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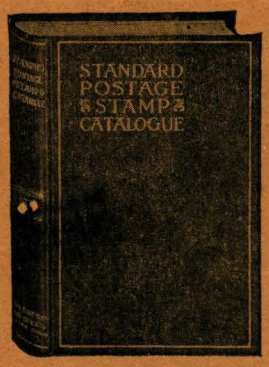
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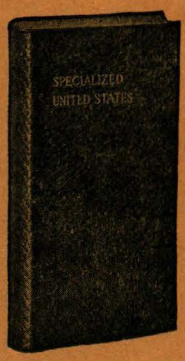
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COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST

Vol. XII. OCTOBER, 1933. No. 4.

Horsley & Brastow's Scott River Express

By Dr. Victor M. Berthold.

AS this express existed only ten months it would probably have remained one of the many western concerns known to us merely by the accidental preservation of a franked envelope, bearing in a handstamp the names of the proprietors. Fortunately, however, one of the partners of the firm, Sol. D. Brastow, became famous in the Annals of Trinity County as the first treasure guard who was attacked and robbed by a gang of desperadoes, and who recovered the stolen gold after one of the most spectacular pursuits of the robbers.

The only two other historical records of the Horsley & Brastow Express I have seen are contained in *Bancroft's Chronicles of the Builders,** dealing with the memorable events of that county:

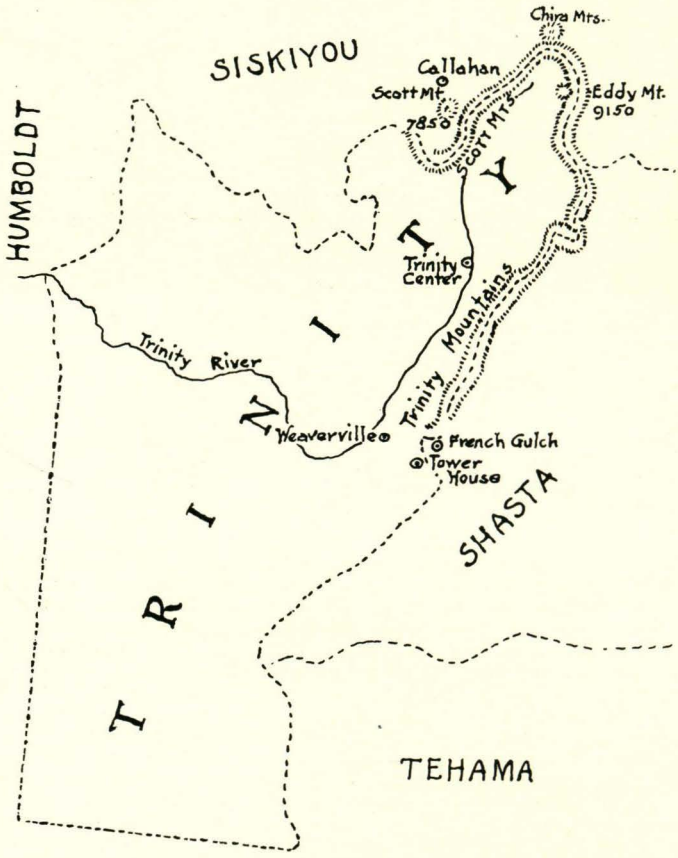
"The following year, 1852, Rhodes & Lusk started a rival line connecting Shasta with Wells, Fargo & Co., while Cram, Rogers & Co. connects with Adams & Co. The failure of the latter was a fatal blow to Cram and associates. A line was then started by 'J. HORSLEY & S. D. BRASTOW' to connect with the Pacific Express Company. This line was soon succeeded by an express, banking and passenger business, started by George, Henry and Ridgley Greathouse and Hugh Slicer. This company ran stages to Callahan's rancho and sent their express and passengers thence over the mountains on mules."

And

"Before 1853 there were no post offices in Siskiyou County and letter carriage cost for a time $3 and newspapers half as much. In January 1853 'S. D. BRASTOW' carried 600 letters on his back from Tower House to Callahan's rancho over a road that had not been travelled for two weeks."

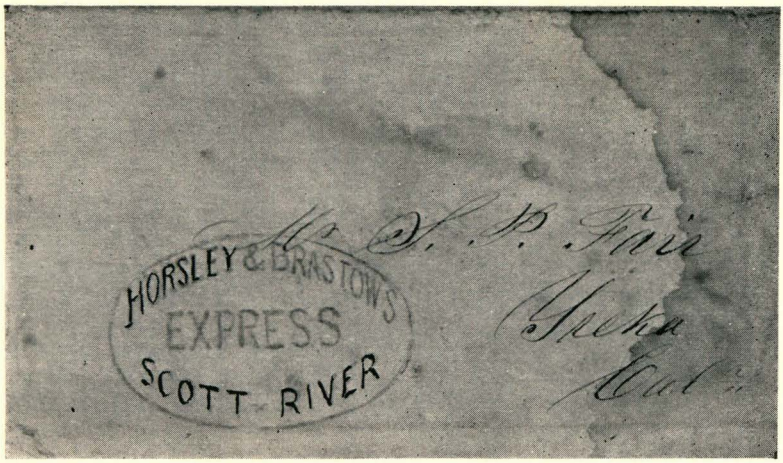
The subjoined sketch will help the reader to visualize the task performed by Brastow, and at the same time it reveals one of the main characteristic features of the man, indomitable will power and a tremendous physical courage. It should be noted that at the time he performed this tramp across the Trinity Mountain range he was no longer a member of the firm Horsley & Brastow. According to the map the distance between the Tower House and Callahan's would not exceed 12 miles, but to walk from one terminal to the other required climbing up to an altitude of at least 6000 feet and down again over "a road that had not been travelled for two weeks" on account of heavy snow storms.

*Vol. V pp. 260, 261



Sketch showing route followed by Brastow.

While all the above data are instructive and helpful to the student of Western Express Franks they fade into insignificance compared with a letter which H. B. Phillips, then an employee of the Wells Fargo & Co., received from Mr. Brastow, a letter which fortunately was preserved and found by the writer. This most valuable document is dated San Francisco, Aug. 13, 1895, and is reproduced here from the original. It was likewise due to the untiring energy of the latter that we know the direct successor of the firm of Horsley & Brastow, i. e., "HUSBAND'S EXPRESS—SCOTT & KLAMTH RIVER," an organization destined to last a very limited time. Horsley & Brastow used only a handstamp on the letters carried by him.



Horsley & Brastow's Scott River Express Cancellation.

WELLS, FARGO & CO.'S EXPRESS,
Western Division.

S. D. BRASTOW,
Superintendent.

San Francisco, Aug. 13, 1895.

Mr. H. B. Phillips, P. O. Box 2118.
San Francisco, Cal.

Dear Sir:—

Yours of the 10th noted. I am the individual who was in the firm of Horsley & Brastow. The first express to the best of my recollection which ran into Yreka was from Trinidad, Humboldt Bay, the firm being CRAM, ROGERS & CO. In the fall of '51 or spring of '52 the express line was transferred to the Shasta route. Rhodes & Lusk also operated the same route. C. R. & Co. connected at Shasta with Adams & Co., which opened from Sacramento and Marysville to S. in 1852. Rhodes & Lusk ran their express through to Sacramento. Adams & Co. FAILED IN FEB. 1855, AND CARRIED CRAM, ROGERS & CO. down, Horsley and myself being messengers for them We succeeded them in the express business between Scott River and Yreka and the latter point and Shasta, connecting with the Pacific Express Co. founded by former employees of Adams & Co. We were in business but about ten months, when we dissolved partnership and closed up The relic you have is probably all that is in existence of a similar nature. If you will call on me some time, I will put you in the way of getting additional facts as regards expressing in early days.

Yours Truly,

SOL. D. BRASTOW.

The Story of the First Express Robbery in Trinity County.

A few years ago when the writer visited San Francisco luck favored him by meeting one of the old residents of Siskiyou County. It was through this person that he learned that a complete record of this event had been published in the *San Francisco Chronicle*. An inquiry at the newspaper office brought to light the article, published in the *Chronicle* April 17, 1910. As it is too extensive for entire reproduction only a resume is given in the subjoined narrative.

* * *

Wednesday, March 12, 1856, on Trinity River, just below Gibbs Ferry, and twenty miles east of Weaverville, the county seat of Trinity, SOL. D. BRASTOW, treasure guard for RHODES & WHITNEY'S EXPRESS on the Shasta-Yreka route, Lawrence Delap, a man named Hickman, and two Germans, were making the ascent of Trinity mountain, bound for Shasta. When

about one fourth the distance from the river to the summit on the mountain trail, and at an abrupt bend in the narrow path, they were halted by masked highwaymen, each with guns leveled and ready for instant use. BRASTOW and HICKMAN alone had pistols, and prudence dictated that any attempt to use them would be folly. The robbers ordered the five men to dismount, took all their valuables, the contents of the saddle bags on the treasure mule, and tied the men securely to the nearest trees. BRASTOW had about $13,000 in gold dust on the treasure mule, and Hickman had $8000 more. The Germans had $1000 each, but luckily Delap had only $17. Each robber then mounted a mule, leaving only Delap's and rode away in the direction of French Gulch, the Shasta boundary line being only a few miles distant. Only $6000 of the treasure taken belonged to Rhodes & Whitney, the remainder being in express transit and uninsured.

When the halt was called the advance robber with shotgun at aim uttered a good morning salute in the most bland and assuring manner. Delap led the cavalcade, the treasure mule next, followed by BRASTOW and Hickman and the Germans. At the sight of the masked and armed reception Delap slid from his saddle, but a misstep sent him off the trail and down the almost perpendicular slope where he rolled for more than thirty yards, all the time shouting "Don't Shoot." There was no delay in the order of the business and but few words were spoken.

As above stated the robbers had securely tied all the men, except Delap, who was injured by his accident. It was through him that BRASTOW and the rest were released. It was BRASTOW who immediately despatched Delap to report the robbery to Rhodes & Whitney,* also to the Sheriff of Shasta County, while BRASTOW himself left to reach the Sheriff of Siskiyou County.

Prior to starting BRASTOW also sent a letter to his friend, W. S. LOWDEN, one of the owners of the Grass Valley Ranch on Trinity River, asking for help. This letter was despatched through C. SCHAFFER, messenger for F. W. Blake & Co., the Wells Fargo Agent at Weavervil e.

The first tidings of the robbers came from Tehama County relating to a bad character by name of Jerry Firmin, who was arrested by Lowden and brought to Weaverville. Lowden then started for Shasta and on arrival heard that a person, called Carter, and who was believed to be one of the gang, had been caught, but had broken jail, leaving however his hat behind, which carelessness later on landed him again in prison. The hunt was immediately renewed by Lowden, accompanied by the Deputy Sheriff Peelsticker of Butte County. After considerable travel they got trace of Carter at Monroeville. There they discovered an old cabin near the river which had served for a meeting place of the desperadoes. In the hurry of their flight they had left behind an old trunk which, when opened and searched, brought to light correspondence between one of the robbers and his pal, asking him to come with the gang to the Folsom rendevouz place on a certain date and help to break the Auburn jail and getting out Skinner's brother, the adopted name of Arthur Boone, another of the desperadoes. Lowden forwarded this correspondence at once to the Sheriff of Sacramento, requesting the capture of the entire gang, a request which was faithfully carried out.

Meanwhile Carter had been trailed to Marysville. Consequently Lowden went again on the road. While between the Tower House and Shasta he met ex-Sheriff Lowe of Trinity County, also ex-Sheriff Wm. Numally, who had actually captured Carter and were taking him to Trinity Jail. After a conference between the men it was decided first of all to make an attempt to search for the stolen treasure, taking Carter along and threatening his life unless he

---

*Rhodes & Whitney posted a reward of $10,000 for the arrest of the robbers and $6,000 for the recovery of the treasure.

would reveal the place where the robbers had hidden the gold. When they came to French Gulch a number of other persons joined them, so that finally a body of nineteen started for the summit of Trinity Mountain in search of the treasure. Their labor was greatly impeded by a deep snow fall which had obliterated all trails. After many useless efforts, the men were obliged to sleep that night in two feet of snow, but at break of day the hunt was renewed with Carter in the lead and Lowden, Numally and HORSLEY following.

After travelling an hour and a half, Lowden and Carter being some distance in advance, Nunally called to them to stop. As he advanced, the latter began pulling a rope from his overcoat pocket, saying, "Let's hang him—the fellow is misleading us and we are well worn out." Carter climbed on a big rock and made a most touching appeal for five minutes. He protested that they had confounded him, that he was acting honestly and would take them to the spot where the gold dust was buried in spite of the depth of snow. Lowden told Nunally he was worn out and would be responsible for Carter. Nunally replied, "Take him but don't come back without him." Lowden and Carter started, and within a half mile came to a marker on the creek which designated the hiding place. Carter turned short into a small ravine and within a quarter of a mile stopped short and said he was tired. Just then Tomlinson and young Day came up. Carter had told of the mark left to indicate the hiding place—two logs lying crossways. They were found. In front of them lay Carter's portion of the plunder. Having been ten hours without food, the searchers returned to camp, which Lowe and Parker had reached, with two pack loads of bread and bacon.

After having satisfied their appetites, the party returned to the search for the Mexican's portion of the gold dust. Lowden climbed upon a rock while the others were clearing away snow which was two feet deep, the thicket of brush and ferns bending under it. While sitting there, Lowden noticed that a brush had been cut and the bark stripped with a knife, and pointing directly to a big rock. He called to his companions to come and move the rock. It was done, and there lay the illicit dividends of Walker and the Mexican. The total of the two finds amounted to about $19,000. Newton and the Chileno had taken the remaining $9000.

Lowden was detained so long in the search that he failed to reach Sacramento and the Folsom rendevouz in time to take part in the battle royal, which occurred on the night fixed in the letter before referred to. The force of Sacramento officers was augmented by citizens on that occasion. The place of rendevouz was on the bank of the American River, a log foundation with canvas covering. It suffices to say that one of the robbers was shot down and the rest captured, and sent to the penitentiary for greater or less terms.

Sol. D. Brastow became later a Superintendent in the employ of the Wells Fargo Co. and lived for many years in San Francisco. After the disastrous fire he removed to Alameda. The cause of his death was a cold which turned into pneumonia. He died June 6, 1906.

The subjoined notice is taken from an Alameda paper of the same date:

"S. D. Brastow, an official of Wells, Fargo & Co. for thirty-five years, and a veteran of the Bohemian Club of San Francisco, passed away at his home in this city, after an illness of but a few days. He contracted a cold some two weeks ago while on a journey to Portland, Or. Pneumonia set in, and death resulted.

Mr. Brastow had been superintendent of Wells, Fargo & Co.'s Western division for thirty-five years and had been with the express corporation for fifty years. He was a native of Brewster, Me. and arrived on this Coast in 1850. A few years later he went into the Wells Fargo service and his ability won him rapid promotion.

He was a brother of Professor Lewis C. Brastow of Yale University. At the time of the San Francisco fire the Brastow home was burned and the family came to Alameda, taking up their residence at 2821 Van Buren avenue.

The funeral will be held tomorrow afternoon from the family residence and the remains will be interred in the old Brastow home in Shasta County."

"Initial" Variations on the 5c New York

By J. I. Wyer.

THE several variations of the red-ink penned initials on the New York postmaster's stamp of 1845-47, have long been noted. The catalog of the Waterhouse collection, sold in London, November 11-14, 1924, lists and describes 171 copies of this stamp (singles, pairs and strips of three) for which the type of initials is noted. By close inspection of the reconstructed plate (lot 87), 27 additional copies can be similarly identified. This catalog classifies the types of initials thus:

1. Initials R.H.M.
2. " A.C.M., with all letters joined
3. " A.C.M., with A and C only joined
4. A.C.M., with all initials separated
5. A.C M., all separated with period after each letter

To these may be added:

6. M. M jr, reading sideways from bottom to top

This variety, of which no copy was in the Waterhouse sale, is noted in *Stamps* for March 18, 1933, as occurring on two stamps on cover, reported by a New York dealer.

It will also be of interest to add:

7. Without initials

Having lately acquired a fine copy of Type 5, on cover, and being desirous of getting some sort of line on its comparative rarity, I have made a count of the number of each type among the 198 copies described in the Waterhouse catalog. This count shows:

Type 1	1
" 2	118
" 3.	32
" 4.	19
" 5.	4
" 6.	0
" 7.	24

Strictly interpreted, these figures indicate that Type 5 is one-fourth as rare as Type 1, which Scott catalogs at $1000. I shall be glad to hear objection to or confirmation of this conclusion from those who have made similar studies or have otherwise reached an opinion on this point. I should also appreciate reference to any other large lots of this stamp which have sold in recent years or which have been described as to types of initials. The only recent sale of a Type 5 stamp of which I have record, is at the D. F. Kelleher auction of the C. R. Hurd collection, January 11, 1928, where a copy of No. 17 was described thus: "Small type signature with periods, a very fine copy, lightly pen-marked on cover to Philadelphia, very rare." It fetched $73.

CATALOGO DE SELOS POSTAIS DE PORTUGAL E COLONIAS, 1933. By A. Simoes Ferreira, 70 Rua do Arsenal, Lisbon.

A. Simoes Ferreira has just sent us his catalog of postage stamps of Portugal and Colonies and will be found very useful for specialists of this country.

HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES COMMEMORATIVE POSTAGE STAMPS, by A. J. Rusbason, New York City.

This is an interesting pamphlet of 32 pages and gives information regarding the U. S. Commemorativ estamp in condensed form.

The United States Postage Stamps of the 20th Century

By Beverly S. King and Max G. Johl.

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(Continued from page 159.)

VON STEUBEN ISSUE

1930

IN the bitterest hour of American history, when the spirits of our troops were at the lowest ebb due to lack of proper equipment and training, a figure from across the sea came to help our cause during the Revolutionary War.

During the latter part of 1777 plans were being furthered and consummated for an alliance between this country and France, and the French Minister of War, Count de St. Germaine, persuaded his friend, Baron Frederick Wilhelm Von Steuben, Aide-de-Camp to Frederick the Great of Prussia, to go to the Colonies and teach some well needed discipline and military tactics. He arrived in America December 1, 1777, and offered his services to General Washington, then quartered at Valley Forge. His offer was accepted and he was assigned the task of drilling the troops. By May Steuben was made Inspector General, with the rank of Major-General. Within a few months he had established a thorough system of discipline which was to be of so much help in the later batttles and he was fittingly called the "Drill Master of the American Army." He brought about an esprite de corps that had previously been lacking in our troops and immediately threw into discard all the petty caste system that had prevailed. He insisted that officers treat the privates as human beings, and look after their welfare.

His drill system was entirely different than any previously used, in that he sought to teach by example. His system was to choose a group of men and by hard training convert them into a perfectly drilled machine, then by parading their perfection before others inspired them to become likewise. He was strict in the matter of sanitary regulations and cleanliness became the order of the day, disease began to disappear and order came out of chaos. The ragged troops soon became equal to the finest Europe could produce, and this factor plus the demand for freedom made their later success a foregone conclusion.

Baron Von Steuben played a conspicuous part in later events of the Revolution, being with our troops in some of the most important engagements, including Yorktown, and spent his entire fortune for clothing for his men. After the War he remained in America, and in 1790 was finally rewarded by a township of land in New York State and an annuity of $2,500. He died on his estate near Utica, N. Y., on November 28, 1794.

It is therefore natural that as the two hundredth anniversary of his birth (1730) approached plans were made to fittingly celebrate this event. As early as 1928 requests were received by the Post Office Department to issue a stamp in his honor. The leader in the effort to secure such an issue was Representa-

tive Henry F. Niedringhaus, of St. Louis, whose constituents consisted of many members of the Steuben Society and others of German descent. On April 26, 1930, Postmaster General Brown reported that he would issue a stamp in honor of Baron Von Steuben on November 15th, the two hundredth anniversary of his birth.

The Steuben Society of New York had submitted a design for the vignette which was acceptable to the Department. This consisted of a medallion portrait made by the sculptor Karl Dautert, which had been made for a memorial tablet for the town of Magdeburg, Prussia, Von Steuben's birthplace.

It had always been believed that Von Steuben had been born on November 15, 1730, but shortly before the expected anniversary it was discovered that he had actually been born on September 17th. This caused a change in the plans for the celebration, and at the request of the Steuben Society of America the date of issue was advanced to the earlier date. The Society had planned a large celebration in New York, and that city was designated as the only point of first day issue.

The official notice follows:

Third Assistant Postmaster General,
Washington, September 5, 1930.

Postmasters and employees of the Postal Service are notified that the department is preparing to issue a special postage stamp in the 2-cent denomination to commemorate the two hundredth annivesrary of the birth of General Baron von Steuben and in recognition of the exceptional services rendered the Colonial cause during the Revolutionary War by drilling and organizing the Army.

The stamp conforms in shape and size to the regular issue and is printed in red ink. Across the top of the stamp arranged in two lines in a curved panel are the words "United States Postage" in white roman letters. Extending below the panel is a vertically striped background, the upper border of which is composed of narrow acanthus scrolls.

In both lower corners in circles with dark backgrounds appear the white numeral "2." In a dark panel connecting the circles is the word "cents" in white Roman letters . Arising from each circle on the right and left is an acanthus leaf scroll which lends support to the large circular medallion in the central portion of the stamp bearing the raised head and bust of Von Steuben modeled from a medal. In a semicircle along the upper edge of the central medallion is the wording "1730—General von Steuben—1930" in Roman type.

This new stamp will first be placed on sale Sept. 17, 1930, at New York, N. Y., and for the benefit of stamp collectors the stamp will be placed on sale at the Philatelic Agency, Division of Stamps, Post Office Department, on Sept. 18. The Philatelic Agency, however, will not handle first-day covers.

Stamp collectors desiring first-day cancellations of the Von Stepben commemorative stamp may send a limited number of addressed covers, not to exceed 25, to the postmaster, New York, N. Y., with a cash or postal money-order remittance to cover the value of the stamps required for affixing. Covers will be accepted from bona fide subscribers only, and each cover must be properly and legibly addressed; covers bearing pencil addresses will not be accepted. Neither can compliance be made with unusual requests, such as for the affixing of stamps bearing plate numbers or the irregular placing of stamps on covers, etc. All irregular requests will be returned unfilled by the Postmaster, New York, N. Y.

F. A. TILTON,

Third Assistant Postmaster General.

The stamps were printed from flat plates of 400 subjects, divided into panes of 100 by horizontal and vertical guide lines terminating in arrows. The full sheets were cut along these guide lines into post office panes of 100. There were four plate numbers, one to each pane. These were in the top and bottom margins, above or below the fifth vertical row on the left panes and the sixth vertical row on the right.

#689—2 Cent, Carmine Rose. "PORTRAIT OF STEUBEN." No Wmk. Perf. 11.

Issued September 17, 1930.

The unexpected change in the date of issue from November to the earlier date caught many collectors unawares, and a much smaller number of first day covers were mailed than on most of the other commemoratives issued during this period.

The general description of this stamp is given in the official notice. The use of the medallion for the vignette gives a pleasing and striking design. The stamp was designed by A. R. Meissner, and the engraving was executed by Edward M. Hall, Louis B. Schofield and Howard I. Earle, all of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing.

The stamp was extremely popular, and the original order of twenty-five million was soon found to be totally inadequate, and an additional twenty-five million were ordered in the latter part of September, which again proving inadequate a third order of twenty-five million was placed early in October. This finally caught up with the demand and the last order was not entirely printed.

This stamp was also free from worthwhile plate varieties, but it contributed a new rarity, an imperforate error.

In December 1930 it was reported in the philatelic press that a part perforated sheet had been found in Midland, Texas. It was later reported returned to the Post Office Department, and this was subject to much speculation, whether it had actually been returned or not. To set at rest these questions the original source of the information, Rev. L. A. Boone published the following letter dated January 17, 1931:

"The imperforate Von Steuben sheet, found in the Midland Post Office, has been returned to the Government. The clerk who found it sent it to me. He had intended selling it and had asked an offer of me on the item. A few days after I received it he wired me to return the sheet to him, that he understood that it was against the Postal laws for an employee of the Post Office Department to sell any of the stamps of the Government at a profit. Since he had bought it and had offered it for sale and then had realized that it was illegal to put it back in stock, resell it or offer it under any other guide would be a conscious evasion of the law.

He, therefore, adopted the following course: He wired the department that he had the sheet and asked for permission to keep it. They immediately wired him to return it to Washington for destruction. This he did. The collectors of stamps lost one of the prettiest error items it has been my good fortune to see in over twenty years of active collecting. Only 15 stamps were cut by the perforations, and they were fairly well pasted back in position with gum tape. The remainder of the sheet was perfect, no breaks, tears, or pencil marks.

The above are the correct facts regardless of what else is written or said. I understand that one other sheet is out on the Pacific Coast. In fact I have received direct letters to this effect. Please use the above for publication if you wish, and if I may give further service please command me."

There had been another sheet sold by the Midland Post Office in the regular course of business that was entirely untouched by the perforating machine. This had been sold to a hotel and after seventy had been resold the clerks returned the balance for exchange for perforated copies as they had become tired separating them with scissors. These were also returned to Washington for redemption. There is therefore a very slim chance that some of the covers mailed from Midland, Texas, with the seventy imperf stamps might some day appear in the philatelic realm, but this is slight, as had the users known anything about their philatelic rarity the balance would never have been returned for redemption. Extensive search has so far failed to uncover any.

The action of the postal clerk might have been of lasting value to the philatelists but for an additional find of an imperf sheet on the Pacific Coast. A full sheet was bought in a post office in the State of Washington that was also im-

perf. This was the lower left pane of plate No. 20269, on which the bottom margin was torn and repaired by pasting a piece of paper on the back. The vertical guide line at the right was cut as with a scissors leaving an irregular edge which is characteristic of perforating waste. This therefore may readily be accepted as part of the same sheet. The fourth pane was never found, and was no doubt removed by the Bureau inspectors.

This imperf sheet was later broken up into blocks of four and bids fair to become the companion piece of 5 Cent imperf error of 1916. There is no taint to this item, and in blocks of four or even pairs cannot be counterfeited.

Shades: Carmine rose, bright carmine rose, deep carmine rose.

Varieties: a: Plate number blocks.
b: Usual twelve position blocks.
c: Imperforate.

Plates used: 20267—68, 69, 70, 81, 82, 83, 84

Quantity issued: 66,487,000.

The Bissell Find

I am much indebted to Elliott Perry for some additional information in regard to the United States covers in this Find, which was bought by J. M. Bartels. Perry gives me the following particulars:

The first pick of the find was sold to Needham and this part of it went into the Ackerman collection in 1920. Probably the next important sale was made to Carl S. Brandebury. Around 1925 I sold the Brandebury collection to Mr. Ackerman so that a large portion of the best Bissell covers went into the Ackerman collection.

My recollection is there was very little or nothing before 1868 and nothing after 1875. I never say a "Postal Union" cover—that is, paid at the postal union rate of 5c. in the lot.

I recall no covers bearing 1861-66 issues only, and very few stamps before the grills of 1868. The only genuine 90c. cover in the entire lot, was a cover bearing one 90c., 1861, used with other stamps. Thehe were some 1868 grills used in combination with 1869, some 1869 used alone and possibly a few 1869 in combination with later issues. As Bartels states, most of the covers were Bank Note issues of 1870-73. The last time I talked with him about it he told me he thought there were 53 of the 24c. Scott stamps.

The letters were prepaid at two different rates of postage—22c. and 28c. per unit, hence the postage stamps always totalled even multiples of 22c. or 28c., viz,—22c., 44c., 66c., 88c., 28c., 56c., 84c.

The 90c. 1861 cover was the only one I recall that went over a dollar. It was either $1.10 (5x22c.) or $1.12 (4x28c.), I think, but may have been higher.

The 1869 covers were mostly 10c. with 12c. to make 22c., but there were three covers, each bearing a pair of 30c. used with another stamp. These were the only covers bearing a pair of 30c. 1869, I have ever seen.

None of the 24c. Scott were used without other stamps. Many of them were singles used with the two 2c. 1870-73 to make the 28c. rate, or singles used with two 10c. 1870-73 to make the 44c. rate. As Bartels states, one cover had three 24c. Scott on it and there may have been one or two covers bearing a pair of 24c. Scott.

There were a few 6c. stamps on the covers, but mostly 10c., 12c., 24c., and 30c. and I recall only one 15c. used genuinely. Would say there were no 1c., 3c. or 7c.

The importance of the find did not lay in the intrinsic value as much as in the combinations and usage to India, either not previously known or else so excessively rare as to be practically unobtainable. C. J. PHILLIPS.

PULASKI ISSUE

1931

CASIMIR PULASKI was another friend of Freedom who came from across the sea to help the colonists during our War of Independence. Pulaski, a Polish nobleman who had lost his all in Poland's fight for freedom against the Russian invaders, arrived in America in 1777 and enlisted as a volunteer officer. In the Battle of Brandywine he showed such able leadership and conspicuous bravery that Congress gave him the rank of a Brigadier-General and placed him in command of the cavalry. Later he was given permission to organize a command of his own consisting of a mixed force of light cavalry and foot units, but during an attack on the heavily fortified British forces at Savannah in 1779 he led his cavalry in a furious but unsuccessful charge and fell, mortally wounded. He died a few days later, aboard an American brig and was buried at sea, a hero to his adopted country as well as to his home and.

This was the beginning of a strong friendship between Poland and the United States that has remained unbroken for over one hundred and fifty years. As the sesquicentennial of his death approached plans were made by Polish societies to commemorate the event, and on April 16, 1929, a joint resolution was introduced in the House of Representatives, calling for a 2 Cent stamp to commemorate this one hundred and fiftieth anniversary which would occur on October 11, 1929.

The suggestion for a stamp received but little encouragement, and it was not until the early part of October 1930 that members of the Polish Society were able to prepail upon the Postmaster General to agree to such an issue. On December 10, 1930 the stamp was definitely authorized and the final design approved. Two portrait of Pulaski were considered, one of these was from an oil painting, made in 1788 by the artist Companeto, and had appeared in the September 1929 "Quarterly" of the Georgia Historical Society. The Library of Congress was consulted, and they submitted an etching by H. B. Hall, from Jones "History of Georgia" which was selected by the Bureau as being more satisfactory from the engraving standpoint.



Design by C. A. Huston.



Design by V. McCloskey.

Photographs from Original Drawings Not Approved.

After finally deciding to issue this stamp the Department went to great lengths to have an attractive issue. The first design, drawn by C. Aubrey Huston (illustrated), had a plain frame with the years of birth and death. The purpose now being mainly as a tribute to our friendship with Poland, it was decided to incorporate this thought in the design, and the second design drawn by V. McCloskey, showed an ornamental frame with the shields of Poland and the United States in the two upper corners, (illustrated.) This, although expressing the idea, was not acceptable and a third scheme, prepared by A. R. Meissner, (illustrated) indicating flags of the two countries in the upper corners was approved, but with general modifications, making the flags more prominent.



Design by A. R. Meissner.

Photograph from Original Drawing Accepted With Modifications.

As Pulaski was killed at Savannah, Ga., and it was at first intended to place this stamp on sale in that city for the first day of issue. However, the Polish Society and certain Polish newspapers desired the first day sale in certain other cities having a large Polish population and this was finally agreed to as a further gesture towards cementing the friendship between this country and Pulaski's native land.

The official notice follows:

Washington, Dec. 29, 1930.

Postmasters and employees of the Postal Service are informed that the Department is preparing to issue a 2-cent commemorative postage stamp of special design in honor of Gen. Casimir Pulaski, the noted Polish patriot and hero of the American Revolution.

The new stamp is the same shape and size as the regular issue, 75/100 by 87/100 inches in dimension, and is printed in red ink. The stamp has a flat, dark border with beveled outer edge, slightly indented at the sides. On the border at the top in two lines is the wording "United States Postage" in white faced Roman letters. In both lower corners in white bordered circles is the numeral "2" in white faced Roman and above the circles in the bordering panel in white numerals are the dates, "1746" at the left and "1779" at the right, representing the dates of birth and death, respectively, of General Pulaski. Across the bottom of the stamp in a dark panel with white edges connecting the numerals is the word "cents" in white Roman lettering. In a central panel of oval form with a narrow white edge is the likeness of General Pulaski modeled from a portrait in Jones's History of Georgia, printed from an etching by H. B. Hall in 1871. In a white curved ribbon panel at the base of the portrait are the words "General Pulaski" in red Gothic letters. Projecting from behind the central panel with their staffs extending to the upper corners are the flags of the two nations, that of the United States to the left and the Republic of Poland to the right.

The General Pulaski commemorative stamp will be first placed on sale Jan. 16, 1931, at the following post offices: Savannah, Ga.; Chicago, Ill.; Gary, Ind.; South Bend, Ind.; Detroit, Mich.; Brooklyn, N Y.; Buffalo, N. Y.; New York, N. Y.; Cleveland, Ohio; Toledo, Ohio; Pittsburgh, Pa.; Milwaukee, Wis.

Stamp collectors desiring first-day cancellations of the 2-cent Pulaski commemorative stamp may send a limited number of addressed covers, not to exceed 25, to the postmasters at the above offices, with a cash or postal-money order remittance to cover the value of the stamps required for affixing. Covers will be accepted from bona fide subscribers only, and each cover must be properly and legibly addressed; covers bearing pencil addresses will not be accepted. Neither can compliance be made with unusual requests, such as for affixing of stamps bearing plate numbers or the irregular placing of stamps on covers, etc. The stamping of first-day covers is a courtesy extended to collectors without cost in a spirit of departmental cooperation. Therefore, all irregular requests will be returned unfilled.

For the benefit of stamp collectors the new stamp will be placed on sale at the Philatelic Agency, Division of Stamps, Post Office Department, on January 17, 1931, but the agency will not handle first-day covers.

F. A. TILTON,
Third Assistant Postmaster General.

A cover was reported from South Bend, Ind., dated January 16, 1930. Upon investigation is was discovered that it had been cancelled by an extra postmarking stamp in which the year date had not been advanced from the previous year just passed.

Quite a ceremony was made on the day of issue in presenting a sheet of 100 of these stamps to Mr. Tytus Filipowicz, the Polish Ambassador to the United States. The presentation was made by the Postmaster General in his anti-room, and several representatives of the Polish Embassy, as well as United States postal officials were in attendance. In presenting the stamps to the Polish Ambassor, Postmaster General Brown stated:

"For more than one hundred years it has been the practice of the Post Office Department to issue postage stamps bearing the likeness of men and women who have made noteworthy contributions to the well-being of our country. From time to time stamps have been issued honoring the memory of Benjamin Franklin, George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln, General U. S. Grant, Theodore Roosevelt, and others. It is fitting that to this illustrious group should be added one of your countrymen, General Casimir Pulaski, whose contribution to American Independence will ever be remembered by my countrymen.

General Pulaski's life came to a tragic and untimely end at the siege at Savannah in 1779. No word or act of mine can embellish the pages of American history made glorious by his magnificent sacrifices to the cause of popular government.

We are today issuing a commemorative stamp as a slight token of the appreciation of the American people of the deep and lasting debt which they owe him. It may be interesting to know that in only one other case has a similar tribute been paid to the memory of a man who did not spring from American soil. Will you be good enough to accept from me one of the first sheets of stamps of this issue which will amount to 65,000,000 impressions? This sheet bears the autographed signature of the President of the United States and the Postmaster General."

In accepting the stamps the Polish Ambassador replied:

"Mr. Postmaster General,

It is a source of gratification to me to receive from your hands the first American stamp bearing the likeness of General Casimir Pulaski, a hero of your country and of mine.

A postage stamp is always associated in our minds with a message from one person to another. In this case, it is a message by itself, a message of that traditional friendship which has existed between our two countries for over a century and a half. As evidence of such cordial relations Poles and Americans of Polish descent will treasure these stamps, as I shall treasure mine. I thank you, Mr. Postmaster General."

The stamps were printed from 400 subject plates, printed on flat bed presses, and were divided into panes of 100 by horizontal and vertical guide lines terminating in arrows. The full sheets were cut along these guide lines into

post office panes of 100. There were four plate numbers, one to each pane. These were in the top and bottom margins, above or below the fifth vertical row on the left panes, and the sixth vertical row on the right.

#690—2 Cent, Carmine Rose. "PORTRAIT OF CASIMIR PULASKI" No Wmk. Perf. 11.

Issued January 15, 1931.

The date of issue had no particular significance, the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of General Pulaski's death being October 11, 1929.

The design was prepared by A. R. Meissner, the vignette being engraved by J. Eissler, and the lettering and numerals by Edward M. Hall and A. R. Meissner, all of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing.

This issue was very popular with both stamp collectors and those having a racial interest, the initial order of twenty-five million being soon increased to ninety-five. This stamp was one of the best looking single color designs that had been issued for a considerable time, and the handsome face of the Polish hero did much to add to its beauty.

Twelve plates were made and all went to press. There were not philatelic varieties, although there were a number of printing shades.

Shades: Carmine rose, bright carmine rose, deep carmine rose, carmine lake.

Varieties: a: Plate number blocks.
b: Usual twelve position blocks.

Plates used: 20416—17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27

Number issued: 96,559,400

A Good Historical Story

BALTIMORE Cancellations, a story of the postmarks of Baltimore, Maryland, by L. M. Rellim, is an interesting story, not only of the early cancellations, but from the historical viewpoint, as the author has taken considerable pains to procure the interesting facts pertaining to the earliest post offices of Baltimore.

From an historical standpoint, there is nothing, one might say, left unsaid, for Mr. Rellim has unfolded the Colonial and the Revolutionary post office picture, as also the early days of the United States Post, in a complete and thorough manner.

To write the history of any post office, beginning in the Colonial period, is a task that requires research and a thoughtful mind, and Mr. Rellim has shown his ability as a craftsman in the Baltimore Cancellation story. There is no doubt this is "the last word" on the Baltimore post—showing a complete portrayal of the post office and Mr. Rellim is to be commended for his brilliant labors and this publication will gain additional prestige by the printing of the paper.

Mr. Rellim's story will be pleasing to those who enjoy getting an insight into the workings of the early posts, and altogether Mr. Rellim has produced a story worthy of recognition by the historical societies of the Free State of Maryland.

It might not be amiss to note that Mr. Rellim's many stories in the philatelic press are proof that he has become one of the recognized writers on philatelic subjects.

HARRY M. KONWISER.

RED CROSS ISSUE

1931

THE first attempt made to give assistance to wounded soldiers on the field of battle was during the Civil War. Previous to this many died from lack of care before they reached the hospitals and received medical attention. This work of "first aid" was started by Clara Barton, who at first did the work herself and later organized groups to take care of this ever growing need.

Through her efforts the American National Association of the Red Cross was organized on May 21, 1881. Clara Barton served as its President from that time until 1904, and during her tenure of office she obtained Federal recognition for the Society.

In 1931 the American Red Cross commemorated the fiftieth anniversary of its founding, and prior to that event requested the Postmaster General to issue a commemorative stamp.

The design of this we are familiar with, but there were rumors at the time of issue that a controversy as to the design had arisen, and that Clara Barton should have been honored by a place on the stamp. On taking this up with the Red Cross in Washington we were advised as follows:

"The question of selecting the design for the stamp was left entirely with the Postmaster General. After giving the matter considerable thought he selected the design which was eventually used, and which was patterned after our 1930 Roll Call poster. The selection was made without consulting the executives of the Red Cross and we did not even know what design had been chosen until final action had been taken. The design selected seemed to be tremendously popular all over the country.

You asked whether there was any controversy as to whether or not the design should contain a portrait of Miss Clara Barton. There was no controversy of any kind while the design was being selected. The Red Cross at that time was giving a tremendous amount of publicity to its Fiftieth Anniversary and, of course, the name of Miss Barton was featured in all this publicity, so that I feel sure the idea must at least have presented itself to the Postmaster General. After the design had been approved and the postage stamps issued, being placed on sale simultaneously at Dansville, New York, and Washington, D. C., on May 21, and later throughout the country—a story was sent to various news bureaus by the legislature representative of some reform organization here in Washington, I do not recall the name at this minute. The story was to the effect that the Red Cross should have chosen the portrait of Miss Clara Barton. This story was printed in a few papers, and then immediately dropped by all papers and news agencies when the Red Cross explained that the design had been selected by the Postmaster General and not by us. During the months following in which the Red Cross stamp was being sold and used throughout the nation we received not a single complaint about the design, nor did there exist, as far as we know, the slightest controversy.

Cordially yours,

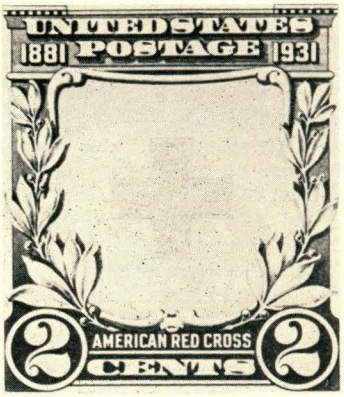
DOUGLAS GRIESEMER,

Director, Public Information."



Early Designs Showing Use of Clara Barton's Portrait.
Photographs from Original Drawings Not Used.

It is true that the Department contemplated the use of Clara Barton's portrait on this stamp as two designs were prepared by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, one showing a full face portrait and the other a profile. At the



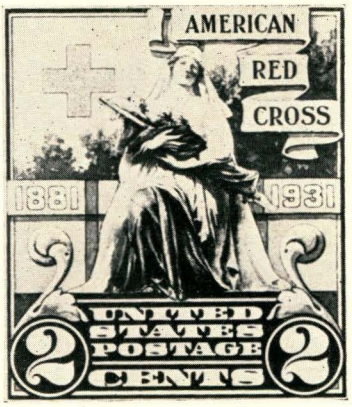
Another Early Design Using the Red Cross.
Photographs from Original Drawing Not Used.

same time, or perhaps a little later, a simplified scheme was contemplated consisting of a formal treatment with an architectural frame consisting of an entablature supported by ionic columns. The central part of the design consisted of a simple shield on which was superimposed a red cross. We have illustrated this from the artist's original drawing. After several conferences it was finally decided to adopt a design containing a Red Cross nurse for the central picture, adapted from a painting of a Red Cross poster called "The

Greatest Mother In The World." This was painted by Laurence Wilbur, of New York. The original photograph used by the Bureau is illustrated herewith.



Formal Architectural Design.



Red Cross Nurse Design.

Photographs from Original Drawings Not Used.

Before the stamp was finally issued the design was again changed, showing the Red Cross nurse kneeling with outstretched arms before a globe, which was patterned after the 1930 poster of the American Red Cross.

The official notice of this stamp reads:

Third Assistant Postmaster General,
Washington, May 2, 1931.

Postmasters and employees of the Postal Service are notified of the issuance of a special postage stamp in the 2-cent denomination to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the American Red Cross.

The new stamp is printed in two colors, black and red, and is the same size as the regular issue 75/100 by 87/100 inch, arranged as an upright rectangle. The stamp is inclosed in a border formed by a heavy black outer and lighter inner line slightly indented along the center on all four sides. Across the top of the stamp in two lines are the words "United States Postage" in white faced Roman lettering. The central design of the stamp, printed in black, is the figure of a Red Cross nurse kneeling before the globe with outstretched hands, reproduced from the 1930 poster entitled "The Greatest Mother." In the upper part of the stamp at the left of the figure is a Greek cross with five equal squares, the emblem of the organization, printed in red. Arranged vertically, opposite the indentation on either side, are the dates in black Gothic figures "1881" at the left and "1931" at the right. In both lower corners within white bordered ovals with black background appears the white numeral "2". The ovals are surmounted by acanthus scroll ornaments. Across the bottom of the stamp in a straight line between the ovals containing the denomination numeral is the word "Cents" in white Roman letters.

The Red Cross commemorative stamp will be placed on sale May 21, 1931, at the post offices in Washington, D. C., and Dansville, N. Y. For the benefit of stamp collectors the new stamp will also be placed on sale the same date at the Philatelic Agency.

Stamp collectors desiring first-day cancellations of the 2-cent Red Cross commemorative stamp may send a limited number of addressed covers, not to exceed 25, to the postmasters at the above offices with a cash or postal-money order remittance to exactly cover the value of the stamps required for affixing. Other postage stamps will positively not be accepted in payment of the Red Cross stamps. Covers will be accepted from bona fide subscribers only, and each cover must be properly and legibly addressed; covers bearing pencil addresses will not be accepted. Special care must be taken in addressing covers to bear blocks of four of the stamps to allow sufficient clear space for the attaching of the stamps. Compliance cannot be made with unusual requests, such as for the affixing of stamps bearing plate numbers

or the irregular placing of the stamps on covers, etc. Requests for a supply of uncanceled Red Cross stamps must not be included in orders for first-day covers. If uncanceled stamps are desired a separate order should be sent to the Philatelic Agency, Division of Stamps, Post Office Department, Washington, D. C., and it will receive prompt attention.

F. A. TILTON,
Third Assistant Postmaster General.

These stamps were printed from 200 subject plates for both body and emblem. They were cut along vertical guide lines into 100 subject panes, and so issued to post offices.

The design plates, (Black printing) were divided into four panes of twenty-five by horizontal and vertical guide lines terminating in solid arrows, the point of which faced the outside of the plate. There were four numbers, two to each pane of one hundred. These were in the top and bottom margins, above and below the fifth vertical row on the left pane and in similar position on the sixth row of the right pane. The top right plate number was preceded by an "F."

The emblem plates, (red) had no guide lines crossing the plate but had solid arrows with a short line running from the point to the edge of the plate. These were in the same relative position as on the black plates, and they were used to correctly key the design. Over the ninth stamp of the left pane was found the word "TOP" in large capitals to prevent there being any inverts. On these plates the numbers also appeared only in the top and bottom margins. On the left pane the numbers were above or below the sixth row, while on the right panes they appeared over or under the fifth row. The letter "F" also preceded the upper right plate number on this pane.

In the printed stamp the black number preceded the red number on the left panes and followed it on the right.

#702—2 Cent Black and Red. "RED CROSS NURSE." No Wmk. Perf. 11.

Issued May 21, 1931.

The frame of the stamp was designed by C. A. Huston and A. R. Meissner, the vignette was executed by J. Eissler and G. F. Wittenauer, and the lettering and numerals were engraved by Edward M. Hall, all of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing.

The original order called for fifty million of these stamps, and they were printed from twenty black plates and twenty red ones, allowing a possible total of 400 plate number combinations. As the design of the stamp was such that close registration of the emblem design was not required it was possible to use four plates on each press and all combinations of these twenty plates are known to exist.

This stamp was exceptionally popular and before the first order was completed a second order was placed with the Bureau for an additional fifty million. To fill this order eight more plates were made for both the design and the emblem. There being more wear on the design plates due to the use of black ink these wore out quicker than the emblem plates, and it was found necessary to use four of the new design plates. The others were not needed and did not go to press. These have also been found in combination with all of the emblem plates, and there are therefore 480 combinations of this stamp. Because of the difference in the position of the plate numbers on the right and left panes, many collectors believe that there are actually 960 different combinations. The use of the four additional plates only to finish the order for these stamps made them much scarcer than any of the others.

This being a bicolored stamp there was a possibility of many things happening. Henry M. Southgate, in the Bureau Specialist for July 1931, said:

"Collectors should watch carefully for the Red Cross stamp without the emblem. We often hear of sheets being found where a stamp or part of a stamp is printed on the back. This occurs from the turning over of the corner of the sheet at the time of printing.

If this folding takes place when the Red Cross sheet goes through the press for the first or black printing it will undoubtedly be caught as it would be very noticeable, but if the corner is turned to the printed side when the second printing is made the emblem will fall on the back of the sheet and the corner stamp or stamps will have no cross on the face. If the fold is to the unprinted side there would likewise be no emblem on the stamp as well as none on the back. Such an error is inconspicuous and in a hurried printing such as this it will be surprising if a number of such errors do not get by the inspectors."

It speaks well for the care taken by the Bureau inspectors as only two sheets were found in which there was no cross on the stamp. The crosses were found printed on the back of the margin in each case.

There was also the possibility of the cross appearing twice on a stamp, either by going through the press twice or caused by an offset print. Such an item was found by Albert Claflin, of Providence, R. I., who showed us not long ago a strip of three of these stamps, all showing two distinct crosses. The normal cross was in the usual carmine red tone and directly adjoining this to the southwest, but not touching it, was a second cross very lightly printed. The chances are that while this sheet was still wet another sheet was placed above it causing the emblem to be offset on the back of the other sheet, and was in turn offset on the original sheet in a slightly different position, causing what might be termed a "double offset."

There is one other major variety. Two vertical pairs were found imperforate between. This was caused by part of the sheet having been folded under on the perforating machine, causing several stamps to have diagonal perforations, but two pairs had escaped the second perforation.

Most of the plate varieties of this issue are extremely minor. However, as the plate position is known they are worthy of noting in the history of the issue. The following report by the late C. W. Bedford appeared in the Bureau Specialist July 1931:

"Positions 37 and 57 in the left pane of the black plate No. 20456 and positions 63 and 73 in the left pane of black plate No. 20438 show a slight but distinct doubling of the horizontal shading lines at the left of the upper label. By the use of a high power glass other minor shifts are also found but they are too small to deserve mention, as only major varieties are worthy of such distinction. There is still a chance that someone will locate a major variety on this stamp.

The red rocking-in dots for the Red Cross appear on many red plates about half way between dot on the plate that appears in the right '2' whenever the registry of the red and black plates is such that the red dot falls on the colorless portion of the design. This plate also shows the rocking in dots on every stamp. Plate 20492 Red.

Position 99-R-20490 (red) shows a rather heavy diagonal row of red dots just under the red cross. If this were only horizontal in direction it might have been a double transfer of the cross. It is one of the best varieties so far located. Position 11-R-20492 shows two diagonal red scratches on the red plate just under the cross, one of which extends into the left centerline margin.

Positions 8, 18, 19, 28, 29 and 50 in the right pane of plate 20469 (black) shows a series of black plate scratches. These lines are so light that they may not appear on late printings due to plate wear. There are also MANY black plate positions that show fine plate layout lines across the top and vertically in the left side letters of the top and lower labels. In many cases these lines only show in the 'U' of 'UNITED.'"

Later a better type of shifted transfer was discovered in the right pane of design plate 20455. These are all in a plate number block of 8 and appear in stamps 4, 5, 7, 15, 17 as a doubling of the horizontal shading lines on the globe.

Two marked plate defects were found on the right pane of plate 20515. On stamp No. 5, just below the red plate number, there are a series of fine lines which appear as a gash through the "C" of "CENTS," thereby forming a cents mark (¢); on the 90th stamp there is a strong gash in the vertical member of the "N" of "CENTS."

Plate number blocks of this issue were generally saved in blocks of eight with the number over or under the two center stamps except in the case of the top left which was usually blocks of ten to include the red "TOP" imprint.

Shades: Frame: Grey black, black.
Cross: Carmine rose, carmine lake, lake.

Varieties: a: Plate number blocks.
b: Position blocks.
1. Complete right and left arrows.
2. Right and left halves top and bottom arrows.
3. Right and left halves center line block.
c: Design without the red cross.
d: Imperf between vertical pairs.
e: Plate varieties as noted above.

Plates used: Frame: 20434—35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41
20450—51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57
20466—67, 68, 69
20514—15, 16, 25
Vignette: 20445—46, 47, 48, 49
20489—90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99
20500—01, 02, 03

Plates not used: Frame: 20513—26, 27, 28
Vignette: 20442—43, 44
20517—18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23

Number issued: 99,074,600

Brief Reviews

ZUMSTEIN KLEINER SPEZIAL KATALOG DER SCHWEIZ and ZUMSTEIN EUROPA BRIEFMARKEN-KATALOG, 1934. (Published by Zumstein & Company, Marktgasse 50, Bern, Switzerland.)

Zumstein and Company of Bern, Switzerland, have just brought out the 1934 Edition of the Europa Briefmarken Catalog, as well as the abbreviated special catalog of the stamps of Switzerland.

The former book is one of the standard guides among the European collectors and contains so much matter of interest, that collectors will find it a worth while addition to their library. The price is Swiss franks 3.75.

The Swiss catalog is one which should not be overlooked by any collector interested in the stamps of this interesting country.

ZUSAMMENSTELLUNG DER PREUSSISCHEN POSTSTEMPEL NACH FORM UND ZEITFOLGE, by Friedrich W. Thalman, Publisher Fritz Seifert, Leipzig, Germany.

This is a well illustrated work on the arrangement of the Prussian cancellations according to form and time.

NEUES VON DEN DEUTSCHEN KRIEGSMARKEN and SELTENHEITEN BEI DEN DEUTSCHEN KRIEGSMARKEN von Ing. W. Richter, Heidelberg, 1933.

These two pamphlets cover the issues of the German War Stamps in a thorough manner. The tables are all handdrawn and contain much matter not available elsewhere.

THE YORKTOWN ISSUE

1931

THE one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the surrender of Lord Cornwallis to Gen. Washington at Yorktown, Va., was to be celebrated at that place during October 1931. This being one of the major events of the Revolutionary War, some may claim it the most important, Congress saw fit to make a special appropriation towards the expense of this sesquicentennial, and also appointed certain members of a Celebration Committee.

Among those appointed was former Congressman R. B. Fitzgerald of Dayton, Ohio, who chanced to be an enthusiastic stamp collector and who naturally immediately set forth to procure a special stamp for the occasion. He called the Department's attention to the fact that on two previous issues commemorating Revolutionary War events they had honored allies from both Germany and Poland and for this stamp it would be appropriate and fitting to honor France as Washington's success at Yorktown had been helped to a considerable extent by aid furnished by both Compte de Rochambeau and Admiral de Grasse. It was Washington's prompt decision to attack Cornwallis as soon as conditions were favorable and his strategy in misleading General Clinton as to his plans made the success at Yorktown possible. These conditions were dependent on the help of the French troops under the leadership of Count de Rochambeau and the cooperation of the French Fleet under Admiral de Grasse. Portraits of these three leaders were therefore the natural thought for use in connection with this stamp. The suggestion met with the approval of the Post Office Department, and the Bureau was instructed to proceed with a design carrying portraits of these two distinguished Frenchmen as well as General Washington.

According to his historical data, Wethersfield, Conn., was the town Gen. Washington selected as the place for a conference with our French allies, to discuss the Yorktown campaign, on May 21, 1781. The plan made there was so successfully carried out that it has since been known as the "Wethersfield Plan," and both Yorktown, Va., and Wethersfield, Conn., were therefore approved by the Post Office Department for first day sale.

The official notice reads:

Third Assistant Postmaster General,
Washington, September 1, 1931.

Postmasters and employees of the Postal Service are notified that the department is preparing to issue a special postage stamp in the 2-cent denomination to commemorate the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the Battle of Yorktown.

The stamp is rectangular in shape, 0.89 by 1.46 inches in dimensions. It is printed in two colors, the background being in red and the three portraits, composing the central design, in black. In a horizontal line across the top of the stamp are the words "United States Postage" in small white Roman letters. Directly below on a white ribbon panel in red lettering is the word "Yorktown" in the center with the dates on either side "1781" at the left and "1931" on the right. At the base of the stamp in a small panel with curled scrolls at either end is the word "Cents" in white-faced Roman on a solid background. In each lower corner in a small panel with narrow white border and scrolled top is the numeral "2" in white Roman on a solid background. Extending across the center of the stamp are three ovals with white outer and red inner line borders containing, in order, beginning at the left, the portrait of Rochambeau, Washington, and De Grasse, the names appearing in red lettering on white ribbon panels at the base of the ovals.

The Yorktown stamp will first be placed on sale October 19, 1931, at the post offices in Yorktown, Va., and Wethersfield, Conn., (branch of Hartford.) The new stamp will be available for purchase at other post offices and the Philatelic Agency on October 20.

Stamp collectors desiring first-day cancellations of the 2-cent Yorktown commemorative stamp may send a limited number of addressed covers, not to exceed 10, to the postmasters at the above offices with a cash or postal-money order remittance to exactly cover the value of the stamps required for affixing. Other postage

stamps will positively not be accepted in payment of the Yorktown stamps. Covers will be accepted from bona fide subscribers only, and each cover must be properly and legibly addressed; covers bearing pencil addresses will not be accepted. Special care must be taken in addressing covers to bear blocks of four of the stamps to allow sufficient clear space for the affixing of the stamps. Compliance can not be made with unusual requests, such as for the affixing of stamps bearing plate numbers or the irregular placing of the stamps on covers, etc. Requests for a supply of uncanceled Yorktown stamps must not be included in orders for first-day covers. If uncanceled stamps for collection purposes are desired, a separate order should be sent to the Philatelic Agency, Division of Stamps, Post Office Department, Washington, D. C., and it will receive prompt attention.

F. A. TILTON,
Third Assistant Postmaster General.

Although the sale of these stamps was to be restricted to these two towns on October 19th, the Post Office Department was desirous of having it placed on sale in as many post offices as possible on the day following. To this end the stamps were sent out early in October in special envelopes plainly marked "Positively not to be placed on sale before October 20, 1931." In spite of these instructions postmasters in various sections of the country opened the packages and put the stamps on sale a week or two before the official date. *Weekly Philatelic Gossip* reported a cover dated October 6th from Waterloo, Ill., and another from Howell, Michigan, dated October 9th. Several early covers were also seen from California and Texas.

Elaborate plans having been made for first day sales at Yorktown and Wetherfield, those early covers caused considerable agitation and the Department immediately issued admonitory orders. In the Postal Bulletin of October 16th Third Assistant Postmaster General F. A. Tilton issued the following instructions:

"The Postal Bulletin of September 2, 1931, contained the general announcement concerning the Yorktown commemorative postage stamp issue. In this announcement it was emphasized that 'In order that the Yorktown stamps may be available for purchase at post offices throughout the country on October 20, shipments will be sent in advance, but postmasters are specifically directed that under no circumstances shall they permit any of the Yorktown stamps to be sold before October 20, 1931.

Shipments were made by registered mail in envelopes plainly marked 'Positively not to be placed on sale until October 20, 1931.'

Notwithstanding these clear instructions, reports have been received from six offices so far that postmasters had placed on sale these commemorative stamps prior to the release date. This is one of the most serious violations of departmental regulations, and statement that postmasters have overlooked the notice in the bulletin are no excuse for ignoring the plainly printed instructions on the registered envelope in which the stamps are sent.

Such disregard of instructions lays a postmaster open to the charge that he has conspired with stamp collectors in creating first-day covers of considerable value and the delinquency is ample cause for a postmaster's dismissal. Postmasters not interested enough in their postal duties to care properly for matters of this kind are not competent to be retained.

The department is attempting to accommodate the public by making advance shipments of commemorative stamps so that they will be available at post offices throughout the country on the day following the first day of sale at selected points. To effect this it is necessary to have the cooperation of postmasters and to prevent release to the public prior to that date."

Official cachets were not used for either town, and although first day covers from Yorktown carried none those mailed from Wethersfield had an exceptionally appropriate one supplied by the Wethersfield Business Men's and Civic Association. This cachet showed the Webb House, as well as the stars and stripes and a sheaf of French flags of the regiments quartered near Wethersfield. It was stated that there were about 130,000 covers mailed the first day from Yorktown and about 50,000 from Wethersfield.

The Yorktown stamps were printed from two types of plates, the first type from 100 subject plates each of both frame and vignette, the second type or lay-

out from 100 subject frames and 50 subject vignette plates. In addition there were two sizes and two distinct colors, making for considerable variety, especially when one realizes that there is a valid reason for each.

The *frame* plate of the first layout consisted of one hundred subjects (10x10) vidided by horizontal and vertical guide lines terminating in solid arrows or markers. The plate numbers were above and below the third stamp on both sides of the vertical center line, the number above the right pane being preceded by the letter "F." The vignette plates were also of one hundred subjects, these plates had no guide lines, but had four solid arrows keying with the arrows on the frame plate. Due to the design it was important that the two plates "key" very accurately or there would be considerable waste. The plate numbers of these vignette plates were over and under the second stamp on the left pane and the fourth stamp on the right, the number on the top right being also preceded by an "F" and the word "TOP" over the fifth stamp of the left jane, just left of the center guide line. On the finished printed sheet the black vignette numbers therefore preceded the red frame numbers on the left pane and followed them on the right.

The printed sheets from this first layout were cut into fifty subject panes along the vertical guide lines, leaving complete right and left arrows as well as split arrows at top and bottom. This gave six position blocks and a third pair was caused by the junction of the perforated horizontal guide line with the edge of the vertical cutting line to the left or to the right. A total of eight position blocks.

The necessity of "wetting down" the sheets during the printing caused considerable shrinkage in the paper which, never being quite the same on any two sheets, caused trouble in trying to key or register 100 portrait designs into their correct positions on the stamps. Many printed sheets had to be discarded and the waste was excessive, and it was decided to make a new set of plates that would permit printing 50 subjects instead of 100.

This new group is generally called the "second plate layout." The frame plates were again of 100 subjects but this time were separated into two panes of 50 by a one inch vertical gutter, carrying a cutting line used as a guide for cutting the sheet into 50 subject panes. This line terminated by the usual arrows and is of course found as a split on either the right or left inside margins. The plates also had a horizontal guide line terminated by solid arrows, these arrows showing only on the outside margins. As an aid to properly perforating the 50 subject sheets an additional guide line terminated by ordinary arrows was placed between the second and third vertical rows of each pane. This crossing the horizontal guide line resulted in a center line block. For proper horizontal registration with the vignette plate a marker, similar to the solid side arrows, was placed above and below the center of the middle, or third row of stamps in each pane, with a short guide line running to the edge of the margin. Side arrows or markers took care of the vertical registration. The plate numbers as on the first layout, are above or below the third vertical rows, being placed between the marker and the stamps with the plate number at the top of the right pane preceded by "F."

The second layout of the vignette or black plates was reduced to *fifty* subjects, and were used for printing on the frame sheets after they had been cut in half. A check up on plate number combinations seems to indicate that these 50 subject vignette plates were almost always used regularly on either the right pane or on the left pane of the frame sheets, i. e., the right panes generally received the second impression on one set of presses, and the left panes on other set. The Bureau stated that there was no manufacturing condition which required this, and it is quite likely that it was merely a matter of convenience in handling the 50 subject panes for the vignette printing. A few sheets are known that did not follow the normal combination and these have been eagerly

sought after, being generally called the "wrong side of the sheets." The plates used for printing the right panes were the only ones to have the double "F" combination.

The plate numbers of these vignette plates were placed above or below the second vertical row. Being only 50 subjects there were no right and left panes and the number above the stamps had an "F" while the word "TOP" is always found above the fourth subject. The top and bottom registration markers as well as those in the side margins are the same positions as on the frame plates. There being a horizontal marker on each side of the vignette plate, caused the one adjacent to the cut inside edge to appear only in black on the finished sheet. These sheets of the second layout are only known to have been on sale at the Philatelic Agency in Washington, however, from the foregoing it is quite evident that these sheets were made because of necessity and not especially for the benefit of collectors.

The paper shrinkage trouble which made the second plate layout necessary also caused a curious variation in the size of the stamps. To overcome this "wetting down" shrinkage which narrowed the sheets, it was decided to place the paper on the press so that its grain was parallel to the height of the plate, and ran the long way of the stamps. This was found to greatly decrease the waste due to improper keying of frame and vignette plates, but it was found necessary to reset the perforating machine as the sheets from the later printings were almost a half inch shorter and about three-eighths of an inch wider, and the machines as originally set would have cut some of the stamps almost in half. The Bureau therefore stopped further printing with the grain at right angles to the length of the stamps, perforated those already printed and then reset the machine for the new set up. This method was found to be more successful and all the sheets from the second plate layout were also printed in this way, i. e., with the grain of the paper parallel with the length of the stamps.

The difference in size between these two methods of placing the paper on the press is as follows:

The first group of stamps having most of the shrinkage in the horizontal dimension and almost none in the vertical were narrow, although of full normal height, while just the reverse is found in the second group. The shrinkage in the latter was in the height and not in the width, the stamps as a result are wider and not as high as the first lot. This difference is not particularly noticeable in a single copy, (though there nevertheless),) but it is quite apparent in blocks of ten or in sheets. Being done officially the difference is worthy of note in the catalogue as a minor variety. Those on sale at the Bureau were all "wide," the "narrow" ones would seem to be the more desirable.

There is a further marked difference between the two methods of printing, this being in the color of the stamp, but there is no official information forthcoming as to whether this was accidental. The first printing with the paper in normal position were of a much brighter color, a real rose carmine, while the second layout were in a dull grey carmine. This may not hold for all, but those plate number blocks seen by the writers numbering more than 500, are all easily divided by the color into the two sizes. There are also modified shades of each.

The stamps in spite of their unusual size were extremely popular and were in great demand not only by collectors but were used in large quantities for mailing purposes by concerns who felt that the attractive stamps would call attention to their letters. In many of the larger post offices it was impossible to get full sheets and in most places only limited quantities were sold to each purchaser.

As early as November 9th the Postal Bulletin announced to postmasters that no more Yorktowns were available for distribution to the various offices. "Postmasters may advise local stamp collectors—that the Philatelic Agency

still has a limited supply—but, as stock is rapidly becoming depleted, no assurance can be given collectors that they can be supplied with perfectly centered stock. Any future orders to the Agency must be submitted with this understanding."

#703—2 Cent, Carmine Rose and Black. "WASHINGTON, DE GRASSE & ROCHAMBEAU." No Wmk. Perf. 11.

Issued October 19, 1931.

The portraits of both Rochambeau and de Grasse were from engravings furnished to the Post Office Department by the Library of Congress. The former was an old engraving by T. D. Booth of Joseph D. Court's painting of the Count and the latter was found in J. H. Patten's "History of Yorktown," both painter and engraver unknown. The portrait of Washington is after the John Trumbull painting now at Yale University. It was taken from an engraving by A. B. Durand in Vol. I National Portrait Gallery of Distinguished Americans. (Illustrated.)







This stamp was designed by C. A. Huston, the frame was engraved by E. M. Hall and J. C. Benzing, and the vignette by J. Eissler, all of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing.

The first printing in a bright rose carmine and with the shrinkage almost entirely in the width (or length) of the stamps, are easily distinguished. They measure 36⅜mm by 22¾mm. This shrinkage made the correct centering of the vignettes a very difficult operation and where the paper was reversed on the press so that the grain was horizontal to the design it caused the shrinkage to take place in the height, the width remaining normal. The second lot measure 37mm. by 22½mm. This second method having proved a considerable improement as far as red and black plates "keying" was also used for the second or 50 subject layout. The second lot as well as the second layout were printed in a greyish carmine color.

These were the two principal shades, although each had its variations. There is, however, a third distinct color of which only a very small quantity was found, is recognized as an error in color and is already very rare. This is the *Lake* shade. All known copies were found in Birmingham, Ala., by Judge A. H. Benners. The Judge, now 81 years old, is an old friend of ours, he happens to be an "eagle eyed" philatelist who has uncovered more than one error in his day, and in examining a post office book of 100 sheets he found and secured four panes of 50 in this Lake shade, and two in a slightly lighter shade. These were all printed from frame plate No. 20485. In going over this same package a single deep lake pane from plate No. 20481 was also found by Mr. J. E. Addicks,—in addition to this two sheets were found from plate No. 20485, in which the two top rows were printed in deep Lake, while the other rows below gradually blended into the normal color at the bottom of the sheet. This seems to indicate that the Lake shades were caused by an uneven mixture of the ink in part of the wells of the press, which gradually returned to the correct mixture and the normal color. This Lake shade is practically like the lake shade of the 1890 ordinary issue and has been much sought after. Because of its distinct color coupled with the small find, it is likely to become a rarity. The vignette color on those found was in the normal shade of black.

Of the first layout 16 frame plates were used with 22 vignette plates, all of which were found in combination with the others, making a total of 352 plate number combinations. Early information from Washington indicated that plates No. 20512 and No. 20597 to No. 20604 would not be used. This proved to be incorrect, except in the case of the last two plates, No. 20603-04, but judging from the scarcity of combinations from those plates they were used mainly to complete the printing of the first layout, those from plate No. 20602 being the scarcest.

In the printings of the second layout, as noted before, certain vignette plates were almost always found on the right halves of the frame plates and others generally on the left side of the vertical gutter. These were almost entirely divided as follows: Printings from plates No. 20650—52, 53, 59, 61, 62, 64, 67 on the right panes of the border sheets, and No. 20651—56, 57, 58, 60, 63, 65, 66 on the left panes. The only general deviation from this seemed to be at the start of the printing of this layout as the first four border plates were frequently found in combination with the first four vignette plates on both left and right panes. This first set of plates were ready about a week before other border plates had been completed, and it was necessary to feed both right and left halves on the same press for printing the vignette. A few other combinations were found due to odd sheets being placed on the wrong side. These "wrong side of the sheet" combinations are scarce and much sought after by plate number collectors. All frame plates exist in combination with all vignette plates in the second layout, making a total of 128 combinations.

Shades: Bright carmine, rose, grey carmine, light rose lake, blood red, pale lake dark lake. (The pale and dark lake shades are not known in the second layout.)

Varieties: a: Position varieties:

A: First layout.
1. Split right and left halves top and bottom arrows.
2. Complete right and left arrows.
3. Vertical halves center line block, straight edge at right or left.

B: Second layout.
1. Complete arrow line blocks—top, bottom—right or left.
2. Center line block.

b: Plate number blocks.
c: Defective transfers.
d: Double Transfers. (See attached list for plate varieties.)

So much interest has been shown in minor and major plate flaws found on these stamps that we list all that are available starring (*) only those that might be considered major varieties.

Defective transfer of lower frame line on stamps above L. R. Red Plate #20488.
Defective transfer, lower left corner of stamp #1 L. P. Red Plate #20479.
Defective transfer outer left frame line missing at top of Stamp #25, L. P. Red Plate #20668.
On stamp #26, same pane, break in top frame line, over the "ES" of "STATES."
Scratch through "8" in "1781" on stamp #47, L. P. Plate #20479.
Top recut or "patched up" arrows on Plate #20648.
Red dot on "T" of "YORKTOWN" #2 R. P. Plate #20648.
S. W. Diagonal scratch, 5mm above de Grasse's head, #34, R. P. Plate #20648.
Faint irregular scratch between stamps #14-15 and 19-20 R. P. Plate #20661. Also the following on this:
2—Dot in "A" of "STATES."
8—Spot above Rochambeau's eyes.
#20—Spot above Washington's left eye.
#28—Vertical upward layout line from "T" of "STATES."
#31—Black dot in end of "WASHINGTON" label.
*Double transfer in "S" and "G" of "POSTAGE" stamp #45, R. P. Plate #20482.
"Ruby scarf pin" on Washington's portrait #41 R. P. Plate #20482.
Faint scratch through letters "ATES" of "STATES" on stamp #7 R. P. Plate #20646. Comes with and without scratch.
Damaged transfer, bottom frame line broken on stamp #9, R. P. Plate #20646.
*Double transfer. On black plate F 20477, the second stamp in the top row of the right pane, there is a double transfer of the vignette. The black shading lines to the left of the De Grasse portrait are doubled and also very little to the right of the portrait of Washington.
Minor frame line breaks, a possible defective transfer of the light border line perhaps, such as #9, Right #20646, #48 Right #20488, #25 Left #20668 and #26 Right #20668.
Color dots, possibly in some cases plate layout lines or position dots, appear constantly on #4 Right #20480, and #41 and #48 Right #20486.

Plates used: First layout:

Border plates—Red numbers:

#20461—62, 63, 64, 65, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88

Vignette plates—Black numbers:

#20470—72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77
#20504—05, 06, 07, 08, 09, 10, 11, 12, 97, 98, 99
#20600—01, 02

All combinations of these are known.

Plates used: Second layout:
Border plates—Red numbers:
100 subjects #20646—47, 48, 49, 68, 69, 70, 71
Vignette plates—Black numbers:
50 subjects #20650—51, 52, 53, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67

Combinations of the second layout known to exist on both right and left panes:

#20650 with	#20646—47, 49
20650 with	20646—47, 48, 49
20652 with	20649
20653 with	20646—49
20656 with	20646—47, 48, 49
20657 with	20668
20658 with	20668
20659 with	20646—48
20660 with	20670
20662 with	20668

All others are known in combinations with either the right or left pane.

Plates not used: First layout: Frame Plates #20458—59, 60
20585—86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92
Vignette Plates #20471
20603—04

Number issued: First layout: 22,691,400
Second layout: 2,315,000

(To be continued.)

Brief Reviews

DIE ENTSTEHUNG UND ENTWICKLUNG DES NORDISCHEN POSTWESENS, by C. Boysen, 1933, Price three marks.

This book, which deals with the Denmark and Norway Post, will be found of much interest by collectors of these issues, but it is published in German and it would require a translation for those who are not familiar with the language.

DIE ZWEIFARBIGEN BRIEFMARKEN DANEMARKS UND DANISCH WEST-INDIENS 1870-1905, by G. A. Hagemann, Published by Kopenhagen Philatelisten Klub, Price 1 Rmk.

This is a compilation of charts showing the quantities issued of each of the issues of Denmark and Danish West Indies, and readily understandable to any collector although it is published in German.

GERMAN CATAPULT FLIGHTS, (Published by Kurt Kayssner, Bad Buckow Maerk. Schweiz, Lindenstr. 55, Germany. Price $1.00.)

This catalog is printed in English and German, and contains complete information on every flight and is fully illustrated with photographs of the ships in which the flights took place, as well as the planes, cachets and other pertinent information.

It is printed on coated stock, has 130 reproductions and is bound in green cloth.

OUR 157th BIRTHDAY ANNIVERSARY, published by Gnidrettis Historic Covers, Richmond, Va.

The Collectors Club Library is in receipt of the above booklet on the 157th Anniversary. This well done story relates the commemoration of the Richmond-Williamsburg Post Office Day, July 26, 1932. Virginia had an historical Postal Pageant on that day and a special souvenir cover was issued. This booklet aims to complete the story for the cover buyers.

The History of the "Free Franking" of Mail in the United States

By EDWARD STERN.

(All of the Franks illustrated are from my personal collection and the purpose of this article is an attempt to compile a check list of all known Franks. I would be pleased to hear from anyone having any which are not included.)

(Continued from page 121.)

TWENTY-THIRD ADMINISTRATION

ANDREW JOHNSON

(of Tennessee)

April 15, 1865 to March 3, 1869

President Pro Tempore of the Senate	Lafayette S. Foster	Connecticut	
	Benjamin F. Wade	Ohio	
Secretary of State	William H. Seward	New York	Reappointed
Secretary of the Treasury	Hugh McCulloch	Indiana	Reappointed
Secretary of War	Edwin M. Stanton	Pennsylvania	Reappointed
	Ulysses S. Grant	Illinois	August 12, 1867
	John M. Schofield	Illinois	June 1, 1868
Attorney General	James Speed	Kentucky	Reappointed
	J. Hubley Ashton (Asst. Atty. Gen'l.)	Pennsylvania	July 17, 1866
	Henry Stanbery	Ohio	July 23, 1866
	Orville H. Browning (Ad Interim)	Illinois	March 13, 1868
	William M. Evarts	New York	July 20, 1868
Postmaster General	William Dennison	Ohio	Reappointed
	Alex. W. Randall (First Asst. P. M.)	Wisconsin	July 17, 1866
Secretary of the Navy	Gideon Welles	Connecticut	Reappointed
Secretary of the Interior	John P. Usher	Indiana	Reappointed
	James Harlan	Iowa	May 15, 1865
	Orville H. Browning	Illinois	September 1, 1866

Descriptions of Franks Illustrated

PLATE 61

Cover # 1 **LAFAYETTE SABINE FOSTER**—Franked while Member of Congress. He was a member of the State House of Representatives at various times between 1839 to 1853, and served as Speaker for three years, Mayor of Norwich, Connecticut 1851-1852, elected in 1854 as a Republican to the United States Senate, reelected in 1854 and served until 1867, President Pro Tempore of the Senate 1865-1867, Professor of Law in Yale College 1869, again Member of the State House of Representatives 1870, he was elected Speaker but resigned in that year to accept a judicial position, he was appointed Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of Connecticut and served until 1876.

Cover # 2 **LAFAYETTE SABINE FOSTER**—Franked while Member of Congress, cover postmarked Norwich Ct. (Refer to Cover #1 on this plate.)

Cover # 3 **BENJAMIN FRANKLIN WADE**—Franked while President Pro Tempore of the Senate. He was a Member of the State Senate 1837-1838, elected as a Whig to the United States Senate 1851, serving until 1869, Delegate to the Southern Loyalists Convention at Philadelphia 1866, candidate for Vice President at the Republican National Convention at Chicago 1868, Chairman of the Ohio Delegation to the Republican National Convention at Cincinnati 1876.

Cover # 4 **BENJAMIN FRANKLIN WADE**—Franked while United States Senator. (Refer to Cover #3 on this Plate.)

Cover # 5 **FRANK COWAN**—Franked while Secretary to President Andrew Johnson. He was District Attorney of Greensburg, Pa. 1878, he made a tour of the globe in 1880-1881, entering Corea before the making of any of the treaties between that country and civilized nations, and sent to the United States Government much information about the exports and imports.

Cover # 6 **WILLIAM HENRY SEWARD**—Franked while Secretary of State. (Refer to Plate 40, number 5) (Plate 52, number 4.)

Cover # 7 **ROBERT S. CHEW**—Franked while Chief Clerk of the State Department. He entered the service of the Government in his youth and served in the State Department for more than 40 years.

Philatelic Position Finder

THE THIRKELL PHILATELIC POSITION FINDER, Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W. C. 2. Price 1sh.

Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., are just putting on the market a useful philatelic accessory, which they call a Position Finder.

It consists of a piece of Celluloid, containing a grill of small squares, each horizontal line divided by a letter, and each vertical line by a number.

By putting a stamp under the Position Finder, with the Zero line touching the top and left sides of the design, any variety, such as a retouch, re-entry or plate flaw can be located, by merely giving the letter and number, and the number of lines to indicate the position of the variety.

This will obviate much useless description in locating these varieties and if Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., are successful in having the finders universally adopted, it will do much to simplify the efforts of the philatelic writers.

As example, Stanley Gibbons cite the following:

> "Colored dot 2 mm., S. E. of the foot of the left-hand stroke of the 'A' in 'POSTAGE' take a lot of time to evolve and to interpret,'

and which could with the Position Finder be clearly located by some such combination as K 7.

Readers who have located towns on maps, will know just how this is used.

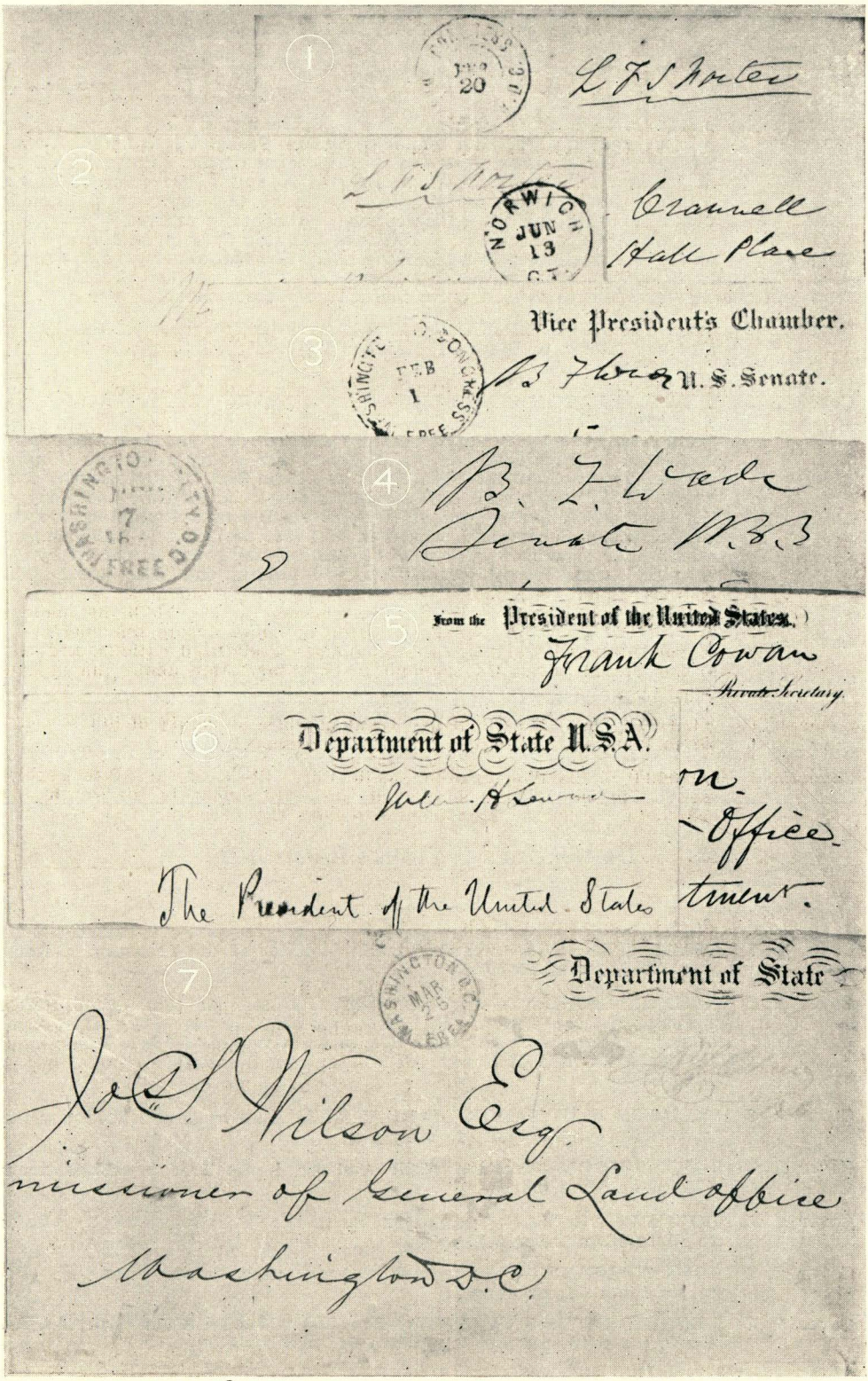


Plate 61. Johnson Administration.

Descriptions of Franks Illustrated

PLATE 62

Cover # 1 **HUGH McCULLOCH**—Franked while Secretary of the Treasury. He also served in this same capacity under Presidents Lincoln, Grant, Arthur and Cleveland. He was the President of the Bank of the State of Indiana 1856-1863, he then resigned to accept the office of Comproller of Currency which was tendered to him by Secretary Salmon P. Chase, undertaking the organization of the newly created bureau and putting into operation of the National Banking System, in March 1865, on the resignation of Wm. P. Fessenden, Mr. McCulloch was appointed by President Abraham Lincoln Secretary of the Treasury at which time the Government was in great financial embarrassment.

Cover # 2 **FRANCIS ELIAS SPINNER**—Franked while Treasurer of the United States. (Refer to Plate 51, number 1) (Plate 53, numbers 5 and 6) (Plate 59, number 7.)

Cover # 3 **WILLIAM EATON CHANDLER**—Franked while First Assistant Secretary of the Treasury. He was a Member of the State House of Representatives 1862-1864, serving as Speaker during the last two years, appointed by President Lincoln, Solicitor and Judge Advocate General of the Navy Department 1865, Member of the State Constitutional Convention 1876, appointed by President Chester A. Arthur, Secretary of the Navy 1882, and served until 1885, elected as a Republican to the United States Senate and served until 1889, reelected in 1895 serving until 1901, appointed by President William McKinley president of the Spanish Claims Treaty Commission 1901 holding that office until 1908.

Cover # 4 **S. B. COLBY**—Franked while Register of the Treasury.

Cover # 5 **ALEXANDER DELMAR**—Franked while in the Treasury Department serving as Director of the Bureau of Statistics. He was financial editor of several New York papers, he was called upon to organize the United States Bureau of Statistics in 1866 and was its director 1867-68 and became President of the Washington Statistical Society 1867.

Cover # 6 **J. F. HARTLEY**—Franked while Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

Descriptions of Franks Illustrated

PLATE 63

Cover # 1 **EDWARD JORDAN**—Franked while Solicitor of the Treasury. (Refer to plate 53, number 2.)

Cover # 2 **NATHAN SARGENT**—Franked while Register of the United States Treasury in connection with the Customs. He was Sargent-at-Arms of the United States House of Representatives 1849-1851, Register of the United States Treasury 1851-1853, and Commissioner of Customs 1861-67.

Cover # 3 **STEPHEN J. W. TABOR**—Franked while Auditor of the Treasury Department (Fourth auditors office).

Cover # 4 **JOHN WILSON**—Franked while Auditor in the Treasury Department (Third auditors office).

Cover # 5 **LORENZO THOMAS**—Franked while in the War Department. (Refer to Plate 38, number 2.)

Cover # 6 **SAMUEL BRECK**—Franked while Assistant Adjutant General. (Refer to Plate 54, number 7.)

Cover # 7 **EDWARD DAVIS TOWNSEND**—Franked while Adjutant General. (Refer to plate 48, number 6) (Plate 54, number 8.)

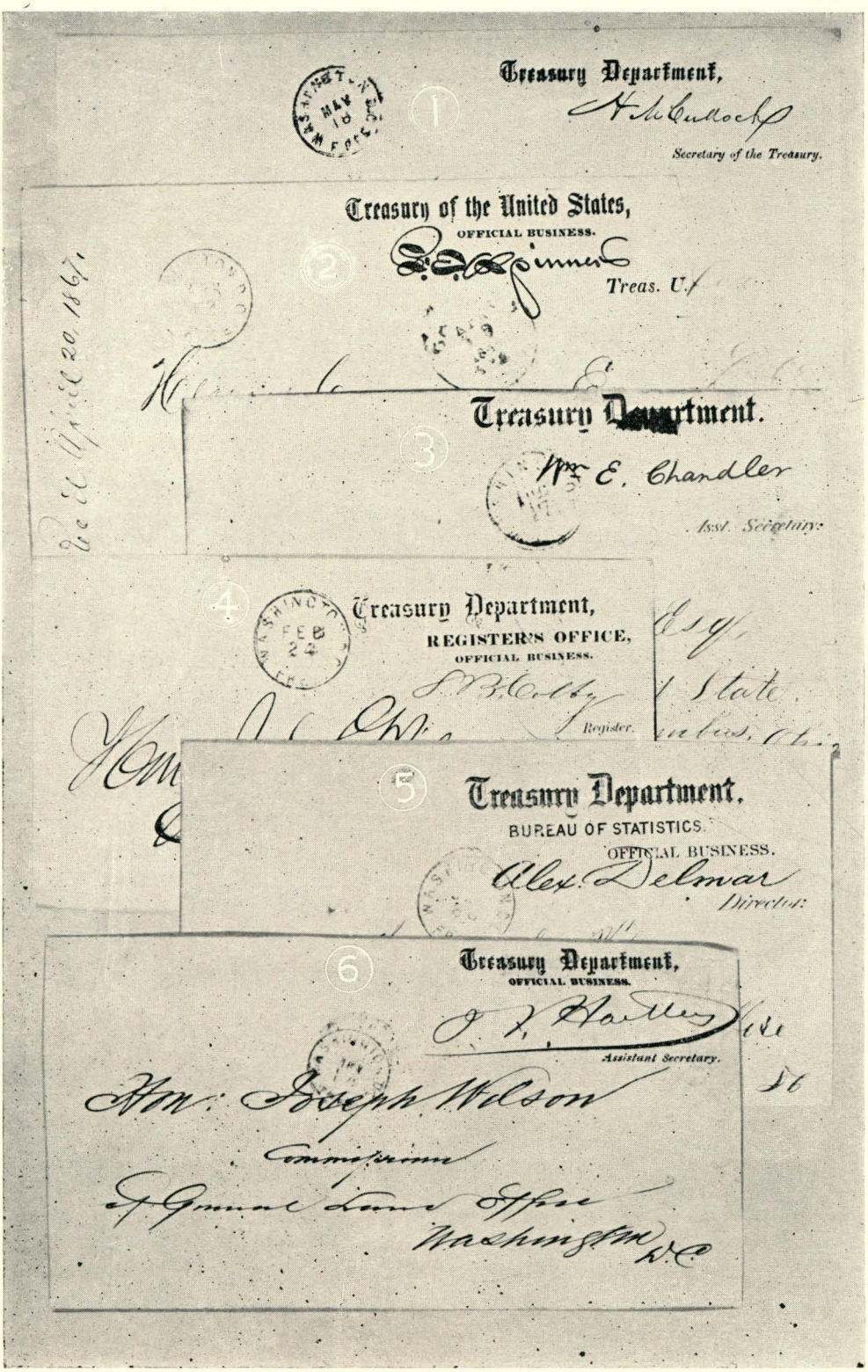


Plate 62. Johnson Administration.

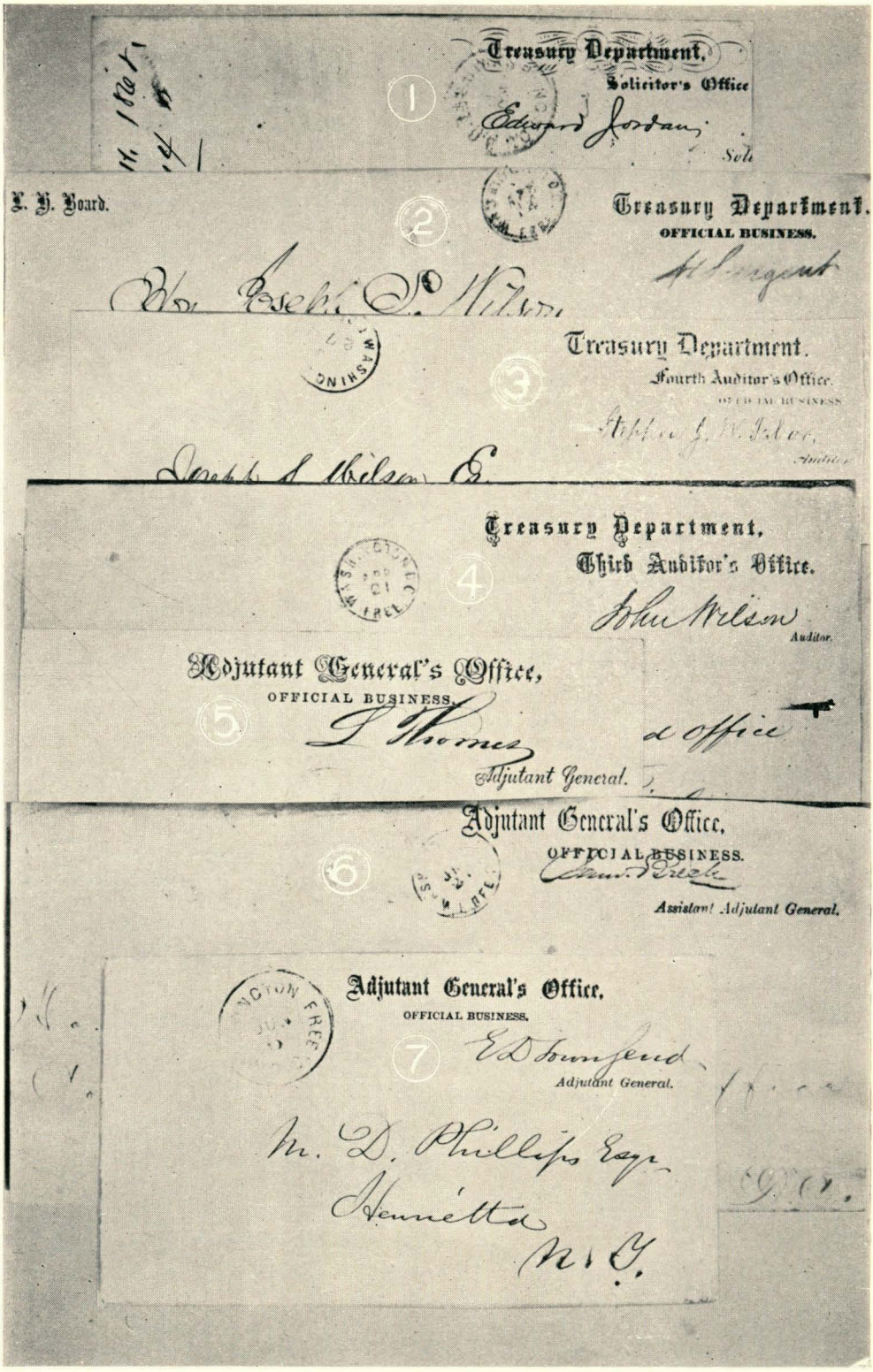


Plate 63. Johnson Administration.



Plate 64. Johnson Administration.

Descriptions of Franks Illustrated

PLATE 64

Cover # 1 **HENRY STANBERY**—Franked while Attorney General. He was Council at the impeachment trial of President Andrew Johnson.

Cover # 2 **ALEXANDER W. RANDALL**—Franked while Postmaster General. He was chosen a member of the Convention in 1847 that framed the State Constitution, he was elected Governor of Wisconsin, 1857-1859, appointed United States Minister to Italy 1861.

Cover # 3 **HUGH JOHNSTON ANDERSON**—Franked while Auditor of the Treasury Department. He served as Governor of Maine 1844-1847, presidential elector on the Democratic Ticket of Cass and Butler 1848, served as Commissioner of Customs in the United States Treasury Department 1853-1858, appointed the head of the commission to reorganize and adjust the affairs of the United States Mint at San Francisco, Cal. 1857.

Cover # 4 **ORVILLE H. BROWNING**—Franked while Secretary of the Interior. He served as Attorney General in this same cabinet, he served in the Illinois Volunteers through the Black Hawk War 1832, Member of the State Senate 1836-1843, he was one of the organizers of the State Republican Party at the Bloomington Convention 1854, this Convention giving the name "Republican" to the party, Delegate to the Republican National Convention at Chicago 1860, appointed as a Republican to the United States Senate to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Stephen A. Douglas, member of the Union Executive Committee 1866, Delegate to the State Constitutional Convention 1869.

Cover # 5 **W. P. DOLE**—Franked while Commissioner in the Department of the Interior (office of Indian affairs).

Cover # 6 **BUNTON CHAUNCEY COOK**—Franked while Member of the 40th Congress. (Refer to Plate 59, number 2.)

Descriptions of Franks Illustrated

PLATE 65

Cover # 1 **ROBERT CUMMING SCHENCK**—Franked while Member of Congress. He was Minister to Brazil 1851-1853, during the Civil War he entered the Union Army 1861, and served as Brigadier General of the Volunteers, promoted to Major General 1862, Minister to Great Britain.

Cover # 2 **SCHUYLER COLFAX**—Franked while Member of Congress, serving as Speaker of the House. (Refer to plate 57, number 7.)

Cover # 3 **NATHANIEL PRENTICE BANKS**—Franked while Member of Congress. He served in this capacity 1849-52 also 1855-1857 and was chosen Speaker in both terms, he became Governor of Massachusetts, Vice President of the Illinois Central R. R., entered the Union Army as a Major General of Volunteers, received the thanks of Congress 1864, for the skill and courage which compelled the surrender of Port Hudson, elected as a Union Republican to the 39th and 45th Congresses and served 1865-1879, Member of State Senate 1874, 1889-1891.

Cover # 4 **JAMES GILLESPIE BLAINE**—Franked while Member of Congress. (Refer to plate 57, number 8.)



Plate 65. Johnson Administration.

Cover # 5 **GEORGE SEWEL BOUTWELL**—Franked while Member of Congress. He was a Member of the State House of Representatives 1842-1844 and 1847-1850, he was Governor of Massachusetts 1851-1852, Member of the Board of Overseers of Harvard University 1850-1860, Member of the Peace Convention of 1861 held in Washington, D. C. in an effort to devise means to prevent the impending war, served on the Military Commission under the War Department in 1862, First Commissioner of Internal Revenue 1862-1863, elected as a Republican to Congress 1863-1869, one of the managers appointed by the House of Representatives 1868 to conduct the impeachment proceedings against Andrew Johnson, President of the United States, appointed Secretary of the Treasury by President Grant and served 1869-1873, elected to the United States Senate to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Henry Wilson, appointed by President R. B. Hayes Commissioner to codify and edit the Statutes at Large in 1871, United States counsel before the French and American Claims Commission 1880, Council for Haiti 1885, Hawaii 1886, Chile 1893-1894.

Cover # 6 **CHARLES P. CLEVER**—Franked while Member of the 40th Congress. He was appointed United States Marshall for New Mexico 1857-1861, during the Civil War he served as Adjutant on the staff of General Canby at the Battle of Valverde, Adjutant General of New Mexico 1861-1865 and 1867-1868, Attorney General 1862-1867, appointed one of the incorporators of the Centennial Exposition 1869, served as a Commissioner to revise and codify the laws of New Mexico.

Descriptions of Franks Illustrated

PLATE 66

Cover # 1 **JOHN ANDREW JACKSON CRESWELL**—Franked while Member of Congress. He was a Delegate to the Democratic National Convention at Cincinnati 1856, Member State House of Delegates 1861, elected as a Republican to the Congress 1863-1865, elected to the United States Senate 1865-1867, Delegate to the Republican National Convention at Baltimore in 1864 and at Chicago 1868, appointed Postmaster General in the Cabinet of President U. S. Grant, Counsel of the United States before the Alabama Claims Commission 1874-1876.

Cover # 2 **JOHN FRANKLIN FARNSWORTH**—Franked while Member of Congress. He served in the Union Army during the Civil War, commissioned Colonel of the Eighth Regiment Illinois Volunteers Cavalry 1861, Brigadier General of Volunteers 1862.

Cover # 3 **THOMAS WHITE FERRY**—Franked while Member of Congress. He was a Member of the State Senate 1856, elected as a Republican to the Congress, serving in the 39th. to the 42nd. inclusive, when he resigned having been elected Senator 1871, re-elected 1877, and served until 1883, President pro tempore of the Senate under President U. S. Grant, designated by the President to represent him at the Centennial Exposition at Philadelphia July 4th, 1876, presided over the High Court of Impeachment of Secretary of War W. W. Belknap and the sixteen joint meetings of the two Houses during the Hayes-Tilden contest 1877, re-elected President pro tempore of the Senate 1877-1879.

Cover # 4 **REVERDY JOHNSON**—Franked while United States Senator. (Refer to Plate 59, number 6.)

Cover # 5 **JOHN A. LOGAN**—Franked while Member of Congress. (Refer to Plate 54, number 4.)

Cover # 6 **HORACE MAYNARD**—Franked while Member of Congress. (Refer to Plate 54, number 5.)



Plate 66. Johnson Administration.

Descriptions of Franks Illustrated

PLATE 67

Cover # 1 **GEORGE WASHINGTON MORGAN**—Franked while Member of the 40th. Congress. He was a Cadet in the United States Military Academy at West Point 1841-1843, served in the Mexican War, appointed Consul at Marseille, France 1855, appointed Minister Resident at Lisbon, Portugal 1858, served in the Civil War and had command of the Seventh Division of the Army of the Ohio, was with General Sherman at Vicksburg, was in command at the taking of Fort Hindman, Arkansas, elected to Congress 1869-1873, Delegate to the Democratic National Convention at St. Louis 1876 and died at Fortress, Virginia.

Cover # 2 **THEODORE MEDAD POMEROY**—Franked while Member of Congress. He was Delegate to the Republican National Convention at Chicago 1860, and at Cincinnati 1876, and served as temporary chairman of the latter Convention, elected as a Republican to Congress 1861-1869, elected Speaker of the House, Mayor of Auburn 1875-1876, Member of the State Senate 1878-1879.

Cover # 3 **HENRY WARNER SLOCUM**—Franked while Member of Congress. Graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point and commissioned Second Lieutenant of the First Artillery 1852, served in the Seminole War and was promoted to First Lieutenant 1855, Member of the State Assembly 1859, during the Civil War entered the Union Army as Colonel of the 28th. New York Volunteers 1861, he was wounded at the first battle of Bull Run, promoted Brigadier General of Volunteers 1861, Major General 1862, presidential elector on the Democratic Ticket of Seymour and Blair 1868, appointed President of the Department of City Works 1876.

Cover # 4 **CHARLES SUMNER**—Franked while United States Senator. (Refer to Plate 46, number 7.) (Plate 51, numbers 2 and 3.) (Plate 60, number 1.)

Cover # 5 **GEORGE HENRY WILLIAMS**—Franked while United States Senator. He was Judge of the First Judicial District of Iowa 1847-1852, presidential elector on the Democratic Ticket of Pierce and King 1852, Chief Justice of the Territory of Oregon 1853-1859, Member of the State Constitutional Convention of Oregon 1858, elected as a Union Republican of the United States Senate 1865-1871, Attorney General under President U. S. Grant 1872-1875, Mayor of Portland, Oregon 1902-1905.

Cover # 6 **WILLIAM P. FESSENDEN**—Franked while United States Senator. (Refer to Plate 52, number 6.)

Brief Reviews

RUMANIEN 1866-1872, by Dir. Heinrich Birnbach, Berlin.

Dir. Heinrich Birnbach has just produced a 56-page booklet on "Die Rekonstruktion der Umdruckblocks der Rumanischen Briefmarkenausgabe von 1866-1872, and as Dir. Birnbach is an authority on these stamps, this 1933 work should be of considerable value for collectors of these stamps. The booklet is nicely illustrated and published by Hugo Mayer, Dornbirn, and can be procured from the author for RM. 1.50. A copy is in the Collectors Club Library through the courtesy of Dir. Birnbach.

POSTSTEMPEL, published by Die Postmarke, Wien.

This is a remarkable work, containing a most elaborate illustrated description of the Postmarks of the world. It contains 1500 illustrations and will be found indispensable to collectors of these issues.

OESTERREICH SPEZIAL KATALOG, 1933, von Ing. Edwin Muller, Vienna.

We have received the above catalog from the author and collectors of this country will find it of special interest.

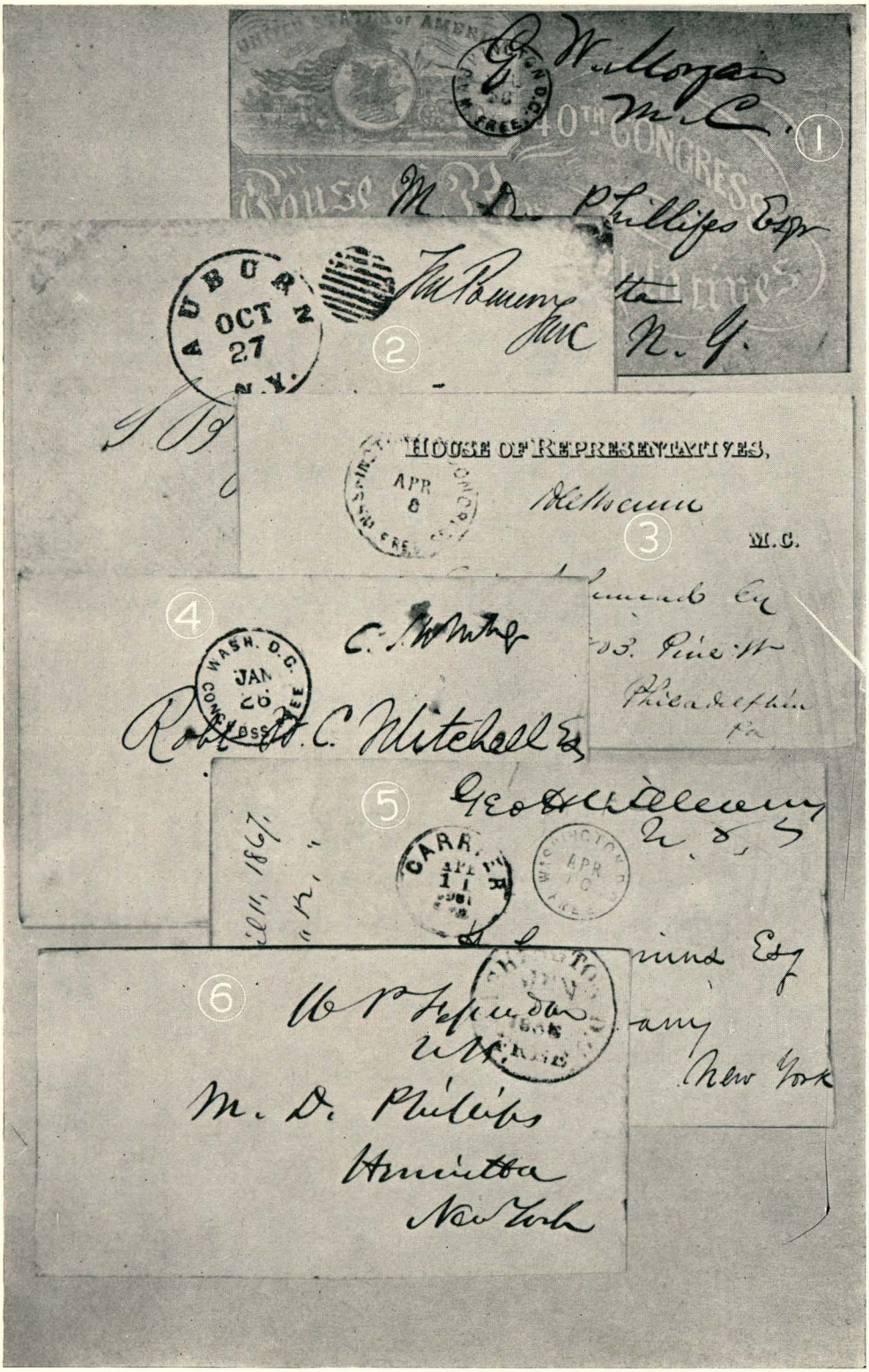


Plate 67. Johnson Administration.

Descriptions of Franks Illustrated

PLATE 68

Cover # 1 **SAMUEL GREENE ARNOLD**—Franked while United States Senator. He was elected Lieutenant Governor of Rhode Island 1852, and in the absence of Governor Sprague was Acting Governor, Member of the Peace Commission held at Washington, D. C. 1861, in an effort to devise means to prevent the impending War, again elected Lieutenant Governor 1861-1862, during the Civil War organized a company of light artillery and went to Washington, D. C. where it was mustered into the Union Army, elected as a Republican to the United States Senate 1862-1863, President of the Rhode Island Historical Society 1868-1880.

Cover # 2 **EDWARD DENNISON MORGAN**—Franked while United States Senator. (Refer to Plate 58, number 8.)

Cover # 3 **HENRY WILSON**—Franked while United States Senator. (Refer to Plate 51, number 7.)

Cover # 4 **EDWARD McPHERSON**—Franked while Clerk in the House of Representatives. (Refer to Plate 57, numbers 4 and 5.)

Cover # 5 **JAMES HARLAN**—Franked while United States Senator. (Refer to Plate 58, number 7.)

Cover # 6 **N. G. TAYLOR**—Franked while in the Department of the Interior, as Commissioner in the office of Indian Affairs.

(To be continued.)

Statement of the Ownership, Management, Circulation, Etc., Required by the Act of Congress of August 24, 1912,

Of the **Collectors Club Philatelist**, published Quarterly at Federalsburg, Maryland, for October 1, 1933.

State of New York, County of New York, SS:

Before me, a Notary Public, in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared H. L. Lindquist, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the Editor of the Collectors Club Philatelist, and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management, etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, embodied in section 411, Postal Laws and Regulations, printed on the reverse of this form, to wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are:

Publisher, Collectors Club, 30 East 42nd St., New York City.
Editor, H. L. Lindquist, 30 East 42nd St., New York City.
Managing Editor, None. Business Managers, None.

2. That the owner is: (If owned by a corporation, its name and address must be stated and also immediately thereunder the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding one per cent. or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by a firm, Company, or other unincorporated concern, its name and address, as well as those of each individual member, must be given.) Collectors Club, 30 East 42nd St., New York City. President, B. S. King, 30 East 42nd St., New York City. Vice President, L. B. Mason, 30 East 42nd St., New York City. Secretary, Charles Curie, 30 East 42nd St., New York City. Treasurer, S. G. Rich, 30 East 42nd St., New York City.

3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent. or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: (If there are none, so state). None.

H. L. LINDQUIST, Editor.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 25th day of September, 1933.

ANNE V. SULLIVAN, Notary Public.



Plate 68. Johnson Administration.

United States 1857-1861

In December 1894, I was in the United States on a business visit and eventually went up to Boston and spent a few days there visiting some of the older dealers with whom I did business. Among these I specially remember several interviews I had with F. Trifet of 36 Bromfield St., Boston, who had corresponded with my old firm of Stanley Gibbons, Ltd. since 1866.

Trifet was of French descent and a music publisher, and he had some very interesting stories of old stamps that he had possessed. The best account I have been able to find is in the *Boston Stamp Book* for 1896.

On April 21st of that year, Trifet read a paper before the *Boston Philatelic Society* giving very interesting accounts of his early connection with stamp dealing which apparently commenced in 1862. In the course of this article he stated that in 1876 he was entrusted with the entire Government collection of postage stamps which had been received at the Post Office Department in Washington, for many years and which was placed in his hands for re-arrangement. This he arranged in two very fine volumes and from his own stock, added stamps to a value he estimated of $3,000.00. When this was completed he took it to Washington and presented it to the Postmaster General, Mr. Barber.

Trifet goes on to say that in return for this the Department presented him with a large quantity of old stamps, proofs and essays, all of which, at the time, he considered but ill repaid him for his labor. He gives the following list of stamps which he received:

1800 of each of the eight values of the issues of 1857 to 1860, 1c. to 90c.

120 complete sets of all Officials including all the Dollar value State Departments in sheets.

150 each of the compound envelopes both with and without patent lines and thousands of other old envelopes.

Reprints in sets by the hundred of U. S. stamps 1847 to 1869, also a quantity of essays, proofs and Specimen stamps. Among other things were also 183 of the 3c rose with the grille all over.

Trifet says that when he was in Washington and received these stamps from Ireland this latter gentleman said that he gave orders to make two sheets of the 3c. grilled all over, but that on trial of a few specimens it was found not to work satisfactorily and the smaller grille was then tried and used. Ireland told Trifet that only 200 of these 3c. were made.

During my visit to Boston, Trifet told me that he had the greatest difficulty in persuading collectors to give him anything for these 3c. grilled all over and he eventually used them up on his correspondence.

On my return to London in the Spring of 1895, I mentioned this to Major Evans. He said that he remembered something about a 3c with large grille and the week following, after he had looked through his old correspondence, he brought into Stanley Gibbons office, a cover addressed to himself which he had received from Trifet and which was franked with several 3c pink grilled all over, excellent proof, I think, of the statement Trifet made that he used these stamps on his correspondence.

Several of the older dealers have told me that included in the Trifet stamps was a sheet or part sheet of the United States 1860, 24c imperf. It seems certain that Trifet had some of these stamps as a number of copies have been traced back to Boston and it is not known that anyone else had them. If he did he must have cut them up singly and they are probably dispersed all about the U. S. A. in small collections, many no doubt having been destroyed.

The bulk of the stamps that Trifet received for arranging the Official Collection, were stamps that had been returned to the head office in Washington on the outbreak of the Civil War when they were demonetized.

C. J. PHILLIPS.

The Collectors Club Philatelist

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ADVERTISING RATES UPON REQUEST

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

WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO ABOUT IT?

DURING the past few years, and more especially during recent months, there has been a remarkable impetus in the growth of interest in stamp collecting in the United States.

This growing interest has been manifested in the increasingly large number of newspapers which are establishing stamp departments, in many radio broadcasts, and in scores of articles in all types of general and technical magazines. The fact that the PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES and many of our leaders in business, professional and political life are collectors has undoubtedly had some influence, but broad foundations for this growth have been laid over a long period of time.

With this influx of thousands, and possibly tens of thousands of new collectors, including an increasingly large number of women, several problems are presented which should have the serious consideration of organizations such as ours.

The problem of the adult beginner is a particularly acute one, and unless these beginners are properly guided their interest is very apt to be short-lived and the experience that they may have gained is not apt to be one that would cause them to renew their interest.

We should therefore undertake to formulate plans for the guidance of these beginners and provide them with information that will enable them to intelligently select some branch of philately adapted to their finances and temperament.

The present tendency of almost every beginner is to specialize in the United States issues and particularly in the recent commemoratives. This makes a very interesting and desirable field but unless the new collector has a broader foundation than this he is apt to soon tire of the hobby.

Another specialty that is attracting increased attention is that of collecting airmail stamps and covers. This offers a far broader scope for collecting but is also of itself more or less inadequate.

The real reason for this specialization has been pointed out by Hugh M. Clark of the Scott Stamp & Coin Company, and we are very much inclined to agree with his conclusions.

His investigations have shown that the average collector who starts a general collection finds when he has accumulated about 5000 varieties that the task of forming a general collection is too difficult, and consequently he arrives at one of two decisions: Either he gives the whole matter up as being hopeless, or, he seeks advice as to what he should adopt as a specialty. Heretofore he has had but two main choices, U. S. or Airmails, as these were the only specialties for which satisfactory albums were provided, unless he felt competent to select a blank album and blaze his own trails.

With the coming of specialized albums this problem will be largely solved but it is the duty of organizations such as the *Collectors Club* to take a leading part in *guiding* the progress of philately and we pass that thought on for consideration.

1933-34 SEASON

In this issue is presented the program for the coming season, which opens with our meeting of October 4th, 1933.

The new Chairman of the Entertainment Committee, Clarenze W. Brazer, has worked out a particularly attractive program, containing a number of individual displays interspersed with contests and exhibitions that touch every branch of philately.

Every member who can possibly do so should make an effort to attend every meeting and for the benefit of those at a distance we will continue to report the meetings in this magazine.

H. L. LINDQUIST.

Program of Meetings

SEASON 1933-1934

On Competition Nights, Certificates will be awarded to members for the interest and condition of the stamps shown, but not for rarity.

Exhibits not the personal property of the exhibitor will be "Not in Competition" for Club Certificates of award.

August 9th. American Collections from the Wipa International Exhibition in Vienna, through courtesy of E. Klein, American Representative.

October 4th. Competition — United States. 19th Century Postal issues by Members, limited to 24 pages each.

October 18th. Exhibition — Uruguay and Buenos Aires. By Mr. Alfred F. Lichtenstein.

November 1st. Competition. Most interesting 24 pages from collections of Club Members.

November 15th. Exhibition — United States, 1847 to 1869. By Mr. Saul Newbury of Chicago.

December 6th. Visit and Exhibition. By Members of the Fort Orange Stamp Club, Albany, N. Y.

December 20th. Competition — United States, 20th Century Postal Issues by Club Members, limited to 24 pages each.

January 3rd. 1934 Annual Meeting—Exhibition—United States, Nineteenth Century Postage and Revenues. Collection of Mr. Henry C. Gibson of Philadelphia.

January 17th. Competition — Entire British Empire. By Club Members, limited to 60 pages each.

February 7th. Exhibition—Confederate States. By Club members, limited to 60 pages each.

February 21st. Competition — United States Envelope Stamps. By Members, limited to 24 pages.

March 7th. Visit and Exhibition. By Members of the Philadelphia Chapter 18, American Philatelic Society and the Philadelphia Stamp Club.

March 21st. Competition—Essays and Proofs of the stamps of any country, limited to 24 pages from Members Collections.

April 4th. Exhibition—European Countries. Collection of Mr. Hans Lagerloef of New York.

April 18th. Competition—United States Revenue Stamps. Limited to 24 pages from Members Collections.

May 2nd. Exhibition—United States—Locals, Carriers and Postmasters. Stamps on Covers by Club Members, limited to 60 pages each.

May 16th. Competition—Stamps of Any Country, exclusive of United States and British Empire, by Club Members, limited to 24 pages.

June 6th. Exhibition—United States Precancels. By Club Members and Members of the New York Precancel Stamp Club, limited to 60 pages each.

Out-of-Town Visits

Tuesday, October 24th. Fort Orange Stamp Club, Albany, N. Y.

Tuesday, February 6th. Philadelphia Chapter 18, American Philatelic Society and Philadelphia Stamp Club.

COMMEMORATIVE POSTAGE STAMPS OF THE UNITED STATES by Ralph A. Kimble, (Publ. Grosset and Dunlap. Price $1.50.)

Mr. Kimble has very adequately covered these popular issues of the United States stamps.

Baltimore Cancellations Colonial to 1861

By L. R. Rellim.

FOREWORD

THE Editor of the C. C. P. has from time to time advocated that a history on cancellations and postal markings be written, and in that he has been ably assisted by Delf Norona, who has outlined the various classes. It must be admitted that such a *magnum opus*, so encyclopedic in its scope, would have to be sectionalized and written up by various authors who made a study of a particular subject.

Our interest in cancellations primarily came through stampless covers, receiving its impetus from F. S. Eaton, father of stampless cover collecting. As it was impossible to collect everything, specialization was the order of the day, and collectors confined themselves to states and cities. Baltimore being alphabetically at the top of the first ten cities of the country, or perhaps for other reasons, we have taken the early cancellations of that city for our study.

In this connection we must mention our indebtedness to R. F. Chambers for the straight lines as listed in the *American Philatelist*, and to Ernest Green, acting postmaster for Baltimore, for some of the statistical and historical data. Last but not least, to Harry M. Konwiser, for recourse to his reference book:—*"Colonial and Revolutionary Posts."*

Indeed, it must inevitably become the *"Blackstone"* to those collecting the postal markings of the 18th Century. We have taken the liberty of extracting some of the nuggets and give them proper setting as the Maryland jewels of the "diadem" of Colonial and Revolutionary markings. We preferred that others make a serious start in submitting a study of the postal markings of some large city, in order to get an idea as to method of arrangement, to the end that there shall be uniformity of study. Tho many have suggested, no one has so far ventured. Perhaps waiting for the other person to ascertain the depth and temperature of the water before leaping. However here goes our plunge, with the admonition that our venture is but an outline and allows for considerable amplification and revision, and the hope that it will aid others and inspire them in like efforts.

CHAPTER I

COLONIAL POSTS OF MARYLAND

As the story of Baltimore cancellations must of necessity be co-extensive with that of Maryland a little sketch of the provincial post, would not be out of place. The first authentic record mentioning a postal service in America is that of proceedings of the General Court of Massachusetts (1639) that Richard Fairbank's house in Boston is the place appointed for all letters which are brought from beyond the seas, or are to be sent thither. It is just as possible that similar arrangements had been made by the colonists sent out by Lord Baltimore. Certainly the idea must have been prevalent when Francis Lovelace, governor of New York, in 1672, established the Merchants Exchange and made an abortive attempt for intercolonial communication.

However, the first postal system in the colonies, was established by William Penn. Post riders were dispatched once a week to Maryland, the time of the

departure being published "on the meeting-house doore." They proceeded over trails that were marked only by blazing trees, and the charge was nine pence.

This Colonial post had some measure of success until superceded by the royal government when King William granted a patent to Thomas Neal for twenty-one years. He in turn selected Andrew Hamilton of New Jersey "to govern and manage the said general post-office for and through all the King's Plantations and Co onies in the Mainland or Continent of America and Islands adjacent thereto."

Hamilton established a postal route on the main line of travel between Portsmouth, N. H. and Virginia, through Maryland, with the general post office at Philadelphia. It was maintained at a loss and application was made to the colonies for assistance. Massachusetts fell in line and among the rates established, mention was made that from Mary and and Virginia to Boston cost two shillings.

That this experiment proved costly can be realized when it must be considered that most of the settlers were clinging to the river banks and the main roads of travel and what few letters were dispatched usually were intrusted to chance travelers, traders or special messengers. Moreover, the Puritans of New England, the Dutch around the Hudson, the Quakers at Philadelphia, the Catholics of Maryland, and the Cavaliers in Virginia had a far greater intercourse with their relatives and friends in the lands whence they came than with each other in the co onies. Perhaps that would in some measure explain the identical charge of 9 pence for a letter from Philadelphia to Maryland and to Europe or the West Indies.

Maryland recognized the postal conditions when its first law was passed on September 5, 1704. At that time it was the practice of depositing all letters and packages in a public house to be forwarded by the first conveyance that chanced to pass or set out. The act provided "for the speedy conveyance of the public letters and packages of this Province, and for the defraying of the charge thereof."

At times, however, letters of importance containing bills of exchange fell into the hands of dishonest persons and so another law was passed in Maryland, April 15, 1707, being "an act to prevent the abuse of breaking open and concealing public and private letters", and these laws continued in force until the establishment of William Goddard's Constitutional Postal Service in 1774.

Finally the Crown repurchased the Neale grant in 1710 and by an act of Parliament passed the same year (reign of Queen Anne) designated New York as the center of operations, provided for the appointment of a Deputy Postmaster General subordinate to the Postmaster General in England, and fixed various rates of postage, amongst which was 1 shilling from New York to Annapolis, the chief town in Maryland, and return. The seat of Government had been transferred from St. Mary's in 1694. In pursuance to that act, John Hamilton, the son of Andrew Hamilton, was appointed and during the same year had established a post between New York and Virginia through Maryland which required six weeks for a round trip.

This Province in 1713 conceived the unique manner of aiding in the distribution of letters to settlers removed from the direct centers. The act made it the duty of the Sheriff of each county to convey all letters to their destination in his county, but, if beyond, to the Sheriff of the next county, and his emolument was 600 pounds of tobacco a year (tobacco was then used as currency).

In 1727 the mail went to Annapolis, general post office of Maryland, from Philadelphia once every two weeks in summer and once a month in winter, going by way of New Castle to the Western shore and thence to the Eastern shore and back. Henry Pratt was the ridingmaster for all the stages between Philadelphia and Newport in Virginia, in 1738, making the round trip in twenty-four days.

CHAPTER II

EARLY BALTIMORE CITY

Baltimore was not established until 1729, when the provincial legislature directed seven commissioners to purchase land on the north shore of the Patapsco river and lay out a township where the Jones falls emptied into the river. This choice proved a happy one and absorbed the surrounding hamlets, even absorbing Jones Town which had been previously settled.

Annapolis office still received all letters for the Maryland colonists, but the little town felt the need for some sort of a post office, and this was established in 1751 by public subscription. It was hardly more than a shack and stood at French street and the old Joppa road, now Front and Exeter streets, but it sufficed as a clearing house for the town. It had no official postmaster but it served as headquarters for the letters brought by post riders from the Colonial office at Annapolis. It is assumed that this small wooden building served the town until just before the Revolutionary War, for no mention is made in the official records of any subsequent building until under the Continental Congress.

When Elliot Benger, who succeeded John Hamilton, died in 1753, Benjamin Franklin, who already held the office of Surveyor of the Colonial Post, was appointed Deputy of the Crown, and he together with William Hunter became joint Postmasters General for the Colonies. At about the same time the delivery to addressees was begun from Annapolis and the practice was started of advertising letters that were not called for, the medium being the *Maryland Gazette.*

Under the regime of Franklin, Parliament (Act of 5 George III October 10, 1765) created the following rates:

> For inland conveyance to and from any chief post office within the British dominions in America, not exceeding 60 British miles, single 6 pence; double 8 pence; treble 1 shilling; ounce 1 shilling 4 pence; . . . . upward 60 miles, not exceeding 100 miles, single 6 pence; double 1 shilling; treble 1 shilling 6 pence; ounce 2 shillings.

In getting some relief from his arduous duties, Hugh Finlay was made Surveyor of the Post Offices, and when Franklin was dismissed in 1772 because of his activities in behalf of the patriotic cause, he was made one of the Deputy Postmasters General of the North America.

CHAPTER III

UNDER THE CONSTITUTIONAL POST

At this point there enters William Goddard who next to Franklin plays the most important part in the postal history of our country. Indeed it was he more than Franklin, then so busy with political matters, that took up the matter of the organization of a post in opposition to the royal post. William Goddard, the printer of the *Maryland Journal*, made trips to New York and Massachusetts enlisting support for what he termed the "Constitutional Post Office of America". There is no question but that this organization of a distinct postal system aided materially the patriotic cause, and moreover he offered some definite ideas for the operation of the post.

His plan provided for subscription all among the Colonies; the appointment of the committee members from each colony and the selection by this Committee of a Postmaster General. It was also to regulate the postage rates and to have charge of all things pertaining to the mails, including contracts with the post riders. The committees in each colony were to regulate local offices, including that of postmaster.

That he had some measure of success is indicated by the following notice which appeared in the *Maryland Journal of* July 2, 1774:—William Goddard, printer of the *Maryland Journal*, with great pleasure acquaints the publick that his proposal for establishing an American Post Office on constitutional principles, hath been warmly and generously patronized by the friends of freedom in the great commercial towns of the Eastern colonies, where ample funds are already secured; Postmasters and riders engaged; and indeed every proper arrangement for reception of Southern mails, which it is expected, will soon be extended thither. As therefore the final success of the undertaking now depends upon the publick spirit of the inhabitants of Maryland and Virginia, it is not doubted, for the recent evidence that they have given of their noble zeal in the cause of liberty and their country but they will cheerfully join in rescuing the channel of publick and private intelligence from the "horrid fangs of Ministerial dependence"; a measure indispensable necessary in the present alarming crisis of American Affairs.

The Baltimore Postmaster records that under his plan Goddard started to institute his system, appointing under the direction of Committees, persons to serve and deliver letters at thirty different points, while Harry M. Konwiser, in his book, states that the Constitutional Post had its beginning at Hartford on May 8, 1775. Of the towns designated, two were in Maryland, one at Annapolis and the other at Baltimore, where the postmaster (or should we say postmistress) was his sister, Mary K. Goddard. Reflecting the attitude of the people, the Provincial Congress, sitting at Baltimore, on Dec. 5, 1775, resolved not to permit the Parliamentary Post (British) to pass through their province. In passing it may be mentioned that Ebenezer Mackie was the royal Deputy Postmaster at Baltimore.

CHAPTER IV

WILLIAM GODDARD

History does not accord to Goddard the influence he wielded and exercised. His activities are so interwoven with the organization of our postal system and concerned so much with Baltimore City, that he is entitled to a few words.

When Baltimore was little more than a village, Annapolis was the commercial metropolis and the center of activities in Maryland. William Goddard, a printer of Rhode Island, with acuteness and enterprise so characteristic of his section, moved from Philadelphia where he had for some years resided, and on the 20th of August, 1773, established a paper in this city entitled the *Maryland Journal and Baltimore Advertiser.* Prior to that date it was customary to receive the papers from, and send advertisement to, either Annapolis or Philadelphia.

It is difficult to conceive at this day that Baltimore could have been so dependent upon Annapolis, that venerable connecting link between the present and the past. Goddard's paper was at first issued in weekly installments from a house on South near the main thoroughfare of the city, and has had an uninterrupted existence until this day, changing its name to the *American and Daily Advertiser* in 1798 and to the *Baltimore American and Daily Advertiser* in 1820, dropping the latter part during this century. A better moment for the beginning of a newspaper enterprise could scarcely have been selected; the smouldering fires of the revolution were being rapidly fanned into a blaze and a feverish excitement had taken possession of the public.

Goddard more than once during the times that tried men's souls displayed an unusual perseverance in the acquisition of news so characteristic of modern journalists, but not viewed in a friendly light by early patriots. On several occasions he was called to account for inopportune publications, or for the

freedom with which he criticised the actions of those in power, especially when he espoused the cause of Gen. Charles Lee.

At the commencement of hostilities and after the suspension of Benjamin Franklin from the Royal Post, he undertook the organization of an independent post as detailed in the previous chapter. This recital of Goddard's activities may throw some light on his exclusion when the Continental Post was organized. Altho he afterwards importuned Congress for appointment to some lucrative office under that Post, so as to partially reimburse him for his personal expenditures in the organization of the Constitutional Post, which resulted in his financial distress, he was only made a surveyor, that is a postal inspector.

On the other hand, when Franklin become ambassador to France, he was succeeded by his son-in-law, Richard Bache, who had been Comptroller, with Ebenezer Hazard of New York, as Surveyor General, and who in turn became Postmaster General.

CHAPTER V

UNDER THE CONTINENTAL POST

With Goddard constantly urging that action be taken, the Second Continental Congress adopted a resolution on July 26, 1775, whereby a line of posts was to be established from Falmouth in New England to Savannah in Georgia, under the direction of a Postmaster General (Benj. Franklin elected) and that the rates of postage be 20 percent less than those under the British post, which reduction was later suspended.

Perhaps due to the impetus of Goddard, it appears that for the year ending October 5, 1776, the net amount of postage received from the Baltimore Post-office was 195 pounds, 23 shillings, nine pence, being the largest amount received from any post-office in the country; the receipts at Philadelphia during this period were 130 pounds, 13 shillings, 8 pence; and at New York 82 pounds, 17 shillings and 10½ pence.

The postal system soon fell into a deplorable state and constant complaints were made; even the adoption of the Articles of Confederation, which attempted to knit the states more closely, did not remedy matters. In any event, on October 18, 1782, rates were specified for all distance, in penny weights and grains fine silver:—

60 miles or under, 1 dwt. 8 gr. ($0.077)
60-100 miles, 2 dwt. ($0.115)
100-200 miles, 2 dwt. 16 gr. ($0.154)
For each additional 100 miles or fraction 16 gr. ($0.038)

Estimates of rates are given according to the standard 416 grains equal to one dollar. This was the standard adopted by Congress in 1792 at about the same time as the passage of this bill. The basis of fineness was the same as for "Spanish Milled Dollars," the last of which were coined about 1760, that is, 371.25 grains of silver in every 416 grains, or one dollar.

Money soon depreciated by reason of the Continental paper that was all over the country, so that under the regime of Postmaster General Hazard, Congress (Act of Sept. 20, 1786) decreed that only specie was to be accepted in payment of postal charges.

During all the period of Continental post it is interesting to note that the first official postmaster at Baltimore was a Postmistress, Mary K. Goddard, appointed by her brother under the Constitutional Post and continuing under the Continental Post until the election of the first president. Miss Goddard, incidentally, was the first postmistress in America, and she conducted the first post office under the new government in the office of the *Maryland Journal*, Baltimore's first newspaper, at the south-east corner of Baltimore and South Streets.

(To be continued.)

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Additions to the Library

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History of the U. S. Commemorative Postage Stamps. Gift of A. J. Rusbason.
Die Entstehung & Entwicklung des nordischen Postwesens, 1933, G. H. Sieveking; Pub. C. Boysen. Gift of C. Boysen.
Zusammenstellung der preussischen Poststempel nach Form und Zeitfolge. Gift of F. Seifert.
Norwegens erste Briefmarke. Gift of A. Odfjell.
Miscellaneous Lot of Philatelic Literature. Gift of A. A. Wasserscheid.
Our 157th Birthday Anniversary. Gift of C. F. Renfed.
Oesterreich's Spezial Katalog, Edw. Mueller. Gift of Die Postmarke.
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Portugal & Colonies Catalog, 1933, A. S. Ferreira. Gift of A. S. Ferreira.
Luff's U. S. Beautifully bound. Gift of Mrs. J. W. Stanford.
Scrapbook for Clippings, etc. Gift of M. D. Joyce.
Scott Standard 1934 Catalog. Gift of Scott Stamp & Coin Co.
Abstempelungen von Lombardei-Venetien, Publ. F. Billig. Gift of F. Billig.
Cyclopedia of U. S. Postmarks and Postal History, de luxe Ed. D. Norona. Gift of D. Norona.
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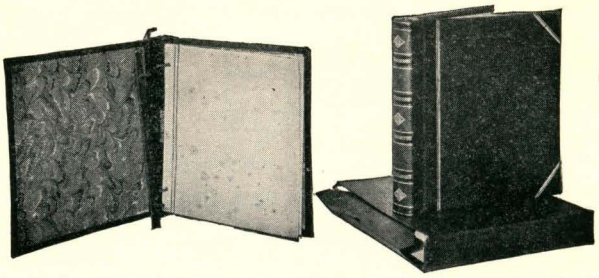
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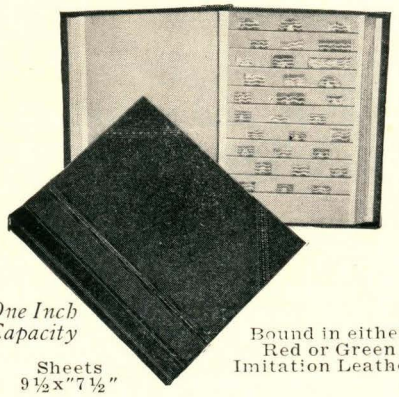
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