



Cancellation Club NEWS

VOL. 18 NO. 4

WHOLE NO. 190

FALL 1986 1986

MULTIPLE LETTERS ON BANKNOTE ISSUES, PART III

by Alyce Evans

Special thanks to Norman Brassler and Ed Hines, who very generously sent their covers for study and recording. There remain about 30 off-cover examples that need identifying and around 20 whose origin is known, but need covers for authenticating and dating before this study can be finished. If none are sent for the next issue, we will begin a tabulation of the "O.K." cancels used on banknotes. Please send clear photocopies of these to me at P.O. Box 286, Bonsall, CA 92003.

Figure 29. MERCER, PA, "BK" in geometric crossroads on 3¢ green cover dated Aug 25. Source: Ed Hines.



Figure 29

Figure 30. DEER RIVER, NY, "DR" on 3¢ green cover dated Jan 9. Source: Ed Hines.



Figure 30

Figure 31. CARTHAGE, MO, negative "EJ" on U83 entire dated Oct 27. Source: Norman Brassler.

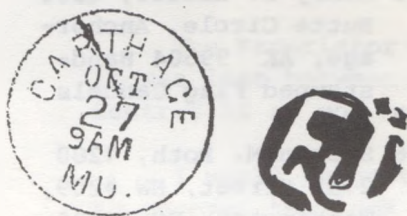


Figure 31

Figure 32. CADILLAC, MI, "ET" in square on piece dated Mar 9 1885. Source: April '53 NEWS from the J.W. Bradbury collection. Willard shows this cancel in his book and mentions having seen it on cover; however, his version is slightly different in appearance (Figure 32A). My own off-cover example in a pale grey ink, matches the Bradbury example perfectly (perhaps too perfectly) and is on #210. These are the initials of a clerk, Edward Tweedie.



Figure 32



Figure 32A

Figure 33. EAST WINDSOR HILL, CT, negative "EWH" on #210 cover dated Jul 25, 1884. Source: Norman Brassler. Another cover showing a Nov 27 1884 date was also sent by Norman. The latest recorded date I have is Feb 25, 1885 and by this time the cancel was showing signs of wear. The top arm of the "E" and the right half of the "H" are missing. This cancel is listed (#424) but unidentified as to origin in Willard's book. In his fascinating book on Connecticut Post Offices and Postmarks, Arthur Warmsley relates that the East Windsor Hill Post Office has the distinction of still operating in the same building it occupied when it was established in 1810! This building was used as a general store and space was always made for the Post Office. The store was given up in 1963, but the enlarged and remodeled Post Office remained.



Figure 33

Figure 34. MANHATTAN, KS, "FC" on #147 cover dated May

(cont'd. on p.53)

Dear Reader:

Can it be another year is already coming to a close? The calendar tells us emphatically that such is the case so it's time to mention annual dues. Envelopes to remit the \$8.00 are enclosed and prompt payment will be appreciated. Please remember to retain the 1987 membership card.

I'd like to take this opportunity to say thanks to all who have submitted articles, questions, comments, unusual markings, etc. -- it's a pleasure to receive the mail each day! One of the exciting things about the field of cancellations and postmarks is that there is so much still to be discovered and reported. And even where reported, there is often much to be done in terms of organizing and presenting what is known. All of which moves your editor to his periodic

reminder that contributions and comments are always eagerly sought. Don't be bashful.

Happy holidays!

Roger Curran

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1684 John H. Barwis, PO Box 481, Houston, TX 77001
U.S. Classics, Fancy cancels on 3¢ Banknotes; Postal History

1685 Larry J. Haller, 4300 Butte Circle, Anchorage, AK 99504
Hand-stamped Flag Cancels

1686 Steven M. Roth, 1280 21st Street, NW #209, Washington, DC 20036
Phila. Postal History (Colonial - 1900)

1687 Fritz van Gulick, 3 Smalle Streek, 3871 BW, Hoevelaken, The Nether-

lands Fancy cancels on Banknotes particularly NYFM; cancels on earlier issues

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1689 Randy Stehle, 1115 Village Drive #4, Belmont, CA 94002
Calif./Nev. DPO's; RDO's & RFD's; Auxiliary Markings

1690 Ronald D. Leith, 18226 Oakhampton Drive, Houston, TX 77084
1870-90 Banknote Duplex Cancellations

1691 Gerald R. Heresko, 336 Glendale Dr., Bristol, CT 06010
Conn. Postal History - towns of

(cont'd on p.60)

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

Address Library Inquiries to: William H. Bauer, Box 1449, Spring, TX 77383

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(cont'd. fr. front pg.)

15. Dated enclosure reads
May 15 1871. Source:
Norman Brassler.



FC

Figure 34

Figure 35. FORT HOWARD, WI, "FH" on 3¢ green cover dated Oct 28. Source: Bill Robinson. The Wisconsin PHS publication on 19th Century Fancy Cancellations shows two more types of the "FH" from Fort Howard. Figure 35A is found on both #65 and #146; Figure 35B is found on #158. Joseph Tayler was postmaster at Ft. Howard from 3/30/61-1/20/79. Mr. Tayler, who later became mayor of Fort Howard and of Green Bay, used a rather remarkable letterhead which is illustrated along with the interesting text of a letter to the Owego Postmaster.



FH

Figure 35

FH

Figure 35A

FH

Figure 35B

Figure 36. HOLLAND PATENT, NY, "HP" on 3¢ green cover dated Dec. 11. Source: Ed Hines. Just how long the town initials were used as a canceling device has not been established, but a



Dec. 8th 1877

Sir

The Way Pouch from your Route was rec'd.
at this Office without any Lock.

The Proprietor of the stage tells me that
it was lost between your Office and Mills
Centre, if so you must have failed to lock it.

I would suggest that you make some effort
to recover the lock and in future be sure that
it is locked.

Very Respectfully

J. Tayler, P.M.

cover sent by Greg Sutherland shows a dlc dated Jul 10 1886 duplex with a wheel of fortune cancel tying a #210. This latter was the typical rubber stock dater supplied by the Hammond Co.



HP

Figure 37



HP

Figure 36

Figure 38. BERKLEY, MA, "JTT" in cogged circle on #185 cover to France dated Aug 15 with a blue Fr. receiving mark dated 1876. Source: Ed Hines. The postmaster in 1855 was D.S. Briggs. He was listed in the '57, '62 and '77 guides also. I'm indebted to Fotios Drakos and Warren Ringer of the Boston Phil. Group for providing the following information, which they're still checking. It seems that postmaster Briggs ran a general store, and

Figure 37. HYDE PARK, MA, adjoined "HP" on #158 cover dated Jul 15. Source: Ed Hines. Another cover with this cancel on #158, dated Oct 8 was shown in the Mar '58 News.

living "very close" was one J. T. Townsend who acted at least part-time as a clerk for Mr. Briggs. There is evidence that J.T.T. was full-time, but nothing fully documented. Based on this it seems likely that these are the initials of Townsend.



Figure 38

Figure 39. ST. LOUIS, MO, neg. "MC" struck three times on #206 cover dated Jan 24. Source: Ed Hines.



Figure 39



Figure 40



Figure 40A

Figure 40. WEST FAIRLEE, VT, "WF" over bar on #210 piece dated Dec 13 1886. Source:

Alyce Evans. Two other covers franked with #210 dated Mar 19 and June 15, 1886 have been recorded. Willard calls this "the common type" generally found and shows another type in his book. This second type is a "WF" in an ellipse of 6 bars (Figure 40A).

. . . to be continued

U.S. TRANSIT MARKINGS

by Tom Stanton

In the Summer 1886 issue, I illustrated the first of two types of Washington Railroad postmarks. In this issue I will illustrate the second, the principal difference being that "Railroad" was spelled out in the first, while in this case the word is abbreviated "Rail Rd" with the "d" high.



Towle 239-N-1

Towle in his U.S. Route and Station Agent Postmarks lists usages from 1840 through the imperforate

stamp era. Two colors have been noted, red through the period of use and blue until 1851. Remele in his book United States Railroad Postmarks states that the marking is rare in the pre-stamp period. Of the few markings that I have been able to record to date the full spelling of "Railroad" is more frequent on a 2 to 1 ratio during the pre-stamp era. However, much more data is needed before significant results can be attained. Yet, like the first marking, all recorded examples occur on northbound trains.

The letter illustrated in Figure 1 was mailed on August 20, 1847 from Laurel, MD (on the RR route) to Baltimore. All the markings are in red. The CDS has a diameter of 30mm, the SL "Paid" measures 17 by 4mm and the handstamp "5" is 10-1/2mm high. At the time this cover was mailed, Thomas J. Galt and Henry T. Rees were employed as route agents on the line between Washington and Philadelphia via Baltimore.

The letter to the Bishop of Baltimore concerns the laying of a cornerstone for a new church in Laurel and the attendant ceremonies.

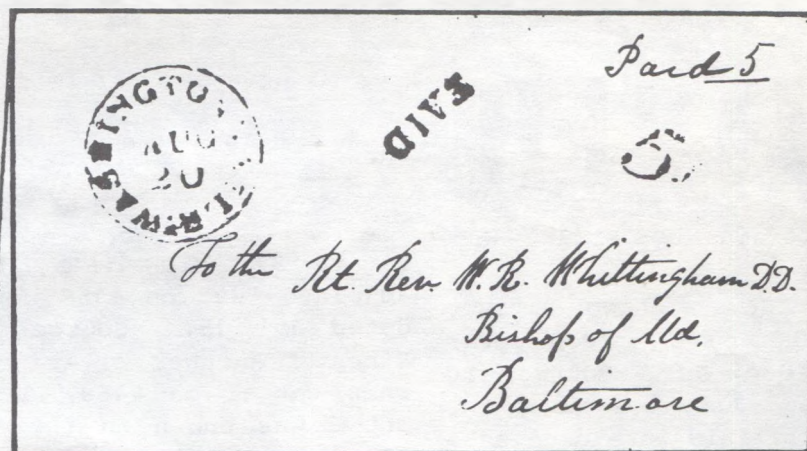


Figure 1

REPORT TO THE POSTMASTER

Through the courtesy of Daniel T. Callanan, New York Division, USPS and club member Martin Margulis as intermediary, we are pleased to present the text of an 1877 annual report, submitted within the New York Post Office, devoted to postmarking and canceling stamps. Actually it is one section in a considerably larger report concerning the operations of the Mailing and Distribution Department of the NYPO transmitted by the Assistant General Superintendent to the New York Postmaster.

The report was carefully written in an attractive script. Figure 1 illustrates a photoreduction of one page. The full text is presented in Figure 2. Figure 3 shows the illustration from page 49 of the report and Figure 4 is a tracing of one of the postmarks illustrated on page 51. (Also illustrated on page 51 are postmarks with a large "A" and small letters "B," "C," "D," and "E," and postmarks with a small "A" and a large "B," "C," "D," "E," "F," "G," "H," "J," and "K.")

In examining the photograph in Figure 3, it appears that actual handstamp impressions were made and then cut out and posted on the page. We believe this accounts for the variation in the ellipse shapes.

And now for some comment on this report. It confirms use of the numbers in ellipses to identify clerk stations. Also, we learn that some clerk stations were designated to receive mail from "lamp-post collections" while the others

The hand stamps used for post-marking letters received at this office through the drops, and from street lamp-post collections, have each a number in the cancelling portion as will be seen in the illustration on page 49. These numbers range from 1 to 30. Each stamping clerk also has a number corresponding to the number on the particular hand stamp which he uses, and certain numbers are also assigned for the letters received from lamp-post collections. The dies representing the hours are changed every half-hour during the day so as to as nearly as possible designate the hour of mailing. Thus the postmark upon any letter mailed at this office shows at once at what time it was

Figure 1

processed mail dropped at postmaster: the NYPO. We are reminded of the following comments about numbers in NYC ellipses in the Summer 1985 News (p. 103):

"As a brief aside, we quote from a letter Gilbert Burr cited in an April 1952 News article from a Mr. Kiely, one time New York City

'These numerals were assigned to clerks in the New York Post Office to designate who handled the mail and the area from which it came.'

'Regarding numerals used to designate the area from which the mail came, Burr

Postmarking and Cancelling Stamps

Much care and attention has been devoted to the matter of the postmarking of letters and the cancellation of the postage stamps thereon, the object desired being to obtain as clear and distinct a postmark and as thorough cancellation as possible. The success attained in this respect is such that this office can have no cause to be ashamed of this part of its work.

The handstamps used for postmarking letters received at this office through the drops, and from street lamp-post collections, have each a number in the cancelling portion as will be seen in the illustration on page 49. These numbers range from 1 to 30. Each stamping clerk also has a number corresponding to the number on the particular hand stamp which he uses, and certain numbers are also assigned for the letters received from lamp-post collections. The dies representing the hours are changed every half-hour during the day so as to as nearly as possible designate the hour of mailing. Thus the postmark upon any letter mailed at this office shows at once at what time it was mailed, the clerk who stamped it and whether it was dropped into a street lamp-post box or was mailed at the general office.

The hand stamp used for circulars simply cancels the postage stamp and imprints no postmark. It is similar in design to the cancelling portion of the letter stamp, having a number designating the clerk who uses it.

A different stamp, also, is used for postmarking letters received from foreign countries, by steamer, for distribution by this office to other offices in the United States. In the illustration, page 51, the small letter between the upper part of the two circles designates the steamer by which the letter was received, and the larger letter is for the same purpose as the number in the stamp used for postmarking domestic letters. The various signs and numbers on these stamps, with the exception of the actual postmark of the date, hour and place, are intended solely for the private information of this office, to enable it the better to trace any letter in the case of complaint of missending or delay.

The hand stamp used in the Newspaper Department for cancelling stamps on 3rd class matter is simply a piece of rubber, somewhat the shape of a bottle cork, set in a wooden handle and having its face cut out in the shape of a cross.

Figure 2

cited one set of correspondence sent by a business firm where all letters bore killers with the same numeral. He also stated:

'Another firm's mail whose place was on South Street in the City, between April and October 1877, we find a large part of the numerals

between 5 and 24 which of course would show that this plan was not followed.'

Now we can speculate that one firm took its mail to a nearby lamp-post and the other, perhaps due to its volume, took its mail to the NYPO where it was processed by a number of clerks. If this were true, we can then presume numbers "1" through "4," at least, may have been used for lamp-post collections.



Figure 4

It is also of interest to note the "6" ellipse in Figure 3. On page 103 of the Summer 1985 News we mentioned that Bond reported no "6" ellipse for his Type A classification and we speculated that no "6" ellipse was ordered because the experimental 11-bar "6" was on hand. In the May 1968 News Bond illustrated and described, in an article on New York City handstamps, his Type A classification as the combination of a 9 horizontal bar ellipse with a number in the center and a CDS with only "NEW-YORK," the date and time included. He reported all numbers from "1" to "30" except "6" for Type A. The 9-bar "6" was noted in Bond's Type B combination (CDS containing year date and no dash between NEW and YORK) but he found no Type B postmarks until October 1878, more than two years after the appearance of Type A. Readers are earnestly requested to check their holdings to see if they have

Postmarking Stamps

Domestic



Figure 3

any Type A "6" postmarks and report any found to the News.

Another matter occurs as a result of this report since it was submitted for the year 1877 and illustrates ellipses containing numbers "1" to "30." There is known a New York City ellipse cancellation produced by a Leavitt machine appearing in March 1878. Figure 1

illustrates the cancel which has been seen from March 26, 1878 to July 22, 1879. It is considered scarce. (A forerunner "31" ellipse with thinner numerals is noted from February 26, 1878 to March 25, 1878. It is rare.) A single example of a "32" dated April 8, 1878 and two examples of a "33" dated August 27, 1878 and January 17, 1882 have also been reported. Given the scarcity of these New York City cancels, it is clear that they must have been employed just on a test basis. The basic problem with Leavitt canceling machines generally, as we have mentioned before, was that they did not effectively handle mail of varying size and thickness. This flaw ultimately led to their disappearance altogether by about the middle of 1892.

The Leavitt problem was recognized when the machines were first introduced in Boston in 1876. Indeed, New York City itself had experimented in 1876 with Leavitt machines, the markings from this effort being very rare. It could be that by 1878 New York City was testing the idea of using Leavitt machines, this time with an improved design, for cards (all known examples of Leavitt ellipses in NYC are on cards) and that it was decided to be too much

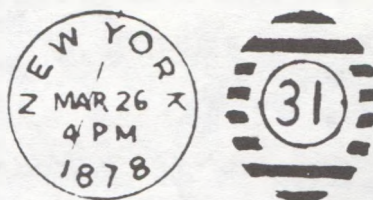


Figure 1

trouble to segregate out and handle separately the cards from the universe of non-package mail to be processed. Comments are invited.

The Leavitt data above and the illustration are taken from Descriptive Catalog of the LEAVITT MACHINE CANCELLATIONS by Frank B. Stratton, published by the United Postal Stationery Society in 1985. This is the authoritative book on the subject and strongly recommended for those interested in early machine cancellations.

With respect to the post-marking stamps on letters received from foreign countries, Dick Winter, a specialist in foreign mails whom we periodically consult, offered the following comment: "I don't believe the letters (small ones) are really for the individual steamers but probably for steamship lines. There were too many ships in use to have separate letters for each."

Roger Curran

EVERYBODY WANTS TO BE
NO. ONE
by Clyde Jennings

Except this fellow, that is, who apparently was content to rock along as "No. 3." And there was someone, a mail carrier, whose number that was, but I have no way of knowing for what post office as only a partial bit of the CDS shows at the bottom of the stamp. Would that it were still on a cover.

That's Scott's #E3, the 1893



Columbian Exposition issue in orange. When that issue was current, postal regulations required that special delivery letters be signed for when delivered. If there was no one at the address to sign, the letter was returned to the local post office, and a notice was left instructing the addressee to come to the office and pick up the letter. The letter could not be delivered a second time because the fee of ten cents covered only one "special" delivery.

That "No. 3" was only a part of a larger rubber stamp, the whole of which probably read something like, "Returned to office by carrier No. 3," and a date. This rubber stamp on the envelope identified the particular carrier who had tried to deliver the letter. Should the intended recipient have some kind of complaint about non-delivery, the "No. 3" identified the original carrier who could then be confronted so he could account for the return of the letter to the post office. Both the CDS and the "No. 3" are in black.

NOTE: The photo, from which the illustration was made, courtesy of Walter Henderson, Melrose, FL.

PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT

Fellow Collectors:

George Lewis has asked to be relieved of his responsibilities as USCC sales director. George has done an outstanding job for the club but I can understand his desire to step down. The following job description details the responsibilities of the sales director. The position will be compensated by a percentage of gross sales. Club members wishing to apply should send a resume and the names of 3 philatelic references to: George Lewis, P.O. Box 545, Clearfield, PA 16830 before November 30, 1986.

Gary A. McIntyre

Job Description for Sales Director

1. Receive material from members for Club circuits.
2. Material checked for correct count and arithmetic, and books given Club numbers. Member notified of this within 1 day.
3. Circuits prepared for shipment, and records made as to value, contents etc. Circuits should be monitored every two weeks to see that all are going smoothly. All circuit invoices recorded as received.
4. On the return of a circuit it must be checked against the circuit invoices.
5. All expenditures must be recorded.
6. Retire booklets after no longer than 18 months.

This is primarily a recordkeeping job, and there's no way to predict how much time is involved in the operation, but 5 hours a week would be a fair estimate.

SNARES AND DELUSIONS

"TIME-OUT" UPDATE

Gary O'Neill adds another example of a duplex hand-stamp wherein the time of day is shown outside the CDS. Gary reports it from Saranac, NY dated August 23, 1887. The duplexed killer is an ellipse with an "S" in the center canceling a Scott #210.

Let's suppose you had recently reviewed the cancellations illustrated in Boston Postmarks to 1890 by Blake and Davis and among those you noted were those in Figure 1. You knew that numerous examples of disfigured circles and squares are also reported used from Boston, including that in Figure 2, and you were quite sure not all such cancels were illustrated in Blake and Davis. (See article in Fall 1985 News, page 55.)



Figure 1



Figure 2

With this in mind, let's say your attention is directed to a 1c off cover banknote with the cancellation illustrated in Figure 3 struck squarely in the middle. Might you assume this was an unlisted Boston cancel? Your editor certainly did based upon a photograph of the stamp. (Upon examination of the actual stamp, however, the ink was noted to be somewhat different from the canceling ink used at Boston -- it had more of a writer's ink quality.)



Figure 3

The matter was set aside until SPRINGPEX '86 where Tuck Taylor's exhibit "Washington, D.C. Postal Markings - Killers for Twenty Years" was on display and there was the cancel again. It is illustrated in Figure 4, this time with the duplexed CDS. Tuck has three on-cover examples of this "7," two of which show the "CONGRESS" CDS. The third is on a privately

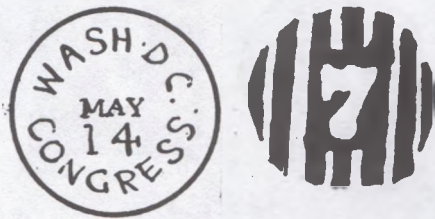


Figure 4

mailed circular with a Washington, D.C. townmark without the date. A cut from the cover is shown in Figure 5. Tuck also sent

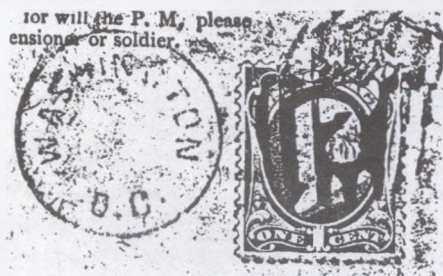


Figure 5

along the tracing shown in Figure 6 which too is similar to known Boston cancels such as those in Figure 7. The Boston cancellations of this type were used from 1878 to 1882 and your editor speculates that there is some linkage in terms of common origin but, if true, what the story might be we won't even try to guess.

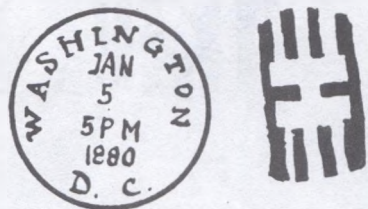


Figure 6

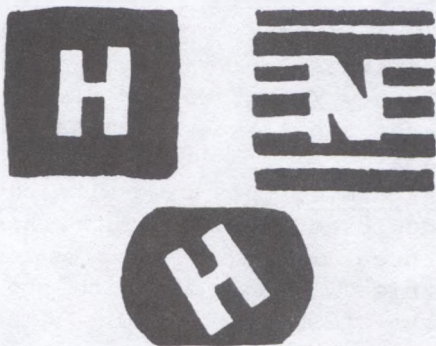


Figure 7

While on the subject, this is a good point for a mea culpa about a cancellation illustrated in the Fall 1985 News (page 122) and shown here as Figure 8. We presented it as an assumed Boston cancel although we knew that "Boston-type" cancellations are known from elsewhere in New England.



Figure 8

And this is just what the "1" has turned out to be. A number of years ago this cancellation was reported in the News as being from Portland, Maine. Other towns from which "Boston-type" cancellations are known include Andover, MA, Hartford, VT, and Manchester, NH. To that list I believe we can now add Washington, D.C.

Although it no doubt goes without saying, the above illustrates the extreme caution that must attend a consideration of the origin of off-cover cancellations!

Roger Curran

Note: Illustrations for Figures 1, 2, and 7 come from Boston Postmarks to 1980.

(cont'd. fr. p.52)

Bristol, Terryville, and surrounding area towns

1692 Arden D. Callender, Jr.
12019 Ripple Glen Dr.,

CANCELLATION CLUB NEWS

Houston, TX 77071
Banknote issues: fancy cancels, color cancels, Phila. ring/numeral cancels, P H.

- 1693 Evelyn L. Highley, 5912 MacDuff Dr., No. 413, Trotwood, OH 45426 Any and all cancels; Christmas USA.
- 1694 Raymond W. Koch, PO Box 311, Richland Center, WI 53581 Proofs & Essays; Masonic Cancels on and off cover.
- 1695 James H. Boddicker, 103 Tomahawk Trail SE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52403 General
- 1696 Kenneth Wallach, 132 Montague St., Brooklyn, NY 11201 Cancellations Fancy & Machine; Post cards; US stamps & covers in general
- 1697 Henry Stollnitz, 347 East 53rd Street, New York, NY 10150 Used U.S. Classics esp. 1845 - 1851
- 1698 Thomas K. Todsén, (Dr.) 2000 Rose Lane, Las Cruces, NM 88005 N.Mex. Territorials, Mexican MPO Collector/Dealer (Double T Enterprises)
- 1699 Jeffrey L. Smith, 15303 Whispering Glen Ct., Centreville, VA 22020 Postal cards; PH - Lucas County Ohio (machine & fancy cancels)
- 1700 Justin Gallanter, R.D. Box 1086, Johnson, VT 05656 NY City since 1898; VT DPO's; odd cancellations

1701 Richard M. Denton, PO
Box 2904, Van Nuys, CA
91404 Southern California PH

REINSTATED

316 Alexander Schneider, 39
Watkins Road,
Bricktown, NJ 08724
Scott #'s 65, 147, 158,
184, 210, 213 and other
low values & covers,
cancellations

MEMBERS DROPPED FOR NON-
PAYMENT OF 1986 DUES

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Steven G. Barnett
Jerry Bowdren
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Lewis Ellman
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David S. Zubatsky

OHIO STAR

Harry Taber reports an attractive and unusual cancellation from Leesville, Ohio on a Scott 219 unlisted in the recent Salkind book. The cover is illustrated in Figure 1 and the back provides evidence that the star cluster was produced by three separate strikes. A

FORENSIC PHILATELY

This 133 page soft cover book is an actual transcript of one of the most celebrated philatelic trials in history, that of several stamp dealers almost a century ago in London at the famous Old Bailey. Edited by Herman Herst, Jr., the book has a foreword by Britain's famous philatelic writer, L. Norman Williams, himself a prominent barrister, explaining British judicial procedure. The verdict (guilty, with a sentence to hard labor) will show that in the 1890s dishonesty, even in philately, was not tolerated.

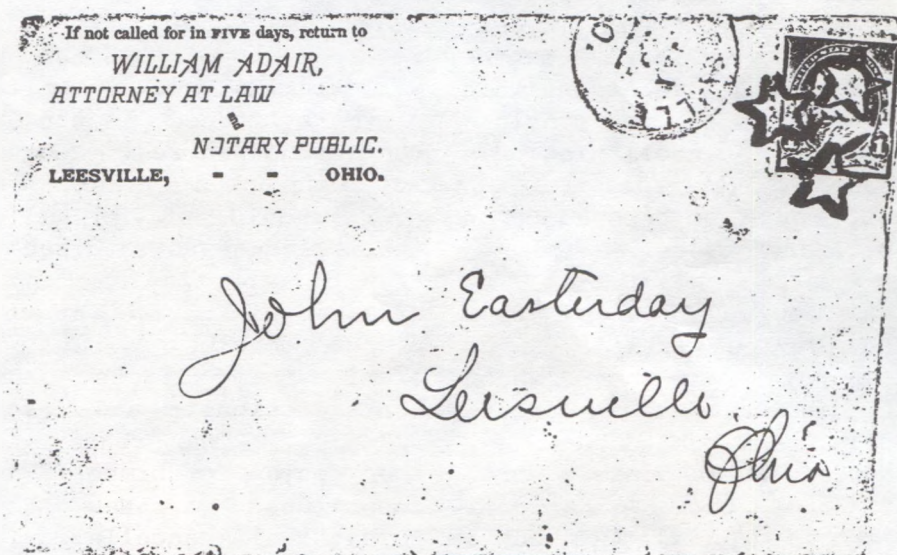


Figure 1

cut from cover back is shown in Figure 2. Can any reader show other examples of the use of this Leesville cancellation perhaps with different star groupings?



Figure 2

The U.S. price is \$9.50, postpaid (in Canada, \$11.50 U.S. funds.) Send orders to BOOK DEPOT, Suite 157, 153 East Palmetto Park Road, Boca Raton, FL 33432.

Let us mark your dues



NEW YORK FOREIGN MAIL CANCELLATIONS

(Continued)

by W. R. Weiss, Jr.

The primary purpose of this series of articles is to record and illustrate New York Foreign Mail cancellations which have not previously been reported in the philatelic press. Fellow USCC members are urged to participate in this study by submitting photographs, photocopies or actual covers to the author. These will be published in this journal at a future date, with full credit (if desired) to the contributor.

Before we continue to show previously unlisted types, a discussion is in order, based on our Figure 2 in the last article, regarding when it is proper to conclude that a cancellation is indeed a New York Foreign Mail cancel as opposed to an "ordinary" cancel.

A review of Figure 2 from the previous article is as follows: "The cover shown in Figure 2 has not previously been published to my knowledge. It bears a strip of 3 of the 6¢ National Banknote (Scott 148) and a single copy of the 2¢ Continental (Scott 157). There are two clear strikes in black of the number '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."

The fact that the New York postmark is of the type normally associated with domestic mail rather than foreign mail is what causes us to question this item. Normally, as Van Vlissingen and Waud explained in their book, New York Foreign Mail Cancellations, the "New York" postmarks used on covers destined to foreign countries were struck in red. Nearly 40 types were recorded by them, and we will quickly admit that the postmark, indeed, is usually seen struck in red. Because it is struck in black, however, should not, in and of itself, cause us to disqualify a cancellation as a NYFM. To arrive at the proper conclusion, let us examine some facts, some contradictions and some examples. The reader can then decide for himself what constitutes a New York Foreign Mail cancellation!

The accepted definition of a NYFM was advanced by Van Vlissingen-Waud as follows: "NYFM cancellations were applied to the stamps on postal matter entering the mails at New York City addressed to all foreign countries except Canada." Are there known exceptions to this definition? Indeed! Five to ten covers have been recorded which originated in a country other than the United States. Thus, while contradicting the Van Vlissingen-Waud definition, such items are regarded as

being "unusual usages" and no student would think of questioning these usages. A considerable number of covers are known with definite NYFM cancellations, but used either locally within New York City or domestically to some other State. Figure 3 shows previously listed Type FU1 on a cover addressed to Florida. Type FU1 has also been recorded on a cover used to Guadeloupe (no year date and no NYC postmark but a NYC corner card). Based on this confirmed foreign usage of FU1, the cancellation should now be assigned a regular "Free Hand" catalog number (F24).

Figure 4 shows us a clear Type A1 cancellation, used locally on a cover with a red "Adams Express Company" corner card and a black "New York/City Delivery/Sep. 10, 5PM" CDS. Another cover, very similar to the last is owned by the author, also with a Type A1, dated Sep. 13, and also used locally. These two are also definite contradictions to the V-W definition. What do they prove? Do they prove:

1. Cancellations previously listed and defined as NYFM in nature were sometimes used on domestic mail as well;
2. If a cancellation was used on domestic mail, it is disqualified as a definite NYFM;
3. If a cancellation was used both domestically and as a NYFM, it was used domestically by accident; or



Figure 3

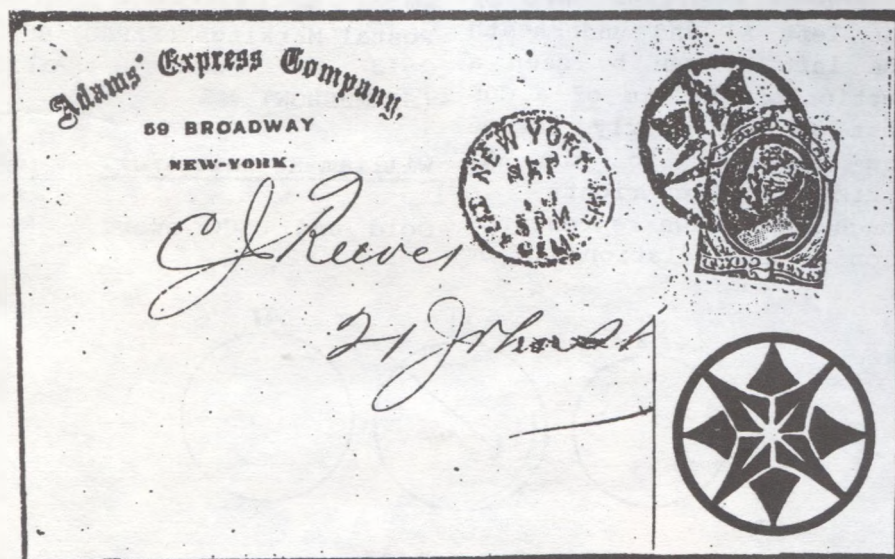


Figure 4

4. If a cancellation was used both ways, it was used as a NYFM by accident?

The correct answer to the problem, as was pointed out by V-W, may never be fully known or understood, but in my opinion, the correct answer is 1. Why? We know virtually nothing about the New York City Post Office from official documents or records - because few exist or have been found. We are therefore forced to reach conclusions about the New York Post Office based on

evidence gathered from existing covers and stamps. Admittedly, since there are exceptions to virtually every "definite" rule we record on NYFM's, it is virtually impossible to reach absolute conclusions. Therefore, it becomes an individual opinion of each collector to decide if a certain cancellation qualifies as a NYFM. Since this conclusion lets us open to individual prejudices, this approach does not seem sensible! There is simply no easy "answer" to the question. A common-sense

approach is in order.

The reason that NYFM cancels are collected and highly sought after is because of the uniqueness and charm of the various geometrics, stars and wheels. No other city during its period of use can boast of such an array of intricate and lovely designs. In the strictest sense, anything classified as other than a fancy wheel, geometric or star should not warrant the distinction of being called a New York Foreign Mail Cancellation. All of the "Conventional," "Free Hand" and "Sunburst and Spokes" designs, with a few exceptions, are rather dull and uninspiring cancels. If we take the position that only those cancellations which are geometrically inspired should qualify as NYFM, we reduce the number of "qualified" cancels from more than 140 down to approximately 60 to 65. Who has the right or the authority to do this? Not I! If we conclude that cancellations listed by previous students, such as Van Vlissingen and Waud, are indeed NYFM, despite contradictions which can be shown, then the proper answer to the problem becomes:

New York Foreign Mail cancellations were applied to the stamps on postal matter usually entering the mails at New York City addressed to all foreign countries except Canada. Exceptions to this basic definition are recorded.

This definition may not satisfy the purist, who is then forced to include every cancel which will ever be found from NYC to a foreign destination during the 1870-76 period, but since we have

no "official" record to support or deny the definition, we are, I believe, forced to conclude that it is a sensible definition. Since serious and respected students, beginning with J.M. Bartels in 1923 and expanding to include Edwin Milliken, Arthur Van Vlissingen and Morrison Waud, have recorded 130-150 different and distinct cancellations in the last 64 years, it should prove no heavy burden to accept the definition advanced above. It should suffice us to know that during the approximate period of 1870-1876, approximately 140 different cancellations are recorded used on foreign mail out of New York City. Of the 140, many are so different, so unique in design, so bold and lovely, that to form a collection of them is a very rewarding experience.

Ed. Several comments are offered about Figure 4. Van Vlissingen and Waud point out that a number of smaller versions of NYFM cancellations (including A1) have been reported and they are considered to be domestic cancellations. In this context it is emphasized that Figure 4 does not show the smaller version of A1 but is A1. Also the A1 on this cover, in your editor's opinion, was applied in a duplex handstamp with the city delivery CDS. This is important to note because it demonstrates that, in this case, A1 was intentionally used as a domestic mail cancellation because a postal clerk consciously added the A1 killer to the city delivery handstamp and used it on a piece of city delivery mail.

Readers will perhaps question the assertion that Figure 4 actually shows a duplex impression as opposed to separately applied markings. There are two reasons that led to your editor's conclusion. First is the appearance of the CDS and killer in relation to one another which would seem to result from a single strike slanted upward to the right. Second is the cover illustrated on page 65 of the Van Vlissingen and Waud book that shows two strikes of A1. It also shows the same NYC city delivery CDS (October 5) to the left of the left A1 and underneath the left A1 can be seen a section of the rim of a CDS that we can fairly assume was duplexed to the A1 strike on the right. A rough hand drawn representation of the relationship of

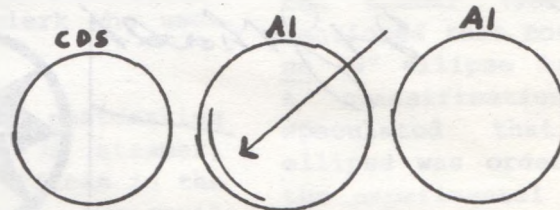


Figure 1

the strikes is shown in Figure 1. The Van Vlissingen and Waud cover is a Wells Fargo cover from San Francisco that entered the mail at NYC and has an NYC addressee.

The above raises no question about whether A1 is properly a NYFM cancellation. The preponderance of uses shows clearly that it is. This discussion is simply to point out that in at least a very limited number of instances, it was also knowingly, and not as an accident, used as a domestic cancellation.

Roger Curran

AWARD WINNERS

John M. Hotchner

Grand and Gold - Stamp Separation: From 1840 to Modern Times (Omaha Stamp Show)

Vermeil - same exhibit (STAMPSHOW)

LeRoy Lipman, Jr.

Vermeil and BPS member award - The U.S. 3¢ Bank Note Series, 1870-1887 (BALPEX) Vermeil and USCC award - same exhibit (STAMPSHOW)

Thomas O. Taylor

Gold and Phila. Stamp Club award - Washington, D.C. Postal Markings (SEPAD '86) Gold - same exhibit (STAMPSHOW)

William R. Weiss, Jr.

Gold and USCC award - New

York Foreign Mail Cancellations (SEPAD '86)

Budd W. Dickey

Gold and USPCS award - The 4-cent Jacksons - Issues of 1883 and 1888 (STAMPSHOW)

AUTHORIZED ENDORSEMENT

Don Smith's local post office in Eugene, OR has been distributing the USPS endorsement chart reproduced on the following page. The format has been rearranged a bit to save space. We thought this bit of current guidance would be of interest to readers of the News.

FORWARDING, RETURN AND ADDRESS CORRECTION CHARTS

1ST CLASS, POSTAL & POST CARDS, EXPRESS MAIL & 1ST CLASS ZONE RATED (PRIORITY) MAIL (Forwarded until October 1986 for 18 months, thereafter forwarding is for 12 months)	
IF PIECE IS ENDORSED:	IT WILL BE HANDLED IN THE FOLLOWING MANNER:
No Endorsement	Forwarded at no charge. If undeliverable it is returned to sender with the reason for nondelivery. Returned at no charge.
Address Correction Requested	Piece is not forwarded. The address correction or reason for nondelivery is noted on the mailing piece and is returned at no charge. Temporary change of address information is not provided. Mail endorsed DO NOT FORWARD receives same treatment.
Forwarding & Return Correction Requested	Mail is forwarded at no charge and a separate address correction is sent to the mailer. An address correction fee of 30¢ is charged. If mail is undeliverable, it is returned to the mailer with the reason for nondelivery. There is no charge. Temporary address information is not provided.
BULK BUSINESS THIRD-CLASS MAIL (Forwarded for 12 months only)	
IF PIECE IS ENDORSED:	IT WILL BE HANDLED IN THE FOLLOWING MANNER:
No Endorsement	Piece is not forwarded or returned. Disposed of as waste if not deliverable at original address.
Do Not Forward	Piece is not forwarded or returned. Disposed of as waste.
Address Correction Requested	For mailing pieces that are less than 1 oz., the piece is not forwarded but is returned with the address correction or reason for non-delivery. The 3rd Class single piece rate is charged. Pieces over 1 oz. are not forwarded or returned. A form 3579 with the new address information is returned to you and you are charged a fee of 30¢. Temporary change of address information is not provided.
Do Not Forward/Address Correction Requested - Return Postage Guaranteed	The piece is not forwarded but is returned with the new address or reason for nondelivery. The 3rd Class single piece rate is charged.
Forwarding & Return Postage Guaranteed	Mail is forwarded at no charge for months 1-12. If mail is not forwardable or during months 13-18, the entire piece is returned with the reason for nondelivery or new address information. You are charged the appropriate weighted fee. (The weighted fee is the 3rd class single piece rate multiplied by 2.733.)
Forwarding & Return Postage Guaranteed/Address Correction Requested	Mail is forwarded at no charge during months 1-12. A separate address correction is sent to you and a fee of 30¢ is charged. If unforwardable, or during months 13-18, the entire piece is returned to you with the reason for nondelivery or the new address. You are charged the weighted fee. (The weighted fee is the 3rd class single piece rate multiplied by 2.733.)
IF PIECE IS ENDORSED:	THIRD CLASS SINGLE PIECE RATE (Forwarded for 12 months only)
IF PIECE IS ENDORSED:	IT WILL BE HANDLED IN THE FOLLOWING MANNER:
No Endorsement	Mail is not forwarded. The entire piece is returned with address correction or reason for nondelivery. The 3rd Class single piece rate will be charged upon its return.
Do Not Forward	Piece is not forwarded or returned. Disposed of as waste.

Address Correction Requested	Pieces weighing under 1 oz. are not forwarded. The entire piece is returned with address correction or reason for nondelivery. The mailer is charged the 3rd Class single piece rate for return. If piece weighs over 1 oz. it is not forwarded. Form 3579 is sent to you with the new address information. The fee is 30¢ and the mailing piece is wasted.
Do Not Forward/Address Correction Requested - Return Postage Guaranteed	Piece is not forwarded. Mail is returned with the new address or reason for nondelivery. Mailer pays appropriate 3rd class single piece rate only.
Forwarding & Return Postage Guaranteed	Mail is forwarded at no charge. If not forwardable, the entire piece is returned with reason for nondelivery. Mailer pays the appropriate weighted fee (weighted fee is the 3rd class single piece rate multiplied by 2.733.) During months 13-18 the entire piece is returned with the new address or reason for non-delivery. Weighted fee is charged and the piece is not forwarded.
Forwarding & Return Postage Guaranteed/Address Correction Requested	Forwarded at no charge. A separate address correction is sent to the mailer and a fee of 30¢ is collected. If mail is undeliverable, the mail is returned with reason for nondelivery. The weighted fee is charged. (Weighted fee is 3rd Class single piece rate multiplied by 2.733.) During months 13-18 the entire piece is returned with the new address or reason for nondelivery. Weighted fee is charged and the piece is not forwarded.
FOURTH-CLASS (Forwarded for 12 months only)	
IF PIECE IS ENDORSED:	IT WILL BE HANDLED IN THE FOLLOWING MANNER:
No Endorsement	Forwarded locally at no charge and out of town only if the addressee has guaranteed postage. If undeliverable or addressee refuses to pay postage, it is returned to you with address correction or reason for nondelivery. Mailer is charged both forwarding (where attempted) and return fees at 4th class rate.
Address Correction Requested	Forwarded locally at no charge and out of town only if the addressee has guaranteed postage. If forwarded a separate address correction is sent to you and you are charged 30¢. If undeliverable, or during months 13-18, the mail will be returned to you with address correction or reason for nondelivery. You are charged the return fee at 4th Class rate.
Do Not Forward/Address Correction Requested - Return Postage Guaranteed	Piece is not forwarded. It is returned to you with address correction or reason for nondelivery. You are charged the 4th class rate for its return.
Forwarding & Return Postage Guaranteed	Forwarded locally at no charge and out of town only if the addressee has guaranteed postage. If undeliverable or addressee refuses to pay postage, it is returned to you with address correction or reason for nondelivery. Mailer is charged both forwarding (where attempted) and return at 4th class rates.
Forwarding & Return Postage Guaranteed/Address Correction Requested	Forwarded locally at no charge and out of town only if the addressee has guaranteed postage. A separate address correction is sent to you and a fee of 30¢ is collected. If undeliverable or addressee refuses to pay postage, it is returned to mailer with address correction or reason for nondelivery. Mail is charged both forwarding (where attempted) and return fees at 4th class rate.
Do Not Forward	Piece is not forwarded or returned. Disposed of as waste.

ENDORSEMENTS NOT SHOWN ARE UNAUTHORIZED AND SHOULD NOT BE USED.

NEW YORK STATE

Presented below from the collection of Ted Mills are cancellations from New York State. All are in black ink, on Scott #65, and unlisted in Skinner-Eno unless otherwise noted.



West Potsdam



Malone

Brooklyn ¹

Stuyvesant

Glens' Falls ²

New Hamburg

Buffalo ³

Poughkeepsie



Yonkers

Homer ⁴Hartwick ⁵New York City ⁶New York City ⁷

New York City



Troy

¹ cover dated April 16, 1863

² patent cancel?

³ similar to New York City cancel shown in Fall 1985 News, p.124

- 4 stamp is #94, docketing is November 6, 1868
- 5 Assumed to be cancel listed as LS-N 16 but the letter appears to be "H" and not "N". "H" correlates, of course, with town name.
- 6 Assumed by editor to be a patent cancel with a center punch used in 1862 when NYC was known to have used similar cancels
- 7 Assumed by editor to be more complete example of cancel listed as GE-C99. Townmark is dated November 20, 1862

TRANS-ATLANTIC MAIL MARKINGS

by Tom Stanton

In the Summer 1986 issue, I illustrated an unpaid letter to Germany via the Prussian Closed Mail (PCM) convention. In this edition I show in Figure 1 a fully prepaid letter that crossed the Atlantic under the same treaty. As indicated by the postmarks, this cover left St. Louis on June 8, 1859 and reached New York in time for the sailing of the North German Lloyd (NGL) steamer "New York" on June 11th.

The red "Paid/30" in oval is a St. Louis marking and indicates full payment of the PCM single letter rate. (Note this prepayment is confirmed twice on the cover; i.e., in the New York

exchange marking and in the Aachen transit marking.)

The New York exchange marking is also red (required by treaty for prepaid letters) and portrays two significant features; first, Prussia was credited with seven cents as indicated by the "7" at the top of this postmark. Thus, considering this cover and the one previously published, one sees that out of the total postage the U.S. kept its inland fee plus the sea postage and the British transit, while Prussia kept the Belgian transit fee and its own inland postage on all eastbound voyages. The second feature is that this New York marking indicates the letter was carried by an American packet. At this time the NGL, a Bremen company, was under contract

to the U.S. Postmaster General and performed the American packet service from New York.

In the upper middle of the cover is the red boxed "Aachen/Franco" marking, typical of prepaid letters under the treaty. The enclosed date, not legible in the photocopy, indicates that the letter passed through Aachen on June 25th or two weeks after leaving New York.

The steamship "New York" was built by Caird & Co. of Greenock, Scotland for the NGL. This 320 foot vessel, weighing nearly 2700 tons was launched in March of 1858 and made its maiden voyage from Bremen to New York in August of the same year. The ship served the NGL for slightly over 15 years.

The principal mails carried by the NGL were naturally the Bremen treaty mails and in the fiscal year ending June 30, 1859, they carried over 40 per cent of these mails. However, the situation was different for the PCM mails, as the NGL carried only slightly less than one per cent of the over one-half million east-bound missives during the same year.



Figure 1

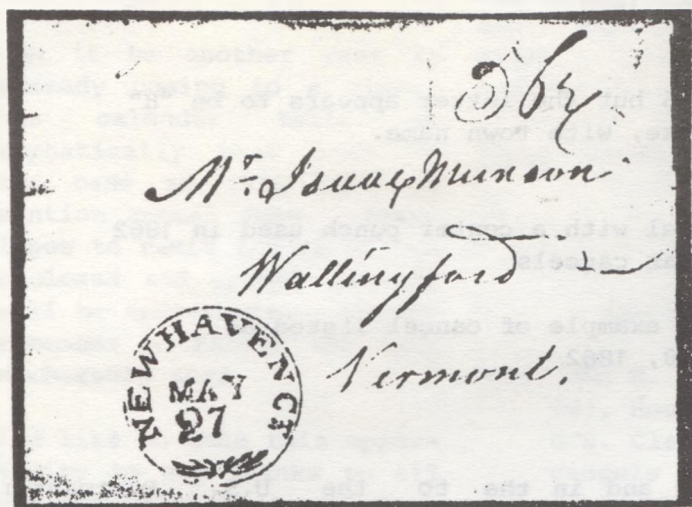


Figure 1

NEW HAVEN CDS

Figure 1 illustrates a cover with a fancy New Haven CDS. Arthur Warmsley recently came across a marking of this type on a cover which has, on the back, the comment: "Steel die New Haven shoe string type." He has undertaken some initial exploration of the CDS and finds that variations of the marking exist, some of which do have the appearance of a shoe string tied in a bow knot. The basic 30mm CDS is illustrated on page 55 of the 1985 American Stampless Cover Catalog and is listed as used during the 1829-36 period. Mr. Warmsley asks USCC members for help by sending photocopies of covers bearing such CDSs to him at P.O. Box 213, Portland, CT 06480. Figure 2 is an enlargement of one CDS.

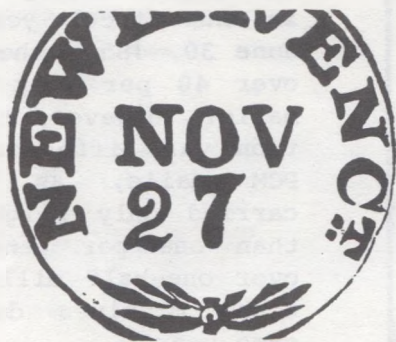


Figure 2

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

LIBRARY ADDITION

In the Summer 1986 News we reviewed Ted Bozarth's booklet, The OTHER side of the Card. A copy has been placed in the USCC Library.



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