



Cancellation Club NEWS

VOL. 18, NO. 7

WHOLE NO. 193

SUMMER 1987

RIVERBOAT MAIL

A most interesting cover was reported by Gary O'Neill and is illustrated in Figure 1. The front of the cover bears a "DUE 2 cts." circle, a red "from STEAMER ____ ANNA PERRET" oval and a straight line "STEAM" canceling the adhesive. A New Orleans 1860 CDS is on the back. Type tracings of two of these markings, taken from Herst-Zareski and from The Great Mail, A Postal History of New Orleans by Huber-Wagner, are presented in Figure 2.

It is not clear what purpose was served by name-of-boat markings such as the ANNA PERRET example. A number of different markings are known especially from steamboats on the lower Mississippi River, not carrying route agents, that turned in loose mail received along the route to the New Orleans

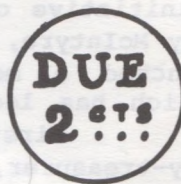
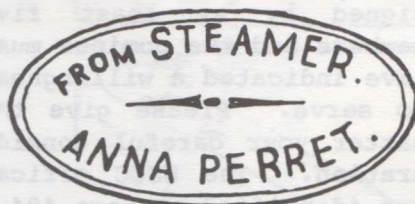


Figure 2

Post Office. The ANNA PERRET marking is listed as "rare," meaning 7-10 copies known, in Simpson's USPM. The due marking reflects an amount to be paid to the steamboat captain to deliver the letter to a post office. The practice of collecting

2c on prepaid letters was actually prohibited in 1855. A very similar example is illustrated in Simpson's USPM. It too is a New Orleans cover but without a name-of-boat marking.

The ANNA PERRET was built in 1857 at Jeffersonville, Indiana. It weighed 172 tons, possessed one deck with a cabin, had no masts and was a steamwheeler. At the time of this letter it was enrolled at the Port of New Orleans. During the 1863-65 period it was listed as a Confederate Steamer and then redocumented as a U.S. vessel in January 1866. It was abandoned in 1869.

Roger Curran



Figure 1

Dear Reader:

The tourism jingle is apt:

"Come to Canada and widen your horizons.
Come to the world next door."

Many philatelists did heed that advice by going to Toronto in June for CAPEX. We recognize CAPEX and Canadian philately in two articles in this issue -- one on Canadian fancy cancels and the other on a U.S. cover that traveled via Canada. And we salute CAPEX award winners among the USCC membership.

Featured also in this issue are cancellations from three collections. We always welcome such information and encourage you to submit tracings or photocopies of unlisted or otherwise unusual or interesting cancels in your collection.

Its time again to elect USCC

officers. The upcoming two-year term will begin January 1, 1988. A nominating committee has been appointed consisting of Bill Bomar, Ed Hines and Alyce Evans as chair. The committee is already at work and encourages nominations from the USCC membership. Nominations are to be submitted to Alyce and they must be signed by at least five members and the nominee must have indicated a willingness to serve. Please give the matter your careful consideration. The USCC offices are identified on page 104.

At the initiative of president Gary McIntyre, the USCC has launched a membership drive which has led to two actions. First, our secretary-treasurer, George Lewis, has written to a considerable number of APS members who appear to have pertinent interests. Second, he is contacting other philatelic societies offering to exchange member-

ship ads in our publications or to just place an ad in theirs. You will note results of the latter action in this issue. Let us know of any ideas you have about steps we might take!

Roger Curran



AWARD WINNERS

William H.P. Emery

Reserve Grand, gold, best by APS member, best by TX Phil. Assoc. member, and Dennis Avila award for best by a club member - The 18th Century Postal Markings of Galveston, Texas (AUSPEX '87 Austin)

Vermeil - The 19th Century Postal History of Galveston, Texas (OKPEX '87 Oklahoma City)

(cont'd. on p. 109)

THE U.S. CANCELLATION CLUB NEWS

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MYSTERY COVER

The cover illustrated in Figure 1 has an unusual aspect. Mailed from New Hampshire to New York it traveled by way of Canada. The sender marked the cover "via Burlington" and it entered the mails at Walpole, NH on August 28. The letter was transported to Montreal where it was backstamped with an "AU 28 71" date. From there it presumably crossed the U.S. - Canada border again and was received in New York at St. Regis Lake.

So what's the story behind the markings? Not being a familiar subject, your editor can only offer speculation. Hopefully, readers will respond with the facts. Presumably, since the letter was received in Montreal the day it was mailed at Walpole, Walpole was on or close to a rail line leading to Montreal that provided the quick transit. The "via Burlington" is assumed to refer to one of at least two train routes that could have been used in 1871. Based on an examination of a map of New Hampshire and Vermont from Poor's Manual of Railroads for 1883, it appears to your editor that by then (1883) there were several possible routes to Montreal including one running close by Burlington. It is further assumed that there were not convenient RR bridges across Lake Champlain in 1871, which would have avoided the need for the north to Canada and south to destination routing, although by 1883 there appeared to be a couple of likely bridges.

Figure 2 provides the roughest sort of a map.

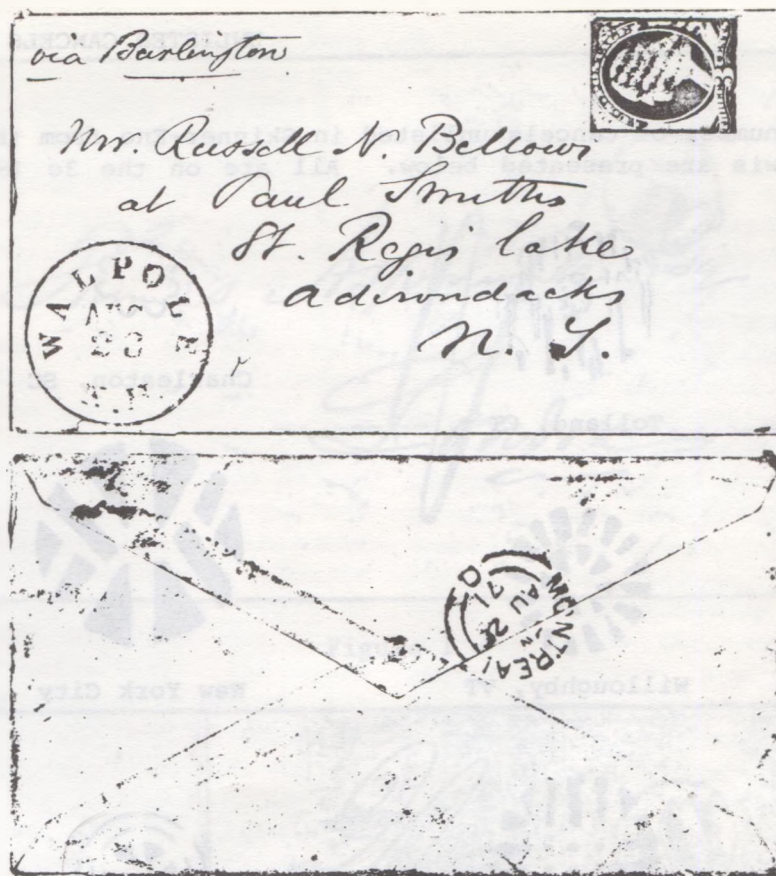


Figure 1

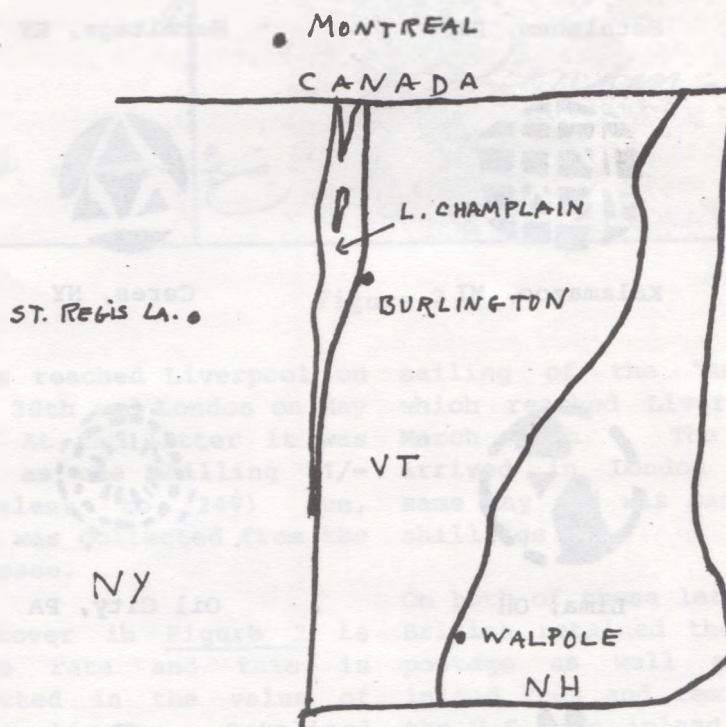


Figure 2

In addition to the above, the U.S. and Canada for such what was the routing from mail? Comment is eagerly Montreal and what were the sought. ■ postal arrangements between

UNLISTED CANCELS

A number of cancels unlisted in Skinner-Eno from the collection of George and Evelyn Lewis are presented below. All are on the 3c 1861 issue unless otherwise noted.



Tolland, CT



Charleston, SC



#94, Corning, NY



Willoughby, VT



New York City



West Killingly, CT



Bethlehem, PA



Hermitage, NY



#65,94 - Homer, NY



Kalamazoo, MI



Ceres, NY



#94, Tuscaloosa, AL



Lima, OH



Oil City, PA



Dayton, OH



West Point, GA



Royalton, OH



Hingham, MS

All cancels are in black ink.

TRANS-ATLANTIC MAIL MARKINGS
by Tom Stanton

In the Spring 1986 issue of the News I discussed a pre-treaty cover from Syracuse to London, showing that correspondents in both countries had to pay their respective postages. In this article I will illustrate two early treaty covers from New York City to London.

The postal treaty between the United States and Great Britain was signed in 1848 and became effective on February 15th, 1849. It specified a 24 cent rate on 1/2 ounce letters transmitted between the two countries. The breakdown of the total rate was:

U.S. inland	5¢
Packet postage	16¢
British inland	3¢

The treaty established exchange offices at New York and Boston on this side of the ocean and London as the eastern office.

The covers depict the simplicity of operation in the early treaty years, the New York office merely marking them with the U.S. debit to Great Britain and the London office only the amount due from the recipient plus an arrival back-stamp. The Cunard Line (British packet) carried both of the folded letters. The cover in Figure 1 is datelined New York on April 17th, 1849. It was placed in a sealed mail bag and sent to Boston in time for the April 18th sailing of the "Niagara" for Halifax and Liverpool. The only New York marking is the black "5" in a circle, denoting the debit rating. The

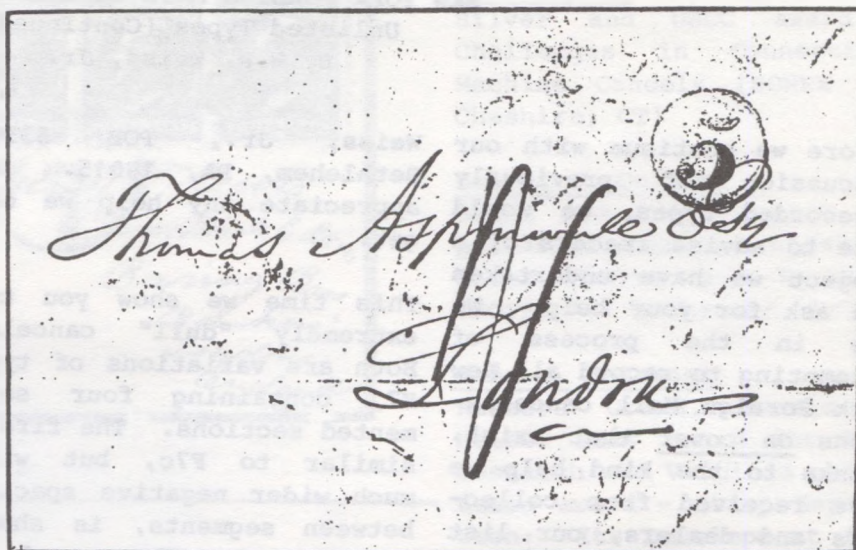


Figure 1

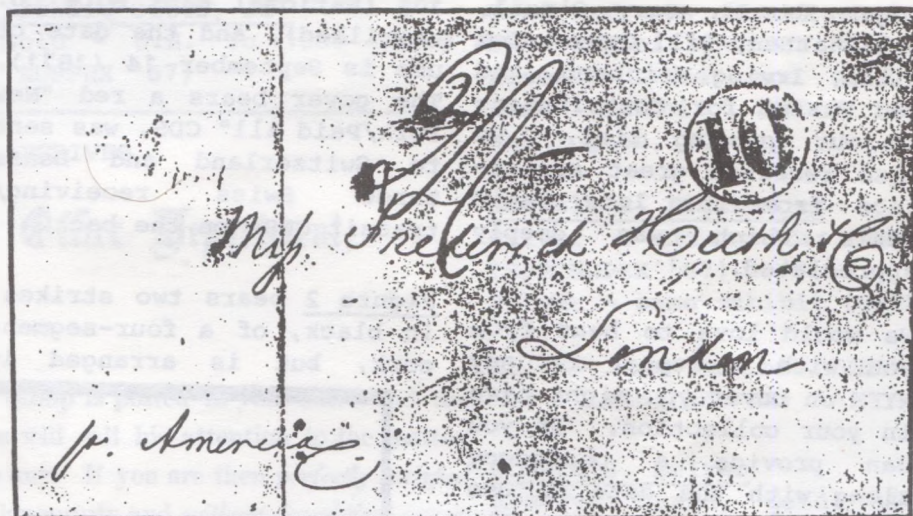


Figure 2

letter reached Liverpool on April 30th and London on May 1st. At the latter it was rated as one shilling (1/- equivalent to 24¢) due, which was collected from the addressee.

The cover in Figure 2 is double rate and this is reflected in the value of the markings. Datelined March 5th, 1850, the New York office handstamped it with a black "10" in circle, the debit to Great Britain. They forwarded it to Boston in season for the March 6th

sailing of the "America," which reached Liverpool on March 19th. The letter arrived in London on the same day and was marked two shillings due.

On both of these letters the British retained the packet postage as well as their inland fees and remitted to the U.S. its inland postage from the amount collected from the addressee. ■

NEW YORK FOREIGN MAIL CANCELLATIONS
Unlisted Types (Continued)
By W.R. Weiss, Jr.

Before we continue with our discussion of previously unrecorded types, we would like to advise readers of a project we have undertaken and ask for your help. We are in the process of attempting to record all New York Foreign Mail cancellations on cover that exist. Thanks to the kind help we have received from collectors and dealers, our list has grown to over 1,000 covers. We would like to thank E.M. "Dick" Bitgood, Roger Rhoads, Gary O'Neil, Bill Hatton, Bill Crowe, Tom Mills, Irving Weinberg, and Ted Wassam for contributing to our growing list. We also received great assistance from the late David Beals which was deeply appreciated.

We would love to hear from you with a report on any NYFM on cover you might have in your collection. If you can provide a photocopy along with the date of use (if not obvious in the photocopy) and cancel color, we will be most grateful. If you do not have access to a photocopy machine, just the information will be appreciated. Without a photocopy, we need the following information: NYFM type, destination, stamps on the cover; i.e., 1¢, 3¢ (3), etc.; date of usage; and color of cancellation. It is really much easier to send photocopies. If you have a large number (over 10), we will be happy to reimburse you for your cost, at your request. Your contribution will be acknowledged in a future article if you so desire. Send all information to W.R.

Weiss, Jr., POB 5358, Bethlehem, PA, 18015. We appreciate any help we can get.

This time we show you two extremely "dull" cancels! Both are variations of type F7, containing four segmented sections. The first, similar to F7c, but with much wider negative spacing between segments, is shown in Figure 1. The cancel is black and measures 19mm in diameter. The stamp is a 10¢ (National Bank Note Co. ungrilled), and the date of use is September 14 (1871). The cover bears a red "New York/Paid All" CDS, was sent to Switzerland and bears three Swiss receiving/transit CDSs on the back.

Figure 2 bears two strikes, in black, of a four-segment cork, but is arranged in

2¢ Continental Bank Notes paid the 6¢ rate to England, dated November 26, 1871. The cover bears a red "New York" CDS, a London receiving CDS and has a cute purple corner card of a New York attorney.

Van Vlissingen and Waud, in their definitive "New York Foreign Mail Cancellations," correctly pointed out that many "sub-types" of the more common segmented corks exist, and while they deserve recognition as NYFM's, they probably do not deserve separate listing. We agree completely with this view, and our research has revealed as many as 15 to 20 different 4-segment killers, and we would venture that future research will reveal another 15-20! Since this type of cancellation is fairly "dull" in



Figure 1

more of a square than a circle, making it a bit different from any other recorded type. It measures only 15mm from side to side, making it unusually small for a NYFM. Three ungrilled

comparison to the "glamour" items of NYFMs, namely the stars, geometrics, wheels, and conventional designs, we would guess that only a "purist" NYFM collector will find them to be of much

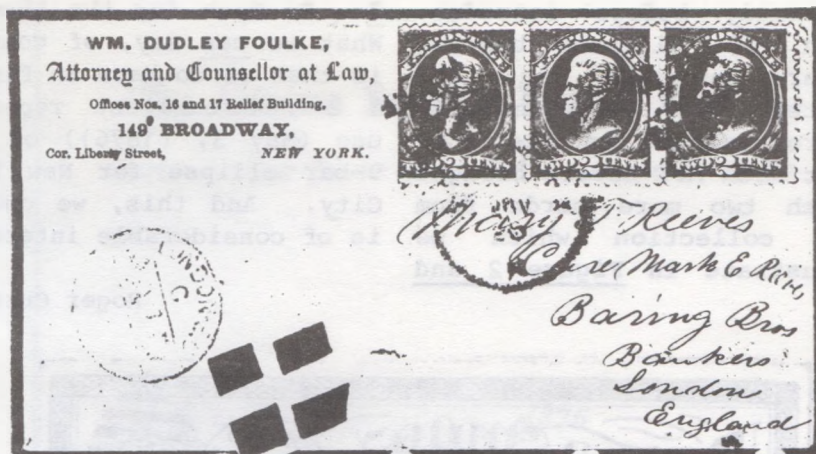


Figure 2

interest. We do feel, however, that to present an accurate record, it is necessary to record them. ■

(cont'd. fr. p. 104)

Richard Cutts, Jr.

Gold - U.S. 3c 1869 Issue
(AUSPEX '87)

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Post Office Department,

1855.

SIR:

When a letter bearing a cancelled stamp is posted in your office, and the name of the writer is known to you, you will call his attention to the matter, and hear his explanation, should he offer any. If you are then *perfectly satisfied* that the stamp was placed on the letter ignorantly and *without fraudulent intent*, you are authorized to restore the letter to the writer, if it be demanded, or to forward it to its destination, on payment of postage. If, however, you have reason to believe that there was an attempt to defraud in the case, *or are in doubt as to the question of fraudulent intent*, you will present the case to the attorney for the United States in your district, and leave him to determine whether the proof is such as to warrant a prosecution.

Should a letter bearing a cancelled stamp be posted in your office, and you should have no means to determine who wrote or posted it, you will treat it as an unpaid letter, and if it should not be reclaimed by the writer before the end of the quarter, you will then return it to this Department with your dead letters, *calling the attention of the Dead Letter Office to the cancelled stamp upon it*. Should it be reclaimed, and the name of the writer become known to you by such reclamation, you will then proceed according to the foregoing instructions in the first paragraph.

I am, respectfully,

Your obedient servant.

Chief Clerk.

R.F. Hanmer

Silver and USCC award - Challenges in Connecticut Machine Cancels (SONEX '87 Cheshire, CT)

Robert W. Collins

Grand and APS research and pre-1900 medals - Alaska - Water Routes and Markings (ROPEX '87 Rochester, NY)

John M. Hotchner

Reserve Grand, Gerald L. Reiser mem. award for best research and Virginia philatelic award - Stamp Separation: Its Development from 1840 to Modern Times (SPRINGPEX '87 Springfield, VA)

Gold and ATA first award - same exhibit (ROMPEX '87) Reserve Grand and gold - same exhibit (NAPEX '87 Washington, DC)

Darrell R. Ertzberger

Silver - Street Car RPO's (SPRINGPEX '87) Silver - same exhibit (OKPEX '87) Gold - same exhibit (DELPEX '87 Wilmington, DE)

Howard J. Selzer

Reserve Grand, gold, USCC award and Peninsular State Phil. Soc. award - Detroit Postal History (Plymouth Show)

Joe H. Crosby

Vermeil and USCC award - Fancy Cancellations, 19th Century U.S. (OKPEX '87)

C.W. Christian

Gold and BIA and USPCS medals - 10¢ Issue of 1861-67, Evolution and Varieties (WESTPEX San Francisco)

Clyde Jennings

Vermeil and USCC award - U.S. 19th Century Mail, Cancellations and Postal Markings (WESTPEX)

James M. Cole

Silver - Cancellations of the Bank Note Era, the Postmaster's Choice Period 1870-1890 (COLOPEX Columbus, OH)
Silver - same exhibit (EUPEX)

William R. Weiss, Jr.

Gold and USCC award - New York Foreign Mail Cancellations (NAPEX '87)

Henry Stollnitz

Gold and USPCS medal - Postal Markings of the 1847 Issue (NAPEX '87)

Richard J. Marek

Gold - Vermont's Stampless Era (NAPEX '87) ■

WHAT LUCKY NUMBER?

It seemed like a good idea at the time, but you be the judge. We're referring to a notion that developed about the 9-bar ellipse cancellation used in New York City. It is a cancellation we have discussed quite a bit before, especially in the article beginning on page 55 in the Fall 1986 News and on page 101 of the Summer 1985 News. As far as we know, this was the first ellipse cancel used anywhere in the U.S. on a regular basis. In the May 1968 News Arthur Bond noted his earliest reported use of this cancellation to be May 26, 1876 and it had a "7" in the center. Roger Rhoads pushed that date back to May 20, (1876) in the Fall 1985 News and illustrated the cancellation and it shows a "7." Then more recently Gil Levere reported a postal card bearing a 9-bar ellipse with a May 11, (1876) date (See Figure 1). Notice any pattern developing? Well, by this time your editor was developing a theory about a prototype "7" being used

initially before introduction of ellipses bearing other numerals in the center. Fortunately, correspondence on the subject with Mr. Levere brought forth two more cards from his collection which we illustrate in Figure 2 and

3. So much for the theory! What we can say, of course, is that we do have in Figure 3 a new earliest reported use (May 3, (1876)) of the 9-bar ellipse for New York City. And this, we opine, is of considerable interest.

Roger Curran

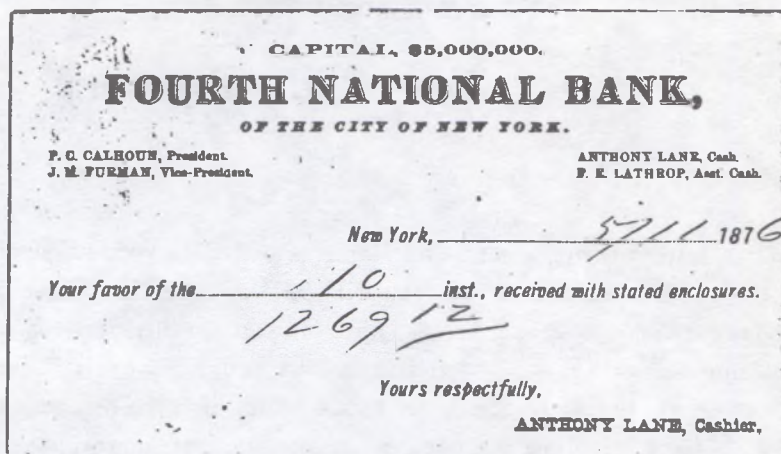
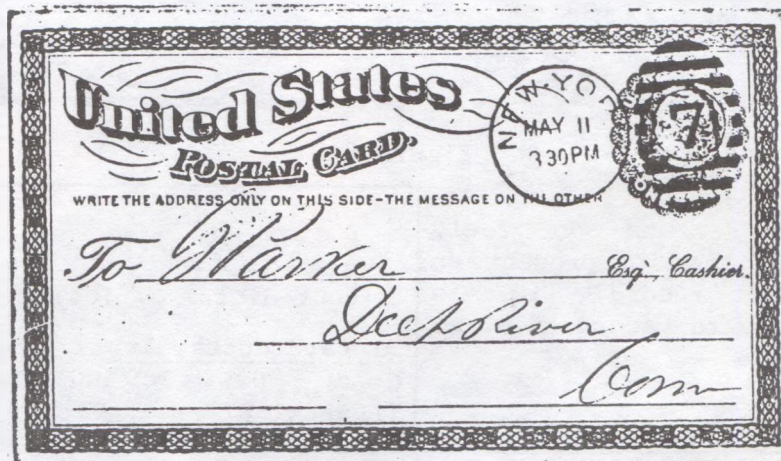
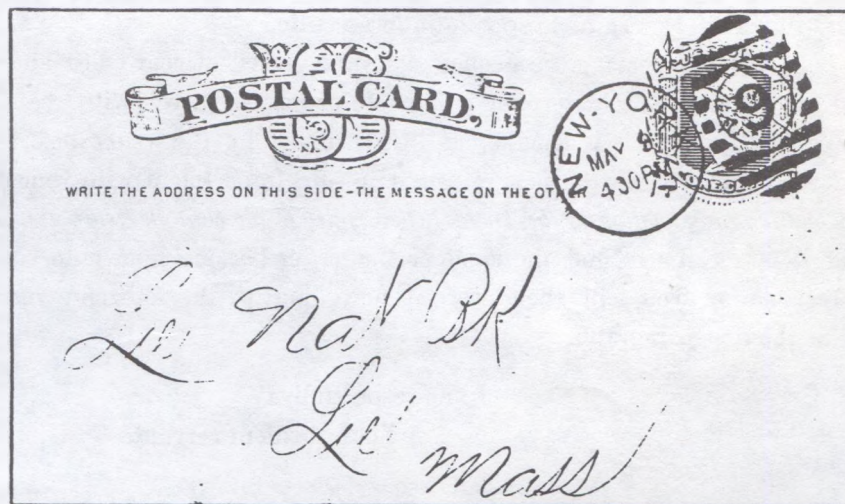


Figure 1



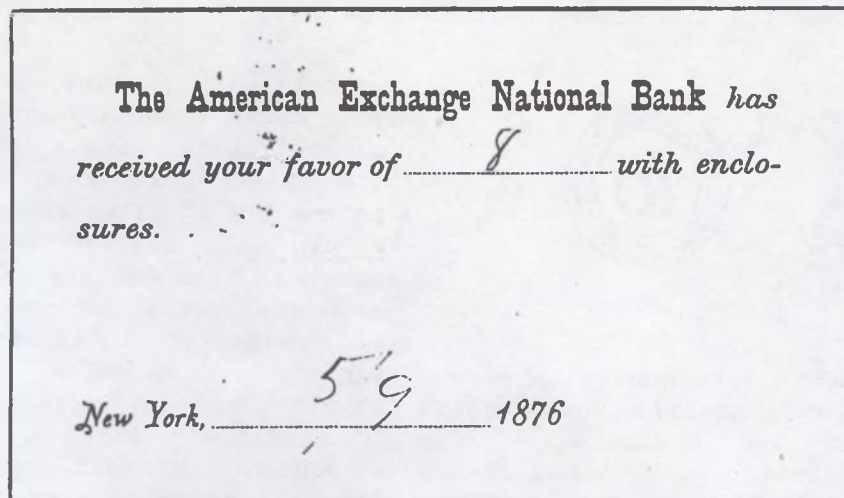


Figure 2

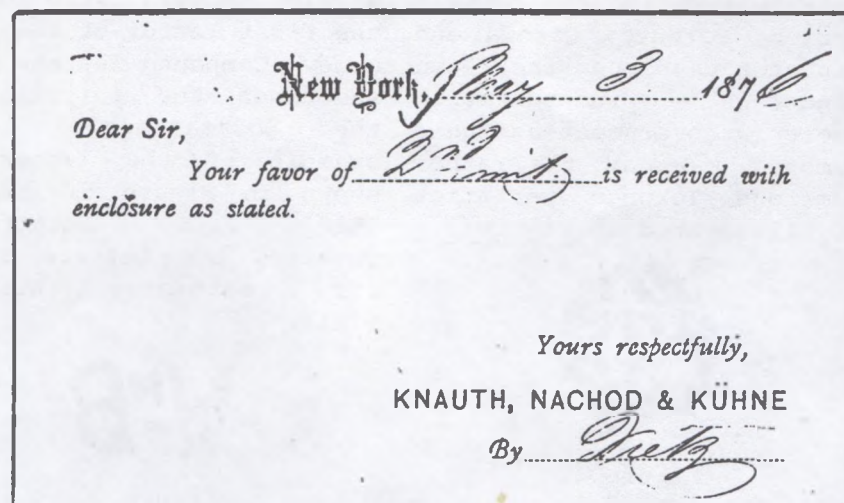
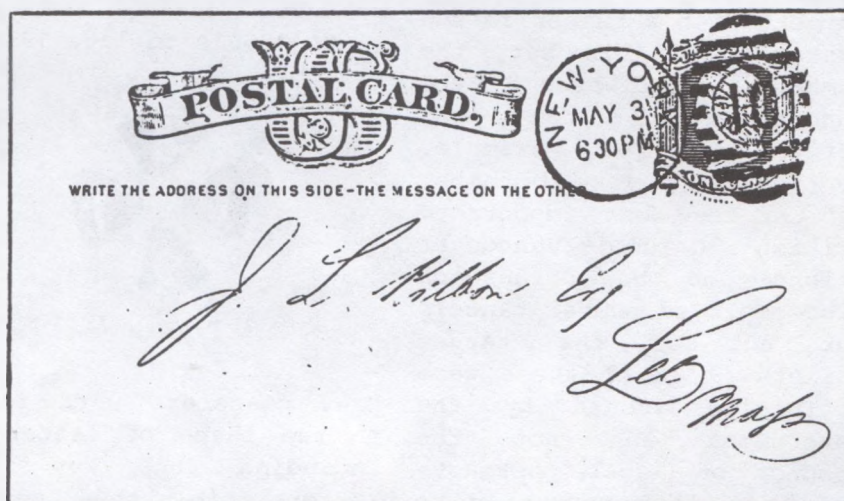


Figure 3

NOTE: The card in Figure 1 with its apparent 1876 usage and printed message form is pertinent to discussions in the News of another first

design postal card sent by the same bank. See page 80-1 and 94-5 of this volume. ■

THE CHICAGO KKK CANCEL By Paul K. Berg

A question regarding the true nature of a cancellation from Chicago was raised by Alyce Evans in her article on "Multiple Letters on Banknote Issues, Part IV" of the Winter '87 News.

The issue is whether the cancel, popularly known as "KKK in a Coffin," is exactly that or rather a K diamond K. In my mind there is no doubt it is the latter. To date I have been able to record the existence of nine copies of this cancel and all of the good strikes show the diamond as the center marking. Poorer strikes have been misinterpreted as a "K" in the middle. I further believe that the KKK idea is a "story" perpetuated either as a result of the poor strike from which the original report was generated or because it satisfied someone's needs. In any event, three of the existing examples are illustrated in Figure 1. ■



Figure 1

EARLY CANADIAN HANDSTAMP CANCELLATIONS

Canada first produced stamps in 1851. Figure 1 illustrates an early target cancel, originating in Montreal, taken from the Skinner-Eno book. It was listed by Skinner-Eno because the cancel has been found on U.S. stamps. (Lot 38 in the March 1987 Christie's sale of Grunin covers is a cover showing four examples of the U.S. 3c 1851 issue bearing the Canadian target cancellation.) Another early cancel is a square grid from Toronto.



Figure 1

An informative paperback book, Canadian Fancy Cancels of the Nineteenth Century by K.M. Day and E.A. Smythies serves as the basis for most of the information in the following paragraphs. Illustrating over 1,000 cancels, it was originally published about 1963 and reprinted in 1981. It is a handbook of The British North America Philatelic Society. The focus is on the 1868-90 period. Machine cancels in Canada, incidentally, did not begin appearing until 1896.

From 1855-1868 a series of fifty 4-ring cancels with a number in the center were used (see Figure 2). The numbers were assigned to post offices in alphabetic order; i.e., number "1" to Barrie, number "2" to Belleville, etc. In 1867, the Dominion of Canada was established encompassing the provinces of Ontario and



Figure 2

Quebec (previously Upper and Lower Canada), Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. The following year, a new series of stamps appeared - the Large Queen issue - as well as a new set of cancelers consisting of sixty 2-ring targets with a number in the center. In this set, the numbers reflected the importance of the post office. For example, Montreal was issued number "1" as the most important. British Columbia/Vancouver Island and New Brunswick also employed number cancels but not of the target variety. All of these were officially issued by the government and not the product of local postmasters. It is interesting to note that during the 1868-75 period, Toronto, Ottawa and Kingston developed their own cancelers incorporating their government-assigned numbers. One of the rather numerous Toronto varieties is illustrated in Figure 3.



Figure 3

The remainder of the cancels to be discussed are unofficial with the vast majority presumed to have been made by postmasters or their staffs. First, and, before we leave the subject of

cancels with numbers, a few year dates incorporated into cancellations are noted. One of the more novel ones is the "1879" illustrated in Figure 4. Leaves, stars, crosses, geometrics and segmented corks were common and exist in considerable variety. Masonics were popular and an occasional "Odd Fellows" links design is noted. Generally speaking, all those mentioned in this paragraph are rather rough and quite similar to their U.S. counterparts produced during the same (late 1860's to late 1880's) period.



Figure 4

Many cancelers were formed in the shape of letters or including one or more letters in the design. Single letters were often the first letter of the town name. Compound letters were sometimes the initials of the postmasters. One example of the latter is shown in Figure 5. Dated 1880 from Stratford, Ontario, the letters stand for postmaster William Blair.

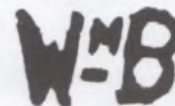


Figure 5

Very few "PAID" cancels are shown and no rating numerals as cancelers.

We'll close this brief introduction with two distinctive cancellation types



Figure 6



Figure 7

that one would expect to be emphasized in Canada but not in the U.S. The national symbol of Canada is the maple leaf and various maple leaves are found. One is illustrated in Figure 6 from Galt, Ontario, dated 1870. (John W. Hill, the man who whittled the Waterbury CT cancels, produced many leaf designs including at least seven maple leaves.) Second is the crown design. The date and origin of the example in Figure 7 are unknown. ■

MORE ON THE
HERST-SAMPSON BOOKS
By Herman Herst, Jr.

The account in Spring 1987 News of the various printings of the Herst-Sampson book on fancy cancels brought to mind another story that might interest readers.

The late Stanley Ashbrook was a man of strong convictions. Once a philatelic student, no matter how competent he was, crossed swords with him, he would know he had been in a battle. True, he did not always hold his prejudices long, and after a reasonable time normalcy would return in his feelings towards a recent opponent.



Blind River, Ont.



Streetsville, Ont.

Henry W. Houser

FIP championship class large gold - Austrian Post Offices in the Turkish Empire
Gold and special prize - The Connecticut Whittling Yankee

Hubert C. Skinner

Gold - Civil War New Orleans
Large vermeil and special prize - New Orleans Postal History 1792 - 1860
Large vermeil (literature) New Dietz Confederate States Catalogue and Handbook

C.W. Bert Christian

Vermeil - Ten Cent Issue of 1861 - 1867: Evolution and Varieties

Morrison Waud

Large silver - Abraham Lincoln in Philately

James Wrobliske

Silver - The United States Two Cent Issue of 1883 - 1887

Walton Eugene Tinsley

Large vermeil (literature) - Handbook - Tasmania - Stamps and Postal History

Darrel R. Ertzberger

Bronze (literature) - North Carolina Postal History Society Newsletter

In my article I mentioned that the late Michel Zareski of Paris was a faker of some reknown. One of his specialties, aside from adding fake rare cancels to stamps was the switching of stamps, especially on 1869 covers.

His work was so excellent that even the Philatelic Foundation gave its approval to covers that were definitely faked, proven by impossible rates of postage which competent rate experts exposed. His specialty was the 30c value. The 30c Bank Note on a cover is rather

scarce, but not nearly as rare as the 30c 1869, which lists today at \$11,000 on cover.

When the second printing of Zareski's book appeared, Ashbrook lost no time in condemning the book, although at no time was there any suggestion that the book included fakes. That made no difference to Ashbrook; the book was only fit for the rubbish heap, simply because of having Zareski's name attached to it.

(cont'd. on p. 114)

UNLISTED CANCELS

Three covers from Ted Mills' collection of fancy cancellations on the 3c regular issues of 1861 and 1867 are presented below. All stamps are of the 1861 issue. The cancels are black and unlisted in Skinner-Eno. The Washington, DC cancel in Figure 1 is similar to a cancel from Quincy, MA. The New Bern, NC cover in Figure 2 is dated Apr 2 1864. The Paper Mill post office (Figure 3) was changed to Alstead on May 28, 1866. ■



Figure 3

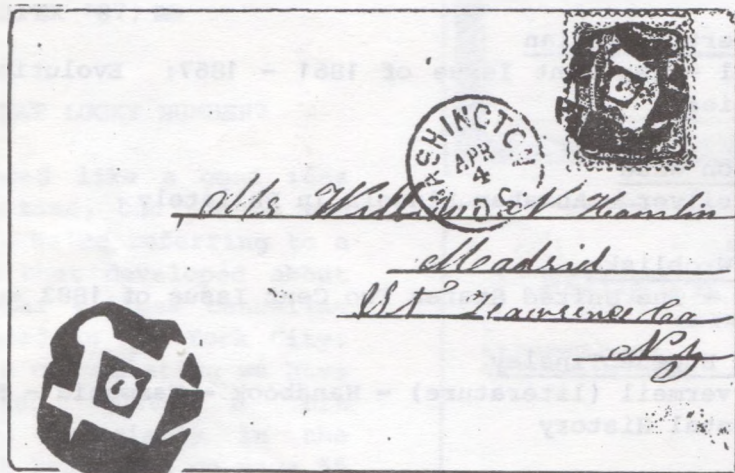


Figure 1

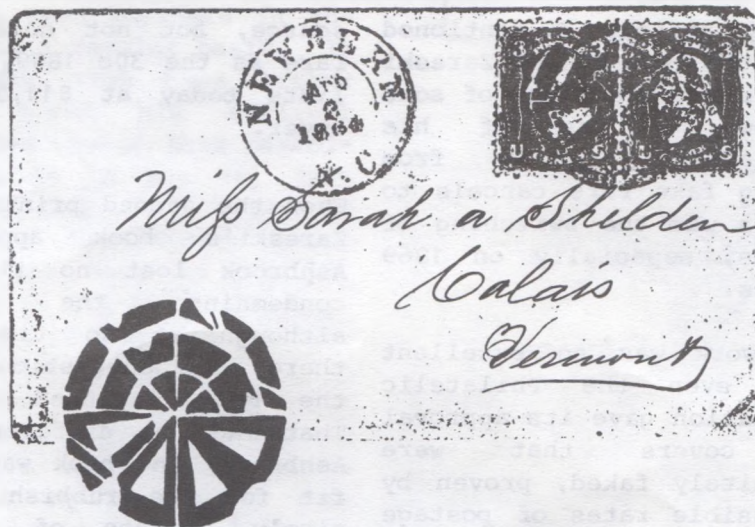


Figure 2

(cont'd. fr. p. 113)

One reviewer of the book gave it a favorable report; after all, it was the first book on fancy cancels ever to have been published, and there was a great need for it. Ashbrook was not to be mollified. In a letter that came as close to profanity as one might achieve, Ashbrook commented that "if you sleep with a dog that has fleas, you will have fleas yourself."

Happily, Ashbrook's comments did not discourage Nort Sampson and the writer from continuing to publish subsequent editions, which filled a great need until the A.P.S. published the Skinner-Eno book, which remains the finest contribution ever made to the hobby of collecting 19th century U.S. fancy cancels.

I should add that neither Nort Sampson nor I ever found that we had fleas. ■

MULTIPLE LETTERS ON BANKNOTE ISSUES, PART V

(CONCLUSION)
by Alyce Evans

I have included some examples which are unknown to me, taken directly from various auction catalogs. If any member has examples of these, I would appreciate a full-size photocopy. At least 50 off-cover examples remain to be identified and, as this is an on-going study, please send examples of all your multiple letter covers as you acquire them for an eventual "update". My sincere appreciation is extended to all who have participated in this study.

In the Fall we will begin Part I of the "O.K." cancels used on banknotes. Please send your photocopies of these to me, together with any docketing front and back, at POB 286, Bonsall, CA 92003.

Figure 50. ALEXANDRIA BAY, NY, negative intertwined "AB" in a magenta oblong with truncated corners. Source: Alyce Evans. I'm grasping at straws on this one, but Konweiser in his Postal Markings described a cancel on a Hotel cover from Alexandria Bay, NY as "'AB' in oblong, purple, on a 1c Continental". Could this hopefully be the same cancel? I have two off-cover examples of this beautiful cancel, both on the 1¢ American, #182.



Figure 50

Figure 51. OSHKOSH, WI, "A.J.S." on #210. Source: 19th Century Fancy Cancellations of Wisconsin, Bulletin



Figure 51

18. These are the initials of one of the four clerks at that time, A.J. Schoerb. A similar but larger ready-made design was used by Schoerb in 1877.

Figure 52. MONROE, WI, negative "AK" on a red irregular background, used in 1875. Source: Bulletin #18, Wisc. PHS. We listed a different "AK" (#42) from Monroe in Part IV. This is a new listing in Bulletin 18, and I still have no idea what the letters mean.



Figure 52

Figure 53. IRASBURGH, VT, "AM" on #210 cover dated Feb. 24, 1886. Source: Arthur E. Beane, Jr. A later cover dated Apr 15, 1886 has also been recorded. This large cancel possibly indicated a "morning" posting, as Irasburgh also used a large "PM" cancel during this time period which could indicate an "afternoon" posting. (See Figure 61.)



Figure 53

Figure 54. GREENFIELD, MA, negative "CS" on #219 cover dated Jul 19, 1890. Source: Al Zimmerman 6/87 auction. Tracing is from Billig.



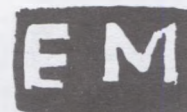
Figure 54

Figure 55. EAST HAMPSTEAD, NH, "E.H." on U118 cover with a magenta dlcds dated Jul 24, 1879. Source: D. G. Phillips 6/77 auction, and described as a Precancel.



Figure 55

Figure 56. EVANS MILLS, NY, negative "EM" in a blue rectangle struck twice on the 3¢ and 10¢ banknotes. The cds dated Dec 6 is also blue. Source: Arthur E. Beane, Jr. Another cover with this strike on #158 and dated Sep 5 is also recorded.



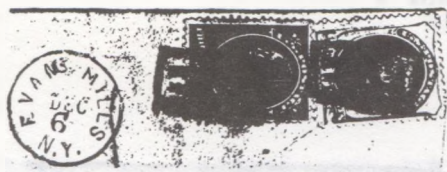
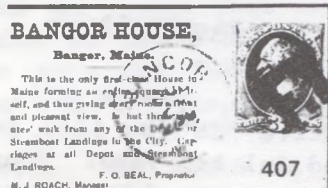


Figure 56

Figure 57. BANGOR, ME, "F.Y" on #158 cover dated Aug 2(?). Source: R.G. Koerber 2/86 auction. Tracing from Billig.



F.Y

Figure 57

Figure 58. BLAIRSTOWN, NJ, intertwined "JDV" in ellipse on #207 cover dated Mar 18, 1882. Source: Alyce Evans. This is the monogram of postmaster John Davis Vail, who served from April 1875 to May 1887, from Jan 1890 to Nov 1893 and from October 1897 to 1901. The earliest recorded use of this cancel is Oct 25, 1876 (in magenta) 1-1/2 years after Vail first took office. The last recorded use is Oct 26, 1886 (in black), exactly 10 years later. Brad Arch reported in the Jan '81 News this cancel is known in the following colors: black (commonest), magenta (2nd commonest), blue, green, brown, violet. This is not a duplex canceller; the postmark and the killer were separate and thus required two operations to cancel and postmark.

Figure 59. WHITEHALL, NY, negative "NP" struck two times on a 3¢ green cover. Source: Ed Hines. In 1877,

Whitehall had a postmaster named H.N. Parke. Could these be his initials?



Figure 58



Figure 59

Figure 60. SPARROW BUSH, NY, "PD" in oval on a 3¢ green cover dated Mar 8. Source: D.G. Phillips 5/86 auction. Sparrow Bush used a smaller and different "pp" which is found on the earlier 3¢ '61 issue, and listed in Skinner-Eno (LC-P7) but unidentified as to origin. And, while this is a banknote study, this



Figure 60

60A

seemed a good place to insert the earlier example from a Koerber 8/79 auction (Figure 60A).

Figure 61. IRASBURGH, VT, large "PM" on #210 cover dated Mar 4, 1886. Source: Arthur E. Beane, Jr. The PM from 1885-1888 was John Ord.



PM

Figure 61

Figure 62. DAVID CITY, NY, boxed "PO" on #210 piece dated Aug 3 with unreadable year date. Source: James Wrobliske. I cannot located this town in the Smith-Kay New York Postal History or any other reference. Who knows?



Figure 62

Figure 63. ELYRIA, OH, magenta encircled "POD" on UX5 dated Dec 22, message side dated 1875. Source: Doug Kelsey. Maybe an abbreviation for P.O. Dept., maybe not!



Figure 63

Figure 64. PAW PAW, MI, intertwined "PP" on #147 cover dated Sep 14 and has 1871 docketing. Source: Al Zimmerman 6/87 auction. (tracing from Billig)

Figure 65. CRESTON, IA, "REB" on #207 cover dated Nov 20, 1887. Source: R.G.

Kaufmann 7/83 auction. Tracing approximate size.



IP

Figure 64



REB

Figure 65

Figure 66. PHILADELPHIA, PA, intertwined "RI" on #158 cover, date unreadable. Source: R.G. Kaufmann 5/79 auction. Also listed in H-S #2045. Tracing is from an off-cover 3¢ green example belonging to Ed Hines.



RI

Figure 66

Figure 67. FREDONIA, KS, "SH" with "S" reversed, on UX9 dated May 8, 1888. Source: D.G. Phillips 11/77 auction.



Figure 67

Figure 68. WESTERVILLE, OH, negative "SKED" in barred rectangle on #213 cover dated May 12, 1888. Source: Alyce Evans. This cancel has been a victim of misinterpretation over the years, being misread as "SKLO", both in our own Apr '52 News and in Stamps, both sources citing Westerville as the origin. The problem was probably a worn or faint

strike. This cover was shown (this time as "SKED") in the Nov '63 News with a query as to the significance of the letters. Robert McClarren may have supplied the answer, as he has discovered there was a family with the Sked surname living in Westerville. Perhaps one of them clerked at the post office and fashioned this cancel. Doug Kelsey informs us that Wm. Rowe was postmaster at the time of this marking.



Figure 68

Figure 69. NEW ORLEANS, LA, "UBT" on #158 cover dated Oct 20. Source: D.G. Phillips 4/82 auction.



Figure 69

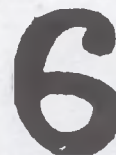
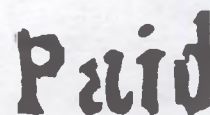
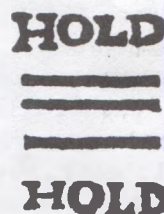
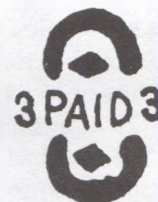


Figure 70

Figure 70. CLINTON, NY, "W.R.L." on #156 cover. Source: Alyce Evans. These are the initials of W. R. Libbey, a clerk at Clinton.■

POSTAL MARKINGS USED AS CANCELERS

Presented below are tracings of cancels taken from off-cover 3c banknotes in the collection of LeRoy Lipman, Jr. The top six in particular are very distinctive. We would welcome information about the origin of these markings. ■



5

10

Milwaukee, WI

Macedon, NY

(cont'd. on p. 118)

U.S. TRANSIT MARKINGS
by Tom Stanton

In the Winter 1987 issue of the News I discussed the northern half of the postal route from Washington to Richmond, VA, that is, the steamboat portion of the combined route. We will now consider the southern half, the portion transversed by the Richmond, Fredericksburg & Potomac Railroad (RF&P).

The RF&P received its charter from the Virginia General Assembly in February of 1834, following a demonstration of the feasibility of the route through a preliminary survey conducted the previous year by Moncure Robinson. (Later, he held the presidency of the RR company.) The company let the initial construction contracts in December of 1834. The first 20 miles were completed some 14 months later and by February of 1837 the rails reached Fredericksburg. Because of financial difficulties the railroad did not attain its planned objective, the Potomac River, until November of 1842. At this point, Aquia Creek, the RR connected with the vessels of the Washington & Fredericksburg Steamboat Co. for travel to the Nation's Capitol.

As the road bed approached Fredericksburg, Jourdon Woolfolk & Co., the mail stage contractor, transferred the mails to the railroad. By 1839 the USPOD contracted directly with the RF&P for the transportation of the mails and shortly thereafter the PMG assigned route agents (RA) to the road. The RAs, besides distributing mails to the way offices, postmarked letters handed directly to

them at the various railroad stations.

The earliest handstamp identified for the route is the 30mm circular "Richmond/Rail Road" postmark (see Figure 1). The earliest known use occurs in 1840 and it continued throughout the decade. A sister postmark does exist, differing only in slight variations of the spacing of the letters. Obviously, two postmarking devices were required, since two RAs were assigned to the route and manufacturing technology had not advanced to the state that both would be identical.



Towle 305-A-1

Figure 1

The RA received the cover in Figure 2 on November 4th, 1846 and carried it northward to Washington, whence it was forwarded on its journey via railroad and steamboat over the great mail route to Salem, Mass.

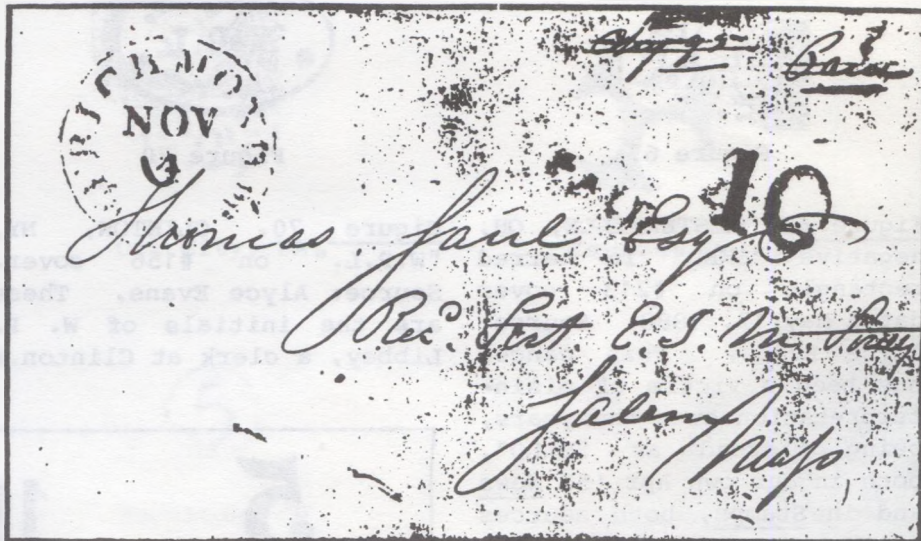


Figure 2

The straightline "PAID" and handstamp "10" are struck in the same shade of red as the postmark. An interesting sidelight is the notations at the top right of the folded letter, that is, the manuscript "Chg 95" and "Paid." Evidently the writer had originally intended to deposit the letter in the post office and have the fee charged to his box, but possibly time was running short to meet the next mail dispatch and he thus carried it directly to the railroad station and there handed it to the route agent. ■

(cont'd. fr. p. 117)

FREE

4



CANCEL EXHIBITION

VAPEX '87 promises to be of special interest to USCC members. This nationally prominent show will include a specific exhibit category devoted to cancellations and postal markings. Nine well-known exhibitors of such material have been invited to enter the competition. In addition to making available up to 80 frames for this category, VAPEX will also include on its APS accredited panel at least one judge with expertise in the area, and provide a special award, the James H. Cochran Award, for the best exhibit in this section. This will be in addition, of course, to any show or other special awards the exhibits may earn.

Site is the Pavilion Center at Virginia Beach, VA, the adjacent hotel with special show rates is the Pavilion Tower, 1900 Pavilion Drive, 23451, and the dates are November 20-22, 1987. VAPEX is one of the World Series of Philately shows whose winner is invited to show in the APS-sponsored Champion of Champions competition. General Chairman of VAPEX '87 is Michael Falls, 575 Virginian Drive, Norfolk, VA 23505.

The nine invited are: Abe Boyarsky of California who shows the 3 cent 1861 issue; Joe Crosby of Tulsa with 19th century fancy cancels; Henry Houser of Connecticut showing Connecticut cancels including Waterburys; Clyde Jennings of Florida, 19th century mail, cancels, and postal markings; Roy Lipman, Baltimore, displaying the 3 cent green Bank Notes; Bruce London from Boca Raton with 19th century fancies; Henry Stollnitz, New York City,

showing cancels on the early classics; Bill Weiss of Bethlehem, PA, displaying the New York Foreign Mail cancels; and Jim Cole of Columbus, Ohio, showing 19th century cancellations. All are USCC members.

The opportunity to view this amount of cancellation material at one time is perhaps unique and should be fascinating. Seeing how each exhibitor chooses to present his subject promises to be educational to future exhibitors in this category, exhibitors in general and even to casual observers. Filling all 80 frames of 16 pages would be a total of 1280 pages, and figuring a minimum average of only 10 items to a page would result in a total of 12,800 items. Staggering thought!

Clyde Jennings started the ball rolling on this and provided the above information to the News. Try to make VAPEX this year if you can. ■

NEW MEMBERS

- 1716 Michael Ray, 1038 Cherrywood, Carrollton, TX 75006 19th century fancy cancels
- 1717 Joan Jean Johnson, 201 W. Third Street, Streator, IL 61364 Cancels
- 1718 John C. Finck, 2022 Harman Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21230 US cancels of all types
- 1719 K. David Steidley, Ph.D., 50 Baltusrol Way, Short Hills, NJ 07078 #300 on cover and card
- 1720 Tom J. Christison, 318

Cross Street, Woodland, CA 95695 US Cancellations 1860-1940

- 1721 Robert Patkin, P.O. Box 186, Georgetown, MA 01833 Machine cancels
- 1722 D. A. Kelsey, P.O. Box 64759, Tucson, AZ 85740
- 1723 Dr. Joseph C. Muren, 50 E. North Temple, 18th Floor, Salt Lake City, UT 84150 George Washington related stamps: #10, 11, 25, 26, 65
- 1724 Charles P. O'Neill, 4632 Larkwood Drive, Virginia Beach, VA 23464 Cancellations on #65; NYFM cancels
- 1725 Kenneth J. Evans, 9048 Overhill Drive, Ellicott City, MD 21043 US Postal markings on cover; fancy cancellations; Transatlantic mail; large and small Hermes Heads

MEMBERS DROPPED FOR
NON-PAYMENT OF 1987 DUES

David L. Abrams
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Elliot E. Blum
Elaine Durnin Boughner
Daniel W. Elliott
Evelyn L. Highley
Bruce Jay Lewin, D.D.S.
Robert G. McClellan
Rev. George C. Muresan
W. Scott Persons
Ira Rakatansky
John I. Repa
Rev. Frederick K. Smyithe
Charles J. Sommer
Bryon S. Uding
Kenneth Wallach
Paul Weeks
John C. Yurewicz

CLOSED ALBUM

Harold J. Boyd

TWENTIETH CENTURY FANCY

Warren Bower submits the post card illustrated in Figure 1. Of course it's not the type of twentieth century fancy cancellation we normally think of but rather a holdover from the early era. The card was postmarked November 15, 1905 from Westminster, Mass. ■

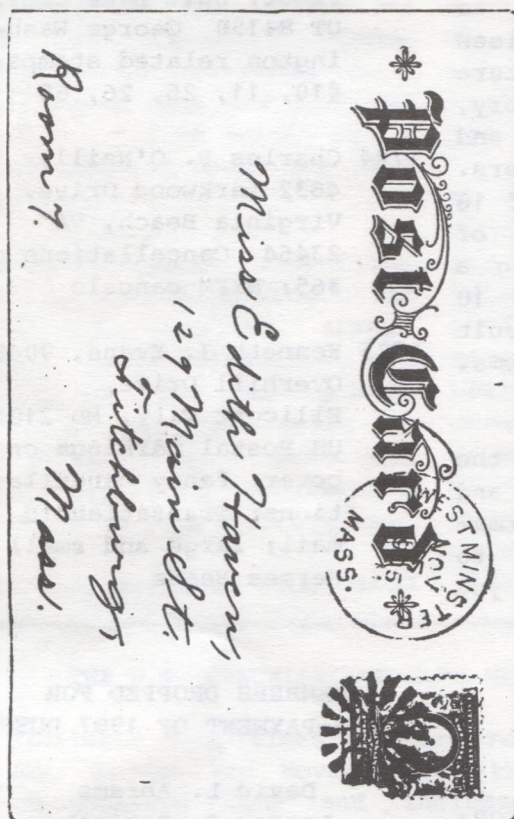


Figure 1

NEW JERSEY POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY
APS AFFILIATE 95

A friendly group interested in the postal markings and history of NJ. Newsletter five times yearly, semi-annual meetings, mail auctions. \$10. Joyce Groot, Secretary, 28 Briar Lane, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920.

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APS Affiliate No. 154

The LIPHS, dedicated to the study and documentation of the postal history of Long Island, New York (Kings, Queens, Nassau and Suffolk Counties), invites you to join. A sample of the Long Island Postal Historian, the Society's quarterly publication is available for \$3. Membership dues are \$15 (covering the 17 month period from Aug. 1987 to Dec. 1988). For new members the Society will also provide a roster and an index covering all prior issues from 1980 to the Spring 1987 issue. Information and sample copies from:

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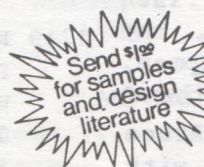


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