



Cancellation Club NEWS

VOL. 18 NO.3

WHOLE NO. 189

SUMMER 1986

NEW YORK FOREIGN MAIL CANCELLATIONS

Unlisted Types

by W.R. Weiss, Jr.

In their definitive work on this subject, New York Foreign Mail Cancellations, authors Morrison Waud and Arthur Van Vlissingen listed over 125 distinct types or "sub-types" of cancellations that were used only on mails originating in New York City and destined for foreign countries (other than Canada).

In "The Chronicle of the U.S. Classic Postal Issues", Volume 25, No. 2 (Whole No. 78, May, 1973), Mr. Waud listed and photographed several new types discovered after the publication of their 1968 book. Since that time, no new discoveries have been published to my knowledge with the exception of Edward Hines' report in the November 1981 News.

The cover shown in Figure 1 bears a solid heart, 19mm in width by 20mm in height, in black. The cover bears a 6¢ National (Scott 148), a red "NEW YORK, JUL 24" circular date stamp, a blue "FREDK. SCHUCHARDT & SONS / NEW YORK" merchant oval and a red "LONDON, E.C. / 4 AU 73" receiving CDS. The manuscript notation at the upper left indicates sending "p. Trisia". This type was assigned new number C13 as a new Conventional Design by Mr. Waud

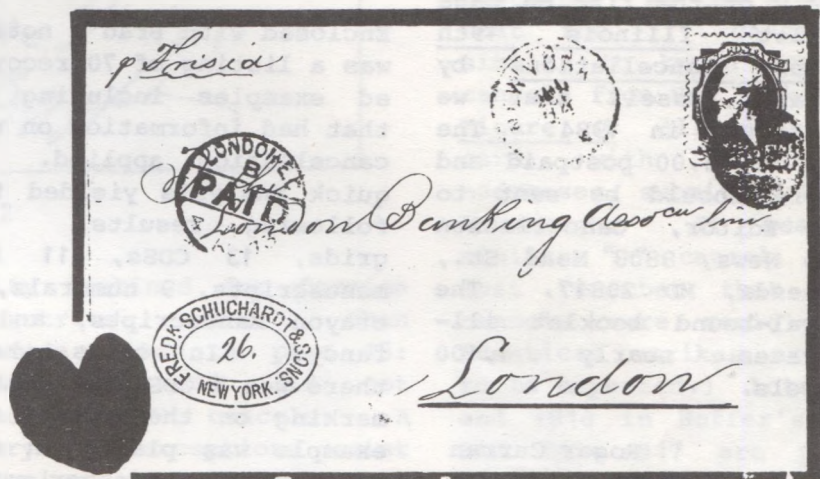


Figure 1

in his 1973 article. The cover shown is the supporting example to Mr. Waud's example which bore single 6¢ and 10¢ banknote stamps, used to France.

I believe that, based on unlisted types in my own collection, there are definitely other new previously unrecorded types in existence. It is the purpose of this article to seek aid from other cancellation collectors in recording these unlisted types. The new examples will be reported here from time to time.

The cover shown in Figure 2 has not previously been published to my knowledge. It bears a strip of three of the 6¢ National (Scott 148) and a single copy of the 2¢ Continental (Scott

157). There are two clear strikes of the numeral "1" in a horizontal grid of eight bars, struck in black. Also present are a red "NEW YORK P.O./AUG 13" CDS, a red "LONDON/PAID /29 AU 74" transit CDS and a red "20" debit mark in crayon. The reverse of the cover bears an Alexandria transit and a Cairo receiving mark. The cover is addressed to "Lieut. Col. Bassell, c/o Genl. Stone, Egyptian Army, Cairo, Egypt". The 20¢ rate was via British Mail via Southampton, which was established about January 1874, and ended with the formation of the Universal Postal Union in July 1875.

Any reader who can report a second example of this cancellation on cover is

(cont'd. on p. 35)

Dear Reader:

Summer greetings to all. It is a special pleasure to take note in this issue of AMERIPEX Award Winners among the USCC membership. And an impressive list it is, indeed. Congratulations to each of you!

We still have a limited supply of the fine 84 page booklet Illinois 19th Century Cancellations by Richard Russell that we advertised in 1984. The cost is \$6.00 postpaid and orders should be sent to the Editor, Cancellation Club News, 8803 Mead St., Bethesda, MD 20817. The spiral-bound booklet illustrates nearly 1,100 cancels.

Roger Curran

HELP WANTED

Word comes from Brad Arch

and the New Jersey PHS soliciting help with a project to compile information and illustrations on 5c and 10c 1847 issue covers from New Jersey. Should you have material not already reported, please write Brad at 144 Hamilton Ave., Clifton, NJ 07011. Assistance will be greatly appreciated!

Enclosed with Brad's notice was a listing of 70 recorded examples including 67 that had information on the cancellation applied. A quick analysis yielded the following results: 28 grids, 13 CDSs, 11 ink manuscripts, 9 numerals, 3 crayon manuscripts, and 3 fancy. In cases where there was a CDS and another marking on the stamp, the example was placed in the category of the other marking. Of the grids, 12 were red, six blue, 3 black, two orange-red, 2 brown and 3



Figure 1

unidentified. The 3 fancy cancels were of the Trenton blue hollow star. Figure 1 is the Skinner-Eno illustration of that cancellation. The Trenton star is apparently the only fancy cancellation used in New Jersey during the period of the 1847 issue.

NEW MEMBERS

1676 Robert W. Collins,
25407 Hall Drive,
Westlake, OH 44145.
Alaska P.H.;
"Collins" postmarks;
some Ohio postmarks.

(cont'd. on p. 46)

THE U.S. CANCELLATION CLUB NEWS

Published four times a year; February, May, August and November by the U.S. CANCELLATION CLUB and included with membership. Back issues as available. Prices on request.

Annual Dues: \$8.00 per year plus a one-time admission fee of \$1.00

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Full Page.....\$40.00
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(cont'd. fr. front page)



Figure 2

invited to submit either a photograph or clear photocopy to the author. Notes as to postal markings on front and back, color(s) of markings, etc., will be greatly appreciated. Any reader who can submit examples of any New York Foreign Mail cancellation on cover with data as outlined above, will be given full credit (if desired) for the information and discovery. Interested collectors can reach the author at: P.O. BOX 5358, Bethlehem, PA 18015.

NOTE: The "1" cancel has been the subject of some contemplation by your editor. It certainly is a New York City cancel on a cover to a foreign destination. Does that make it a NYFM cancel? Not necessarily and let's begin with a definition for a NYFM cancellation. Van Vlissingen and Waud on page three of their book state: New York Foreign Mail Cancellations (NYFM) were designed for canceling stamps only on mail originating in New York

City destined for foreign countries other than Canada. And on page 15: "Domestic mail did not receive NYFM cancels. A very few exceptions exist showing uses contrary to these rules, but such exceptions can be readily understood either as an error or a highly special case." In discussing a particular instance they observe on page 63: "Though one example is known of NYFM G-5 used locally, the greater number of foreign mail covers with this cancellation make it probable that the local use was by mistake."

Armed with this information, let's examine the "1". First we note the cancel is duplexed with a domestic-style CDS showing the time below the date. The date may well be AUG12 as the month appears to be August and the second digit in the date appears to be a "2". We also note the red New York AUG13 foreign mail postmark. We can also say that the "1" cancel is similar to known domestic cancels from New York City. Figure 1 illustrates a card, with a domestic addressee, submitted by Joe McDonough. It bears a similar "1" cancel. (We must remember that these cancels wore rapidly and identical strikes are not to be expected.) Lots 1809 and 1810 in Hoffer's Mail Bid Sale #17 are postal cards with domestic addresses bearing "1" cancels in styles similar to but not quite the same as the "1" of Mr. Weiss. These cards are dated November 17 and December 30. Apparently the year 1874 for each can be determined from the message side. Other solid numbers are known from New York City enclosed in a rough grid-like outer circle. Figure 2 illustrates two

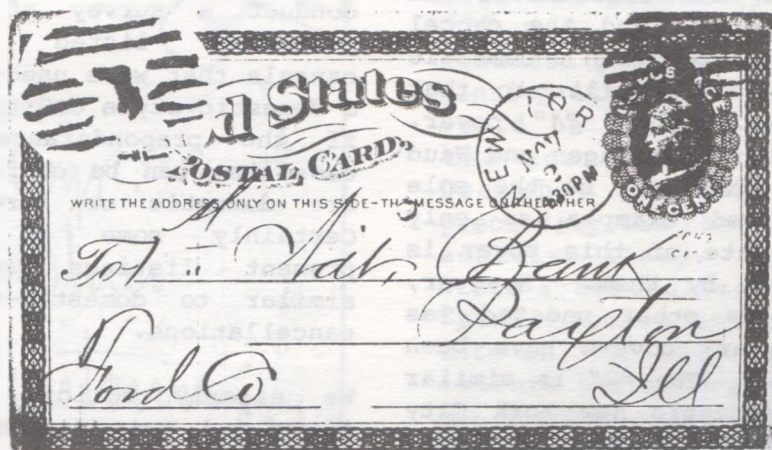


Figure 1

examples, the "5" from a card submitted by Ted



Figure 2

Bozarth and the "14" from a card submitted by Joe McDonough. Both cards bear domestic addressees.

I believe that a survey of this cancel would suggest that the "1" cover of Mr. Weiss bears an erroneous use of a domestic mail cancel on a piece of foreign mail. Let's speculate that the cover was initially sent over to and processed by the Domestic Mail Division of the NYPO on August 12 and, when the foreign destination was noted, sent to the Foreign Mail Division where it was postmarked a day later. Readers who have similar or similarly styled "1" cancels from New York City in 1874 on card or cover are urged to report them.

As related matter, Van Vlissingen and Waud list the cancel in Figure 3 as an NYFM cancel. The source cover is illustrated in their book and the cancel is duplexed with a domestic style CDS similar to that on Mr. Weiss' "1" cover. The Van Vlissingen and Waud "2" cover may be the sole reported example as only the date of this cover is listed by them. However, perhaps other undated (as to year) covers have been noted. The "2" is similar to domestic New York City cancels. Figure 4 illustrates one example and various others have been



Figure 3

REVIEW

The OTHER Side of the Card

by Ted Bozarth

The monthly publication
POSTCARD COLLECTOR has
reprinted a series of

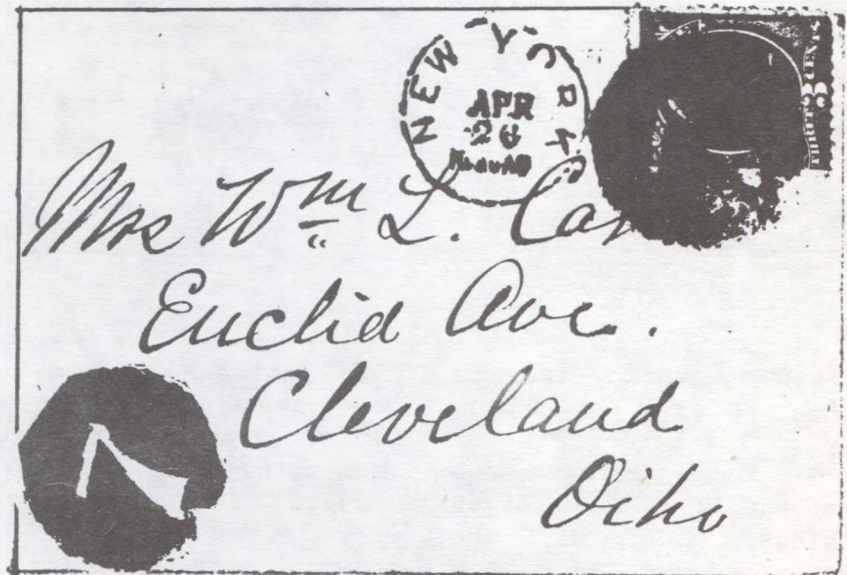


Figure 4

seen; e.g., several in the above-mentioned Hoffers sale, pages 91 and 117 of volume 17 of the News, etc. I suspect the "2" cover of Van Vlissingen and Waud to also represent an accidental usage of a domestic cancel on a piece of foreign mail.

It would be interesting to conduct a survey of all presently listed NYFM cancels that were used with a domestic-style CDS to see if the preponderance of uses that can be confirmed are domestic or foreign. Certainly some of the present listings appear similar to domestic-style cancellations.

We eagerly solicit your ideas and comments on the above.

articles written by Ted in 1984 in booklet form providing basic and brief information on frequently encountered--and some not so frequently encountered--postal markings on post cards. Although written as a primer for the uninitiated, it contains considerable information that will be of use to many who are already students of the field. Ted explains different categories of markings in his characteristically lucid and to-the-point style. Copies may be obtained by sending \$1.00 and a self-addressed #10 envelope with 39c postage to Krause Publications, Inc., 700 East State Street, Iola, Wisconsin, 54990.

Roger Curran

STAMPLESS CANCELERS

Does this title seem to be a nonsequitur? Probably so, but we'll try to explain and this requires a bit of background.

Before January 1, 1856 when prepayment of postage by adhesive stamps became mandatory, covers sent through the mails were to have one or more postal markings (in manuscript or by handstamp) conveying two basic items of information: (1) When and where the cover entered the mails (a townmark or occasionally a route agent mark both with at least month and day indicated) and (2) a number to reflect the postage rate assigned to the piece of mail. If the required postage was prepaid in cash at the post office, a third item of information, a mark stating "paid" also appeared on the cover. We tend to think of these as three separately applied markings and usually they were. (A typical example is illustrated in Figure 1. The townmark is blue, the "paid" is red and the "5" of course is a manuscript

marking.) However, many time-saving combinations of markings applied by a single handstamp were employed and three examples are illustrated in Figures 2 and 3. The Figure 2 examples are from U.S. Postal Markings, 1851-1861 and Figure 3 is from American Stampless Cover Catalog, Fourth Edition, 1985. The latter item results from two separate marks attached to the townmark handstamp.



Figure 2

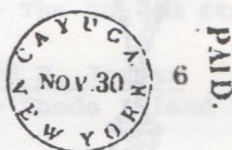


Figure 3

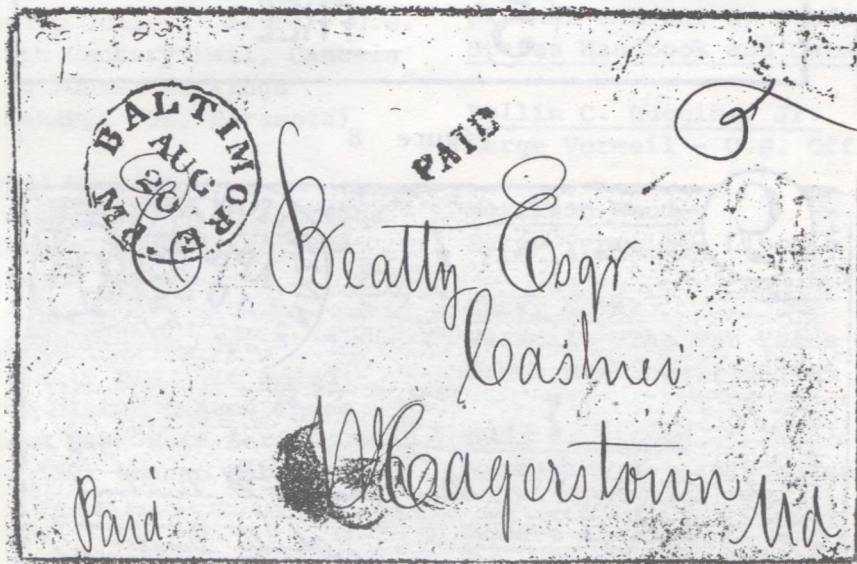


Figure 1

It was understood that the lack of the "PAID" marking meant that postage was to be collected from the addressee so no "COLLECT" or "DUE" marking was needed. A "FREE" marking replaced the "PAID" and rate marks on covers for which no postage was required. The various and changing statutory provisions for free mail during this period involving Presidents, Members of Congress, postmasters, official departmental mail, etc. make interesting study.

With the above background and returning now to the subject of this article, let us take notice of the use of handstamps, designed for application to stampless mail, as cancelers of adhesive stamps. And for the sake of simplicity we'll focus just on handstamp impressions containing one or more of the following: "PAID", "FREE", "3", "5" and "10". Regarding the rate marks, the three listed are those most commonly found used as cancelers. The "5" and "10" were standard postage rates from July, 1845 through June 1851 and were standard unpaid rates from July 1851 through March 1855 after which prepayment was mandatory. The "3" was, of course, a standard prepaid rate beginning in July 1851 which could be paid in cash at the post office until December 31, 1855 thus precluding the need for an adhesive stamp. Indeed, Scott's Specialized U.S. Catalog tells us that as late as 1855 only 40% of letters posted bore postage stamps so the combination of collect mail and cash prepaid mail was still dominant. Even in

1856 when, as we noted above, adhesive stamps were mandatory, 36% of the mail was stampless. Old practices die hard!

We should be careful to rule out of our consideration the Boston and similar cancelers that contained the word "PAID" and were designed to be used as cancelers. Four generic types of such Boston cancellations are illustrated in Figure 4 and are taken from Boston Postmarks to 1890. Also,

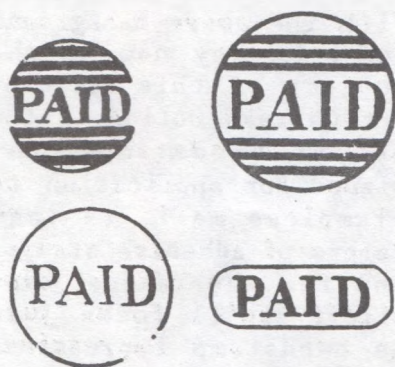


Figure 4

we won't delve into other markings such as "STEAM", "WAY" and "SHIP" since their use was really not affected by the presence or absence of adhesive stamps.

Figures 5, 6 and 7 illustrate examples of several assumed "stampless" cancellations. Incidentally, we'll consider that stampless cancelers were used just as a convenience because they were on hand in the particular post offices and would (usually) effectively deface the stamp.



Figure 5



Figure 6



Figure 7



Figure 9

Figure 8, taken from the American Stampless Cover Catalog, illustrates a set of woodcut rate handstamps for use on stampless mail. Figure 9 illustrates two strikes of a "5" in circle that is similar to the one in Figure 8. The cover from Bennington Centre, VT was submitted by George Lewis.

It would surely be of interest to know how late we can record uses of stampless cancelers and we

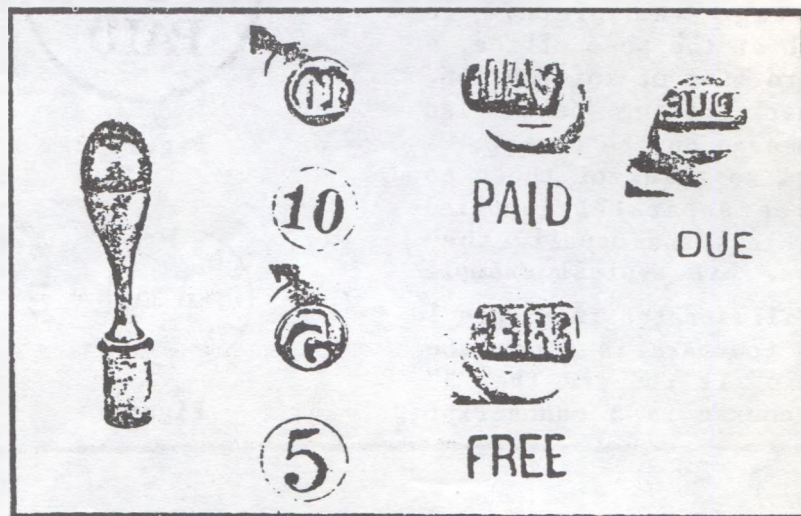


Figure 8

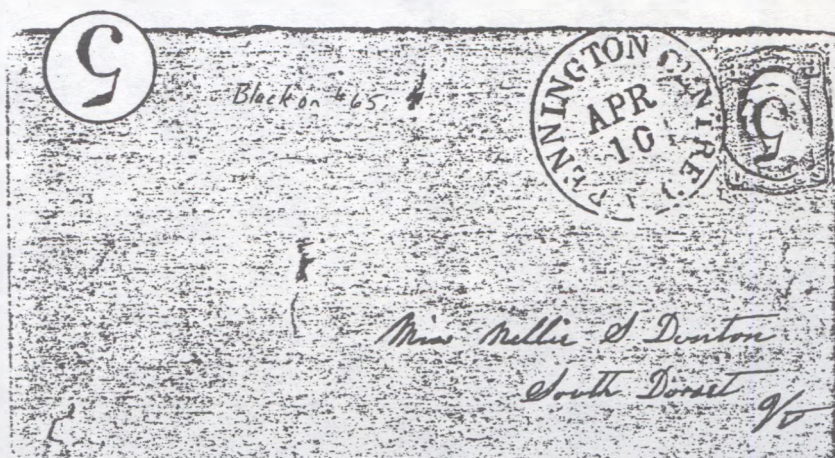


Figure 9



Figure 10

illustrate in Figure 10 a Scott #219 cancelled by a "FREE" mark. Taken literally, a "FREE" mark canceling a stamp paying postage is a real non-sequitur! Readers are urged to submit photocopies of late examples of stampless cancellations on or off cover, in their collections to the News. We would very much like to run a follow-up article on such uses and on any interesting aspect of this general subject. Let us hear from you!

Roger Curran



AWARD WINNERS

Clyde Jennings

Gold, USCC and Florida Stamp Dealers' award - U.S. 19th Century Mail, Cancels and Postal Markings (SARAPEX '86, Sarasota)

Budd W. Dickey

Vermeil - The 4c Jacksons - Issues of 1883 and 1888 (March Party)

LeRoy Lipman, Jr.

Vermeil and USCC award - The United States Three Cent Bank Note Series, 1870 to 1887 (March Party)

(cont'd. on p. 42)



AMERIPEX WINNERS

Louis Grunin

Large Gold with Special Prize - U.S. Stamps on Cover 1851-1857 (also Ernesto Fink Award)

Joseph F. Rorke

Large Gold - The Black Jacks

Hubert C. Skinner

Large Gold - Civil War New Orleans: Its Postmaster Provisional Stamps and Postal History, 1861-1865 (also Scandinavian Collectors Club International Award)
Gold with Special Prize - New Orleans Postal History, 1792-1860

Gold (for handbook literature and together with Erin R. Gunter and War H. Sanders) - The New Dietz Confederate States Handbook and Catalog

C. W. Bert Christian

Gold - 10c Issue of 1861 - Evolution and Varieties

Clyde Jennings

Gold - Color Cancellations of the First 78 Years, 1847-1925, of U.S. Stamps

Randolph L. Neil

Gold - The United States 2c Issue of 1883-87

Richard B. Jordan

Gold - Rhode Island Postal History

Erin R. Gunter

Gold (for handbook literature and together with Hubert C. Skinner and War H. Sanders) - The New Dietz Confederate States Handbook and Catalog

Rollin C. Huggins, Jr.

Large Vermeil - U.S. Official Stamps

Morrison Waud

Large Vermeil - Lincoln in Philately

Henry Nowak

Vermeil - The War Years Use 1c with Cancellations and Other Markings, 1861-65

Budd W. Dickey

Vermeil - 4c Jackson Issues of 1883 and 1888

Robert Abelson

Vermeil - Florida. The Manuscript Postmarks

(cont'd. on p. 49)

MULTIPLE LETTERS ON BANKNOTE ISSUES, PART II

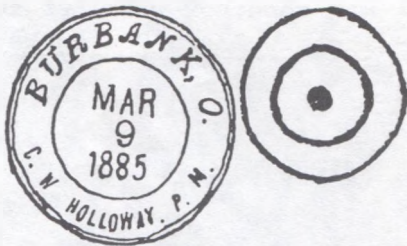
(Continued from Winter 1984 News)

By Alyce Evans

Figure 16. BURBANK, O., underlined "G W H" (blue) on UX5 dated May 16. An 1878 year date is supplied from the message side. Source: Paul Berg. One other recorded example of this cancel, with a September date, was in the Paige April '63 auction. These are the initials of George W. Holloway. Seven years later we find he had abandoned his hand-carved initials and was using a professionally printed duplex handstamp with his name and status as P.M. incorporated in the CDS (Figure 16A). How long did Holloway use his initials/ name as cancels? Members, please check your collections.



Figure 16



16A

Figure 17. DUBOIS, PA., "HB" in circle on UX5 dated July 3, message side year-dated 1880. Source: Paul Berg. These are the initials of the postmaster, H. Blair. There may have been two different carvings of this cancel. Figure 17A

shows a slightly smaller version which is on a 3¢ green sent in by Ed Hines, which I have enhanced. The September '62 News pictured some UX5's dating from 1877-1880 from the Bill Walker collection that had a third, slightly different version of the "HB" and dated April 24 (Figure 17B).



Figure 17



17A



17B

Figure 18. COVINGTON, KY., negative "HL" struck twice on a 3¢ green dated May 17, with front docketing of May 19, '79. Source: J.W. Kaufmann auction #53, 6/9/79. This is the only record I have for this cancel. Are there other examples out there?

Figure 19. PITTSBURGH, PA., negative "HR" on UX3 with front docketing of January 15. Source: Paul Berg. The Pittsburgh tabulation, by Bob McCain in the Spring '86 News listed 10 Jan 1874 as the earliest, and 3 Feb 1874 as the latest use of this cancel, from Bob's 8 known examples. By Jan 23, barely two weeks into this period, the cancel was breaking up and approaching old age. In an attempt to salvage his creation and prolong its life a few days longer, "HR" gave it a face-lift and a respectable appearance by evenly cutting the top and bottom, and refining the nicks at the sides (Figure 19A). This example, on a UX3 dated Jan 23, went in a 6/15/85 Frajola auction... for \$90.00! If one of our members purchased this, I would appreciate a full sized copy, as the auction example was reduced 50%.



Figure 19



Figure 18



19A

Figure 20. BARRE, MASS., "HW" or "WH" monogram on UX9 dated Sep 19, 1887. Source: Paul Berg. The earliest date I've recorded is 5/23/87, on the 2¢ red brown. Sep 19, 1887 is the latest. This attractive duplex is a collector's dream...always well struck and always shows the date of use. Now, if one only knew who or what the letters represented!



Figure 20

Figure 21. DURHAM, ME., negative "J.H.E." in rectangle on U164 dated May 18. Source: Norman Brassler. These are the initials of the postmaster, Jas. H. Eveleth. A Siegel '68 sale showed the same cancel dated Feb. 7. The 1862 List of Post Offices listed Jas. H. Eveleth as P.M., and the 1877 Official Register listed J. H. Eveleth. We assume it is the same person. How long were his initials in use?



Figure 21

Figure 22. GENEVA, ILL., negative "J J K" between bars, struck twice on #147 dated Jul. 27. Source: Christie's auction 4/82, where it fetched \$165.00! These are the initials of the P.M., Jos. J. Kesler, and is the only example of this cancel I have seen. Does any member have another?

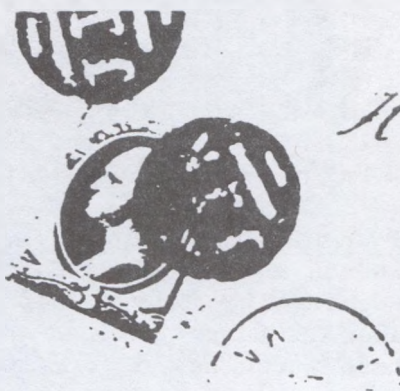


Figure 22

Figure 23. ROSELLE, N.J., "J.R.C." in circle on UX3 dated May 11. The message side has an 1875 year date. Source: Paul Berg. These are the initials of the postal clerk, J. R. Clark.

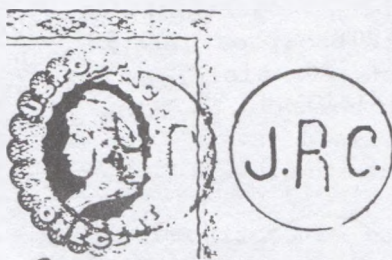


Figure 23

Figure 24. BARR, MASS., "MJC" between bars on UX9 dated 8/30/89. Source:



Paul Berg. The J. W. Kaufmann sale, #53 in '79 showed another cover with this strike on #210 dated 10/3/89.

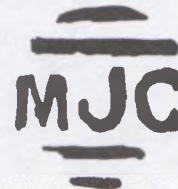


Figure 24

Figure 25. ORFORD, N.H., "N.H." on #183 cover dated October 29. Source: Knapp Sale, 1941. These initials were carved from a block of wood by the postmaster, Isaac Willard, who was the grandfather of Ed Willard, author of The U.S. Two Cent Red Brown of 1883-1887 books. The Orford post office was a small one kept in the family general store. Isaac Willard also carved a negative "NH", which Willard shows in his book (Figure 25A). Has any member seen an example of this elusive cancel?

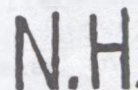
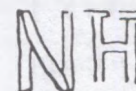


Figure 25



25A

Figure 26. STREATOR, ILL., "O V" between bars on #210 dated August 31. Source: Norman Brassler. These initials were carved by the

postal clerk, Oscar Vielinghopp. We present three versions of this cancel. The first tracing is taken from the Brassler cover. The second (26A) is from the Willard book and shows a slight difference, the inner serifs of the "V" are missing. The third tracing (26B) is found in Richard Russell's book Illinois 19th Century Cancells, and shows a single, rather than double bar at the top. All tracings are identified from Streater. The difficulty in tracing from a poorly struck or worn canceler could explain the variations?

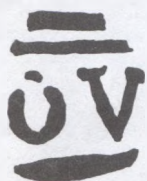
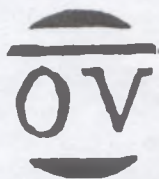


Figure 26



26A



26B

Figure 27. SCHROON LAKE, N.Y., negative "SL" in double oval on 3¢ green. Source: Alyce Evans. For years I have tried to identify the origin of this cancel. Ed Hines sent a tracing from a Schroon Lake cover he owns, which verifies the origin. Ed's cancel is also struck on the 3¢ green.



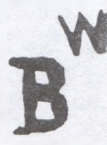
Figure 27



Figure 28



28A



28B

Figure 28. FRANKLIN, N.Y., "WB" on a 1¢ banknote dated December 31. Source: Harry Taber. Harry advised us these were the initials of the postmaster, William Brinkman. Willard, seeking the origin of this cancel, published it in the July '59 issue of the News (28A) and stated he had seen six or eight copies, and that all the letters were in the same relative position, so it must be one cancel. It remained unidentified by him when he included it in his book, published in 1970 but it took on a new appearance (28B). As Willard said, "it is an interesting cancel."

(to be continued)

(cont'd. fr. p. 39)

Robert O. Boyer

Silver-bronze - Postal Markings of Chillicothe - Ohio's First Capital (MARCH Party); Also Vermeil at COLOPEX '86

C.W. Bert Christian

Reserve Grand, Gold and APS pre-1900 medal - U.S. One Cent Issue of 1861-67 (SANDICAL '86)

Abe Boyarsky

Silver and USCC award - U.S. Three-cent 1861-67 Issue (SANDICAL '86)

Thomas O. Taylor

Gold, president's and BIA awards - Washington, DC Postal Markings - Killers for Twenty Years (SPRINGPEX '86, Springfield, VA)

John M. Hotchner

Gold, Virginia Philatelic Fed. and Gerald L. Reiser awards - Stamp Separation: Its Development from 1840 to Modern Times (SPRINGPEX '86)

King Parker

Vermeil - A Postal History of San Francisco (WESTPEX)

Louis F. Geschwindner

Gold, Mt. Nittany PS and USCC awards - 19th Century U.S. Machine Cancellations (SCOPEX, State College)

George and Evelyn Lewis

Silver - Cancellations on the Three Cent Rose Issue of 1861-68 (SCOPEX)

George J. Ball

Gold and Ohio PHS second award - Toledo Postal Markings (COLOPEX '86, Columbus, OH)

James R. Kesterson

Vermeil and CPC first, USCC and Edward E. Kuehn awards - Stencil Usages as U.S. Postal Markings (COLOPEX '86)

Richard H. Parker

Vermeil - Lorain County Postal History (COLOPEX '86)

James M. Cole

Vermeil and Apfelbaum award - American Bank Note Company Issues of 1881-1889 (COLOPEX '86)

(cont'd. on p. 45)

THE COLLEGE AND HAMILTON
GRANGE BRANCH POST
OFFICES
NEW YORK CITY

by Martin Margulis

From 1870 until 1888 Stations L and M covered the Harlem community. Station M covered that area north of 146th Street, Station L, south to 110th Street. However, the construction of the Ninth Avenue El changed that situation. It allowed people to live in Harlem and still get to downtown New York City quickly and easily. As a consequence, Station J was opened in 1888 covering that portion of Station L's zone west of Fifth Avenue (now Lenox Ave.).

In the early 1900's the Broadway-Seventh Avenue line of the IRT was built through Harlem. This had two results. First, the College Station (named for City College) was opened at 305/07 West 140th Street in 1906. Its 1907 receipts were \$83,700. Secondly, because of the rapidly increasing population, the Hamilton Grange P.O. Station was opened in 1910 at 523 West 146th Street.

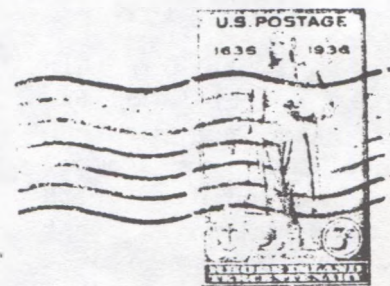
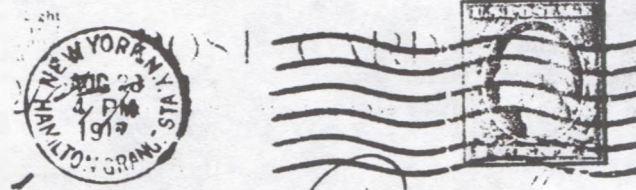
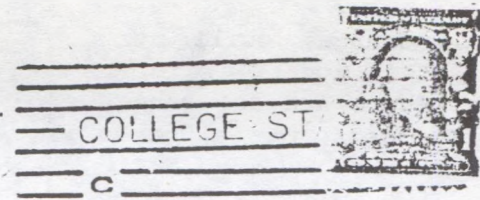
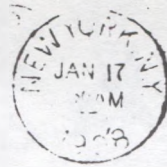
The original zone for the College P.O. Station was from 133rd Street to 145th Street except for a small area east of the "Speedway" (long gone) where it ran to 161st Street. From east to west it ran from the Harlem to the Hudson River.

In 1910 the Hamilton Grange Station got everything west of Edgecombe/St Nicholas Avenues.

In 1937 College Station had a staff of 113: 3 super-

visors, 40 carriers, 49 clerks, 15 subs and 6 custodial workers. At present it has 2 supervisors, 14 carriers, and 15 clerks. In 1937 Hamilton Grange had a staff of 132: 4 supervisors, 44 clerks, 50 carriers, 16 subs, 13 temps and 3 custodial workers. At present it has

3 supervisors, 31 carriers, 5 part-time flexible carriers, 17 clerks and 1 mail handler. I was given no information as to custodial workers if any. At the present time College, now located at 217 West 140th Street, is the branch post office for postal zone 10030, and



Hamilton Grange, still at its original location, for 10031. There are not sub-post offices in either postal zone.

In 1951 the eastern part of the College postal zone was incorporated into a new postal zone, 10037, called Lincolnton. This change was made necessary by the large number of housing projects built in the area.

Judging by the copies I've examined, the cancels of both stations have 23 mm postmarks. In some, the name of the station is in the postmark; in others, in the killer. Neither station seems to have used flag cancels, although they were still in use at other New York City branch post offices prior to the U.S. entry into World War I.

NOTE: The author gratefully acknowledges the assistance of the staff of the G.P.O. Museum of the New York Post Office in developing information for this article.

CARBONDALE CANCELS

Presented elsewhere in this issue is an article on the use of stampless markings to cancel adhesive stamps. Joe von Hake submits covers from Carbondale, PA that show a lovely example of a "stampless canceler," carefully placed, and a grid cancellation applied with similar precision. Conscientious postal work, to be sure!

Figure 1 illustrates a cover that received a large and fancy "PAID 3" marking that is reported in the American Stampless Cover Catalog, fourth edition,

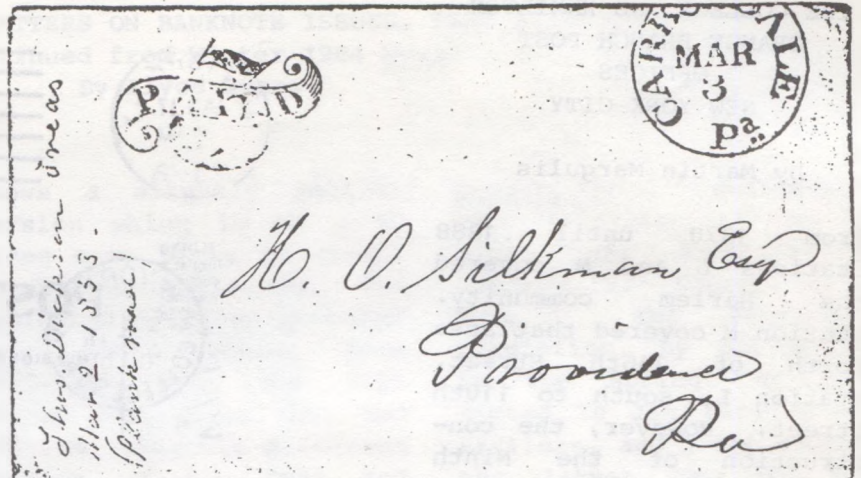


Figure 1

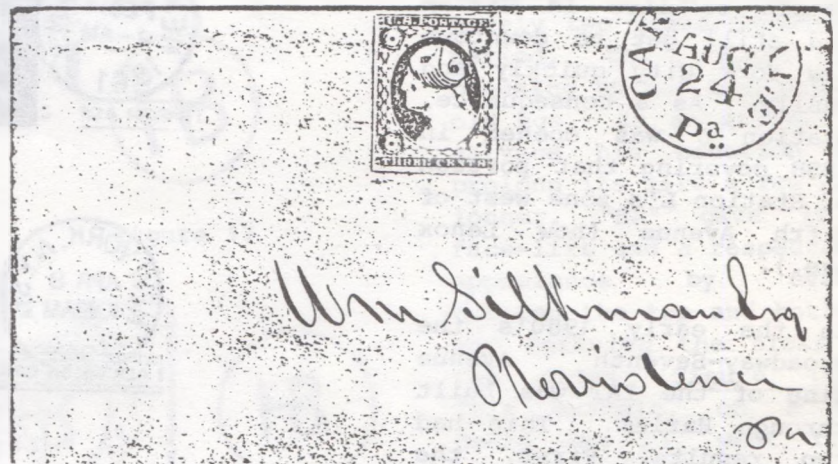


Figure 2

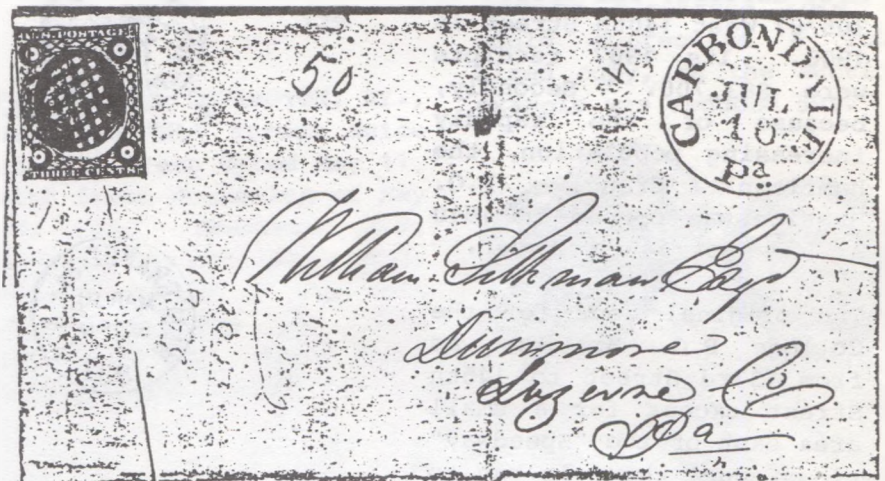


Figure 3

1985 to be found from Carbondale during the 1852-3 period. Figure 2 shows one tail of the scroll of this marking used artfully to cancel a three cent 1851 issue. All markings on these covers are in black.

Figure 3 shows a Carbondale cover with a red townmark and a three cent 1851 issue canceled by a grid that was struck twice, the second time with the bars almost at right angles with those of the first impression.

TRANS-ATLANTIC MAIL MARKINGS

by Tom Stanton

The Prussian Closed Mail convention between the United States and Prussia went into effect on the 16th of October 1852. This convention specified an international rate of 30 cents, which was broken down as follows:

- 5¢ -- U.S. inland postage
- 18¢ -- Sea and British transit postages
- 2¢ -- Belgian transit postage
- 5¢ -- Prussian inland postage

The closed mail feature of the convention meant just that, as for mails from the U.S. to Prussia, the mail bags were sealed in either New York or Boston and not opened until they reached Aachen. The amounts allocated for the sea and two transit rates are merely estimates or average values, as the payments were made on the bulk weight of the total mails and not on individual covers. This breakdown was:

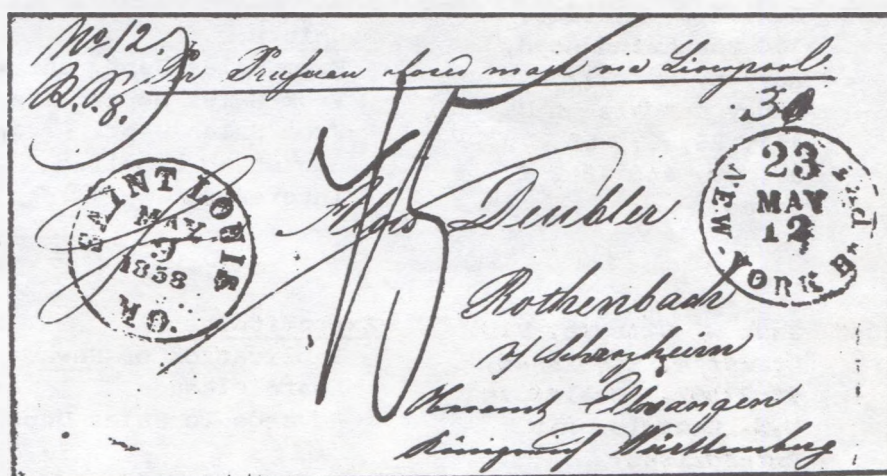
Sea postage	40¢ per ounce
British	17 1/2¢ per ounce
Transit	
Belgian	8¢ per ounce
Transit	

The cover illustrated as Figure 1 traveled from St. Louis, Mo. to Ellwanger, Wurttemberg by this closed mail convention. Note at the top of the cover that the writer specified the handling he desired, which was followed by the POD. The missive left St. Louis on May 9, 1858 and reached New York in time for the sailing of the Cunard liner "Arabia" on May 12th. The St. Louis postmaster, or

more likely one of his clerks, indicated 30 cents was due by the numeral above the New York transit marking. This latter black marking indicated two facts; firstly, the letter was to be put aboard a British (Cunard) packet and secondly, that the U.S. debited Prussia 23 cents. That is, from the amount of postage collected in Prussia the U.S. was to receive 23 cents to cover the costs of the U.S. inland and the British sea and transit postages. The large "45"

there the letter reached Aachen on May 25 and finally Ellwanger via Stuttgart on May 27 or some 18 days after it left St. Louis.

Further, it may be interesting to note that the Cunard Line carried the majority of the Prussian Closed Mails and in fiscal year 1858 it carried slightly over 60 per cent of the more than one million letters transmitted by this means.



1858 cover from St. Louis to Wurttemberg via Prussian Closed Mail.

Figure 1

in the center of the cover indicates the number of kruezers (the equivalent of 30 cents) to be collected from the addressee. Thus of this amount the Prussians kept the equivalent of seven cents and had to account to the Belgians for their transit postage.

The Cunard liner "Arabia" was a veteran of the North Atlantic service. She had made her maiden voyage in January of 1853 and this trip was her 33rd crossing. On this trip the Arabia reached Liverpool on May 23rd, not a relatively fast crossing for the ship. From

(cont'd. fr. p. 42)

William H. P. Emery
Vermeil and Texas PHS award
- 19th Century Postal
Markings of Austin, Texas
(TEXANEX - TEXPEX '86)

Randolph L. Neil
Gold - The One-half Penny
Value of the Great Britain
Queen Victoria Jubilee
Issue, 1887 (Plymouth Show,
Mich.)

(cont'd. fr. p. 33)

REINSTATED

RESIGNATIONS

1677 Dennis W. Melichar,
339 N. Water St.,
Black River Falls, WI
54615. 19th cent.
fancy cancels;
ellipse and double
ovals of 1875-1900
period.

831 Joseph F. Rorke, MD,
Taliesin West, Box
4430, Scottsdale, AZ
85258. 19th century
US.

Gerard F. Connolly
Harold Dylhoff

(cont'd. on p. 47)

FINANCIAL REPORT

Presented herewith is a U.S.C.C. financial report for 1985. Your careful attention is invited. Please direct any comments or questions to our treasurer.

1678 Russell A. Crow, 417
Shanks Street, Salem,
VA 24155. All
aspects of Va. P.H.,
but primarily
stampless and fancy
cancels.

SPECIAL FUND

Balance 12/31/84

\$ 3,565

1679 Daniel W. Elliott,
304 Southwind Road,
Ruxton, MD 21204.
Fancy cancels on US
#11, 26, 63, 65, 72,
88, 99, and 1869
issue.

Receipts

From Sales Dept. checking acct.	\$ 4,000	
From Sales Dept. - repay loan	6,000	
From Sales Dept. - repay mounting supplies	242	
Interest	867	11,109

\$14,674

1680 Jack W. Gilbert, P.O.
Drawer A, Highlands,
TX 77562. Dealer in
U.S. Cancels. Rio
Enterprises.

Expenditures

Publication of <u>News</u>	\$ 600	
Award Plaques	400	
Advance to Sales Dept.	900	1,900

Balance 12/31/85

\$12,774

1681 William A. Sandrik,
PO Box 6126, Washing-
ton, DC 20044. DC
Postal history;
disinfected mail.

GENERAL ACCOUNT

Balance 12/31/84

\$ 634

1682 T.A. Church, Box 377
Baldwin City, KS
66006. US coils; used
US; Kansas precancels
(towns & types);
Perfins.

Receipts

Dues	\$ 4,839	
Sale of <u>News</u> back issues	35	4,874

\$ 5,508

1683 H.H. Ruland, 1008
Park Blvd., W.
Sacramento, CA 95691
US including revenues
and fancy cancels;
Canada; Mexico;
Philippines.

Expenditures

Postage	\$ 178	
Supplies	171	
Refund of Dues	18	
Purchase of Books	43	
Officer's Expenses	98	
Award Plaques	424	
<u>News Publication</u>	2,400	3,332

Balance 12/31/85

\$ 1,542

SALES DEPARTMENT ACCOUNT

A MYSTERIOUS SKULL
AND BONES

Balance 12/31/84

\$ 3,229

Receipts

Sale of Mounting Supplies	\$ 108	
Sale of Stamps	7,316	
Insurance Fees	595	
From Previous Sales Dept.	6,597	
From Special Fund	900	
Miscellaneous	17	15,533
		<u>\$18,762</u>

Expenditures

Retirement of Sales Booklets	\$ 5,640	
Circuit Insurance	738	
Postage	486	
Supplies	89	
Deposit in Special Fund	4,000	
Repay Amount Borrowed from Special Fund	6,000	
Repay Special Fund for Mounting Supplies	242	
Miscellaneous	90	17,285
		<u>\$ 1,477</u>

Balance 12/31/85

NEWS PUBLICATION ACCOUNT

Balance 12/31/84

\$ 433

Receipts

From Treasurer	\$ 2,400	
Advertising	310	
Sale of Booklets	24	
Interest	32	
Miscellaneous	10	2,776
		<u>\$ 3,209</u>

Expenditures

Printing <u>News</u>	\$ 1,267	
Typing <u>News</u>	651	
Postage for <u>News</u>	361	
Mailing Service for <u>News</u>	308	
Envelopes for <u>News</u> (1985 & 86)	362	2,947
Incidental Supplies	\$ 56	
Photocopies, Postage	119	
Miscellaneous	9	184
		<u>\$ 3,133</u>
Balance 12/31/85		<u>\$ 76</u>

Word comes of a most unusual skull and crossbones cancel in the collection of Robert Abelson. It cancels a Scott #210 which is on a cover from Hume, Illinois but the cancel isn't tied to the cover. The Hume CDS is dated JAN 19 1887. The cancel is not listed in Russell's Illinois 19th Century Cancells. However, Alyce Evans, who forwarded this item, pointed out that it is illustrated in Salkind's U. S. Cancells 1890-1900 (see Figure 1) and is listed as found on



Figure 1

the revenue stamp R161. And as Alyce further points out, R161 wasn't issued until 1898. Who can help out with more information on this intriguing cancel?

LIBRARY ADDITION

Steven Roth has donated a copy of Colton's United States Post Office Directory - 1856 to the USCC Library.

(cont'd. fr. p. 46)

CLOSED ALBUM

Wyman C. Peterzen

U.S. TRANSIT MARKINGS

by Tom Stanton

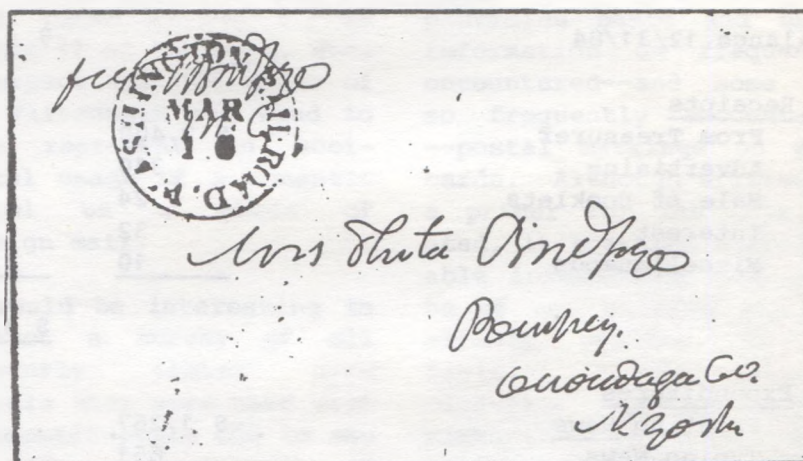
The Baltimore & Ohio Railroad was chartered in 1827 and by 1834 had reached Harper's Ferry, Virginia. In the early 1830's the B&O RR envisioned the benefits, both political and economic, of a branch road into Washington. Financial difficulties prevented immediate construction, but in 1833 the State of Maryland agreed to contribute to the project. The State also extracted a steep price for its contribution. Construction began from Relay Station, some seven plus miles southwest of Baltimore, to Washington and in August of 1835 the first train made the 40 mile trip. (See map at Figure 1.) In October of the same year, Stockton and Stokes, the mail coach contractors, agreed to transport the mails upon the railroad line. However, it was not until the first months of 1838 that route agents were assigned to the route and the resultant transit markings were possible. These route agents traveled between Washington and Baltimore on the Baltimore & Ohio RR and also between Baltimore and Philadelphia on the Philadelphia, Wilmington & Baltimore RR.

The cover illustrated in Figure 2 depicts the earliest handstamp used on northbound mail between Washington and Baltimore. It is known used from 1840 to 1850 and occurs in four colors; i.e., blue, red, green and black. This 30mm circular marking is listed in Charles Towle's new edition (1986) of "U.S. Route and Station Agent



Map of the Washington Branch of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad from Burr's 1839 Atlas of Postal Routes

Figure 1



WASHINGTON RAILROAD — March 16, 1842 from Washington to Pompey, N.Y. This marking was used on Northbound trains between Washington and Baltimore.

Figure 2

Postmarks," as 239-X-1. (See Figure 3.) On this March 16, 1842 cover the marking is a deep green. At this time John E. Kendall and Charles G. Oslere served as route

agents on the line. Kendall was one of the original agents appointed in 1838.

The cover originated in Washington from the hand of

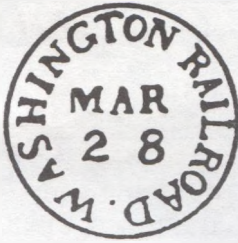


Figure 3

(cont'd. fr. p. 39)



Congressman Victory Birds-eye and his free frank can be seen beneath the postmark. It was sent to his wife in Pompey, N.Y. Mr. Birdseye had an interesting career. He was elected to the 14th Congress and took his seat in 1815, but did not run for re-election. This cover was mailed considerably later while he was a member of the 27th Congress (1841-43). Again he did not attempt re-election. In the interim he served as postmaster of Pompey, N.Y. from 1817 to 1838.

The letter describes his arduous trip from Syracuse to Washington, stating that he left Syracuse at 5PM on March 11th and arrived at Albany the next morning after a cold and sleepless night. Not able to get aboard a morning boat, he left for New York in the evening and arrived in the morning of the 13th. Here he made a good connection for Philadelphia and arrived in the afternoon. However, he had to lay over there and take the 6AM train southward, arriving in Washington at 6PM on the 14th, a total of three days in transit. Unfortunately Mrs. Birdseye didn't docket the receipt of the letter, but I suspect it arrived in less time, just the opposite of conditions today.

Walton E. Tinsley

Vermeil - Tasmania Postal Stationery

Abe Boyarsky

Silver - United States Cancellations 3c 1861-67 Issues

Bernard Griffin

Silver (editor) The Oregon Postal History Journal

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Ed. We quote below the portion of a letter that was devoted to the cancellation of stamps.

To Hon. A.N. Zevely,
3rd Ast. P.M. General
Washington, D.C.

Boston, Dec. 24, 1862

Sir,

. . .

I will say a word in regard to the trial in the Boston Post Office with the Ineffaceable Ink for Stamping letters and cancelling stamps. Owing to the fluidity of the Ink and the absence of oil in its composition, it was found that the "Puff" in ordinary use, would soon become covered with gum by drying, and consequently unfit for use; but by means of a new Puff constructed in such a manner as to be turned over or inverted in a shallow dish containing some of the ink, a practicable result has been obtained.

This ink makes a clear impression, dries quickly without soiling the letters, when applied, and cannot be obliterated or removed by any known agent without rendering the stamps unfit for a second use.

Yours Respectfully

(???) Browne

BULLETIN, BULLETIN

Additional information has been received pertaining to the article "Timestamps With a Difference" (Spring 1986 News, p.19). Concerning the combination letter and numeral in Cincinnati ellipses, Joe Crosby adds a "C2," "C3," "C4," and "C5" (block numerals) on 2c triangle issues to the "C1" reported by Warren Tingley. An example from Joe's collection showing the thin, lined "C" is illustrated in Figure 1. These cancels of course are not exclusively found on 2c definitive issues. Figure 2 illustrates a 2c Columbian and Joe reports a 5c (no triangle) issue bearing such a cancel.



Figure 1



Figure 2

Gil Levere has come across another, as he describes it, "time out" postmark (I hope the term sticks!) which we illustrate in Figure 3 from Williamstown, Mass. Are there further examples out there waiting to be reported?



Figure 3

HENRY C. CHLANDA

Postal History

Large stock of U.S. covers from stampless to 1920. Photocopies or approvals against wantlists.

P.O. Box 732, LARCHMONT, NEW YORK 10538
(914) 834-0490

WANTED

1984 USCC Membership Card (For a club member who has collected them over the years). If you have one available, please write George Lewis, Box 545, Clearfield, PA 16830.



POSTMARKERS, POSTAL ARTIFACTS

I will beat any other bona fide offer by \$25 for R.P.O. steels. Send LSASE for illustrated list of items wanted. FRANK R. SCHEER



18 EAST ROSEMONT, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22301-2325

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