses, Harlow begins seven chapters on the subject of robbery and robbers including the beginning of train robbery. He covers the James boys, the Daltons, Black Bart and many others. The last three chapters are devoted to the diversity of express services, their decline and the beginning of air express services. The bibliography is extensive and well worth examining for other sources, however, I note he only included one of the three Stimson express histories—as each differs substantially, all should be examined.

Calvet M. Hahn

The Transatlantic Mail, by Frank Staff. 191 page reprint of the 1956 edition with minor additions, buckram bound. Includes 9 page index 41 illustrations and two maps. Available at $35.00 postpaid from Quaterman Publications, 5 South Union St., Lawrence, Mass. 01843.

This book is among the handful of essential reference works for collectors of transatlantic mails. The basic text, which is quite readable, covers the first 112 pages. As Mr. Staff noted he has made minor alterations to update it. These include a rate equivalency on page 40 (4 dwt = 1s), a note that the Canada mails could go via Boston on page 54 and a dating of the retaliatory rate act on page 82. On page 102 it is noted that there was a late mail (supplementary) fee charged at New York but not at Boston or Portland just as there was a Floating Receiving House at Liverpool.

The text does not pick up new data now available on the Bristol packet of 1711 or the pre-Dummer Jamaica service. While Staff was one of the very first to publish on the "freight money" fees, he has not updated that section. There is also nothing on the use of the Post Paid Withdrawn Ship Letter markings on transatlantic mail. A considerable body of work has also been published on the reprisal, retaliatory, and restored rates and depreciated currency covers that has not been incorporated in this work. Nevertheless, the work still stands as sound scholarship put forth in quite readable fashion. Sections A and D of Part II are particularly valuable as are the reproductions of postal notices and advertisements found throughout the book. These give first hand documentary source material for students.

For many years, Staff's listings of packet lines, both sail and steam were the best reference most collectors had as to the ships crossing the Atlantic with mail. The recent multi-volume revision of Bonsor's *North Atlantic Seaway* is a far more satisfactory source of material on the steam packets. For those who do not need an in-depth analysis,

Staff does provide a quick fix on steam mail transit, and has made several revisions in the listings. He does not note that the *Massachusetts* was used in the Mexican War or that its second trip was 1/17/46 from Liverpool, arriving New York City 3/5/46. The *Australasian* is not incorporated in the Allan line for which it sailed briefly in 1860 before going to the Cunard.

In the sailing packets, the ship *Herald* is completely omitted as is the important New York to Greenock, Scotland line of Jeremiah Thompson of 1824 (failed 1827) taken over by Abraham Bell who ran it until 1836 or later. As a number of rare transatlantic markings are found on letters carried by this line its omission is unfortunate. The Red Star line of Byrnes Trible & Co. is mixed up with the Kermit line which bought the old Byrnes Trible in 1835. It might also be noted that the *Sarah Sands* (a ship upon which freight money was normally charged) sailed for the Red Star in 1848 as a transient. There is considerable more data on the Black Ball line that would interest most collectors in Chapter XXII of N.S.B. Gras's *Casebook* in *American Business History,* published by Appleton-Century-Crofts in 1939 and used as a textbook in business schools such as Harvard. A far more extensive and detailed source for data on the sailing packets that carried mail is Carl Cutler's *Queens of the Western Ocean* published by the U.S. Naval Institute. Staff apparently did not know this work for he does not cite it in this revision (it was not published at the time he originally wrote).

Whole fields of specialized collecting have developed from the pioneer work that Staff did in this book. Freight money collecting is just one. Another is the identification and collection of the various handstamps used on board ships such as those illustrated by Staff on page 171 where he reproduces pages from the G.P.O. proof books. The careful reader will find other fascinating areas suggested by this work.

Calvet M. Hahn

Readex Microprint Publication, 1979-1980 catalog and price list, 48 pages, Illustrated Readex Microprint Corporation, 101 Fifth Avenue, New York, New York and 48 Bloomsbury St., London WC1B 3QT, England. Complimentary to libraries and educational institutions.

This catalogue gives a general overview of the 3,000,000-plus titles divided into eight categories and republished by the company. There are separate brochures describing at least four of the categories in more detail and two of these, *Early American Newspapers 1704-1820* and *Bibliographies Catalogs Indexes American-English-Spanish-Portuguese* are of interest to the postal Historian.

In *Early American Newspapers 1704-1820,* the individual titles are listed within 17 state categories on pages 30 thru 40. The 20 page brochure lists just the newspapers available in roll microfilm but in-

cludes some bibliographic data. A post rider cut from an early newspaper is reproduced on the last page. One of the best features of this collection is its completeness. The collection will include 2,000 newspapers covering 130 years of historical source material. And missing copies have been obtained from other sources to complete the run.

Bibliographies Catalogs Indexes is especially useful for philatelists researching South America, Mexico, Guatemala, Cuba, Spain, Portugal and Philippines. From the 8 page brochure it was not possible to determine if subject indexes also exist to the bibliographies. However, from the quantity of pages indicated (usually several thousand for each country) it would appear that some cross reference exists.

The media used to republish these documents is not new having been first used in 1950 before the general availability of Microfiche. The media is a card on which the document has been photographically reduced. The reduction is sufficiently high so that a special opaque viewer is required, (similar to a microfiche reader). Thus, home viewing is not practical although the generally inexpensive price is ideal for building a reference collection of one's own. The most widely known publication from microprint is the compact edition of the "Oxford English Dictionary". The reduction ratio of the dictionary is not as great as with the normal microprint which fits pages in an area the size of a regular U.S. postage stamp.

As with microfiche, reprints of any page can be made at $8.00 for 8″ x 10″ or $12.50 for 17″ x 22″. The Post Rider Notice from the *Northern Budget* (Troy, New York, June 18, 1799) was printed from a microprint copy.

John D. Dowd

Great Britain Specialized Stamp Catalogue. Volume I: Queen Victoria. Sixth Edition. Stanley Gibbons Publications Ltd. London WC2R 0LX, England.

This new edition of Queen Victoria Specialized Catalogue of Great Britain brings to the collector a completely revised and improved volume in every section of the postal emissions and history of her reign.

The tremendous upsurge in the interest and market for the stamps of the Victorian Period are most carefully and thoroughly catalogued and priced in every conceivable manner from the classic Penny Black and Mulreadys through the very attractive "Jubilee Issues" of 1857-1900. This is a reference book for both the average Great Britain collector and the specialist collector in any phase of their respective study.

There are many new listings of the De La Rue surplus proofs and essays have been added to many sections. For the plater of penny blacks, a new index dates and prices first day covers under each plate from the earliest penny blacks through the line engraved and Jubilee issues.

This new edition features a completely reset and restyled text, new indexes to easily find each section.

The updated prices showing market trends for these ever popular Victorian stamps reflect actual conditions at the time of publication. Many previously unpriced items are now priced. In the line-engraved issues, new illustrations of varieties are delineated and improved.

The cycling of each specialized edition of the "Red Gibbons" precludes the necessity of a new catalog each year.

Irwin M. Yarry

Catalogue des Estampilles et Obliterations Postales de France et Colonies Francaises by Devoitine, Renault, Doe and Strowski. A reprint of the 1929 Yvert edition. 634 pages in French with innumerable drawings of markings in a looseleaf binder. Available for $45.00 from Postilion Publications, 605 Northland Towers West, Southfield, Mich. 48075. Order #HPA04.

This is one of the three or four essential reference works for collectors working in the French area despite its great age. It is also a key guide for those collecting in areas where French postal markings are found on their covers, e.g., ocean mail collectors or war cover collectors. While some of the data has been superseded by specialized publications, much of it is the latest available reference material.

This covers French postal markings from the 13th century on, with major focus on the post-1800 period through the 1920's. There is a pricing list which can be used for comparative rarity evaluation. Unfortunately, early postal rates are not covered. The book is chock-a-block with drawings of the markings discussed so that even non-French-speaking collectors will find it very useful. The publisher of this reprint has attributed this work to Maury. That well-known dealer and forger contributed little to this work other than to remove the names of some of the real authors from contemporary articles used as a base for this; however, the layout is based on his suggestions.

There are 21 chapters and their subjects give the prospective buyer some idea of what this work contains: First postal markings, Prepaid marks, Collect markings, Arrival and departure handstamps, Date stamps, Pickup and distribution markings, Agent markings, Letters and numbers used to identify the postbox or office, Registry, Express mail, Debt collection markings, Late handstamps, Refused letters, Carriers and locals, Special offices (Royal and legislative mail markings), Free letters, Markings from the French Revolution, Occupation markings, Port of entry markings (including many maritime markings), Military mail, Handstamps used in French colonies and protectorates, French post offices abroad, and finally Obliterators.

While not listed in the chapter headings there are sections of railroad mail, mobile box mail, telegraphic handstamps, etc. The mari-

time mail listings, of course, are far less than can be found in Salles' 9-volume *La Poste Maritime Francaise*, another of the indispensable French reference works. These were published in the 1960's and 1970's. Other philatelists have updated other sections of this work; however, this still remains the broadest study of French postal markings available and in many areas, the only study.

Calvet M. Hahn

150 Ans d'Histoire Postale des Anciennes Colonies Francaises 1700-1860. By Maurice Jamet. 294 pages, ill. softbound. 1980—Published by Mme. M. Jamet, 294 pages, ill. softbound. 1980—Published by Mme. M. Jamet, 10 rue d'Alger, 75001 Paris, France. Available from Mme. Jamet. Price fFrs. 230.00 post paid.

While the late Maurice Jamet is listed as the sole author of this work, it is clear from its introduction, and from correspondence, that he had the collaboration of his wife, and it was she who finished the book after his death in February 1979 and prepared it for publication. We are fortunate that she did; because the literature of Postal History has been enriched by Jamet's book which is not only a valuable compendium for students and collectors of early French colonial material, but a most welcome source of information for anybody interested in the early postal history of European settlements and of maritime trade. With 12 maps and more than 500 handstamp reproductions it offers a wealth of details, available to any reader regardless of his degree of proficiency in the French language.

After a short introduction into the political history of the first French colonial empire, Jamet gives us a fine summary of the postal and maritime relations between France and her colonies during the 18th and early 19th centuries. The major portion of his book deals with the individual colonies, grouped by continents, going into a most thorough treatment of each territory, and quoting from government archives as well as contemporary newspapers and other sources. Many of these onetime French colonies were taken over by other Powers: Louisiana, Canada, the Lesser Antilles, Mauritius, the Seychelles, Batavia; it is the chapters dealing with these territories that may prove to be the most permanent contribution of Jamet's book since the works dealing with the later postal history of these areas rarely give much attention to their French antecedents.

Werner Elias

From the Diary of Stephen Smith, edited and compiled by D. N. Jatia. 61 pages, illustrated with Mr. Smith's own drawings and photographs. Published by the Philatelic Congress of India, B 180, East of Kailash,

New Delhi, 110065, India. Price Rs. 100.00, £ 6, $13.00. Retail orders in the United States will be serviced by H. D. S. Haverbeck, Windmill Point, White Stone, Va., 22578. Wholesale orders should be made direct to New Delhi.

Although sending mail by rocket has yet to become a regular service, its potential usefulness and possibilities are beyond question. With the present scientific knowledge this can certainly be achieved provided serious experiments are conducted by inspired people with the requisite technical qualifications.

In the world of philately, Stephen Hector Taylor-Smith, more familiarly known as Stephen Smith, is widely known by his numerous pioneering experiments with rockets and with rocket mail. It should be put on record that he was the first person to have successfully transported living things (a cock and a hen) in a rocket across a river. This may not seem like much of an accomplishment in these blasé days of moon flights and interplanetary rockets, but in 1935 it was an accomplishment of importance. Stephen Smith made at least 270 experiments with rocket mail firings and he is believed to have kept records of all of these. In the middle thirties, he conducted, in various places in Bengal and Sikkim, 69 experiments, of which he kept meticulous notes in his own hand. It is these notes which constitute the book as constructed. Apart from maintaining descriptive accounts, Smith also registered, in identical tabular forms, details of all the 69 firings, together with vivid sketches of many of these incidents, which he himself drew. These extremely valuable and interesting records and sketches are now published for the first time. This volume also contains full descriptive accounts, reproduced from Smith's own handwritten diary, of a number of select experiments.

Outside of the bare essentials there are few facts regarding Mr. Smith. He was born on 14 February, 1891 in Shillong, Assam, and was educated at St. Patrick's High School, Asanol, from 1903 to 1911. From his very boyhood days he was interested in rocketry. After leaving school, he worked briefly for the Customs in Calcutta and then joined the Calcutta Police. While in the Police service, he qualified himself as a dental surgeon from the College of Physicians and Surgeons in Calcutta. During the 1914-1918 War, he joined up as a dentist. He married in 1918 and had a son. He died on 15 February, 1951.

Stephen Smith's notes reveal his zeal and attention to detail, his methodical approach to, and analysis of, the experiments he conducted, and his sense of fun and playfulness. The material has been arranged as in the original; here and there some minor editorial changes have been made such as putting the dates in a uniform manner and inserting some punctuation marks.

This volume is an important record of some fascinating experimental rocketry. From the postal historical approach it is an invaluable record. For the stamp collector and traditional philatelist it is of passing interest. It is an important aspect of pioneer aerophilately.

H.D.S.H.

Zumstein Switzerland-Liechtenstein Catalogue. 400pp, 8½ Swiss francs for regular edition; 10Sfr for spiral binding. **Helvetia Switzerland-Liechtenstein Catalogue,** 328pp, $9.50, and **Switzerland Catalogue,** 140pp, spiral bound.

There are few countries' stamps that are subject to more than a single specialized catalogue treatment. The Swiss have no fewer than four, three of which we have received. Because of their similarity we will endeavor to review them as a unit, commenting only on those features which distinguish each.

Zumstein's, of course, is the best known and most widely used by those who have a deeper interest in Swiss stamps than mere album space filling. The Bernese firm, which is one of Europe's oldest and most responsible, has been producing catalogues for most of this century; its "EUROPA" ones are among the continent's most popular; its specialized are the definitive works for this field. (We might point out that a complete and thoroughly detailed book is published only two or three times in a decade, whereas a "miniversion" is an annual reference source.)

The 1981 edition, like earlier ones, uses a listing style similar to Scott's in that various kinds of stamps are grouped in sections: regular and commemorative issues, semi-postals, air-mails, officials, postage dues, etc.

The "Helvetia" makes its debut under the editorship of Auf der Maur Stamps, Ltd., of Westminster, CA 92683. Heretofore the Swiss Stamp Dealer Association produced a Swiss version of the Brookman price list which professionals could distribute to customers as "their own" by having different names imprinted on the cover. Auf der Maur obtained rights to this, drastically overhauled and improved listings and gave its book an impressive layout appearance. Like the Zumstein, this one has illustrations in full color, the fidelity of which are paragons of perfection. Its chief attraction for Americans is that the quotations are given in U. S. dollars and text in English. Zumstein's text is German and French, prices in Sfrs.

The third is complete enough except that it does not include Liechtenstein's issues. The typography seems extremely cramped; the black-and-white illustrations much reduced, and margins small. All three really are price lists since the given figures represent those at which the publishers will sell their stock; the only difference is that the Amateur Collector Ltd.'s looks like just that, especially since full-page and smaller space-filler advertisements are published throughout. It does have a few features not found in the others. For instance, it lists stamps with handstamped "T" markings of the 1955-68 period which served as postage dues. It also lists the interesting privately produced adhesives to prepay messenger fees between resort hotels and the nearest postoffices; also the Red Cross free frank stamps of the Franco-Prussian and first World War years for use by POW's and internees.

A major convenience for users is that all of them use the long-established "Zumstein numbering system" because that firm granted

permission to its competitors, so no matter what catalogue Swiss collectors owned, the "Basel Dove" is "No. 8;" the Einstein portrait, "No. 514;" etc.

While prices are given in three different currencies (Swiss, dollars, and British respectively), we did sample a few dozen of them for comparison and in each case, whether it was for Cantonals, Strubels or semi-postals, we found extraordinary equality. Using one day's foreign exchange rate as a yardstick, there wasn't more than about two per centum variation.

We mentioned four catalogues. We had in mind the one which our veteran member of more than half a century produced for many years. We have no way of knowing whether Ernst Muller, of Basel, released an up-dated 1981 edition, but if he did, that one is certainly worthy of use by specialists. *E. A. K.*

Weltatlas zur Philatelie, by Hans-Henning Gerlach. Richard Borek Philatek, Braunschweig, W. Germany, 1980. 96 pp, 75 colored maps. 62 DM plus postage.

A philatelic atlas with many maps that will assist the collector of classic and modern European issues and postal history material. Numbered cancelers of Great Britain, France, and the various German states are presented cartographically, and so are the modern zip code systems of Central Europe and Japan. The mapping of the other continents is perfunctory and of no great help to the average or advanced collector, except for an outstanding series of six maps illustrating the foreign offices in the Levant, which is unique and may make it worthwhile for the specialist to obtain the book. *Werner Elias*

Imperial Russian Stamps Used in Transcaucasia: Kutais Guberniya, Oblast, Sukhum, Okrug. by P. T. Ashford. Part 4. Published by British Society of Russian Philately. Available from the author, 9 Pentre Close, Ashton, Chester CH3 8BR, UK. Stiff cover, 82 pp + illus. Price $5. (plus $2. bank clearing charge for checks). 1980

This 82 page booklet, part of a larger work, written by the former editor of the *British Journal of Russian Philately* and one of the more astute students in this field, has been assembled with the same attention to detail and care that has made the Journal one of the outstanding publications in its field.

Beginning with a list of the post stations of the three areas, the booklet presents a map of same, then proceeds to discuss each post station in some detail. The cancellations of each station are also illustrated.

This work will undoubtedly be the definitive study of its area and is undoubtedly one of the more brilliant achievements in its field. I would recommend that anyone interested in Russian postal history in any of its forms rush to obtain this work for their personal library.

Norman Epstein

The Postage Stamps of Siam to 1940—A Descriptive Catalog by Richard C. Frajola. 111 pages included 389 photographs and hundreds of drawings; in blue buckram binding; there is also an 8-page pamphlet Price Guide cross-indexed to Scott giving current 1981 catalog prices. $18.00 postpaid from Postilion Publications. 605 Northland Towers West, Southfield, Mich. 48075.

Siam, or Thailand as it is now called, has long been considered one of the more difficult collecting areas despite the existence of two specialized journals devoted to Thai philately. The reasons are largely two-fold, the non-roman alphabet and the widespread use of overprints on the classic issues. Both baffle most potential western collectors. This work solves many collecting problems and makes Thai philately far more accessible to the average collector. As over 90% of the classic stamps catalog at under 300 dollars and the highest priced item is $5,000, it can be seen that this is a comparatively inexpensive collecting area for those interested in the classics.

The author is one of the small group of younger dealers now working in the philatelic ranks as both dealer and student. In this case, he has used his access to the Gloeckner collection which he helped prepare for sale to develop a catalog. As the collection also contained the Madden and Walter Pears collections, it offered a broad run of classic Siam. In particular, Mr. Frajola acknowledges that much of the research came from unpublished reference data found in the Pears holding.

While this covers classic Siamese stamps, readers should not expect data on the availability or pricing of Siamese covers. They should also not expect any information on Thai postal history, although a number of classic era postmarks are illustrated.

Mr. Frajola assumes some familiarity with the Thai numerals and alphabet in writing about the various issues. Therefore, the reader is advised to turn first to page 97 where both are illustrated. It is nice to know what the author means when he refers to "aw", "taw" and "mai phat". He did not tell us, however, that the "h" is "hatt" and the "t" is "taw", for in one case the Thai symbols were misidentified in making up an overprint and the "hatt" substituted for "taw"—easy to understand if you see what they look like. The "n" is called "ngaw" and the "s", "sawlaw" while the curved crook for the "a" is a "siria"—none of which he tells us and all of which is relevant to understanding the text.

Along with regumming, reperfing and adding stamps to covers, forged overprints are one of the most important areas of fakery in philately today. This fact could scare collectors away from Thailand, but it need not. There are few forged stamps in classic Siam. The one solot 1883 stamp reproduced by a photoprocess rather than engraving being an exception. However, there are extensive forged overprints and Mr. Frajola does not tell us how to detect them.

This work does, however, illustrate the genuine overprints and is therefore far more useful than the Scott catalog which uses bogus overprints in many cases. While the genuine overprints are shown on stamp they were deliberately not enhanced photographically so as to

bring them up from the background. To compensate, Mr. Frajola has illustrated drawings of the genuine overprints but in large size. Although he gives an indication of size in some cases, he has withheld it in others. For example, in the first overprints of 1885, the type 1 "1 TICAL" is not noted as being 14mm while the 10A is not noted as 12½mm and 10B as 13mm, which my notes indicate they are. Even more surprising is the fact that the original sheet sizes are omitted. While a number of printings are of 120 stamps to the sheet it is not clear about some of the others.

Scott No. 26, the highest priced basic Siamese stamp (excluding the British Post Office in Bangkok overprints) calls for special consideration. A number of authorities have called it a fake. The Thai letters just don't match those found elsewhere. The "aw" has a pointed base, the bottom of the "taw" is not like any of the numerous varieties found on other Thai stamps. While Frajola notes the arabic "1" is the same as that found on others, I see differences. Unless there is strong evidence otherwise, Scott should seriously consider delisting or footnoting this item. Certainly exhibitors looking for medals should be leary of showing it without noting its suspect nature.

From a postal history viewpoint, it was interesting to note that Frajola feels there were three different handstamps used to surcharge the August 1889 issue, Scott No. 19. I wonder if a date sequencing might not show three attempts to surcharge with a deteriorating handstamp in which the crossbar on the lower portion of the "taw" gradually disappeared.

In addition to the regular and semi-postal issues, also covered in Scott, this work gives us the various locals, photographs of which have been relatively unavailable for years. It is good to have these back in print. It would have been even nicer if Frajola had picked up the information supplied by Prince Damrong regarding the "Rising P" locals and the data on the handstamp cancellations of the Rachagumarn locals supplied by L. N. & M. Williams in their *Cinderella Stamps*.

Because Mr. Frajola chose not to illustrate or discuss the forgeries, and, more particularly, because he does not even warn us as to which issues forged surcharges or overprints are most commonly found, the student buying this work will want to annotate it with notes from other sources. Scott gives some data and more can be found in the specialized forgery books. However, as Frajola does give illustrations of the genuine markings, those that differ can be sent out for expertizing with some probability that bad material has been located.

Calvet M. Hahn

Hyderabad Philatelic History, by Dr. M. A. Nayeem. 264 pages, over 400 illustrations. Published by the Philatelic Congress of India, B180, East of Kailash, New Delhi 110065. Price Rs250.00, £15, $32.00. Retail orders in the United States will be serviced by H. D. S. Haverbeck, Windmill Point, White Stone, Va. 22578. Wholesale orders should be made direct to New Delhi.

Intercommunication in British India was impossible without traversing the territory of the Nizam's State of Hyderabad. This volume, for the first time, presents, under one cover, the philatelic and postal history of the State of Hyderabad—1724 to 1951—in all its facets; Postal History, Postal Markings, Postage Stamps, Postal Stationery and printing processes of Hyderabad stamps and stationery. Each of these aspects is described in the five parts of this volume.

The introduction is the story of the birth of postal service in the Deccan in the 13th century. The Nizam-British relations in Postal communication from 1747 onwards is thoroughly studied with the help of Archival Records of both Hyderabad State and the British Government.

The Hyderabad Postal Department owes its origin and organization on efficient lines to Sir Salar Jung I, Prime Minister of the State from 1853 to 1883. The story of the evolution of the Department has been culled from the State Archives.

The postage stamps of Hyderabad provide a fascinating field for serious philatelic research. The author brings to the notice of philatelists the finer points of errors and varieties of the stamps, a subject that has a vast scope for study, detailed writing and plating as well. The coverage of the plating is not as detailed as that undertaken by the late Alexander Holland which received a Gold for Philatelic Research in 1926 in New York. There is enough information to enable the collector who wishes to plate the early stamps to start to do so.

This work is an outcome of twenty years of research and writing. The study is exhaustive and is based in part on sources that have not previously been used for this purpose.

The author, Dr. M. A. Nayeem, is a Research Officer with the State Archives, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh State. He graduated in science in 1959, switched to history, taking his M.A. and, later, a doctorate. An article in *India's Stamp Journal* in 1960 was his first writing on philately. He has since been writing regularly and has been published in Indian, British and American Journals. His first book, *Postal Markings of Hyderabad,* published in 1967, carried a foreword from Robson Lowe. He continued the series with his second book, *History of Postal Administration of Hyderabad,* which came out in 1970. Dr. Nayeem has, besides these philatelic books, several other works to his credit. He is currently working on a ten volume project of Mughal documents in Persian.

The entire panorama of Hyderabad's philatelic history has for the first time been captured in this comprehensive handbook. The illustrations amply support and supplement the authoritatively written text. A fine blend of science, history and art. *H.D.S.H.*

Catalogo dei Bolli Postali Della Republica di Venezia, by Adriano Cattani. Editrice del Corriere Maggiore, Padova, Italy, 1978. 74 pp., illustrated. 6000 Lire postpaid.

Since the early development of postal history collecting, students of

Venetian mail were in need of a guide for Venetian postmarks. The first useful listing appeared scattered in various portions of the A. Banci catalogue in 1942, dealing with the postmarks of Lombardy-Venetia prior to the first stamp issue. This was superseded in 1950 by the classic work of G. Dal Gian, who separated the material of the Republic of Venice from the rest and grouped the postmarks into 17 major categories with descriptive characteristics. His outstanding work provided the basic guidelines until A. Cattani published a new version in 1969, reclassifying all postmarks of Venetian origin according to a more simplified, chronological system. Cattani extended his work in 1973 with a supplement covering the Venetian postmarks used after the fall of the Republic. His present edition (1978) now combines and revises his prior two catalogues. Among the notable improvements are the inclusion of the latest new findings and the addition of a numbering column for the postmarks' identification.

A map and a fine historical review of the origin of Venetian postmarks, followed by two more chapters on the seapost, disinfection marks, and postmarks of the Napoleonic period, are introductory to the postmarks classification. The catalogue reproduces 381 different types in reduced size, groups them in an alphabetic listing by towns, and contains a revised and single mute class. It shows diligent planning, accuracy of printing, and extensive updating. If one fault can be found, it is perhaps in the establishment of a strictly chronological order in the mute class to overcome the standard breakdown of types by shape and monogram. The convenience of such consolidation is questionable, arbitrary, or perhaps provisional, since some mutes have been reassigned to their respective places of usage, and others reported by the literature (such as P. Vollmeier, *Il Nuovo Corriere Filatelico I*, 1, p. 37, Oct. 1975; L. Marson, *Postal History Journal 20*, p. 19, Oct. 1976), are missing. It seems that there is still room for research in mute postmarks. Nonetheless the catalogue is the most complete available, for it includes the Venetian marks of foreign offices and the reused and modified types of the post-Republican period.

At a time of ever increasing interest in postal history and a growth in the popularity of specialized sectors, it is to be expected that collectors will be ever more demanding about the quality of information they pay money for. In view of the various questions raised about the Venetian forgeries and of the experimental observations announced in recent years on the controversial authenticity of certain postmarks, this catalogue is far from being definitive, but it can certainly be recommended as a serious reference. Advanced collectors, who need something more than a shopping list, seek to verify each type and welcome concrete documentation with illustrations in actual size. They are aware of the paramount importance of various elements present on the folded entires for the appraisal of a postmark, and thus look forward to an improved, expanded version of this catalogue which will provide them with illustrations of full covers (to complement the drawings and to document the true existence and genuineness of the postmarks). In the interim, Cattani's latest catalogue is an indispensable tool for both beginners and the experienced. The distin-

guished author is to be praised for his remarkable research effort on the Venetian Posts and for his skillfull treatment of the pertinent historical background. *L. Marson*

Publications Received

Catalogues

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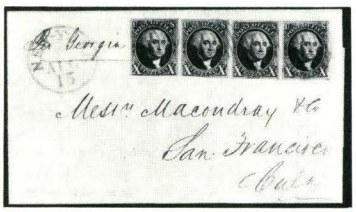
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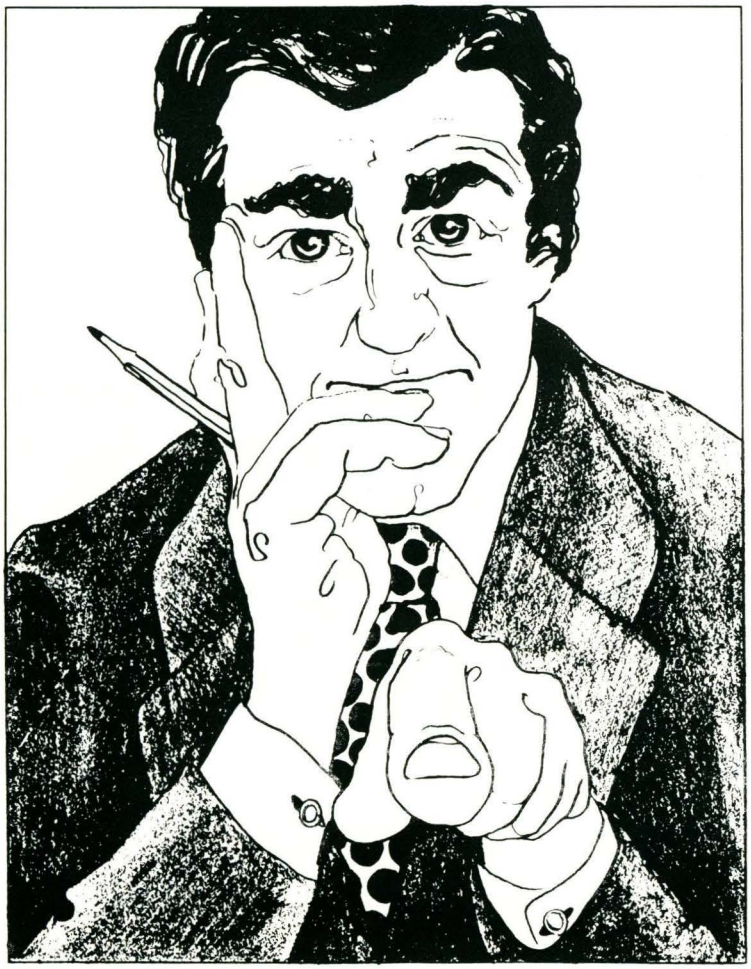
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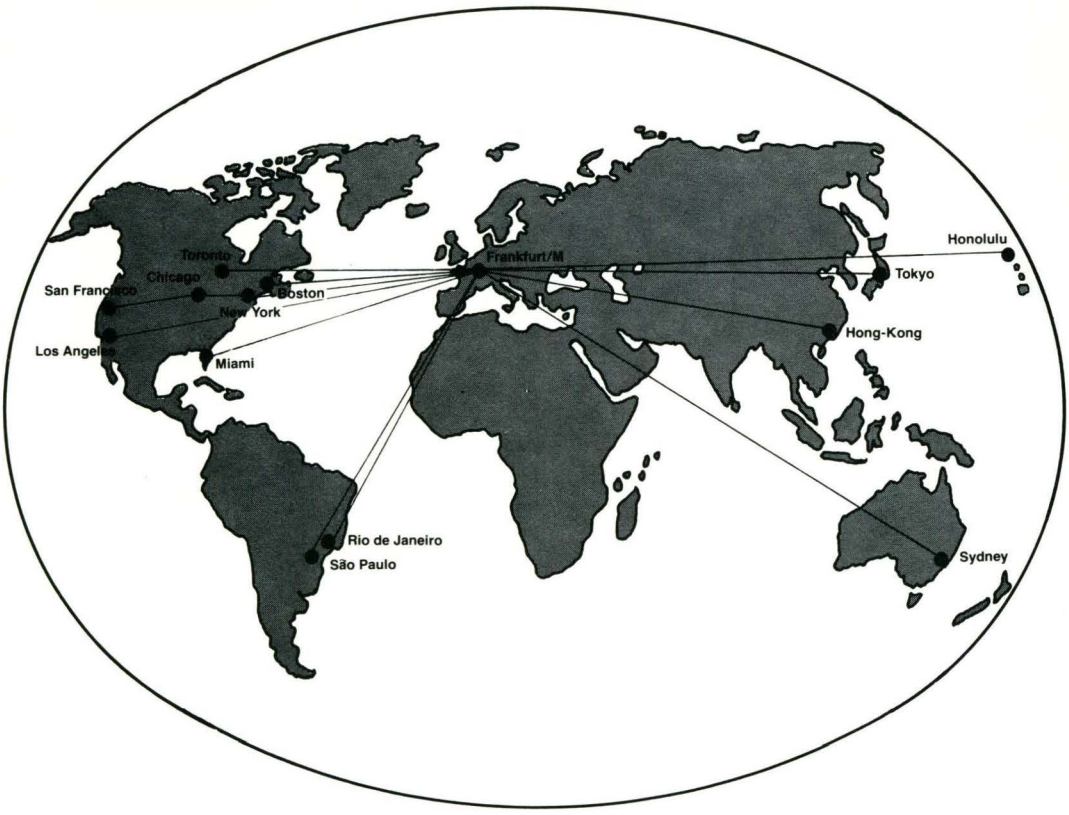
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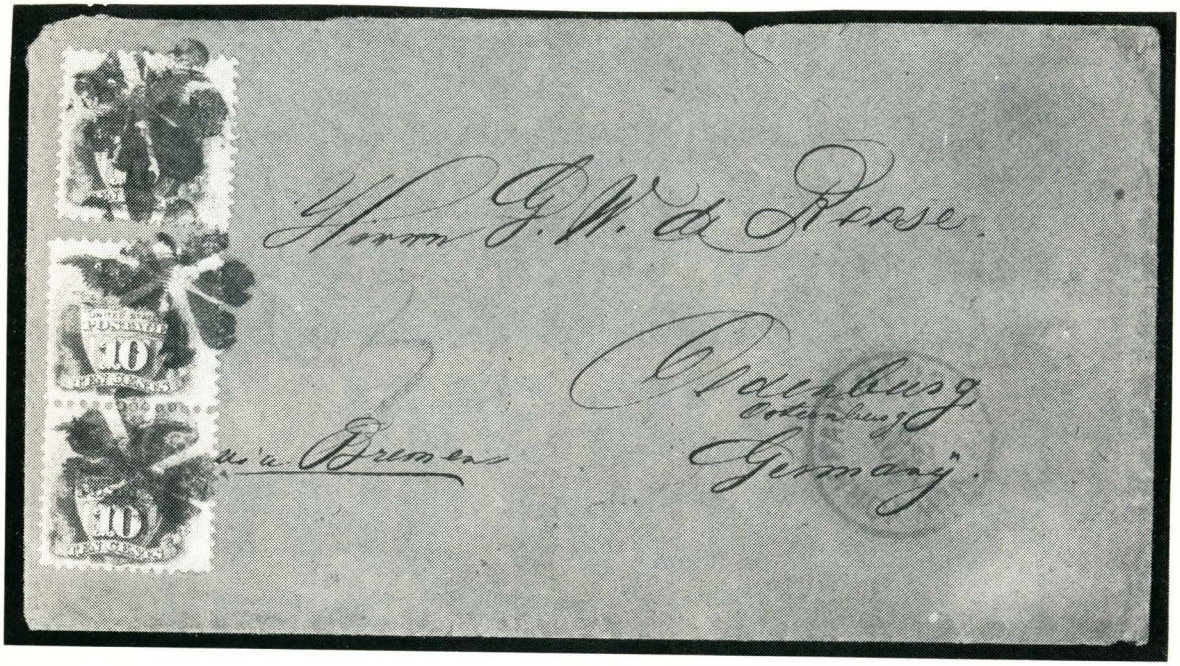
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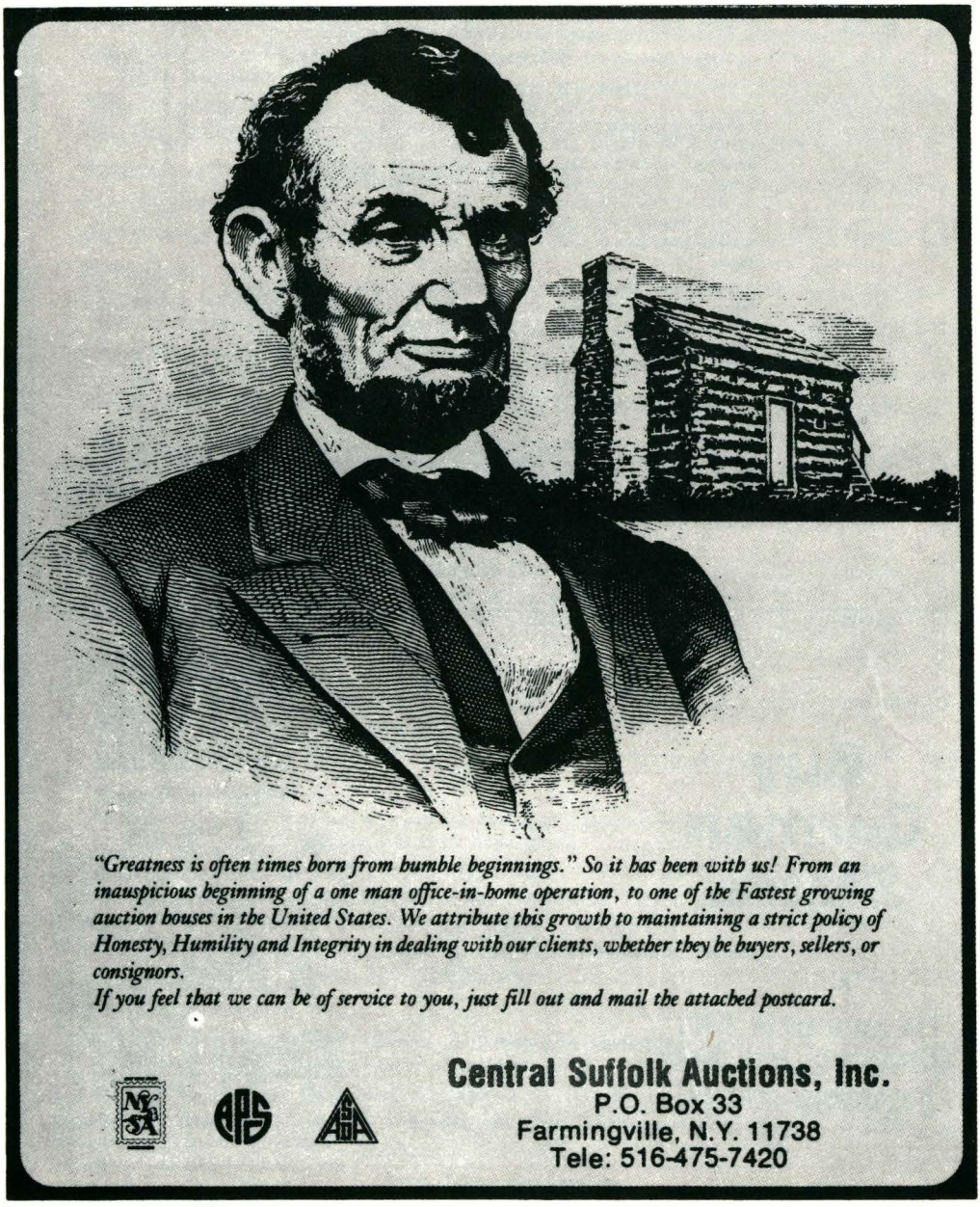
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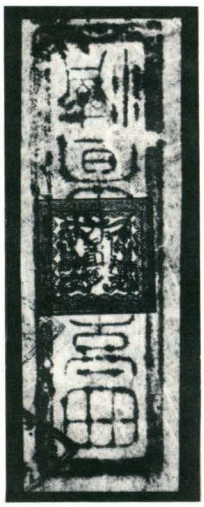
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