

S Cancellation Club NEWS

Volume 20, Number 7 Whole Number 209 Summer 1991

TABLE OF CONTENTS

From the Editor
Bibliography of 19th Century Cancellations by Roger D. Curran105
Sub-station Special Delivery Postmark
Transatlantic Mails, Multiple Use Postmarks
Update on Circular Killers with a Numeral by Roger D. Curran112
Station G, Washington, D.C. Machine Cancellations114
Marcus Norton Patent #38,175117

The Scientific American,

361 BROADWAY, NEW YORK.

Branch Office, Scientific American Building, 625 F St., N. W., Washington, B. C.





W. W. Gavitt Fedical Co.,

Cavitt Block, 5th & Madison Sts., Topeka,

Kansas.

Washington Station G--American Flag Cancellation --- see page 114

THE U.S. CANCELLATION CLUB NEWS

Published four times a year; February, May, August and November by the however, I hope to get back or at least U.S. CANCELLATION CLUB and included nearer schedule for the next issue. with membership. Back issues are Your assistance would be greatly available, prices on request.

a one-time admission fee of \$1.00.

Address Library Inquires to: William H. Bauer, Box 1449, Spring, TX Your help by submitting in-depth 77383.

Address Membership Inquires to: Eugene E. Schrier, PO Box 815, Upper Montclair, NJ 07043.

McGlothlin, 2953 Crystal Palace Lane, Pasadena, MD 21122.

Address Back Issues Inquires to: Alyce Evans, Box 286, Bonsall, CA 92003 At STAMPSHOW 91, Clyde Jennings again

to: William J. Bomar, PO Box 560065, Postal Markings." He also received the Dixie Village Station, Orlando, FL reserve grand award. 32856.

Address all other communications Tom Stanton, Editor, 2109 Alice Ave., Apt. #2, Oxon Hill, MD 20745.

U.S.C.C. Officers

President......Abe Boyarsky, 14740 Tacuba Drive, La Mirada, CA 90638.

1st Vice President.....C.W. (Bert) Christian, 2287-D Via Puerta, Laguna Hills, CA 92653.

2nd Vice President...Edward G. Hines, P.O. Box 545, Danbury, CT 06813.

Secretary-Treasurer...Eugene E. Schrier PO Box 815, Upper Montclair, NJ 07043.

Governor-at-Large...Herman Herst, Jr., PO Box 1583, Boca Raton, FL 33432.

FROM THE EDITOR

Again the NEWS is somewhat late, appreciated, I need articles to fill the pages. At the present I do not Annual Dues: \$8.00 per year plus have a significant article in reserve. Granted I can research various topics and present them to the membership, however, this consumes a lot of time. articles for publication would help put the NEWS back on schedule.

Three recent USCC awards at various stamp shows have come to my attention. At BALPEX 91 Milton Address Awards Inquires to: Rod Mitchell won for his "The 3¢ Stamp of 1861-67." He also garnered a show gold medal. At INDYPEX 91 John Grabowski won for a similar exhibit, his was tilted "The U.S. 3¢ Issue of 1861-68." entered the ranks of USCC winners with Address Sales Department Inquires his "U.S. 1847-1900 Mail, Cancels and

NOTICE ABOUT BACK ISSUES

In the future, any person wanting issues prior to January 1974 will have to borrow from library and photo copy. For Sale from Alyce Evans:

1974	_	76			\$11.00			
1977	-	80 (24	issues)	9.00			
1981					9.00			
1982	-	84			8.00	per	yr.	
1984	=	curre	ent		10.00	per	yr.	

ADVERTISING RATES

Full	Pa	ge	0				0			0		0	ø		•		.\$40.00
Half	Pag	ge									0						.\$25.00
Quart	er	P	a	ge		0	0		0		a				۰		.\$15.00
Colum	n i	Ιn	C]	h.			۰	٠			0.				٠		.\$ 4.00

BIBLIOGRAPHY OF 19th CENTURY CANCELLATIONS

BY ROGER D. CURRAN

1. Skinner and Eno, <u>United States Cancellations</u>, 1845-1869, (1980) American Philatelic Society, State College, PA. Illustrates 4,000 cancels and is considered the standard reference for the period. Makes no claim for being and is in no way comprehensive.

Frajola auction (1/25/86) catalog for the Eno collection provides an interesting visual supplement through its illustrations of actual examples of the more interesting cancels of the period.

2. 19th Century U. S. Fancy Cancellations, this book, associated with Herman "Pat" Herst, Jr. illustrates more than 1,000 cancels and has appeared in several editions. The 1951 Herst-Zareski edition provides full size illustrations. Later editions have reduced size illustrations, but identify towns of origin for far more of the cancels. There is a "New Herst-Sampson Catalog" (1989) edited by Gilman that does not emphasize cancels so much and is intended as a general introduction to U.S. postal markings.

Tom Stanton developed a helpful "City Cross-index for Herst-Sampson Fancy Cancels" which lists cancels alphabetically by city name together with period of usage and a brief description of the cancel.

- 3. <u>U.S. Cancellation Club News</u>, April 1951 present. A full run consists of a lot of paper but contains much of interest and value to the cancel collector.
- 4. The Chronicle, U.S. Philatelic Classics Society, July 1948 present. Scattered but exceedingly important information which, in the aggregate, is very considerable. For example, Hart's discussions of cancels on the 1847 issue, appearing in various articles, is authoritative and essential.
- 5. Hooper, A Historical Survey of Precancels, Cardinal Spellman Philatelic Museum (1979). A brief, informative introduction of U.S. precancels.
- 6. Souder, Postal History and Usage of 1907 and Earlier Precancels, (1989), David G. Phillips Co., North Miami, Fl -- an extensive listing of the early precancels, the standard work on the subject.
- 7. Schmalzriedt, "Patent Cancellations (1847-1887)," in Norona's <u>Cyclopedia of United States Postmarks and Postal History</u>, (1933), 1975 Quarterman Reprint. Remains today the principal reference on patent cancels.

A similar article appeared in three installments in the <u>Collectors Club Philatelist</u> beginning in January 1931. It is more conversational and contains less data than the Norona publication.

8. Burr, "Standardized Hand Stamp Cancellations on the Bank Note Issues,"

American Philatelist, January 1935 - April 1936. Pioneering work on ellipse and other "systematic" (e.g., sets with numbers) cancels that remains very

informative and valuable. Superb illustrations.

- 9. Alexander, Simpson's U.S. Postal Markings 1851-1861, U.S. Philatelic Classics Society, Columbus OH., (1979). Essential source of information on obliterators and other postal markings used as cancellers during the period.
- 10. Chase, The 3¢ Stamp of the United States, 1851-1857 Issue, 1975 Quarterman Reprint. Remarkably clear and concise introduction to obliterators and other postal markings found on the 3¢ issue.
- 11. Willard, The United States Two Cent Red Brown of 1883-1887, volume 2, (1970) published by H.L. Lindquist, New York. An extensive treatment of fancy and other cancels used during the period of the 2¢ stamp. Contains a superb section on ellipse cancels.
- 12. Ashbrook, The United States One Cent Stamp of 1851-1861, volume II, (1938), H.L. Lindquist, New York. Highly informative presentation of data on postal markings, including obliterators, found associated with the 1¢ stamp.
- 13. Salkind, <u>U.S. Cancels 1890-1900</u>, (1985) Photos of roughly 1500 fancy cancels appearing at the end of the fancy cancel era.
- 14. Blake and Davis, <u>Boston Postmarks to 1890</u>, (1949) 1974 Quarterman Reprint, Extensive section on obliterators that is very important.
- 15. Clarke, A Catalog of Philadelphia Postmarks, Part 1, (Revised 1991), Valuable information on ellipses, double ovals, and concentric circles containing a number in the center.
- 16. Russell, <u>Illinois 19th Century Cancels</u>, (1984), This Illinois PHS publication provides a catalog of about 1100 clearly illustrated cancels.
- 17. Moertl, Nineteenth Century Fancy Cancellations of Wisconsin, (1987), Catalog provides about 675 cancels from this state.
- 18. Proulx, Star Cancels of New York State, (1987), Catalog of 70 19th century star cancellations with town of origin, also showing many designs used in multiple towns.
- 19. Linn, PAID Markings on the 3¢ U.S. Stamp of 1861, (1955), Catalogs about 110 "PAID" markings with superb illustrations.
- 20. Van Vlissingen and Waud, New York Foreign Mail Cancellations, (1968), For years this was the standard reference on the subject.
- 21. Weiss, The Foreign Mail Cancellations of New York City 1870-1878, (1990), This replaces the above work as the standard reference on these markings. It is characterized by superb illustrations of the cancels in both full and enlarged sizes. The statistical analysis of over 1800 covers provides many interesting insights to the usages of these devices.
- 22. Rohloff and Diamond, The Waterbury Cancellations, (1979), The standard reference on the most celebrated group of fancy cancels.

- 23. Cornell, The Tale of the Kicking Mule, (1949), Although over 40 years old this work remains the basic reference on the subject.
- 24. Bond, "Time-saving, Duplex Handstamp; Its Invention, Use and Manufacture," in Postal History Journal, (June 1963), Only a few pages but it describes very well the introduction of the duplex CDS and canceller handstamps.

SUB-STATION SPECIAL DELIVERY POSTMARK

Washington, D.C. -- Station 25

Registered handstamps from numbered or sub-stations are not too difficult to find, however, this situation does not seem to be true for special delivery postmarks. Thanks to Robert A. Truax, we are able to illustrate one emanating from Station 25 of the Washington post office.



This station, located at 25th and Pa. Ave., NW, was established in July 1900 in the drug store of William P. Herbst. For his efforts druggist Herbst received \$200 per year from the USPOD.

The cover shown was posted on February 22, 1902 and sent either via the main post office or the East Capitol station to its destination in the eastern portion of the city. The lack of backstamps preclude this determination. The four line special delivery marking is in a dull red. The two stamps are affixed over the frank of Jacob H. Gallinger, senator from New Hampshire.

Reports of other sub-station special delivery postal markings would be much appreciated.

TRANSATLANTIC MAILS

MULTIPLE USE POSTMARKS

discuss two New York postmarks used on marking was used when the missive was transatlantic mails. They served dual purposes. That is, they were used on 21 debit marking when the letter was mails to Great Britain and mails from carried aboard one of the American France.

MAILS TO GREAT BRITAIN

The Anglo-American treaty of 1848, which became effective February of the next year, prescribed a 24-cent (1 shilling British) rate between the two countries. The total rate was broken down as follows:

> U.S. Inland 5-cents Sea Postage 16- " 3- " G.B. Inland

The convention specified that the color of the postmark be black for debits and red for credits. Also, that the from New York to Belfast, Ireland in country employing the steamship line 1855. It travelled aboard the Collins

In this article I would like to unpaid mail to England, the 5 debit carried aboard a Cunard liner and the packets. This style of postmark had an extensive life as Hubbard-Winter (1988, p353, 357) record its usage from early 1853 until 1867. These two markings are illustrated in figure 1.



Figure 1.

Figure 2 depicts a cover sent would receive the sea postage. Thus on steamship "Pacific." This 2700 ton,

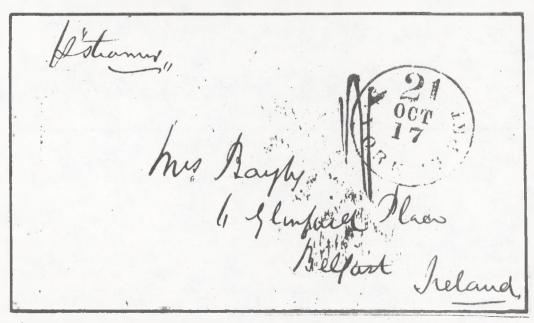


Figure 2. October 21, 1855 -- New York City to Belfast, Ireland.

280 foot vessel was built by Jacob Bell of New York and conducted her maiden voyage from New York to Liverpool in May 1850 (Bonsor, p207). On this particular voyage she departed New York on October 17 and reached Liverpool on the 28th (Hubbard-Winter, p105). there the letter passed through the Dublin post office on the 29th and arrived at Belfast on the 30th. The New York American packet marking indicated the sailing date of the "Pacific" and the 21 cent debit to Great Britain. The handstamp on the left side of this marking denotes the postage due collected from the addressee -- one shilling (1/-).

Thus one sees that on unpaid mails to Great Britain the numeral within the New York CDS represented a debit against Britain. However, on mails from France this numeral has an entirely different meaning. In the latter case it specified the postage due to be collected from the recipient.

MAILS FROM FRANCE

The United States did not have a postal treaty with France until 1857, thus correspondence during the middle years of the decade was transmitted via British open mails under the Anglo-American and the Anglo-French treaties. Here we find a discrepancy in the total amount of postage required to transmit a letter, that is, if by American packet the rate was 37 cents, while only 31 cents if by British packet.

The American packet cover from Paris (Figure 3.) has many similarities with the previously described cover to Belfast, both have the "21/N-York Am Pkt" marking and both were carried by Collins Line steamers, this one by the "Atlantic," the sister ship of the "Pacific."

As stated above the rate for this service was 37 cents, of which 21 cents was collected in the United States and 16 cents (8 decimes) was prepaid in

France. The breakdown of this amount as given by Hargest (p45) is:

U.S. Inland	5-cents
Sea Postage	16- "
Transit Postage	6- "
French Inland	10- "

As stated the cover was carried across the Atlantic aboard the Collins name. The steamship of the same "Atlantic" was built by William H. Brown of New York. The 2850 ton, 285 foot vessel was launched in February 1849 and made her maiden voyage in April 1850 (Bonsor, p207). Incidentally, this maiden voyage commenced the mail service of the Collins Line. On this 1855 trip she departed Liverpool on June 2 and arrived in New York on the 13th (Hubbard-Winter, p105). The only marking on the cover is the one applied at New York indicating 21 cents the recipient. Although due from devoid of French markings, 8 decimes (16 cents) must have been prepaid in Paris.

For the British packet service the rate structure was:

U.S. Inland	5-cents
Sea Postage	10- "
Transit Postage	6- "
French Inland	10- "

Of the 31 cent total, 5 cents was collected in New York and 26 cents (13 decimes) was prepaid in Paris (Hargest, p45). From these latter two rate tables, it can be seen that the France-United States rate discrepancy resided completely in the sea postage differences.

Unlike the previous cover from Paris, this one (Figure 4.) has ample postal markings. In the upper left corner is the black Paris double circle of April 17, 1856. On the reverse is a Paris to Calais transit marking of the same date and a manuscript "13" indicating the prepayment in decimes. Thus the cover travelled from Paris by

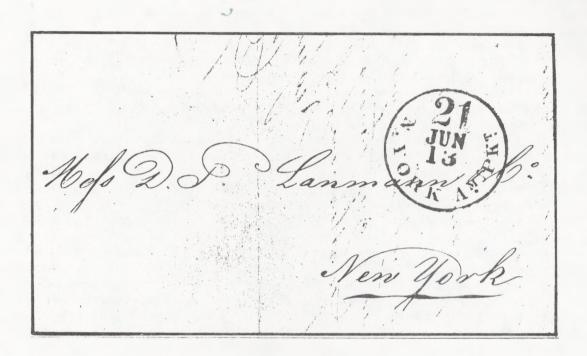


Figure 3. June 13, 1855 -- Paris to New York via American Packet



Figure 4. April 29, 1856 -- Paris to New York via British Packet

Calais (despite the docketing "par le packet and that 5 cents was due from Harve") to London and onward to Liverpool. At the latter port, the cover was placed on the Cunard liner "Persia" SUMMARY for its transatlantic journey. The 3300 ton, 375 foot "Persia" was built her maiden voyage in January 1856 arrived in New York 10 days later (Hubbard-Winter, p37). The boxed red "PP" York, while the "5/N. York Br Pkt" shows the date of arrival at that port, American packet across the Atlantic. that the cover was carried by a British

the addressee.

The covers illustrate the usage by R. Napier & Sons of Glasqow and made of two New York postmarks for different transatlantic services. One as a debit (Bonsor, p144). On this her third trip marking on unpaid mail to Great Britain she left Liverpool on April 19 and and secondly as a due marking on partially paid mail from France. On the mails from France different rates denotes prepayment to the port of New are noted, dependent on whether the cover was carried by a British or an

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Bonsor, N.R.P., North Atlantic Seaway, Volume 1, Arco Publishing Co., Inc., New York, 1975.

Hargest, George H., History of Letter Post Communication Between the United States and Europe, 1845-1875, Smithsonian Institution Press, Washington, D.C., 1971.

Hubbard, Walter & Richard F. Winter, North Atlantic Mail Sailings, 1840-75, U.S. Philatelic Classics Society, Inc., Canton, OH, 1988

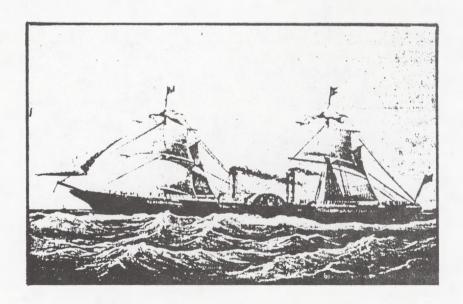


Figure 5. Cunard Steamer "Persia" (from Hubbard & Winter, pl4).

UPDATE ON CIRCULAR KILLERS WITH A NUMERAL

BY ROGER D. CURRAN

the article "Circular Killers with a of PaPH editor Clarke we illustrate the Number or Letter" appearing in the Win- postmark in Figure 2. Can readers ter 1991 NEWS and I also have other information to report. Tom Clarke advises that he now recognizes, based verified reports, only numbers 1-9 and 11-13 for the killer illustrated as figure 1 in that article. This corresponds exactly with Gilbert Burr's report. For the figure 3 set we erroneously stated that Burr reported numbers 1-18 with no "11." He actually reported only numbers 1-14 with no "11." Mr. Clarke clarified that the "11" he noted in a killer with three circles is of the set we illustrated as figure 2 and he does not have a verified report of an "11" in the figure 3 set. He also stated that he does not have reports of numbers 15-18 in the figure 3 set.

In his 1991 revised Philadelphia Catalog (Part 1) Mr. Clarke reported a circular killer, duplexed to a Wesson "Time-on-Bottom" CDS, not mentioned in the NEWS article. A tracing of this distinctive marking is presented as Figure 1. Mr. Clarke noted uses with a "2" 1883 with one isolated use on August 1, uary 20, 1882. In the November-December 1990 Pennsylvania Postal Historian, the



Figure 1.

recent discovery of this "first known example" of a "1" by Norman Shachat was

We received several responses to briefly discussed. Through the courtesy report other examples on or off cover?

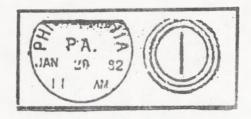


Figure 2.

We come now to another elusive Philadelphia circular killer. Gilbert Burr's illustration of it appears as Figure 3. He mentioned Philadelphia but



Figure 3.

from January 28, 1882 to January 29, stated he wasn't sure Philadelphia was the origin because the placement of the 1883. He also reported a "1" used Jan- CDS was not in proper relation to the killer. Apparently Burr saw two strikes of the CDS and killer duplex on an off-cover stamp because the "12" is from Philadelphia. In a 1945 article in Stamps², Donald MacGregor illustrated and discussed a cover with this marking. The CDS was dated October 14. MacGregor stated:

> "This cancellation is scarce off cover. I have only two examples and have gone through thousands of these (3) green) stamps. This holds true for two other collections....In

the building up of these collections, the three of us have gone through literally millions of stamps of this issue and many thousands of covers.

"While on this subject I might mention for the record that I have seen this same two-ring cancellation with the numeral 4 on a stamp off-cover. This is probably also from Philadelphia."

In correspondence with the writer, Mr. Clarke reports a postal card with this cancel dated October 20 (1879) and points out this makes it the earliest reported circular killer type used by Philadelphia and suggests that it might have been a briefly used trial type since he records 4-ring killers only as early as November 12, 1879. Who can report another example of this killer?

Moving now to Western Pennsylvania, Bob McKain reports single examples of killers with a "l" and a "3" in these circles. Bob has a photocopy of the "l" and owns the cover with the "3." The "l" is illustrated herewith as Figure 4

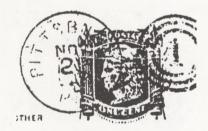


Figure 4.

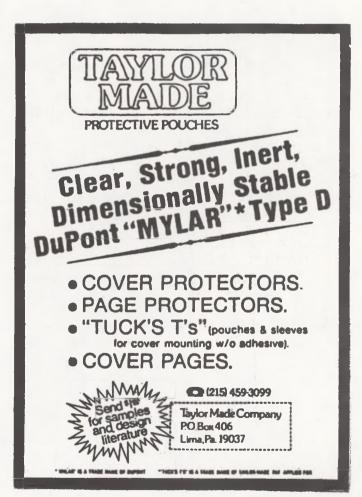
which is dated, Bob has been told, November 21 (1881). The CDS of the "3" is dated November 11. Bob wrote that after years of researching Pennsylvania postal history and perusing thousands of covers, these are the only two examples he has noted. Additional reports would be very much appreciated.

Finally, a student of Washington postal history noted the reports in our article of a "7" in the figure 11 set

and of "7"-"9" in the figure 12 set and stated that he agreed with the "1"-"6" for both, but was skeptical about the higher numbers. Can any reader report such higher numbers on cover?

REFERENCES

- 1) Clarke, Tom, A Catalog of Philadelphia Postmarks, Part 1, (Revised Edition 1991), p. 31.
- 2) MacGregor, Donald, "Scarce 'Common' Cancellations," Stamps, Vol. 50, p. 378, March 17, 1945.



STATION G, WASHINGTON, D.C.

MACHINE CANCELLATIONS

Station G of the Washington post office was located in the Union Building on G Street between 6th and 7th, NW. The General Post Office initially used this site as its headquarters and main post office from June 1892. In November 1898 the main post office removed to the new building being constructed at 12th and Pa. Ave. NW. In 1899 the headquarters also resituated at this latter locale. (See figure 1.)



Figure 1.

In April 1899 Station G was established with B. Parkhurst as the clerk-in-charge. It remained in the Union Building until October 1814 when it moved to F St. between 8th and 9th, NW. Eventually its name was changed to F Street Station in November 1916. During its tenure in the Union Building three individuals were in charge of its affairs, besides Parkhurst, there was

L.J. Robinson from 1903 and H. Beall from 1910. Their annual compensation was \$2000 indicating an active station, which is not surprising when one considers its location in the Washington business district. Letter carriers operating out of the station served these commercial interests.

MACHINE CANCELLATIONS

Four different machine cancellation manufacturing companies placed their machines at the station. These included the American, the Hampden, the International and the Universal. Three of these, all except the Hampden, appear to have replaced one another.

The first installed was an American Flag cancel of which there are two types, indicating the existence of two machines. This fact is confirmed by the Postmaster General Annual Report of 1901. The earliest usage that I have recorded is in September 1899 for each type, although earlier dates probably exist.

The first type is characterized by a thin (4.00mm) "G" that leans backward and has a short (1.25mm) crossbar. (See figure 2.) Langford (p.58) records usage until 1904, that is, two years after the International machines were introduced.

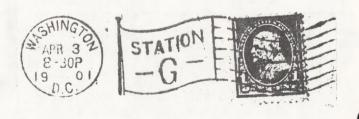


Figure 2.

For the second type, the "G" is fat (4.25mm), leans forward and has a long (1.75mm) crossbar. The latest usage that I have recorded is in early July 1902, thus it was probably removed when the succeeding machine was introduced. (See figure 3.)

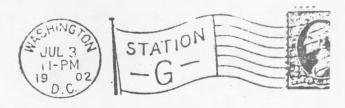


Figure 3.

As stated above the second set of machines employed at Station G were Internationals. Again two different types indicate the usage of two machines. However, the two types are easily identified by the different lettering within the seven bar killer die. Both types have been recorded from 1902 through 1913 and from Postal Information (a monthly publication of the Washington post office) one gleams that the quarterly rental was \$105, at least for the last quarter of calendar year 1906.

The first type has the lettering "Sta. G" within the seven bar killer. It is worthwhile to note that this type has been recorded with a "Washington, D.C. Rec'd" dial die, although the regular die has also been used as a receiving postmark. (See figure 4.)



Figure 4.

The second type contains the lettering "Station G" between the cancellation bars. (See figure 5.)



Figure 5.

In 1913 the third company, Universal, entered the Station G scene by replacing the International cancellations. This machine has been recorded from August 1913 for a period of 12 months (Billings, p.24). This latter date was merely a few months before the station moved to its F Street location and whether the machine was also moved is unclear at the present. (See figure 6.)



Figure 6.

In January 1900 a Hampden machine saw service at the station for a period of about 3 months. This was during the period when the American flag cancellations were the principal rapid cancelling devices. Was this an experimental use of a Hampden machine? The marking (see figure 7) was reported by Andy Buckland in Machine Cancel Forum, Volume I, page 436. It is interesting to note that similar short term usages of the Hampden machines occurred at the main post office and Station A.



Figure 7.

SUMMARY

at a site previously occupied by the the station at the Union Building on G Washington main post office. Rapid Street.

cancelling machines were employed shortly after the station's inception Station G was established in 1899 and continued in use during the life of

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Billings, Bart, Universal Stamping Machine Company, Catalog Revision No. 1, Machine Cancel Society, Zephyrhills, FL, 1990.

Buckland, Andrew, "Three New Hampdens," Machine Cancel Forum, Volume I, No. 48, April 1978.

Langford, Frederick, Standard Flag Cancel Encyclopedia, Third Edition, Pasadena, CA, 1976.



Figure 8. American flag cancel, type 1. of May 3, 1902 on cover to Boston (above); International, type 2. of Feb 21, 1907 on local cover (below).

For the second type, the "G" is fat (4.25mm), leans forward and has a long (1.75mm) crossbar. The latest usage that I have recorded is in early July 1902, thus it was probably removed when the succeeding machine was introduced. (See figure 3.)



Figure 3.

As stated above the second set of machines employed at Station G were Internationals. Again two different types indicate the usage of two machines. However, the two types are easily identified by the different lettering within the seven bar killer die. Both types have been recorded from 1902 through 1913 and from Postal Information (a monthly publication of the Washington post office) one gleams that the quarterly rental was \$105, at least for the last quarter of calendar year 1906.

The first type has the lettering "Sta. G" within the seven bar killer. It is worthwhile to note that this type has been recorded with a "Washington, D.C. Rec'd" dial die, although the regular die has also been used as a receiving postmark. (See figure 4.)



Figure 4.

The second type contains the lettering "Station G" between the cancellation bars. (See figure 5.)



Figure 5.

In 1913 the third company, Universal, entered the Station G scene by replacing the International cancellations. This machine has been recorded from August 1913 for a period of 12 months (Billings, p.24). This latter date was merely a few months before the station moved to its F Street location and whether the machine was also moved is unclear at the present. (See figure 6.)



Figure 6.

In January 1900 a Hampden machine saw service at the station for a period of about 3 months. This was during the period when the American flag cancellations were the principal rapid cancelling devices. Was this an experimental use of a Hampden machine? The marking (see figure 7) was reported by Andy Buckland in Machine Cancel Forum, Volume I, page 436. It is interesting to note that similar short term usages of the Hampden machines occurred at the main post office and Station A.



Figure 7.

SUMMARY

at a site previously occupied by the the station at the Union Building on G Washington main post office. Rapid Street.

cancelling machines were employed shortly after the station's inception Station G was established in 1899 and continued in use during the life of

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Billings, Bart, Universal Stamping Machine Company, Catalog Revision No. 1, Machine Cancel Society, Zephyrhills, FL, 1990.

Buckland, Andrew, "Three New Hampdens," Machine Cancel Forum, Volume I, No. 48, April 1978.

Langford, Frederick, Standard Flag Cancel Encyclopedia, Third Edition, Pasadena, CA, 1976.



Figure 8. American flag cancel, type 1. of May 3, 1902 on cover to Boston (above); International, type 2. of Feb 21, 1907 on local cover (below).

MARCUS NORTON PATENT #38175

ISSUED APRIL 14, 1863

MARCUS P. NORTON, OF TROY, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN POST-OFFICE STAMPS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 38,175, dated April 14, 1863.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MARCUS P. NORTON, of the city of Troy, county of Rensselaer, and State of New York, have invented new and useful Improvements in Post-Marking and Canceling Revenue and Postage-Stamps, &c.; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which drawings make a part of this specification.

Like letters refer to and represent like or

corresponding parts.

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the stamp and letter-frank-canceling device, hereinafter described, for canceling stamps issued by the Post Office, revenue, or other departments with indelible or other ink, by the means hereinafter set forth. Fig. 2 is a face view showing the post-marking stamp ready for use, and the canceling stamp or device made of wood, cork, rubber, or other and similar material, and therein inserted and more fully described hereinafter. Fig. 3 is a vertical section taken through the center of the various parts of the post-marking and canceling stamp. Fig 4 shows a marking, rating, or dating and canceling device, more fully described hereinafter, and is more especially designed for rating, dating, and canceling revenue-stamps. Fig. 5 shows a device to cancel stamps or franks with indelible ink by means of wood, cork, rubber, or similar material for type or blotter, in combination with the post-marking device, and more fully hereinafter described.

The nature of my improvements herein described consists in the employment and combination of a device for canceling postage or other stamps by means of wood, cork, or similar material inserted in a tube or recess therein for the purpose of effacing or blotting such

stamps with indelible ink.

It also consists in the combination of a canceling device having wood, cork, rubber, or any similar material for the type or blotter therein with any post-marking device, so as to blot, cancel, or efface postage-stamps with indelible ink at the same time and operation of post-marking of letters, packets, &c.

To enable others skilled in the art to which my invention relates to make and use the

same, I will here proceed to describe the construction and operation thereof, which is as follows—to wit:

I construct the post-marking stamp D of

any suitable material.

E, Fig. 3, is the mortise or recess, of suitable dimensions to receive the type for the month, the day of the month, and the year, around which is the name of the place where used, and is the same as the post-marking device described in my Letters Patent bearing date the 16th day of December, 1862, and which is secured to the cross-piece B, in the same manner and by the same means as described and set forth in the said patent, which is also the case with the canceling device C.

I construct the canceling-stamp or device C of any suitable material, of any size required in diameter, and in length to correspond to the

post-marking device D.

F, Fig. 3, is the tube or recess in the device C for the purpose of receiving the blotting or canceling device G, Figs. 2 and 5, which device is made of wood, cork, rubber, or similar material, so as to closely fit the said tube or recess F, Fig. 3. The face of this device may contain a plan or form for canceling with indelible ink, like that shown at Fig. 2, or it may have any plan or form for that purpose thought best to devise or use. This device G may project somewhat below the lower end of the said tube F, as seen at Fig. 5, and may also project below the face of the post-marking or rating device D, Figs. 2 and 3, and it may be driven out of the said tube or recess by means of a pin or bolt operating through the hole a, Figs. 3 and 5, for the purpose of repairs or to replace it by a new one. The said tube or recess G may be of any size in diameter required, or any depth desired. The said canceling stamp or device C, being thus constructed with cork, rubber, or other elastic substance for type or plotter, will receive and hold on the face thereof ink in quantities sufficient to blot or cancel the postage-stamp in such a manner as to prevent the possibility of the said postage stamp being cleansed of the canceling-ink by any chemical or other process, for the said ink would be so effectually put thereon that any attempts to remove it therefrom would entirely destroy the said postage-stamp, and thereby render the same incapable of a second or reuse. The said cork,

rubber, or other elastic substance, as afore- provements in marking and canceling stamps, said, will render the said stamp capable of an easy and rapid use, for, there being a yielding of the same when the blow is given, the operator will not tire as soon by a constant or continued use of the same as though it were of solid metal, and the same will greatly aid in raising the entire stamp from the paper and postage-stamp when the impression shall have been given by the operator. The said blotter or type can be more easily repaired or replaced by a new one at less expense than if made of solid metal. The said cork, rubber, or other elastic material may extend upward to the said cross-bar B, and there be connected to the same by a screw or pin bolt, if desired, which will be the same in effect and in operation. In no case could any fraud be committed by a second or reuse of the government stamp

Having thus described my invention and im-

what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States of America therein, is-

1. The canceling device C, with wood, cork, or rubber type or blotter G therein, or any device substantially the same, so as to cancel the postage-stamp with indelible ink, substantially as herein described and set forth.

2. The canceling device C, with wood, cork, or similar material forming the type or blotter G therein, in combination with the cross-piece B and with the post-marking device D, substantially as herein described and set forth.

In testimony whereof I have on this 29th day of December, 1862, hereunto set my hand.

MARCUS P. NORTON.

Witnesses: CHAS. D. KELLUM, URIEL DEXTER.

