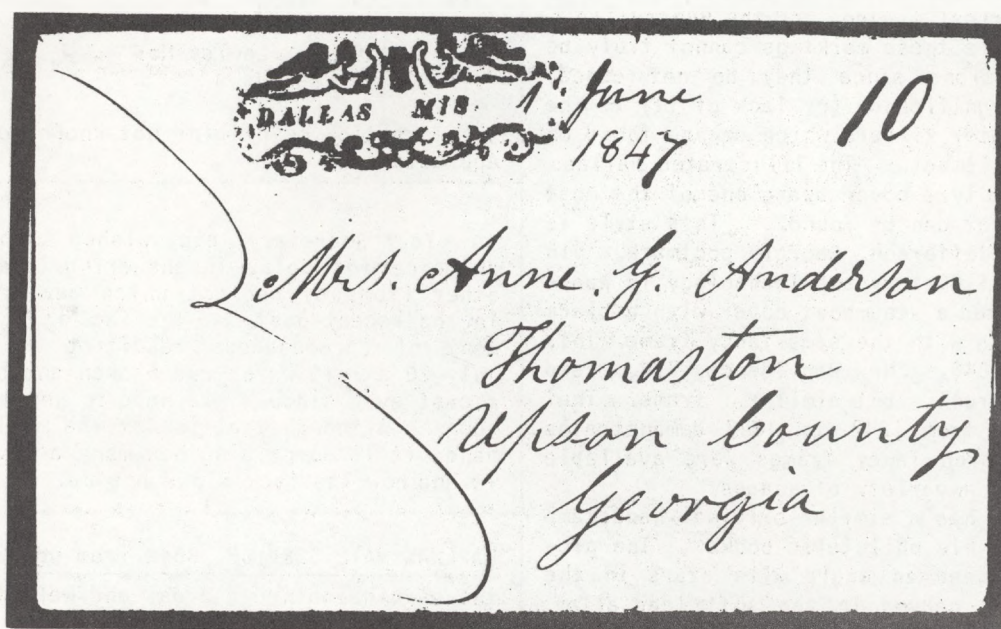




# *Cancellation Club* **NEWS**

VOL. 7 - NO. 5 WHOLE NO. 72

SEPTEMBER - 1964



THIS STAMPLESS COVER ORIGINATING IN DALLAS, MISS. ON JUNE 1, 1847 PAID THE OVER 400 MILE RATE TO GEORGIA. THE POSTMARK IS A FANCY TYPE DISCUSSED IN THE ACCOMPANYING ARTICLE ON PAGE 34.

Photo by Henry A. Meyer.



## THE U S CANCELLATION CLUB NEWS

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## FANCY STAMPLESS POSTMARKS

by James W. Milgram

Just as there are classic covers bearing markings that every collector of stampless covers seeks to obtain. Not very surprising is the fact that quite a number of these postmarks are of the type that one calls fancy markings. Well-known to all U.S. specialists are the Collinsville axe, the York allegorical figure, and the Huntsville 5 in star. While these markings cannot truly be termed cancellations since they do not cancel stamps, their significance (or lack of it) is the same as those later killers which can be found on our early stamp issues. The illustrated Dallas, Miss. cherubs and lyre cover bears one of the most unusual types that can be found. This style is also found in a Jefferson, Georgia postmark. In the new Museum of History and Technology in Washington is exhibited a steamboat cover with a black Uncle Sam marking with the same fancy frame. This cover is dated 1846. New Providence, N.J., used a slightly different, but similar, frame. That the dates range from 1842 to 1847 demonstrates that these prepared fancy frames were available at this time for a variety of usages.

This writer has a similar original handstamp which he uses on his philatelic books. The picture, in this case an eagle with stars in the lower field, is carved in the soft lead alloy with a deep oblong space in the center of the picture. Common type was screwed into place by a steel screw set at one end of this rectangular depression. The handle is of wood, and the whole handstamp demonstrates excellent workmanship. Often a person bought one of these and put his name in the space. It is remarkable that so few were ever used as postmarking devices.

Many postmarks, such as the Collinsville Axe, were specially constructed for just the purpose of serving as postmarking devices. Others, for example the Exeter, N.H. straight line between rosettes, were constructed from printers' type and available decorations.

Some markings are definitely fancy; they show objects to which one can give names—boats, shields, figures, coins. Others, neither fish nor fowl, are in that never-never land where they show only decorations or unusual type; the negative

## Fancy Stampless Postmarks. Cont.

Lettering postmarks are good examples. And still others are ordinary circles but are accompanied by rate markings, 5, 10, Paid, Paid 3, Free, Ship, etc. which are a bit out of the ordinary. It is not necessary or even desirable to draw any lines of division, but any person collecting fancy killers should be aware of the forerunners of the objects he collects.

SEE PAGE 37.

Illus.	Stamp	Origin	Color	Remarks
1	114	Waterbury	Black	Cover
2	65	Thomaston	"	"
3	11	West Cheshire	"	"
4	114	?	"	"
5	021	Los Angeles	"	"
6	114	New York	"	"
7	150	French Anchor	"	"
8	209	Panama	Blue	"
9	38	?	Red	"
10	184	Asbury Pk. N.J.	Purple	"
11	114	?	Black	"
12	114	?	"	Strip of 3
13	161	Peru	"	"
14	159	Saxony	"	"
15	178	?	"	"
16	114	St. Louis, Mo.	"	Block of 4
17	147	Canada	"	"

Information on origins not known would be much appreciated.

Your Secretary, etc. wishes to beg your indulgence for delay in answering letters and all other items of neglect which may have occurred in the recent past. The fact is that in a moment of carelessness resulting in a fall on July 20 a left wrist was broken and has been in a cast ever since. We hope to get that removed soon. Although that is not the most important hand, it is surprising how many activities need it and how its lack slows one up.

## RAILWAY MAIL SERVICE. Cont. from pg. 38.

the service gained a great and welcomed impetus. Soon the railway mail was placed on all the important railroads and all of the old route agent service was consolidated. After two years of strenuous service in Washington, Colonel Armstrong resigned as General Superintendent in broken health. He returned to Chicago where he died two days later, May 5, 1871 while yet in the prime of his life, a victim of overwork.

Through contributions from railway mail clerks a statue was erected to him on the grounds of the old post office building. It may now be seen in the north entrance of the present U.S. Court House in downtown Chicago, a building which is soon to be replaced with the great new skyscraper building which is nearing completion.

On the base of the statue is the inscription "To the Memory of George Buchanan Armstrong, founder of the Railway Mail Service in the United States. Born in Armagh, Ireland October 27, A.D. 1822. Died in Chicago May 5, A.D. 1871. Erected by the Clerks of the Service 1881."



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 661 S. M. Horwitz, Box 26, Tannersville, N.Y.-  
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- 589 Howard Peterson Powell Jr., P.O. Box 10863,  
 Raleigh, N. Car. 27605- U.S. & Possessions;  
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**CHANGES OF ADDRESS**

- 574 David T. Beams III to 5315 Mission Woods  
 Road, Shawnee Mission, Kans. 66205 from  
 Kansas City, Mo.  
 585 Mrs. Henry E. Tidd to 7 Elizabeth Court,  
 Marysville, N.B., Canada from Frederickton.  
 651 Charles H. Armour, to 223½ Grenada Ave.,  
 Long Beach, Calif. 90803 from Argonne Ave.

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Regarding FAM Cover shown on page 29  
 of the July NEWS, Herman Herst Jr. (#452)  
 informs us that the Postmaster at Meridian,  
 N.Y. in 1879 was Chester Morley Jr. There-  
 fore, it would appear that these initials  
 are not his. Who can tell what they indicate?

William C. Walker (#499), 102 Elizabeth  
 St., Clearfield, Pa. wishes to borrow a  
 priced copy of "The George Walcott Collec-  
 tion of Civil War Covers" long enough to  
 copy the prices in his own copy. He will  
 be glad to pay postage both ways and to  
 return it just as promptly as possible in  
 as good shape as it comes to him. Please  
 write him.





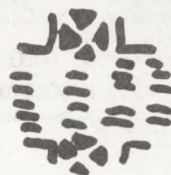
Potters Hollow  
N.Y.



Corning  
N.Y.



Parkesburg, Pa.



NEW ORLEANS, LA.



Convent, La.



Little Falls  
N.Y.



Baltimore  
Md.



St. Paul Columbus  
Minn. Ga.



Chicago, Ill.



Jerome,  
Ariz.



Barre, Mass.  
?



Sheffield  
Pa.



Detroit  
Mich.



?



Denver  
Colo.



St. Paul  
Minn.



?



La Jolla  
Calif  
1929



Rollio, Ill.



Shelby, O.



Facyoryville  
Pa.



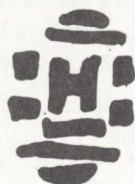
Lincoln  
Mass



Attleboro  
Mass



Buena Vista



Ann Arbor  
Mich.



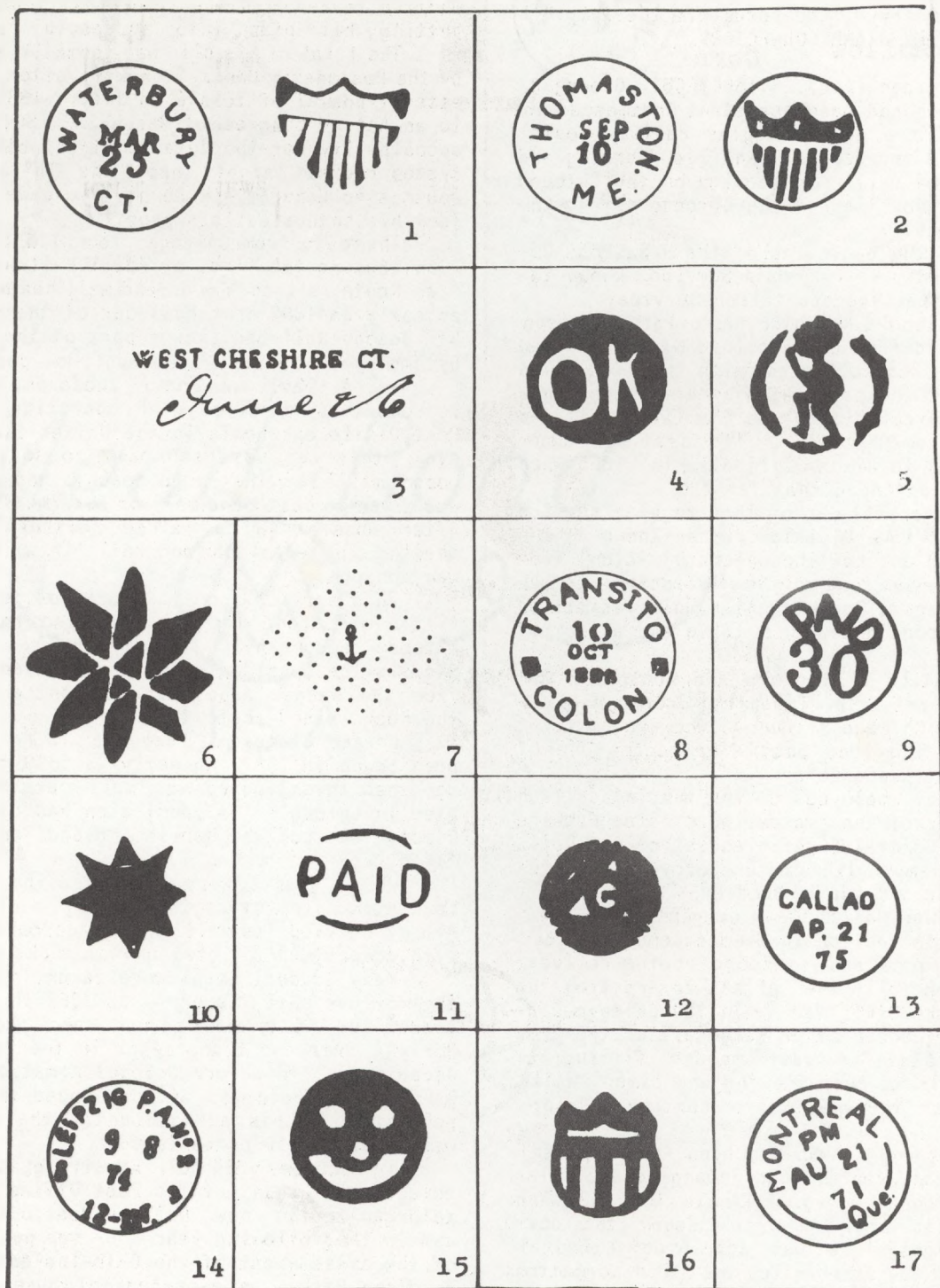
South Carolina



Kenosha, Wis.

FROM THE COLLECTION OF JAMES R. LITTLETON (#363).  
INFORMATION ON UNKNOWNNS WELCOME





FROM THE COLLECTION OF DR. ROBERT deWASSERMAN.

SEE PAGE 34.