



Cancellation Club NEWS

VOL. 17, No. 1

WHOLE NO. 179

WINTER 1984

STENCIL POSTMARKS AND OTHER STENCILED
MARKINGS ASSOCIATED WITH THE U.S. MAIL:
STAMPLESS PERIOD THROUGH THE
BANKNOTE PERIOD
PART 6

By Frank Mandel

OHIO

Chester. O.

Characteristics: Straight line; 27 X 3mm.; with ms. date below; black. Use: no. 11 (exact year not known). Notes: Though not illustrated, an "embossed front with defective corner" is listed as Lot 1040 in the Robert A. Siegel auction of Jan. 12, 1961 (sale 236) which included the Tracy Simpson 3c 1851-57 Collection. It was probably the basis of Tracing 171 in U.S.P.M. (Rarity 10 indicates only one copy known.)

COSHOCTON . OHIO

Characteristics: Circular, outer line comprised of 17 scalloped dashes; 27mm.; Colors: reddish brown, light purplish brown. Use: Stampless: 1829-1834 (A.S.C.C.). Verified uses: Mar. 19, 1833; Dec. 25, 1833; Apr. 3, 1834; Apr. 30, 1834. Notes: At least four examples of this postmark exist. Figure 21

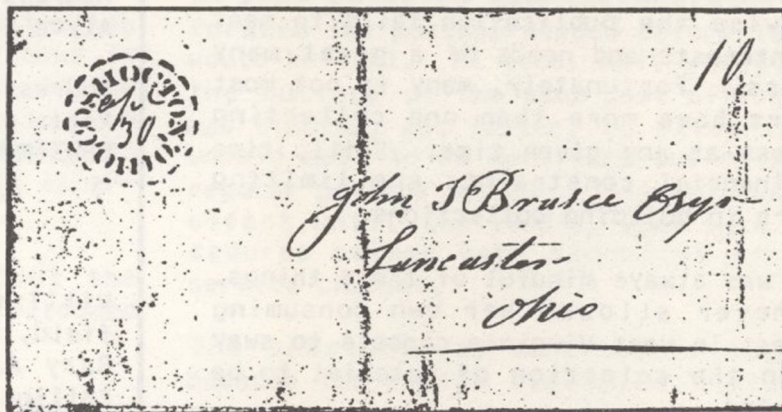


Figure 21. Stencil postmark from Coshocton, OHIO on folded letter, dated Apr. 30, 1834; color: reddish brown, Manuscript date and "10" are black.

illustrates the copy which was sold as Lot 710 in the Robert A. Siegel auction of Sept. 17, 1979 (Sale 551); another example was first sold as Lot 226 in the Samuel C. Paige auction of Mar. 30, 1951, and again as Lot 636 in the Robert A. Siegel auction of May 25, 1971 (sale 396).

DEERSVILLE OHIO

Characteristics: Two separate but very similar Circular types: Type 1:

Circle comprised of alternating 14 dots and 14 dashes; 33mm.; blue; associated with blue stenciled PAID in fancy box frame (26.5 X 10mm.) and handstamped "5" in circle (20mm.) in black. Type 2: Circle comprised of alternating 15 dots and 15 dashes; 34mm.; associated with black stenciled PAID in fancy box frame and handstamped "5" in circle, also in black, and

(Continued page 5)

PRESIDENT'S COMMENT

This issue is the first under our new editorial team of Roger Curran and Tom Stanton.

Alyce Evans, Editor since November 1980, is presumably enjoying her well deserved and new found freedom to travel and relax.

There is much more than meets the eye to composing, assembling and printing a journal of the nature of the News. Our members have highly varied interests. Some collect, and are interested only in, classic stamps and cancels. Others specialize in flag cancels, RPO & HPO cancels, CAMs, FAMs, ship cancels, modern pictorial (show) cancels, etc. The editors must provide balance, regardless of their own particular interests. This requires self-discipline and judgment. Otherwise the publication fails to meet the interests and needs of a great many members. Fortunately, many if not most members have more than one collecting interest at any given time. Still, time and financial constraints are limiting factors in building collections.

Alyce was always mindful of these things. She never allowed her own consuming interest in West Virginia cancels to sway her in the selection of material to be published.

She gave liberally of her time and talents to the club. Her efforts made the U.S.C.C. News an award winning philatelic publication (APS-1983).

On behalf of all the club, Alyce, I sincerely thank you for a job well done.

Our new editors will need the help of our membership. Your input will make our publication more interesting and helpful. Even more important it will assure that the knowledge you have shared will not be lost. Too much has already been lost.

This article is intended to do double duty: To thank our Editor Emeritus Alyce Evans for all she has done for the club, and to enlist the support of our members for our new editors. Please contribute to our journal--in doing so you'll be making it more interesting to all.

Bill Walker

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Dear Reader:

Greetings to all from your new editor. First, I want to endorse the sentiments of Bill Walker appearing in this issue about Alyce Evans and her service as

editor of the News. Not only was her work professional, but she added so well the human touch of a personal warmth toward others and a real enthusiasm for the cancellation field. We are fortunate to have her continue as a contributor to these pages.

And speaking of contributors to the News, I'm counting on that vast reservoir of information and insight existing within our membership to make the editor's job an easy one. For those of you who have contributed so much in the past, keep up the fine job. If you have never written for publication, there is no time like the present. In my case, before this issue, I had never edited any publication. Be it a long or short article, a comment, a request, an unidentified cancel, a question or whatever, let us hear from you. Material is needed!

If the bad news is that your editor has no previous experience, the good news is that Tom Stanton, who also lives in the greater Washington area, is going to participate regularly and actively in editing this publication and he is experienced. Many thanks to Tom.

Your comments and suggestions about the News are encouraged and will be welcomed at any time.

Roger Curran

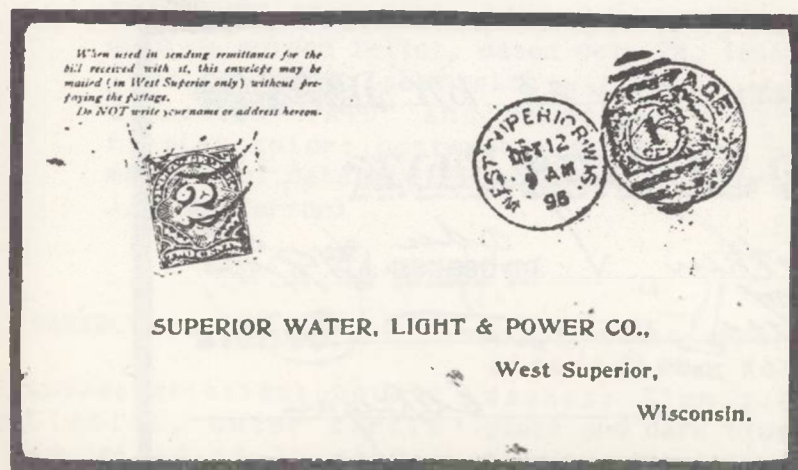
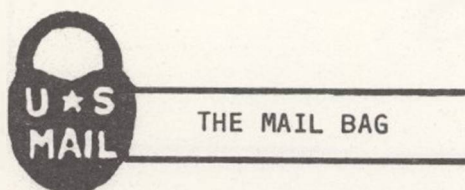


Figure 1.

Editor, CCN

I believe I can add a bit more to that story of the 2c due envelope to Superior Water, Light and Power Co. in Wisconsin in the years of 1895 & 6 (News, Fall 1983, Page 122). Figure 1 illustrates a similar cover used fifteen months later on Oct. 12, 1896. This due is tied with likely the same circular handstamp that canceled the simulated "stamp" and at same facing time.

The utility company was taking advantage of the PO rules that allowed completely unpaid local mail to be delivered to the addressee due only the domestic postage. Otherwise, completely unpaid mail would be due double the proper prepaid rate. The normal preferred rule was to hold or return such unpaid mail to the addressee (if known) for prepayment of postage, or in some cases to ask the addressee to forward the postage needed before letter would be sent. As local mail was within the custody of the same post office, it was simpler, and faster, to allow local unpaid mail to be delivered due only the regular postage amount. This rule was in effect until the 1970's, when such procedures became very expensive in new service charges.

The practice was more likely stopped because the design simulated a stamped envelope. The Post Office was very unbending on such things that tended to give the impression it was a proper stamp for postage.

Warren R. Bower

REMINDER

Those desiring a copy of Tom Stanton's city cross-index for the Herst-Sampson fancy cancel book (available for cost of reproduction and mailing), should write Alyce Evans, Box 286, Bonsall, CA 92003

Editor, CCN

George Aschenbrenner piqued my interest and memory when he provided the fancy revenue cancel (News, Fall 1983, Page 122). Here's a related item.

Congress passed a law just a few weeks ahead of its effective date of July 1, 1898 to raise revenue for the Spanish-American War. The "Battleship" revenue stamps emerged to fill the revenue need, but were not ready by the July deadline in most cities or generally available to many businesses. This led to the provisional I.R. overprints on U.S. stamps and other stopgap measures.

Battleship revenue stamps can be found with stamped or printed first day dates of July 1, 1898 when sorting through dealers' stocks, but it's still hard to find checks or other documents with first day usage. My earliest dated check with stamp is July 7, 1898.

Figure 1 shows how Mr. E.O. Dugan of Butte Montana dealt with the situation and lack of proper revenue stamps. To him, like most of us, paying two cents to the government through the post office was the same as paying two cents to most any other agency. But if you have ever worked for the government you shudder at the thought of transferring two cents from one agency to the other.

So Dugan dutifully pasted his 2c Trans Mississippi post office stamp to his bank check, properly signing it and dating it by the regulations.

But the bank knew the right rules! It had a supply of the right revenue stamp and affixed same, with results as shown in the figure occurring often enough to warrant a rubber stamp declaring its intent to carry out the law and charge the client forthwith. Note the 2c added to the check total to make \$9.52 instead of \$9.50 deducted and cleared to the client's account.

If that 2c revenue stamp were soaked off cover could you reconstruct the remaining "fancy" cancel on it? I doubt it.

H.E. "Bill" Menker

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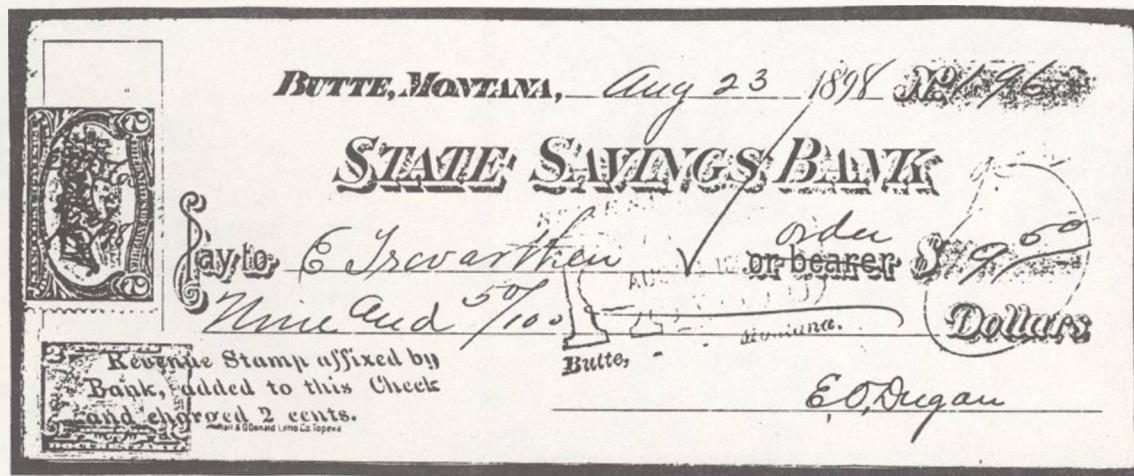


Figure 1.

stenciled "3" in 3 segments. Use: Stampless: Type 1: Mar. 11, 1846 and Oct. 28, 1846 Type 2: Jan. 2, 1847 and Mar. 6, 1847; June 7, 1852.

Notes: I have seen two examples of Type 1 and three examples of Type 2. Three of these come from the same correspondence, addressed to Dewey & Shotwell at Cadiz, Ohio; the 1852 example is illustrated as Lot 129 in the David G. Phillips auction of Feb. 24, 1979 (sale 17, ex-Sampson); Figure 22 here illustrates a nice example of Type 1 (Courtesy, J.R. Kesterson).

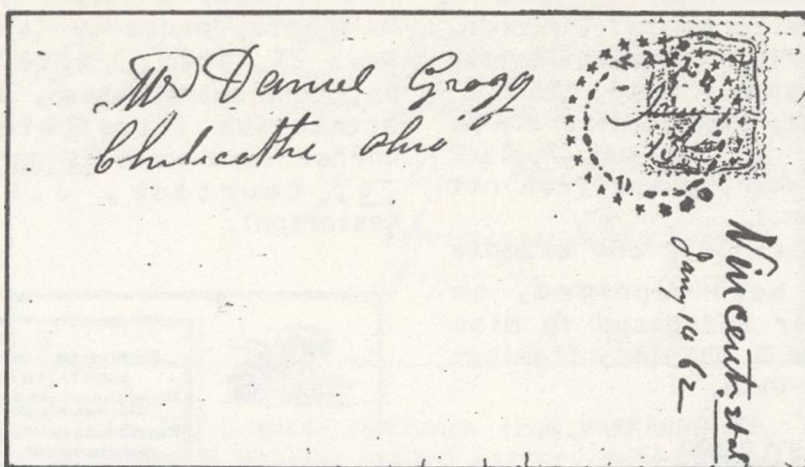


Figure 23. Fancy Stencil postmark from WAVERLY, O. on envelope dated Jany. 13, 1862; color: deep blue; 19th century stencil engravers had a wonderful sense of design. (Courtesy, J.R. Kesterson).

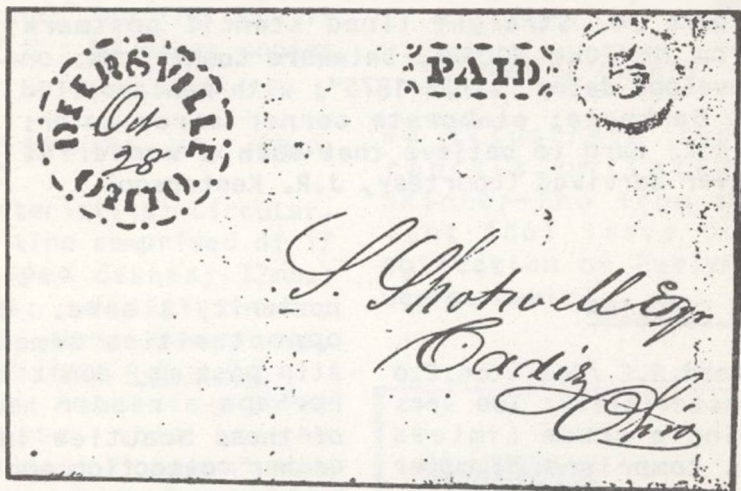


Figure 22. Stencil postmark from DEERFIELD, OHIO on folded letter, dated Oct. 28, 1846, in Type I style (see text) with fancy boxed stenciled "PAID" and handstamped "5" in circle; color: postmark and "PAID" in blue; manuscript date and "5" are black. (courtesy, J.R. Kesterson)

WAVERLY, -- O. --

Characteristics: Double Circles, outer circle comprised of 26 stars, inner circle which includes the town and

State names separated by alternating dots and dashes; 31mm.; Colors: black and dark blue; stamp tied by stencil. Use: no. 65, blue stencil: Jan 13, 1862, Nov. 26

(186?), black: Jan. (?), 1862, Feb. 8, 1862.

Notes: At least four examples are in collectors' hands. This stencil has one of the most delicate designs I have seen. (Figure 23 Courtesy J.R. Kesterson). One of these even managed to turn up on a Patriotic envelope: it is illustrated as Lot 190 in the Robert A. Siegel auction of Jan. 4, 1962 (sale 246).

W. CARROLLTON - O -

Characteristics: Circular, comprised of 21 scalloped dashes, State initial "O" flanked by diamond ornaments; 35mm.; brown. Use: Stampless: 31 May 1837; 14 Sept. 1837.

Notes: Only two examples seen; one is illustrated as Lot 124 in the David G. Phillips auction of Feb. 24, 1979 (Sale 17, ex-Sampson); not listed in the A.S.C.C.

WILLOWDALE O.

Characteristics: Circular, comprised of approximately 40 small dots; 36mm.; black; stencil ties stamp. Use: No. 65 (Aug. 7, 1862 or after, exact year not known.)

Notes: Only one example has been reported, on cover addressed to Miss Angie S. Hurlbut, Framington, Ohio.

PENNSYLVANIA**ECONOMY -PA-**

Characteristics: Circular, outer line comprised of 11 scalloped dashes, "PA" between two diamond shaped dashes; approx. 27mm.; magenta. Use: Stampless; Dec. 19, 183? Notes: Only example seen is illustrated as Lot 208 in the Samuel C. Paige auction of June 5, 1959; this marking has a strong resemblance to the stencil postmark from COSHOCTON, OHIO, and I suspect that they are contemporary, if not from the same stencil engraver source.

GUY'S MILLS, Pa.

Characteristics: Circular, outer line comprised of alternating dots and dashes; approx. 28mm.; black. Use: 1861 issue, year not known. Notes: Listing based on tracing PM-TF 9 in Skinner-Eno where the outer line is shown incomplete; Probably very scarce; 1859 P.M. compensation was \$30.92 (Net proceeds: \$5.69).

NEWTOWN SQUARE, /Delaware County, /Pa.

Characteristics: 3 straight lines, "NEWTOWN SQUARE" all upper case, "Delaware County, /Pa." upper and lower case letter types; 43.5 X 12mm.; black; Date in ms.

"11-23-1875". Use: 3c Banknote, probably 147, Nov. 23, 1875. Notes: Only one example seen, on attractive illustrated corner card cover (Figure 24, Courtesy, J.R. Kesterson).

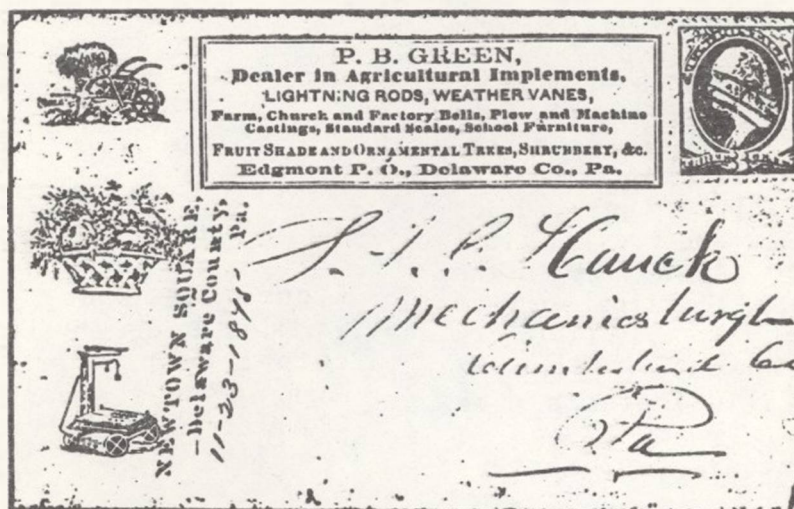


Figure 24. Straight lined stencil postmark from NEWTOWN SQUARE, Delaware County, Pa. on envelope dated "11-23-1875"; with pencancelled 3c Banknote; elaborate corner card; color: black; hard to believe that such a wonderful cover survived (courtesy, J.R. Kesterson)

SOUTH CAROLINA**New.Road.S.C /Colleton.C.o**

Characteristics: Two arcs forming a crude rimless oval, comprised of upper and lower case letters with priods at odd intervals; 38 X 20mm.; black; stamp pen cancelled. Use: 3c Banknote Postal Stationery: May 3, 1878. Notes: Only one example seen; this is the latest use of a stenciled town postmark known to me.

VERMONT**ENOSBURGH FALLS, VT.**

Characteristics: Circular, fancy/outer line; Size: ? ; black. Use: 3c 1851, year not known. Notes: I

posterity's sake. These opportunities sometimes slip past us, don't they? Perhaps a reader has one of these beauties in his or her collection and will be kind enough to send a Xerox.

Tyson . Furnace . Vt.

Characteristics: One straight line; separated by period; upper and lower case letter types; 51 X 4mm.; black; ms. date "Nov. 27th" below. Use: 3c Nesbitt (U 10); probable use 1854-55. Notes: Only one example seen, on envelope addressed to Mr. Newel C.V. Taylor, Monticello, Minnesota; Tracing 225 in U.S.P.M.

VIRGINIA

Harrisonburg, VA.

Characteristics: Circular, no outer line, "Harrisonburg" in upper and lower case letters, "VA" in upper case only; approx. 25mm.; black. Use: Stampless; July 9th, 1837. Notes: Only example seen is illustrated as Lot 239 in the Samuel C. Paige auction of June 5, 1959; undoubtedly very scarce.

MADISON RUN / STATION, / VA

Characteristics: 3 straight lines; 55 X 13mm.; black; ms. date: "Feb. 19". Use: 3c 1857 (26) not tied; exact year not known. Note: Illustrated as lot 1122 in the Robt. A. Siegel Sale 236 of Jan. 12, 1961 (ex-Simpson); Tracing 231 in U.S.P.M.; No other copies seen.

PARKERSBURG VA. (Now W.Va.)

Characteristics: Circular, outer line comprised of 17 scalloped dashes; 32mm.; Colors: reddish brown; black. Use: Stampless, 1833-35 (per A.S.C.C.).

Notes: According to my estimate, this is the third most "common" town stencil; a few come up for auction every year and I believe at least 25 examples are in collectors' hands. A particularly nice "strike" is illustrated as Figure 25. This one happens to be in an intense black color, and I have noted that examples in this shade are clearer than their counterparts in reddish brown, which sometimes seem to be smudged. Parkersburg is an Ohio River town, and even at the time these postmarks

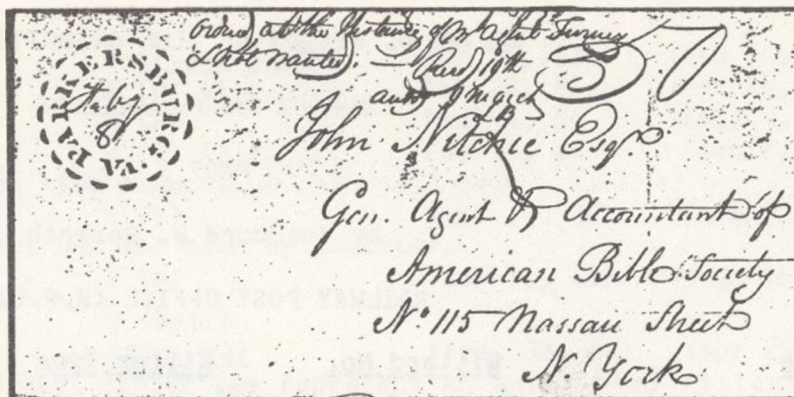
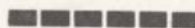


Figure 25. Stencil postmark from PARKERSBURG, VA. (now W.Va) on folded letter, dated Feb. 8, 1833; color: intense black; manuscript date and "50" are black; this is probably the third most "common" stenciled town postmark.

were used, was a place of considerable activity.

(To be continued)

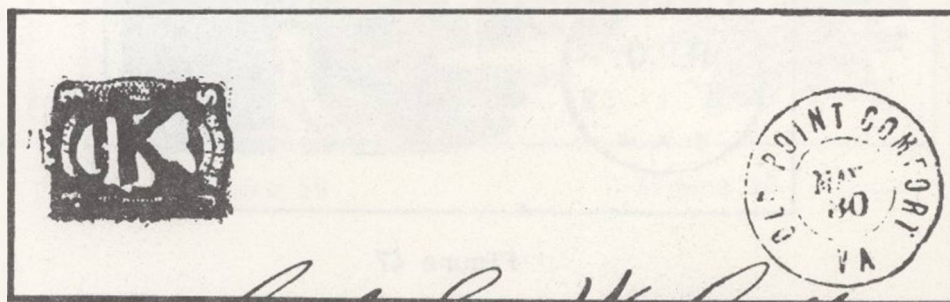


CANCEL UPDATE

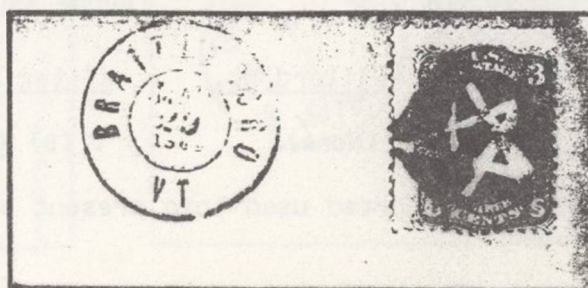
We illustrate two cancels unlisted by Skinner-Eno from the 3 cent 1861 issue cover collection of Evelyn and George Lewis.

RESIGNATION

Robert Barr
1209 Cambridge Road
Warminster, PA 18974



Old Point Comfort, Va.



Brattleboro, Vt.

WALTER D. WESSON'S TIME-ON-BOTTOM (TOB)

DUPLEX HAND-CANCELERS

PART 9

by Theodore W. Bozarth

RAILWAY POST OFFICE (R.P.O.)

<u>Route</u>	<u>Willard No.</u>	<u>Killer Type</u>	<u>E. R. P. 1</u>	<u>L. R. P. 2</u>
Bos. Prov. & N.Y. R.P.O. - TAW	486 Var. B&D 2387, 88 Towle 70-N-3	X (<u>Fig. 47</u>)	Jul 6, 82	May 18, 84
Bos. Prov. & N.Y. R.P.O. - TBE	486 B&D 2390 Towle 70-N-2	X	Mar 20, 83	Jul 20, 84

Charles Towle believes that "TAW" and "TBE" stand for "Train 'A' West" and "Train 'B' East", apparently ending fruitless efforts to identify the initials with supposed Railway Mail Agents.

Chic. & Burl. R.P.O. Dayline - East	None Towle 694-I-1	? (<u>Fig. 48</u>)	Sep 10, 85	Sep 10, 85
Chic. & Burl. R.P.O. Dayline - West	195 (vol. 1) Towle 694-I-1	M (grid)	Mar 22, 85	Mar 22, 85

Obviously the R.P.O. postmarks above are not truly Time-on-Bottom (TOB) devices but have other data substituted; equally obvious is the typical Wesson format. For this reason they are included here. Both Blake and Davis, and Towle and Meyer assigned separate numbers to the two Boston, Providence and New York CDS so that pattern has been followed. It seems likely that both varieties of the Chicago and Burlington Dayline CDS were coupled with the circular grid killer shown in Willard, but confirming strikes have not been seen of these scarce markings despite a plea for help to members of the Mobile Post Office Society in 1983.



Figure 47

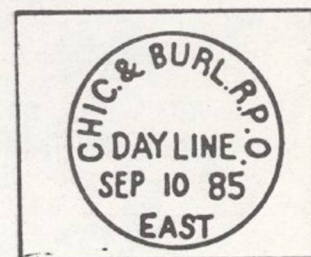


Figure 48

RHODE ISLAND

<u>City</u>	<u>Willard No.</u>	<u>Killer Type</u>	<u>E. R. P.</u>	<u>L. R. P.</u>
Central Falls	(None)3	V (D) (<u>Fig. 49</u>)	Sep 11, 84	Jul 16, 1906

Only Wesson TOB reported used into present century. Note four digit year date in example shown.

Providence	1292 var.	X (Figs. 50, 51)	Jan 16, 82	Feb 24, 87
	1292 var.	X (P) (Fig. 52)	Mar 28, 87	Mar 28, 87
	1292	H (A)	Mar 4, 84	(Dec 1, 84)
	1292 var.	H (B) (Fig. 53)	Feb 11, 84	(Dec 7, 85)
Reported used Apr 20, 86 without time element on 3rd class mail.				
	1292 var.	H (C)	(May 14, 83)	(Feb 3, 89)
Reported by Providence specialist but not seen by compiler.				
	1292 var.	V (D)	(Apr 11, 84)	(Jan 16, 88)
	1292 var.	B (ball)		
		(Fig. 54)	(Feb. 28, 87)	(Apr 29, 89)
This barrel ellipse with solid ball center may represent an unfinished killer which was intended to carry an identifying letter or number after cutting.				
	1292 var.			
	(None) (Fig. 55)		Jun 3, 87	Sep 4, 87
Used without killer as receiving marker.				



Figure 49

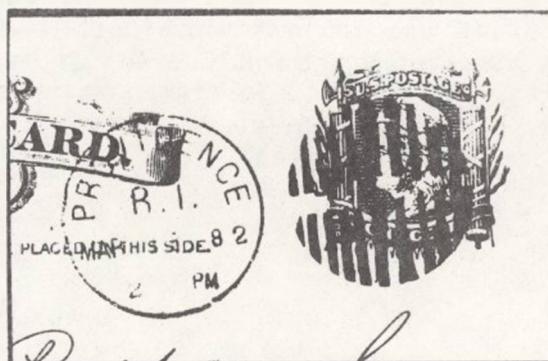


Figure 50

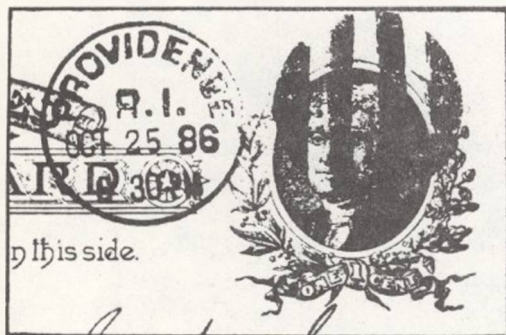


Figure 51

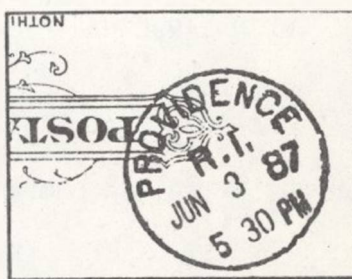


Figure 55

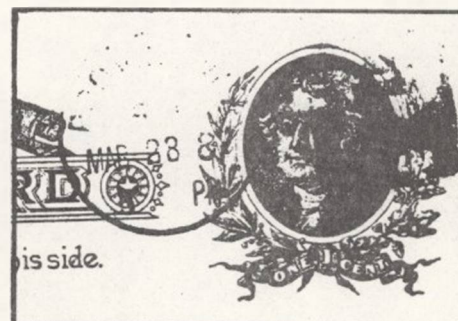


Figure 52

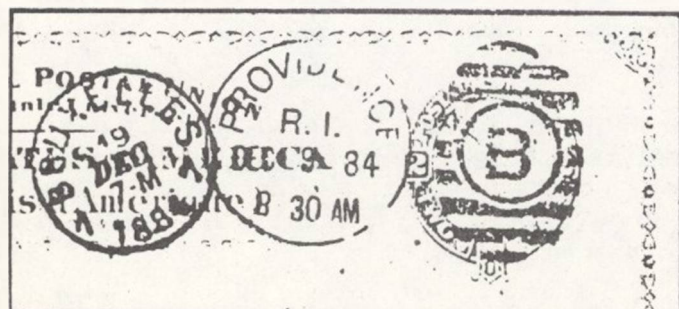


Figure 53



Figure 54

Walter D. Wesson (c1852-May 16, 1890), son of Phineas D. and Agnes McP. Wesson, died in Providence, RI, at the early age of 38. The Providence CITY DIRECTORY FOR 1844 described him as "mail agent, P.O.", boarding at the Franklin House (5 Franklin Street), but removed to Thomaston, CT. The occupation given and his pre-occupation with R.P.O. cancelling devices (see Part 2) suggests that he may have been a Railway Mail Agent in his later years with the Post Office Department. Alyce Evans reports that the 1877 OFFICIAL REGISTER (of federal employees) shows that Walter Wesson was then a "clerk" in the Providence Post Office at an annual salary of \$400.00. He was 25 and had already developed the scarifying canceller that he patented in Sept. 1877.

Possibly because of Wesson's connection with the Providence post office, a large variety of city date stamps and killers are found there between 1882 and 1889. The CDS exist with thin (Fig. 50), medium, and thick (Fig. 51) letters. Since some of the latter are grotesque in comparison with the average Wesson CDS, it may be that they represent the wearing down of hand-cut letters, but they are not unlike the Type I CDS of Worcester (see Part 7). While the Worcester Type I CDS were mated with a variety of hand-cut cork killers only in the early years (Mar 1881 to Jan 1883), the Providence CDS are found in combination with such killers from Jan 1882 through Mar 1887. The hand-cut corks include 4-, 6-, and 10- bar circles, an 11-bar circle bisected (Fig. 50), 9- and 16-segment circles, and a negative "P" in a rounded square (Fig. 52). Perhaps a Providence specialist can discern more order to the usage than this compiler could discover.

* * *

Westerly	1360	H (W) (<u>Fig. 56</u>)	Jul 12, 84	Mar 24, (96)
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Note that Fig. 56 shows day date in year date space. This CDS and killer are frequently seen out of normal TOB alignment, both askew and at varying distances. If originally made a duplex, it must have suffered some damage to the connecting bar (see Fig. X in Part 2.)

SOUTH CAROLINA

Charleston	1121 var.	C (A)	(May 2, 82)	Mar 31, 83
	1121 var.	C (C) (<u>Fig. 57</u>)	Nov 2, 82	(Mar 23, 83)
	1121 var.	H (1)	(Sep 4, 83)	Aug 16, 86
Charleston TOB with H type killer but illegible number			reported for May 3, 83.	
	1121	H (2)	Jun 11, 86	Jul 10 87
	1121	H (3)	Jan 20 85	Jan 20 85
	1121	H (D)	Apr 19 84	Apr 19 84

TENNESSEE

Nashville	1232	H (A) (<u>Fig. 58</u>)	Dec 18, 83	Jul 26, (86)
	1232	H (B)	Dec 4, 84	Sep 16, 85

POSTAL MARKINGS, Nov 20, 1934, page 67, shows Nashville TOB of Oct 27, 83 but killer is not identified.

Once again the compiler must express sincere thanks to the contributors who assisted in this section of the study: J. B. DeVol, Alyce B. Evans, William H. Heisler, Warren F. Kimbal, C. Richard Moyer, Robert J. Payne, Robert J. Stets, A. Burns Speer, Warren P. Tingley, and an anonymous specialist in Providence, RI, postal markings. Such friendly cooperation make joint research a pleasure indeed.

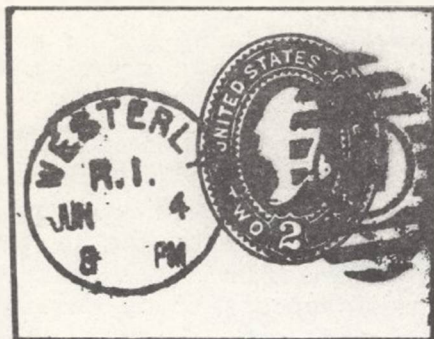


Figure 56

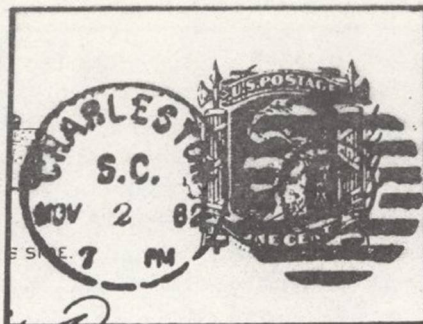


Figure 57

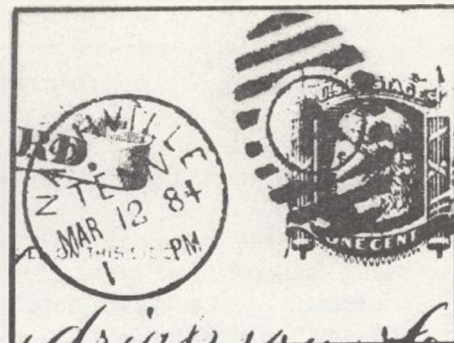


Figure 58

References:

Blake, Maurice C., and Davis, Wilbur W., POSTAL MARKINGS OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS TO 1890, (Portland, ME, 1949), p. 321

Towle, Charles L., and Meyer, Henry A., RAILROAD POSTMARKS OF THE UNITED STATES: 1861 TO 1886, (N.P.: U.S. Philatelic Classics Society, 1968), p. 46 & 47, 236 & 237.

Towle, Charles L., UNITED STATES TRANSIT MARKINGS CATALOG, Vol. I (1837-1886), (N.P.: Mobile Post Office Society, 1975), pp. 1-B-17 & -18, 1-C-13 & -14.

Willard, Edward L., UNITED STATES TWO CENT RED BROWN OF 1883-1887, (New York: Lindquist, 1970), Vol. I, pp. 136-139, and Vol. II, pp. 58 & 60 (Fig. 486 is erroneously called 476 in text), and appropriate cities in "Ellipse Cancellations" starting p. 116.

1 - B for Barrel ellipse; C for Circle of 8 horizontal bars; H for 9 Horizontal bars in ellipse; M for Metal circle with grid; V for 6 Vertical bars in ellipse; nd X for 25 mm cut cork.

2 - E.R.P., Earliest Reported Postmark; L.R.P., Latest Reported Postmark. Year date within parenthesis is NOT in CDS but obtained from backstamp, docketing, or inclosure. Entire date within parenthesis has been reported by reliable source but not seen by the compiler.

3 Unknown to Willard.

(To be continued)



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MULTIPLE LETTERS ON BANKNOTE ISSUES

MULTIPLE LETTERS ON BANKNOTE ISSUES

The whittling fraternity carved initials and abbreviations for a number of reasons. It gave the postal clerk or postmaster opportunity to express local pride in his town or state or fraternal organization, and some of them engaged in a bit of personal advertising by carving their own initials or monograms, leaving their hallmark for posterity. The intended meaning, especially those on cover, is fairly obvious. Those off-cover examples may never be identified without a cover surfacing. This is why it is so important to send in photocopies of your examples. Your cover may be the only one left that can clear up the mystery of an origin, and explain the meaning.

Special thanks to Theodore O. Mills who supplied most of the examples shown in this initial listing, and who provided the list of postmasters and the dates they served for each of his towns. And I am grateful to those others who took the time to share their covers. We will continue with the Multiple Letters category next time, and also introduce the "OK"s. Do send in your examples of both old and new categories, as the data is continually being updated, and it is important to determine the length of time a particular cancel was used by each town. I would like to ask a special favor of those who have copies of the Official Register for the years of the banknote period. Would you please check the section headed "Clerks in Post Offices" for those initials that don't have a plausible explanation otherwise, to see if they might be the initials of the postal clerks? The town names are listed alphabetically under this heading, and shouldn't take long to check.

Figure No. 1 GOLDEN, ILL., negative "AP" in an oval grid of fine cross-hatching on no. 210 cover dated May 23, 1887. Source: James Wrobliske. James has provided his own answer to his question raised in the Question Corner of the Summer issue, in which he asked for help in identifying the origin of this town.

He received both the Summer issue and this cover in the mail the same day! He'd still like to know what the letters "AP" stand for. The fine cross-hatching in the background appears to be metallic and may be a seal ring. Golden was established as Keokuk Junction on June 12, 1863; changed to Golden on Oct. 18, 1880.

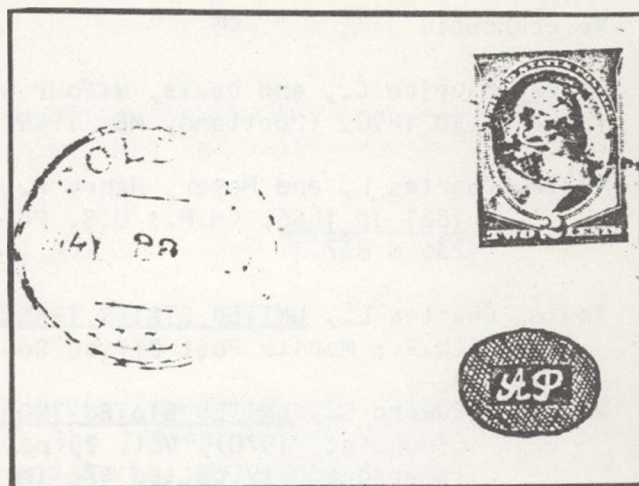


Figure No. 1

Figure No. 2 ANN ARBOR, MICH., "CB" on no. 210 cover dated Jan. 6 and back-stamped with a Buffalo, N.Y. 1866 date. Source: Alyce Evans. These are the initials of postal clerk Charles P. Bender. Ann Arbor cancels are discussed by Robert H. Schoen in a Jan. '63 article of the News. Schoen reported 18 covers examined by him of this cancel, the earliest was dated Dec. 9, 1885 - the latest he recorded was Feb. 1, 1886. Bender was responsible for carving 10 other assorted geometrics and another, negative "CB" initial, which was reversed, in 1887.

Figure No. 3 PORTLAND, CONN., "CHE" (magenta) on UX4 dated Oct. 14. The message side is year dated 1878. Source: Ted Bozarth. Examples 3A and 3B were shown in past issues of the News, one has a "star" at the top, both were reported in magenta. Could all these possibly be various stages of a single worn and

broken cork, and the differences explained by inaccurate tracings or different interpretations of the same cancel? Clear examples are needed to further this study. These are the initials of the husband of the postmaster at Portland, Mrs. Mary J. Edwards. Arthur J. Warmesley, in his Connecticut Post Offices and Postmarks stated, "no reason other than wifely affection was ever offered as to why she used her husband's initials as a killer."



Figure No. 2

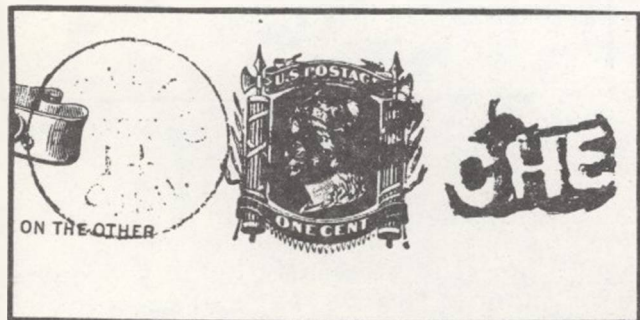
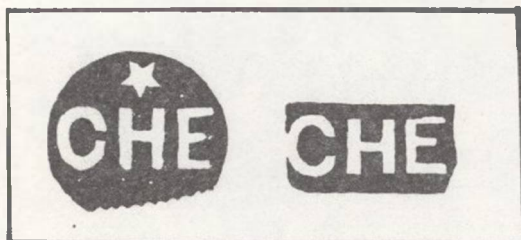


Figure No. 3



Figures 3A, 3B

Figure No. 4 RICHFIELD SPRINGS, N.Y., "EAH" on no. 158 cover dated Jul 11. Source: Ted Mills. These are probably the initials of the postmaster, Eugene A.

Hinds, who served from 12/9/64 to 3/6/87. From the several different examples I have examined (7 Types, at last count), it is apparent Hinds carved more than one Type. The fact that Hinds was postmaster for such a long time could explain the many variations. To help authenticate these variations, I would appreciate seeing examples, especially those on cover. I've only recorded one year date, Feb. 5, 1881, and this was a cover with a different Type than the Mills example (the bar of the "A" is lower than the bar of the "H"). The 3c green covers would have to be dated before Oct. 1, 1883, as this is the date that first class postage was reduced to two cents.



Figure No. 4

Figure No. 5 RICHFIELD SPRINGS, N.Y., negative "EAH" on no. 158 cover dated May 10. Source: Ted Mills. Like the positive initials above, several varieties of the negative initials of postmaster Hinds exist. The only clue as to a year date for the negatives that I've found is from a postal card, UX4, sent by Ted Bozarth dated Jul. 28. It is a different Type than the Mills example shown here, and the message side is dated "Saturday morning, the 28th". The two years pertinent to this study on which July 28 fell on a Saturday were 1883 and 1887. Hinds was no longer postmaster in July 1887, which leaves the date as 1883.



Figure No. 5

Figure No. 6 WAVERLY, N.Y., negative "ESH" on no. 210 cover dated Dec. 10, docketed Dec. 15, docketed Dec/15/83. Source: Alyce Evans. No doubt these are the initials of the postmaster, E.S. Hurd.



Figure No. 6

Figure No. 7 BLACKBERRY STATION, ILL., negative "EX" on no. 184 cover dated Jul. 4. Source: Ted Mills. The postmasters of Blackberry Station were D.R. Lewis, 12/21/70 to 8/30/76; J. Mathewson, 8/31/76 to 11/23/79; A.T. Mathewson, 11/24/79 to 11/1/85. On Feb. 26, 1886, the town name was changed to Elburn.

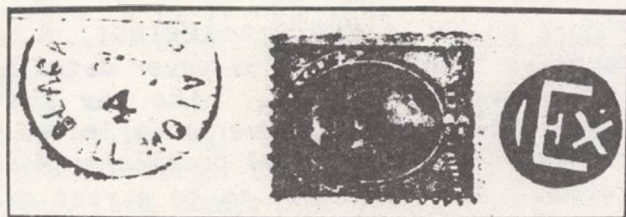


Figure No. 7

Figure No. 8 STURGIS, MICH., "HP" on no. 158 cover dated Sep. 11. Source: Ted Mills. Postmasters were Calvin Hood, 3/19/67 to 4/21/72; Johnathan G. Wait, 4/22/72 to 3/2/80; Marcus D. Kirs, 3/3/80 to 10/17/86. This cancel is similar to the "HP" of Hyde Park, Mass.

Figure No. 9 ANN ARBOR, MICH., negative "I AM H N" on no. 210 cover dated Dec. 15. Source: James Wrobliske. These initials stand for "I AM Harry Nickels". Nickels was a postal clerk at the Ann Arbor office. Robert Schoen, in his article on Ann Arbor cancels (Jan '63

News), stated that this cancel was used from Dec. 3 to Dec. 31, 1884. Schoen's data was obtained from the 15 covers he examined and recorded.

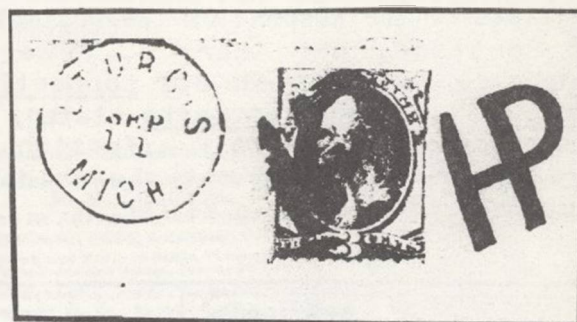


Figure No. 8



Figure No. 9

Figure No. 10 WHITEHALL, N.Y., negative "JY" on no. 184 cover dated Aug. 2. Source: Ted Mills. Horatio N. Parke was postmaster from 2/5/66 to 1/29/79; John F. Clark served from 1/30/79 to 8/6/86.

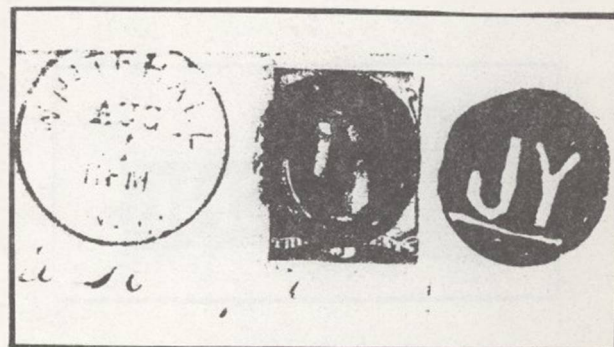


Figure No. 10

Figure No. 11 LEXINGTON, MO., negative "MC" on no. 158 cover dated May 21.

Source: Ted Mills. George W. McKean, postmaster from 11/8/69 to 12/9/74, might have been responsible for this "MC" cancel. Other postmasters were Mark L. DeMotte, 12/10/74 to 3/15/77; Henry W. Turner, 3/16/77 to 5/4/85.

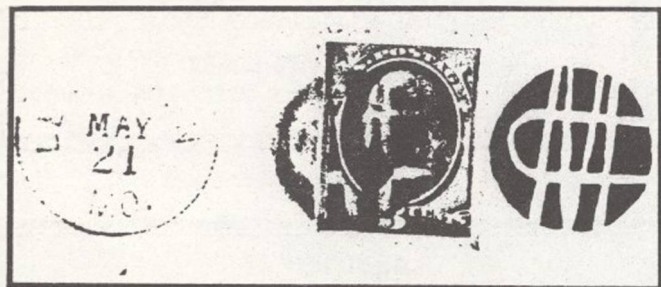


Figure No. 11

Figure No. 12 CHATTANOOGA, TENN., negative "NO" on no 158 cover dated Dec. 2. Source: Ted Mills. Postmasters were Robert S. Kindrick, 4/5/69 to 12/11/72; Samuel S. Bard, 12/12/72 to 3/19/73; Robert S. Kindrick, 3/20/73 to 3/2/75; William F. Cate, 3/3/75 to 7/2/76; Thomas Taylor, 7/3/76 to 7/16/77; John T. Wilder, 7/17/77 to 3/28/82; Harry F. Griscom, 3/29/82 to 7/14/85.

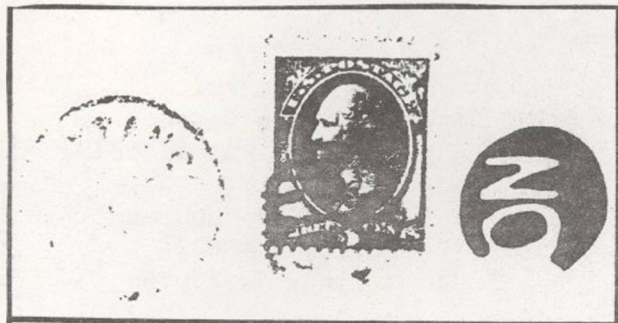


Figure No. 12



Figure No. 13

Figure No. 14 SAN LEANDRO, CAL., negative "SL" on 36 green cover dated Oct. 20. Source: Ted Mills. Postmasters were Richard C. Nabb, 1/11/67 to 7/29/77; Isaac Sampson, 7/30/77 to 3/13/79; Noah G. Sturtevant, 3/14/79 to 4/8/83; Charles D. Smith, 4/9/83 to 3/12/86. The second example, No. 14A, is on no. 183, the 2c vermilion and is from the writer's collection. The two cancels seem identical in size and shape, except that a "leg" has been cut in the "L" in Figure No. 14A. Perhaps 14A is the finished version.



Figure No. 14



Figure No. 14A

Figure No. 13 PITTSBURGH, PA., "RKN 3" on no. 184 piece dated Dec. 5. Source: Alyce Evans. Twice in the past this cancel has been shown in the News, with request for information about it. Both examples bore Dec. 8 dates. Can a Pittsburgh collector tell us how long this cancel was used, whose initials are represented and what does the number "3" mean?

Figure No. 15 SING SING, N.Y., "SS" on no. 158 cover dated Nov. 6. Source: Ted Mills. Postmasters for this town James Williamson, who served from 3/15/70 to 7/12/82; Charles A. Fowler, 7/13/82 to 9/1/82; James Williamson, 9/2/82 to 6/16/85.



Figure No. 15

(To be continued)



AWARD WINNERS

Brian M. Green

Gold - Virginia in the Confederacy, 1861-1865 (ARIPEX '84)

Louis Grunin

Reserve Grand - One Cent Stamps of the 1851-57 Issue on Cover (ARIPEX '84)

Henry W. Houser

Gold and Charles D. Root Memorial Award of USCC - U.S. "Waterburys" Cancellations (ARIPEX '84)

Richard B. Jordan

Gold - Rhode Island Postal History (ARIPEX '84)

Randolph L. Neil

Reserve Grand, Gold, USCC Award - U.S. 2c Issue 1883-7 (INDYPEX)

Henry S. Nowak

Vermeil - 1c Blue Issue of 1861-67 (ARIPEX '84)

W.E. Tinsley

Gold - Tasmania, 1815-1912 (ARIPEX '84)

CORRECTION

As a correction to the Fall '83 issue, Randolph L. Neil won the Vermeil award and the USCC award at VAPEX and his exhibit at STAMPSHOW was the U.S. 2c 1883-7 collection.

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Newport Beach, CA 92660

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(Continued page 17)

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In the year 1847 Hon. Selah R. Hobbie, (the 1st Asst P. M. Gen.) visited Europe on business of the Post Office Department, and on his return, in his report to Congress, he made the following

STATEMENT.

"I found when in England in 1847, that the stamps in use in the English post offices were universally made of wood, and was informed that they had superseded the metallic stamps entirely. They were preferred, not alone on account of their cheapness, but because they were more tenacious of the ink, in consequence of which, time is saved in the process of stamping, by not being obliged so frequently to ink the stamp. Besides, the impression, I was told, was not so liable to blur. (Signed) S. R. HOBIE."

These stamps, as represented above, are every way superior to metal ones in beauty of impression, when properly engraved; besides a set of metal stamps furnished by the Department, costs more than ten times the price of a complete set on wood. The sample impressions below, show distinctly what constitutes a complete set of Box wood

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DEAR SIR — During the year last past I have furnished a large number of Stamps to Post Masters, for which I have received *two dollars per set*. Thus far all the orders coming to me have been executed by Mr. Zevely, of Maryland. When we commenced our arrangement I supposed from the samples received that the Stamps were to be engraved on *Box wood*, that the changes of month and date were to be of *Box wood*, and that a box of red ink would be sent with each set, and I stated it thus in my Circular; but after the Circular was sent out he informed me that he could not afford to send *red ink*, (because it cost more than black ink,) and that his common stamps were not of "*Box wood*," and I found

AD REPRINTS

Herman "Pat" Herst, Jr. has offered to sell USCC members these reprints of the above classic advertisement for Post Office stamps by Charles M. Willard of Ludlow, Mass. The cost is \$1.00 each with a maximum of 10 and the full proceeds will go to the USCC. Send a stamped addressed envelope with your order to Mr. Herst, P.O. Box 1583, Boca Raton, FL 33432.

The advertisement contains three pages (only the first page is illustrated) with a fourth page for the address. All the markings shown are in a bright red, while the text is black. To display it, two copies would be needed.

The editor would like to thank "Pat" for his generous offer.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Harold Dylhoff
23511 Paulson's Rd.

LITERATURE UPDATE

John Koontz reports that several new pieces of literature have come out since his article in the Spring '82 issue of the News, which listed references to U.S. machine cancels used abroad and their manufacturers. These are:

1. The History, Machinery and Postal Markings of the International Postal Supply Co. of New York by Reginald Morris. \$20.00 pp from the Machine Cancel Forum, P.O. Box 98, Greenbelt, MD 20770.

2. The Early Rapid Canceling Machines of Canada by David F. Sessions. \$17.95 (Canadian) from the Uni-trade Press, P.O. Box 172, Stat. A, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5W 1B2.

3. The 1902 Markings of Montreal--Identified At Last by Reg Morris. Issue No. 103, November 1982 of the Machine Cancel Forum, \$1 pp.

4. In addition he rediscovered The Postal History of the AEF, 1917-1923, edited by Theo. Van Dam, American Philatelic Society, P.O. Box 800, State College, PA 16801.

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Question Corner

In anticipation of the "multiple letters" article of Alyce Evans, Donald J. Kaelin submitted a photocopy of one such cancellation in his collection.

As you can imagine, it is very significant to him because it happens to be his personal monogram. Who can identify its origin?



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