



Cancellation Club NEWS

VOL. 18, NO. 1

WHOLE NO. 187

WINTER 1986

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Office of A. Nicholas & Co. Bankers.
NEW YORK 5 April 1858

Hon A.V. Brown

Dear Sir

Enclosed I send you a Postage Stamp, which has passed through the department and was cancelled. The cancellation has been partially erased on the one enclosed for your inspection. The ordinary paper now in use for writing and printing can be easily tampered with by adept in Chemistry. It is plain therefore that the Post Office is liable to be extensively swindled by the restoration of its cancelled stamps so long as it uses the ordinary paper to print them on.

I also send you a sheet of newly invented paper under "Glynn's Patent," which defies all chemical rogueries. No alterations or erasures can be made on this paper without instant detection. It is also proof against vermin and dampness it does not cost but a trifle more and can now be had in any quantities in this City. I deem it of the utmost consequence that Government should use such paper in all its public documents as can defy the rogueries of chemistry and think that this paper attains this very desirable end. Believing that the subject demands your early attention, I remain

Your Obt Svt

A Nicholas

P.S.

If this matter is referred to any Engravers it will be condemned. The reasons are simple-if it is adopted it will do away with half of their printing busienss-especially so among the Engravers of Bank notes. They print now on the same bill twice whereas printing once on this paper is sufficient.

Respectfully

A N

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Fellow Collectors:

As your new president, I would like to take this opportunity to greet you and to thank the recently retired and continuing officers for their contributions. As you are all aware, the Club has had some difficult times in recent years. Thanks to the leadership of Bill Walker, these times are now behind us. Certainly we owe Bill a debt of thanks. The sales circuits are totally reorganized under the able leadership of George Lewis who continues as secretary-treasurer. Evelyn Lewis will continue to manage the responsibilities of membership/award chairman. I am also pleased that Roger Curran will continue as editor of the News.

A special thanks also goes to Pat Herst, Abe Boyarsky, C. W. Bert Christian, and Alyce Evans for their continued involvement with your club. I hope that you will contact us with ideas and suggestions that will make the U.S.C.C. an even better organization.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Good collecting!

Gary A. McIntyre

Ed. Aaron V. Brown was the Postmaster General from March 7, 1857 to March 13, 1859

Dear Reader,

A word about addresses, recently changed addresses in particular. George and Evelyn Lewis have just completed a careful review and updating of our mailing list and will make a periodic comparison with actual membership records.

We also ask your help when you change addresses. Many club members, but not all, let us know promptly. By so advising us, you will get the next issue sooner and at less cost and time to the U.S.C.C.

Address and ZIP changes will no longer appear routinely in the News. If a club member doesn't have the current address for another club member, and wishes to make contact, drop a line to your editor and a current listing will be provided unless the member has specifically requested that the address not be given out.

Roger Curran

BOOK REVIEW

Salkind, Sol, U.S. Cancels 1890-1900, with special emphasis on the fancy cancels found on the 2c Red definitive stamps of this period. Sol Salkind, Lake Worth, FL, July 1985. \$15.00

Mr. Salkind, a long-time New York stamp dealer and auctioneer, has produced an excellent work, extending the efforts of Skinner-Eno and Herst-Sampson into the small banknote and first bureau period; i.e., the 1890's. Listed are over 1500 cancellations with some two dozen full cover illustrations. The markings are arranged into various categories for easy reference. Such categories include geometrics, grids, stars, letters, numbers, precancels, RPO's, to mention a few. An ample index is included to facilitate the collector in locating an individual

strike. One valuable feature of this book is that the illustrations are not tracings but actual photographs of the markings. These photos are accomplished in such a way that the background or stamp is significantly filtered and the design of the strike emphasized. The author solicits the assistance of the readers in identifying the town of usage of many of the markings. This information plus dates of use and brief discussion of the significance of some of the markings would be valuable additions to the edition.

In all a most useful and valuable work for those interested in the many facets of 1890's philately.

The book is available from David G. Phillips, Inc., P.O. Box 611288, North Miami, FL 33161

Tom Stanton

THE U.S. CANCELLATION CLUB NEWS

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NEW YORK CITY CANCELLATIONS ON THE FIRST U.S. POSTAL CARDS

(continued)

Roger R. Rhoads

Curran pointed out one killer in Figure 8 in the Winter, 1985 NEWS as reported by Bond composed of a "12" in a lined circle that appears to be cast metal and does not fit well into the descriptions in this study. Skinner indicated that this could not be confirmed as a NYC marking. However lot 1773 in the Hoffers mail auction shows the same marking with a NYC CDS dated September 10 (no year noted). Recently Figure 17 was reported to the News by Gilbert Le-

was some method to easily track the mail. Ann Arbor, MI had clerks use individualized killers in the mid-1880's, and they were changed periodically to assist in mail inspection. The Winter, 1984 NEWS article by Alyce Evans on Multiple Letters on Banknote Issues (pp. 12-15) shows probably the most famous of these, "I AM H N." Harry Cox Nickels also used a variety of other personalized killers as did another clerk by the name of Charles P. Bender. The

resistance. They were more legible, but they didn't wear well at all. Based on days of use, the negative numbers lasted about 5 weeks, but the positive numbers wore out in about 2 weeks. So the post office went back to the negative ones in mid-1874. Then both positive Arabic and Roman numerals were tried at the same time as an apparent wear comparison. The positive Arabic numbers still wore rapidly.

However the positive Roman numerals had horizontal bars around them much like the solid background of the negative Arabic ones and they wore well. Unfortunately, if the killer was slightly off the card, then VIII looked like VII or VI and XIV looked like XI. For that reason, perhaps, they went back to negative Arabic numerals in late 1874. In late 1874, the P.O. apparently began to evaluate metal cancelers. The aforementioned September 23, 1874 item in Figure 17 and the December 1874 manufactured ellipse noted in the Summer 1985 NEWS (p. 101) were examples of this experimental work. Subsequently the P.O. decided to adopt a similar ellipse canceler in 1876.

The P.O. was certainly in the mood for change at this time. One of the first two Leavitt machines being used at Boston was borrowed by NYC and given a rather lengthy trial from June until October 1876. A very few cards

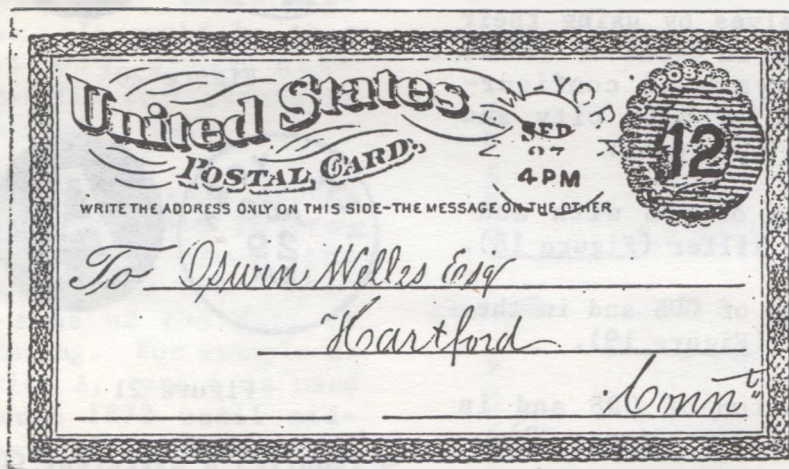


Figure 17

vere. The CDS is dated September 23 and the year 1874 can be determined from the dateline on the message side of the card. Could it be an experimental use of a forerunner to the manufactured ellipses?

Other than for simple variety, why did the post office change from negative to positive to Roman to negative again? In fact, why did they go finally to the ellipses? One possibility is that it

January 1963 NEWS has illustrations of a number of these in an article by Robert H. Schoen on pp. 54-55.

I believe a more plausible possibility is that the post office was searching for a more durable and still fully legible killer system. In early 1874 when the change was made to positive from negative Arabic numerals, almost all the positive numbers had a circular rim around them, probably for wear

remain from that trial. Stratton surmised that either New York demanded much higher standards of performance or the machine refused to function properly. Not until February 1878 does a Leavitt cancel again appear in NYC, and appropriately enough, of the 5 killer dies used in that year, all but one are of a numbered, barred ellipse type.

How many different number designs were used? This study uncovered over 160 different designs, but how many more are possible? In trying to answer that question I estimated that between May 1873 and October 1875 (when the newly designed UX5 card was first used)

21-23 sets of negative Arabic numerals were used based on 5 weeks per set. The positive Arabic ones were used a much shorter period of time and were more fragile. I estimate only 9-10 sets are possible. Of the Roman numerals, the use span indicates no more than 2 complete sets. Therefore the total number of all designs is estimated to be 450-500.

The time span until the ellipses were adopted would allow about 7 more sets of negative numbers or about 100 more designs. However these would have to be collected mostly on the new card rather than the old one. Few people bought cards and put them back for future use. They were used almost immediately after purchase. As evidence of that, only 3% of the cards studied were used after the new card came out.

III. LETTERS

Konwiser indicated that the NYC directory for 1872 noted 13 branch offices designated A thru N without an I office (to avoid confusion with the number 1). In 1875, additions were indicated but not specified, and by 1879 there were R, S and T offices. Bond listed the lettered stations that existed before 1900 which extended to Z. For the years 1873-76, his list shows an I station for 1873-74 and O and R stations for the year 1875.

This study found that most of them chose to identify themselves by using their letter in one of these four types of configurations on both city and out of town mail:

1. Top of CDS with non-letter killer (Figure 18).
2. Top of CDS and in the killer (Figure 19).
3. Bottom of CDS and in the killer (Figure 20).
4. Killer only (Figure 21).

Letters A, B, C, D, E, F, K and L were found. Bond reported a G for this time period as well. If we assume station I did not use a letter to avoid confusion, then office H, J, M, N, O and R are as yet unreported for this time period. However Bond reported H and M used in earlier years so all of them may yet be found.

Note that adding a hand-carved killer to type 1 creates a type 2. However going from type 2 to 3 or

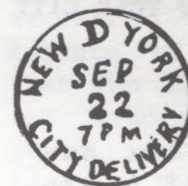


Figure 18

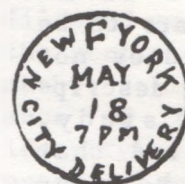


Figure 19

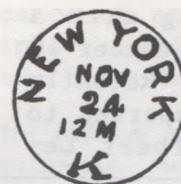


Figure 20

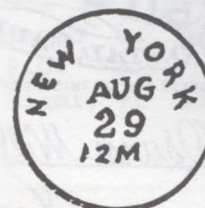


Figure 21

4 requires a different CDS which was probably a metal casting requiring a master mold. With that in mind, there should be a type 5 with a letter at the bottom of the CDS and a non-letter killer. However, none came to light.

As mentioned in the introduction, only about 17% of the cards studied were canceled with letter designations in either the CDS, killer or both. Also the more than 40 examples found were not uniformly divided. Those from station A represented 1/3 of the total while 1/4



Figure 22

were from station D. Stations B (Figure 22), E and F had about 10% each.

Smaller amounts were found from the remaining stations C, K and L. Thus cancels from these stations as well as G are quite scarce.

It's not obvious from this that fewer pieces were canceled at these stations. It could be that possibly other non-alphabetic configurations were used as well.

There were hardly enough cards available to draw conclusions about the usage of the four types, and some of the data is confusing. For example at station A, type 4 is used through 1873 until mid-January 1874. Then type 1 is used until early November 1874 when type 3 was adopted. Then in the middle of 1875, both types 2 and 3 were being used.

Station D (Figure 23) started using type 1 in 1873 and switched to type 4 by early 1875 (though no 1874 examples were noted). By mid-1875 types 1, 2 and 4 were being used. It's probable that heavy mail traffic at these two stations was handled by more than one canceling person.

At the other noted stations, insufficient covers prevented any similar



Figure 23

analysis. However it is evident that at least 2 of the 4 types were used at these stations as well. It's apparent that no formal policy was in effect as to the preferred configuration design and each station made its own choice and changed from time to time. Below is a list of each station and the configuration type found. The additional Bond data is noted in parentheses.

<u>STATION</u>	<u>TYPES</u>
A	1,2,3,4
B	1,2,
C	1,2,
D	1,2,4
E	1,2,(3,4)

<u>STATION</u>	<u>TYPES</u>
F	1,2,(3)
G	(3)
K	1,3
L	2,3

An interesting sidelight is that apparently Brooklyn also used letter-designated stations. Figure 24 is of two configurations dated January 2, 1874 and January 26, 1875 for station W. The author has seen a cancel similar to that of 1874

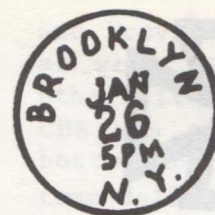
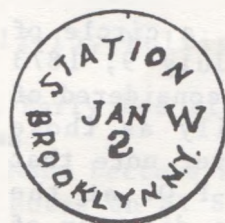


Figure 24

from station E as well. Maybe there are other Brooklyn stations cards or covers postmarked with letter configurations still out there waiting to be studied.

In summary, the letter cancels of NYC because of their variety of style and types offer an interesting sub-collection for the specialist. The fun is in the hunt as they are difficult to find and may not exist as a complete set.

IV. OTHER KILLERS AND POSTAL MARKINGS

This is not exactly the "miscellaneous" portion of this work in that there are a number of cancels that still fall into similar categories just as do the numbers and letters. The first is the Maltese cross and six varieties were found dating from June 17, 1874 to June 22, 1875. Figures 25, 26 and 27 show some shapes ranging from solid to hollow to soft, hollow. As with the number cancels, apparently they are the work of one person in that during the time span of use of a particular design, no other design



Figure 25



Figure 26

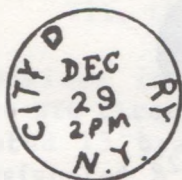


Figure 29

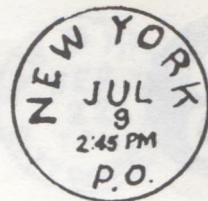


Figure 31



Figure 27

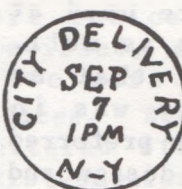


Figure 30

with the Maltese crosses only those are 23 mm. in diameter. The card is addressed for city delivery.

Another circle of "V"s dated November 15, 1874 is shown in Figure 32. However again note that the CDS is rimless which is unique in the study. Delivery is out-of-town.

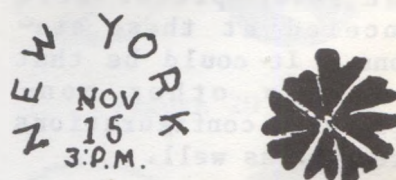


Figure 32

I can not draw any ready conclusions from these last two examples, but they are added for completeness and for some future postal historian to mull over.

In Figure 33 is yet another circle of "V"s dated August 25, 1873. There is a "D" at the top of the CDS, so this is a type 1 city delivery cancel as denoted in the earlier section on letters, though it is an out-of-town address.

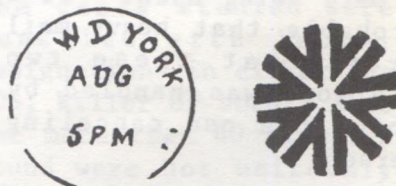


Figure 33

was used.

The CDS is of the type shown in Figure 28 with the "P.O." at the bottom.

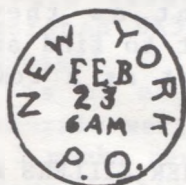


Figure 28

Usage was noted for both local and out-of-town delivery. Based on this it's possible that these crosses are the product of one of the stations for which a letter in a CDS or a killer has yet to be found.

On one occasion I found the same design 27 days apart. Based on the wear of the latest of these, I would estimate the life of this type of cancel to be one month. Therefore assuming a minimum of one year's usage for Maltese crosses, there should be about 12 different designs to collect.

Another category can best be described as that of a sunburst or chrysanthemum. Figure 29 is dated

December 29, 1873 and Figure 30 is dated September 7, 1874. Both have "City Delivery" in the CDS but Figure 30 has a dash between N and Y and is 22 1/2 mm. in diameter, while Figure 29 has periods after each letter and is 23 1/2 mm. in diameter. Figure 30 also is a circle of eight hearts. A circle of four hearts was listed in the September 7, 1985 auction of Richard D. Frajola (lot 678), but the CDS was more similar to that of Figure 29. Lots 1836 and 1838 in Hoffers auction also feature this type of geometric with one having the periods after N and Y while the other uses the dash. (No year dates were noted on these three lots.) These similarities certainly lead me to believe they have a common origin, perhaps another of the unreported stations?

Figure 31 is a circle of "V"s dated July 9, 1873 and might be considered of the same family as those above. However note that the CDS has P.O. at the bottom and a diameter of 25 mm, unlike those above but similar to that used

Another interesting point about this cancel is its extreme sharpness and precision as though it were milled or cast. Since others of this type are not readily available, I assume it wore out rather quickly and thus was made of wood as were all the others. However the same cancel has been noted from Provincetown, MA and Bellville, IL during the same year. Could this have been a purchased killer from one of the many vendors of the day?

A final curiosity is that it is the same strike design as the New York Foreign Mail (NYFM) killer

designated S17 by Van Vlissingen and Waud in their book on NYFM cancels. However this one is 19 mm. in diameter compared to 23 mm. for S17. These two authors noted a total of 25 such domestic cancels that resemble larger NYFM cancels.

A few cancels could not readily be lumped with others such as that in Figure 34 dated April 28, 1876. Note that the 24 mm. diameter CDS states simply "NEW YORK" on this out-of-town addressed card.

Figure 35 dated December 16, 1874 is a leaf reminiscent of the Waterbury, CT

and Providence, RI leaves as well as those of many other cities. Again the CDS has the P.O. at the bottom and is for out-of-town delivery.

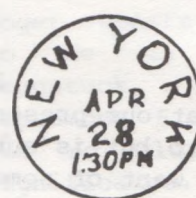


Figure 34

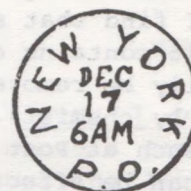


Figure 35

(To be continued)

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- Winter, 1985, p. 67, Early Use of Numbers and Letters in NYC Cancellations, Roger D. Curran
- Spring, 1985, p. 88, More Letters and Numbers, Roger D. Curran
- Spring, 1985, p. 90, Notes on NY Station Letter and Other Similar Markings, Hubert C. Skinner
- Summer, 1985, pp. 101, 103, Earliest Manufactured Ellipse?, Roger D. Curran

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Albany N.Y. Oct. 25, 1847

Sir:

I am daily becoming more and more satisfied that our present system of letter stamps is not only liable to but is subjected to many abuses, mainly owing to the want of some uniform and safe method of cancelling the stamps. If I mistake not, in conversation with you recently on this subject, you instructed me to admonish Post Masters against the use of red ink in cancelling. I find that such ink is used in the large offices, but it contains oil, and where this is the case it cannot easily be removed and is deemed safer than anything else by chemists. On the other hand common writing ink, such as Post Masters are instructed to cancel with, can be effectually removed by the application of a weak solution of muriatic or hydrochloric acid. I have seen this tried with entire success. Common black ink used by printers is considered better than anything else, from having both oil and carbon in its composition.

I presume I am imparting no new ideas on this subject. Some measures I am satisfied, are necessary to be taken to protect the Department more effectually in this particular.

Very Respectfully Yrs.

J. Holbrook
Sp. Agt.

Hon S. R. Hobbie,
1st Asst. P.M. Genl.

Ed. Mr. Holbrook, a special agent of the Post Office Department, was the author of Ten Years Among the Mail Bags, published in 1855, and also produced the periodical U.S. Mail and Post Office Assistant.

Albany Nov. 2nd 1848

Mr. Holbrook

Dear Sir,

I enclose you three stamps which I have taken from letters sent to me and where the stamps had been cancelled with a pen and black ink -- These were all badly scratched and blotted, having three or four lines in one direction and the same number

REMINDER

If you have not yet paid your 1986 dues of \$8.00 but plan to do so please send today and retain the membership card.
Thanks!

AWARD WINNERS

Dr. Wm. H.P. Emery
Silver - Texas Use of the One Cent U.S. Postal Rate (GULLPEX '85, Corpus Christi, TX)

Dale P. Anthony
Gold - Killer Stars - A Study of Star Cancellations on the 1861 3c Rose (GULLPEX '85)

Randolph L. Neil
Gold, BIA and Paul C. Rohloff memorial awards - The United States Two Cent Issue of 1883-87 (CHICAGO-PEX '85) Gold and APS pre 1900 medal - Great Britain/Half Penny Jubilee Issue (MIDAPHIL, Kansas City, MO)

LeRoy Lipman
Grand, Gold and voted most popular - United States 3c Banknote Series 1870-77 (MERPEX IX, Mount Laurel, NJ); also Silver (BALPEX '85) and Vermeil (NATIONAL '85)

Brad Arch
Gold - Faroe Islands, 1919-84 (MERPEX IX) Vermeil - New Jersey Transit (NOJEX '85)

R. Malcolm Hooper
Gold - Classic U.S. Pre-cancels (SEPAD)

(Cont'd on p. 11)

crossing them. I do not pretend that these are very perfect specimens of the removal of ink. I have not given two minutes to each of them -- still I think they would pass many offices without suspicion. It is easy to detect this mode of removing ink by the application of a chemical test, unless the paper is carefully washed afterward. I contemplate this method of supplying myself with stamps hereafter since Mr. Wasson has rarely any on sale in his office.

I am very sincerely yours &c

James Hall

EXTRA MARKINGS

apply the canceling ink?

NEWARK NJ

Gilbert Levere submits three similar postal cards, one of which is illustrated in Figure 1. The cards are dated May 15, June 4 and June 5, all 1875. They

POSTSCRIPT

--To the article of Alyce Evans in the Winter 1985 News (pages 12-16) concern-

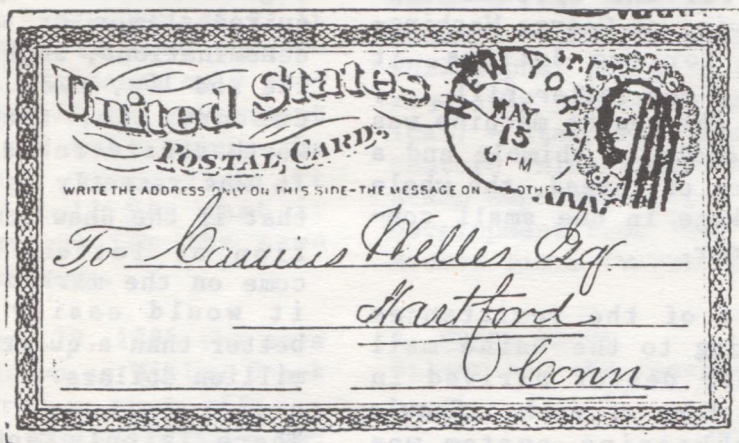


Figure 1

appear to be from the same hand canceler judging from their appearance and the fact of the short time period. (Incidentally, by June 5 the boxed vertical lines that constituted the killer were quite indistinct.) Can someone advise us on the configuration of the face of the handstamp that produced the rickrack type border? Was it a common configuration that just happened in this case (and perhaps others) to have the ridges raised high enough to pick up and

ing multiple letters in cancels on banknote issues. Roger Rhoads submits the two cancels illustrated in Figure 1. About the first



Figure 1

he states:

"... a blue TP from Ocean Grove, NJ, dated June 18, 1875. These are not the initials of the PM.

However, Ocean Grove has historically been a summer religious gathering place and the initials probably belong to a summer worker."

Roger reports the WA cancel to be in black from Naugatuck, CT dated September 6, 1873 and he has no clue as to its significance. Can a reader supply details?

Figure 1 presents several cancels reported on covers bearing 1869 issue stamps.



Figure 1

These cancels, submitted by Brad Arch, have been noted on one or more dates in the May 1869 to September 1870 period. Brad also reported variations of the first two designs. One segmented circle variation was noted in October and November 1870.

FIRST MAIL ORDER

By Herman Herst, Jr.

The recent decision of the giant mail order house, Montgomery Ward, to discontinue dealing from a catalog, after more than a century, has revived the myth that they were the first catalog mail order house.

Uncle Sam gave credence to the myth in 1972 when we issued a commemorative stamp on which was inscribed "100th Anniversary of Mail order." The year was intentionally selected for it was in 1872 that Aaron Montgomery Ward posted his first catalog. The date, September 27, was chosen as the day on which the stamp was issued.

Philatelists know better. A half dozen years before, H. B. Shaw, of Alfred Maine, concluded that there were many people living on farms, or living elsewhere, but unable to get to a store, who would use the United States mail to obtain their needs.

Shaw advertised in rural newspapers, and in other publications that served farmers, especially in the growing midwest, offering a catalog listing specialties that were intended to induce anyone reading it to order.

The fact that Shaw was inclined to be somewhat dishonest in the listings ought not to detract from the place in mail order history the Maine entrepreneur deserves. There was the guaranteed fly and mosquito killer, "a device that could not fail".

There was the "magnificent steel engraving of the Father of our country, as excellent an engraving that equalled the skill of the country's finest engravers." And there was the least expensive sewing machine ever offered, priced at one dollar.

Perhaps Shaw hoped that customers would have a sense of humor, but even if they did not, it was not likely that they would complain to the authorities. That bug killer was two small blocks of wood, with full instructions. The insect was to be placed on one block, and squashed to death with the other.

As for the splendid engraving of George Washington for two dollars, it was a one dollar bill... and the sewing machine was a needle, a thimble and a spool of thread, the whole package in one small container.

Most of the remittances coming to the Maine mail order dealer arrived in the form of cash. Shaw's bookkeeping system was admirably simple. On each envelope the name of the sender was written, the amount of the order, and it was then filed, in the order of receipt.

Shaw discontinued operations some time in the early 1880s, but for almost a half century, chests and chests of the envelopes which had come to Alfred from customers, were stored in a barn behind the house. Many of the envelopes had been registered, so that the sender need not worry about the safety of the

remittance. (Registry was but a dime for much of this period; in the 1890s, it was reduced to eight cents, as the Post Office felt guilty that the service was producing such a large profit.)

In the early 1920s, a stamp collector from a nearby Maine village heard of the accumulation, and bought it from the then residents of the Shaw house, which incidentally, is still standing in Alfred. Over a period of many years, the fortunate philatelist recouped a fortune from his purchase, for many of the stamps, especially those of the shortlived 1869 issue were very rare, and since the registered envelopes required stamps of unusual denominations, such as 7c, 12c and 15c, even a half century ago, they were worth considerable sums. It was recently estimated that if the Shaw accumulation of letters was to come on the market today, it would easily bring better than a quarter of a million dollars.

There is only one very interesting fact to be added to this story, and that is the proprietor's Christian name. The name was Harriet. Harriet B. Shaw was this country's first true mail order dealer, despite the seal of approval the Postal Service put on Aaron Montgomery Ward. Harriet B. Shaw of course was a woman.

This is by no means the first time that our Postal Service has erred in honoring the wrong person on our stamps, nor will it be the last . . . but that is another story.



ART, TEXAS

By Bill Henderson

How many towns can say they got their name from the United States Post Office department? Not by mistake, but by choice. Now the Post Office has "created" several Texas town names from poor penmanship and/or poor reading of the original post office application. But ART was suggested, repeat, suggested by the Post Office Department after it was asked to make suggestions. It seems only proper that if the government says you must change the name of your town, it should tell you what it will accept for the name of your town.

On March 29, 1886 the area then known as Willow Creek acquired a post office, and it was officially designated Plehweville, Texas. This fine German name was selected to honor Otto Plehwe, the first postmaster and a general store keeper. Late in 1920 the Post Office Department said Plehweville must go. After 34 years it was too hard to spell. By whom? Not Otto. Also much Plehweville mail was being sent to Plugerville, Texas. Perhaps the problem was not spelling, but reading by postal people. The 1920 postmaster, one Ely W. Deckart, said, "OK, POD, what do you suggest?" One of the suggestions was

"ART", the last letters of the postmaster's name. I wonder how much ART mail went by way of ARP, Texas before Zip was sprung on us. I suggest to cele-



brate the town centennial, in 1986, they change the name to Plehweville, TX 76820-XXXX. If I am asked to pronounce my suggestion, I withdraw it.

(Cont'd fr. p. 8)

John M. Hotchner

Vermeil (for regular column) - the Philatelic Philosopher and Gold (for regularly published periodical) - Stamp Fun, Leader Feature (MIDAPHIL) Gold - Stamp Separation: Its Development from 1840 to Modern Times (VAPEX '85)

A. Burns Speer

Silver and APS research

award - Walter B. Wesson's Duplex Handcancelers (INDYPEX '85)

Dr. John B. Ludin

Reserve Grand and Gold - Contract Air Mail Route No. 20, 1934-56; also Gold for 1927-34 period (FOPEX '85 Albany, NY) Silver and AAMS Silver - Contract Air Mail Route No. 20, 1927-56 (VAPEX '85)

Robert L. Lisbeth

Gold and Va. PHS president's award - Virginia Postal History, 1765-1865 (VAPEX '85)

Thomas O. Taylor

Gold - Washington, D.C. Postal Markings, 1800-30 (VAPEX '85)

Norman Shachat

Gold and Ben B. Newman Mem. Award (Best in U.S.P.H.) - Philadelphia Domestic Mail 1789-1869 (CHICAGOPEX '85)

Budd W. Dickey

Gold and best-in-section - Four Cent Jackson Issues of 1883-88 (NOJEX '85)

William S. Dunn

Gold and APS 1900-40 Award

(Cont'd on p. 13)

USCC AWARD WINNERS

NAPEX '85 - Budd W. Dickey - Four Cent Jackson Issues of 1883 and 1888

STAmPSHOW '85 - Dr. William H. P. Emery - Early Texas Mail

INDYPEX '85 - A. Burns Speer - Walter D. Wesson's Duplex Handcancelers

BALPEX '85 and NATIONAL '85 - LeRoy Lipman - U.S. 3c Banknote Series 1870-77

FLOREX '85 - William J. Bomar - Postal Tour of U.S. Exposition

SEPAD '85 - R. Malcolm Hooper - Classic U.S. Precancels

Philatelic Show '85 (Boston) - Brad Horton - The Postal Card of 100 Years Ago

VAPEX '85 Thomas O. Taylor - Washington, D.C. Postal Markings

SESCAL '85 - King Parker - A Postal History of San Francisco

MORE FOREIGN POSTMARKS PART II

We report several further examples of foreign postmarks on U.S. stamps submitted by readers. Figures 1 and 2 were provided by Bert Christian. The stamps



Figure 1

are Scott #68. Commenting on Figure 1, Bert states:

"From about 1856 to 1876 the French mail packets carried postal clerks aboard who customarily applied the anchor marking to French open mail. Several values of the 1861-67 Issue and the 1869 Issue are known with this marking. It is quite probable that an occasional letter escaped a U.S. post office accidentally uncanceled or was mailed at the pier or on board ship where it was struck with this French receiving anchor marking by the clerk on board."



Figure 2

About Figure 2 he advises:

"The 10¢ value of the 1861-67 series is reported to be the first U.S. stamp used in Japan. More often the Hioigo marking is found on values of the 1869 Issue."



Figure 3



Figure 4

Figure 3 shows two stamps that bear a London "PAID" marking. A full illustration of the marking from British Postmarks by R.C. Alcock and F.C. Holland is shown in Figure 4. Dick Winter states that Alcock and Holland reported the marking, with and without center bars, to have appeared in the 1860's from larger London post offices. Dick also writes:

"From my transatlantic cover photocopy records I can find uses back to 30 August 1865. In the early 1860's different PAID markings were in use and I doubt that this one appeared much before the mid-1860's date that I record. . . . it is a red marking showing letter prepayment. I have seen examples at least until 1875 and it may have been in use later. While I can't be sure of the meaning of the letters above and below the "PAID," the British usually showed letters similar to this in handstamps which often indicated the mail handling teams that used the device."

CANCELLATION CLUB NEWS

The dominant cancel on the left stamp (Scott #159) in Figure 3 is a NYFM cancel



listed as Type A-22 in New York Foreign Mail Cancellations by Van Vlissingen and Waud. The stamp on the right is a Scott #71 and was submitted by Jim Hopkins who also submitted a "Calais 5" on a Scott #152, a "PARIS" in red on a Scott #216, a "LONDON SW" on a Scott #223 and a "(PA)RIS (ET)RANGER" also on a Scott #223.

POSTSCRIPTS

--to "Ellipse Origin" on page 115 of the Spring 1985 News which concerned the assumed British origin of the general design for the common ellipse cancel used in the U.S. beginning in the 1870's. We illustrated an unusual Boston ellipse with a "C" in the center with vertical sidebars and noted that Wilbur W. Davis, in a 1952 News article, reported seeing only six examples all of which were on Scott #183. Figure 1 shows the cancel now on a Scott #182. Readers are



Figure 1

urged to report examples of this cancel (and on what stamp or card they appear)

so that we can learn more about the use of this interesting ellipse.

Gilbert Levere submitted the interesting cancel shown in Figure 2 from St. Paul, MN which can be dated May 25, 1882. It does have

95132 Kansas City, MO
Postal History, US
Machine Cancel Bulls-
eyes, F.D.C.

1659 N.J. Stachura, Sr.,
P.O. Box 31005,
Chicago, IL 60631
US & Foreign Classic

Wollaster Ct., #D,
Columbus, OH 43220
Early US especially
banknote issues.

1664 John C. Yurewicz, 47
Mott Street, Arlington,
MA 02174 US
Fancy cancels; US cut
squares; US philatel-
ic exhibition seals.

1665 John J. Connaughton,
10 Sawyer Terrace,
Allston, MA 02134 US;
Ireland; Germany.

1666 Michael L. Collins
P.O. Box 9606,
Yakima, WA 98909 US;
postal stationery,
official mail.

1667 David D'Alessandris
28638 Forest Road,
Willowick, OH 44094
19th century fancy
cancellations and
postal markings.

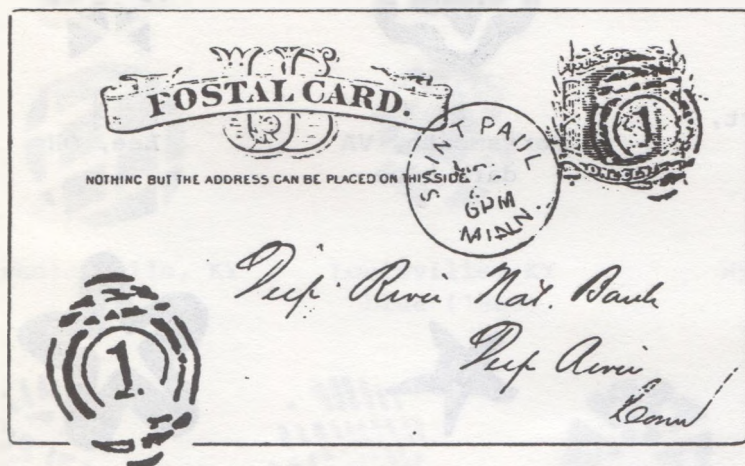


Figure 2

a vertical sidebar - but only one on each side so perhaps we should say it is a cross between the U.S. and British versions as its appearance does seem to fall somewhere in between. Willard illustrated this cancel in his book on the 2c red brown and comments briefly on it.

NEW MEMBERS

1656 Dr. J. Kenneth
Schoolmeester (Ken)
P.O. Box 8465,
Greensboro, NC 27419
Fancy cancels.

1657 David Connally, P.O.
Box 430039, Houston,
TX 77243 Steamship,
foreign rec'g marks,
unusual usage, paid,
carriers, etc.
particularly colored
ccls.

1658 Norman C. Byers
(Norm), 3029 Postwood
Drive, San Jose, CA

Stamps; old checks,
stocks, bonds; reve-
nue stamps, part time
dealer.

1660 David L. Abrams, 7738
Fernwood Cove,
Southaven, MS 38671
Flag cancels (esp. on
Parcel Post, F 1,
P.P. dues) on 19 &
20th century covers.
J 12 flag cancels,
all directory mark-
ings; & Wash/Frank.
on cover.

1661 Frank Reischerl, P.O.
Box 1299, Manchester,
CT 06040 Conn. postal
history; special
interest in "New York
Pearl" precancel on
postage due stamps.

1662 Alan L. Ward, P.O.
Box 344, Newtown
Branch, Boston, MA
02258 19th century
US cancels.

1663 James M. Cole, 4670

REINSTATED

752 Martin Margulis, 1368
Metropolitan Ave.,
Bronx, NY 10462 NYC
branch PO's and all
counties in NYC -
pre-consolidation
independent PO's now
in NYC.

RESIGNATIONS

Donald E. Makinen
William F. Rapp, Jr.
John S. Maye
Richard Stambaugh
Oliver G. Pectal

CLOSED ALBUM

Charles T. Maison

(Cont'd fr. p. 11)
the 2c Carmine Washington
Issues 1923-38 (NOJEX '85)

John R. Mason
Vermeil-History of Transit
Markings (NOJEX '85)

UNLISTED CANCELS

Illustrated below are cancellations, submitted by Ted Mills, for which the design or town of origin or both are unlisted in Skinner-Eno, on the 3c regular issues of 1861 and 1867. The stamp is a #65 and the canceling ink black unless otherwise noted.



1
Kanawhasalines, WV Old Point Comfort,
VA



2
Portsmouth, VA
dark blue



3
Lee, OH



4
Baltimore, MD



Baltimore, MD
12/2/(67)



Kent Station, IN
9/28/(63)



5
Fort Wayne, IN
5/30/65



Oquawka, IL



Freeport, IL
#94 blue



6
Watseka, IL
blue



Peoria, IL
blue



Virginia City, NV
(1867 issue)



Nevada City, CA
#94



Sacramento, CA



La Grange, GA

Atlanta, GA
blue
1/24/(67)

Savannah, GA



Savannah, GA



Nicholasville, KY

Louisville, KY
blue (1869)Hyattstown, MD
(blue)

Woodbury, NJ



New Buffalo, PA



Camden, NJ



Columbus, WI



Kalamazoo, MI

White Pigeon, MI
#94

- 1 This cancel is listed (GE-P 51) but origin not identified.
- 2 This cancel is listed (ST-E 12) but origin not identified.
- 3 Similar to ST-6P 44 from Brattleboro, VT which is in blue ink.
- 4 Appears to be the same as SD-G 14 from Lynchburg, VA.
- 5 Similar to ST-09 from Fort Wayne but frame line much larger.
- 6 Similar to PH-H 14 for which origin not identified.

ALMOST CHOICE

The News has in the past carried several articles by Prof. C. S. Thompson, Jr. on the subject of "vandals of philately" wherein he illustrated and discussed covers that had been cut or torn apart, typically to remove a stamp, that would otherwise have been desirable philatelic items.

We have two additional covers of interest to cancellation specialists. The

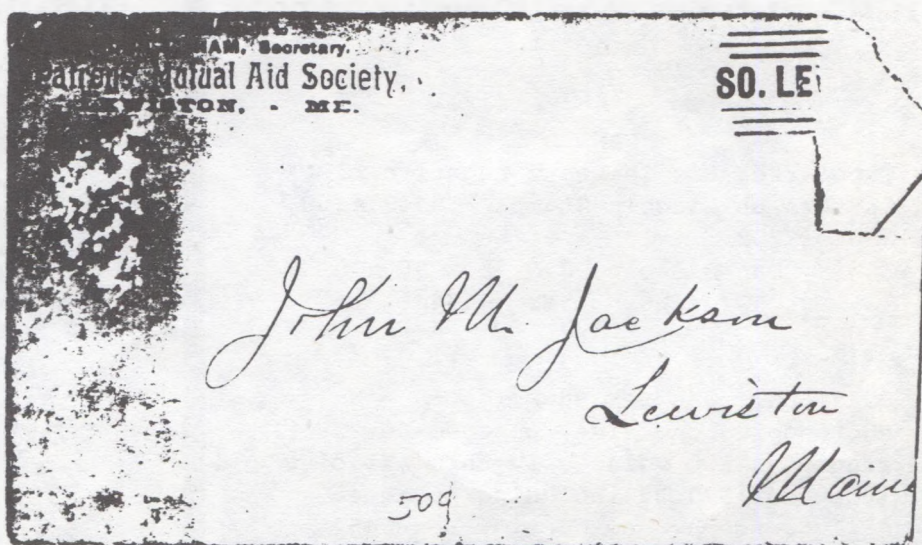


Figure 1

cover in Figure 1 was submitted by Warren Tingley. He comments that it appears to be press printed but probably not in the same operation that printed the corner card because the horizontal lines of the cancel don't quite line up with the corner card. We have not found this cancel (presumably some abbreviation of "SO. LEWISTON ME") in the precancel or other cancellation literature and ask readers for any information that can be provided. The circular contained within the cover is dated November 12, 1988 so perhaps it was a Scott #212 that was removed.

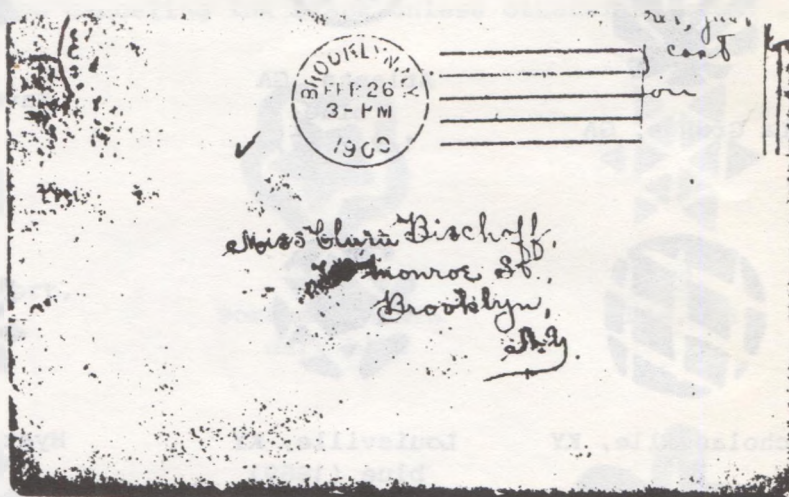


Figure 2

The cover in Figure 2 was submitted by Russ Hanmer and bears a Whitehead Type 2 postmark which is considered rare.

We would certainly not be inclined to criticize stamp collecting but it does at times collide with the pursuit of postal history!

STEEL POSTMARKING HANDSTAMPS



I will beat any other bona fide offer by \$25.00 for RPO steels. Also purchase other RMS/PTS and P.O. artifacts. FRANK R. SCHEER
18 E. ROSEMONT, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22301-2325


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Dan Lincoln, P.O. Box 000
Greenhurst, NY 14742

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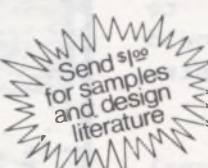
George H. Lewis, P.O. Box 545
Clearfield, PA 16830



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