



# *Cancellation Club* **NEWS**

Vol. 22, No. 1, Whole No. 215, Spring 1994

## **The 2-Cent Columbian: Postmarks, Auxiliary Handstamps and Service Markings**

**By Thomas Corette**

### **Introduction**

During a short period of 10 years (1890-1900) there is a definite gap in information on U.S. postmarks. By 1890 fancy cancels were dying out, and at the turn of the century handstamped duplexes and machine cancels had largely taken over. This transition period has been largely ignored. Duplex and machine cancels are not as exciting as the fancy cancels, and lost in the shuffle are the receiving, distribution, auxiliary and service markings. At best, these markings are found buried in the pages of books on other postmarks. Since there is a need to group them together, it is hoped this effort will serve as a starting point.

This work is limited in scope to only those markings used with the 2-cent Columbian stamp (Scott No. 231). These markings have been recorded from a variety of sources, including the author's collection, other specialized collections of the 2-cent Columbian, stamp dealers, auction catalogs, exhibits, books and periodicals. Manuscript auxiliary and service markings are not included.

The 2-cent Columbian was available from January 1, 1893, to April 12, 1894. Although shipments to postmasters stopped on December 31, 1893, the printer continued to ship the stamp to the Washington, D.C., post office until April 12, 1894. Post offices were suppose to use up the excess Columbians as soon as possible. In June 1899 the Post Office Department destroyed unsold

remainders with a face value of more than \$50,000. A study of 3,523 dated singles and covers shows that less than 2 percent were canceled from July to December 1894. In September and October 1894 the first Bureau issue made its appearance. Late uses of the 2-cent Columbian after 1897 are not listed in this study.

The markings in the following catalog are traced as accurately as possible and/or computer-generated. The information accompanying each marking includes rarity, size, color, towns and dates used.

### **Rarity**

A rarity scale is provided to give an idea of the degree of difficulty one may have in trying to find a specific marking on the 2-cent Columbian. Some postmarks may be easy to find on other stamps, but not so easy on Columbians. The rarity scale includes:

- A. Common
- B. Not common.
- C. Scarce. Hard to find. (Good luck.)
- D. Rare. Not likely to find many. (Happy hunting.)

### **Size**

All sizes are in millimeters (mm.) For circles the diameter is listed. If more than one circle has been found, the largest circle is listed first. For straight-line cancels, first the width, then the height are

provided. For triangles the width of the base is listed. Pointing hands are measured from the tip of the pointing finger to the back of the bottom part of the sleeve.

### Color

The colors of the postmarks are black unless noted otherwise. Colors not recorded are described as not recorded (NR). Magenta cancels have more red, and purple have more blue. The magentas seem to show different degrees of redness. Some are bright (very red), others dull (not so red). Except for one "pacubot" cancel, the only blue markings are from the Boston "clock" type. Red colors are common in the "registered" and "missent" markings. The few green postmarks are mostly dull in appearance. The increasing order of rarity for different colors is black, purple, magenta, red, blue and green.

### Notes

Information under each illustration is only for the marking illustrated. If more than one town used a similar postmark, it is named immediately after the first location. Dates are given if a marking has been recorded used at other times. When many dated copies exist, the earliest recorded date (ERD) and latest recorded date (LRD) are given. No doubt many postmarks associated with the 2-cent Columbian are not illustrated here. Collectors are encouraged to provide not only corrections, but also information for new listings so updates can be made.

### Backstamps

Receiving marks from New York, Boston and Philadelphia are shown. Most of these markings are from their post office stations and substations. Some markings are difficult to find because some stations did not open until late 1894, as the use of the Columbians was declining.

#### New York

The following New York stations are not listed in

the *U.S. Official Postal Guides* for 1893 and 1894: I, N, Q, U, V, Y, Z. Station markings that should exist but have not yet been seen are M, O, R and S for backstamp receiving marks on non-registered mail. On registered mail only station markings B, C, D, O, S and U were used. Substations from New York are listed in the 1893 and 1894 post office guides as numbers 1 to 23, yet there are higher numbers used in the PONY backstamps. These numbers may be carrier or distribution markings, and are probably not substation markings. The New York IBB station was used for a short time in early 1894, then changed to station H.

#### Boston

In *Boston Postmarks to 1890* by Blake and Davis the following numbers for receiving and distribution markings are noted: 1-6, 8, 9, 13, 18 and serif letters C and D (Nos. 2323-36). The 1893 and 1894 post office guides list 28 stations for Boston. The numbers 4 and 8 recorded by Blake and Davis have not been seen on a 2-cent Columbian. Numbers 7, 12, 14, 16, 17 and block letter C have been recorded but were not listed by Blake and Davis.

#### Philadelphia

Stations listed in the 1893 and 1894 post office guides for Philadelphia are A-I, K-N, P, R-W, Y and Z. Those not listed are J, O, Q and X. Substations are numbered 1 to 17 except 9 and 11. No letter after E has been found in the straight-line received markings.

### Abbreviations

ERD	Earliest Reported Date
LRD	Latest Reported Date
RPO	Railroad Post Office
NL	Night Line
PO	Post Office
REG	Registered
MS	Manuscript
MPOS	Mobile Post Office Society
MCF	Machine Cancel Forum
NR	Not Recorded



CC Corner Card  
 DLO Dead Letter Office  
 IBB Industrial Building Branch  
 PONY Post Office New York  
 MDTY Month Day Time Year  
 PO Post Office

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*U.S. Official Postal Guides*, January 1892, January 1893, January 1894 and monthly supplements.

### Book Review

Foreign Mail Cancels of New York (page 25)

### U.S. Cancellation Club News

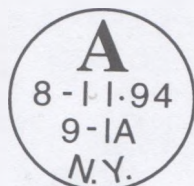
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Editor: Harlan F. Stone. Address all editorial, membership or other correspondence to Gene Schrier, P. O. Box 815, Upper Montclair, NJ 07043.

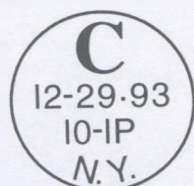
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## **New York Backstamps**



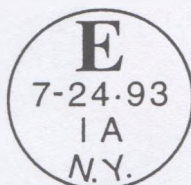
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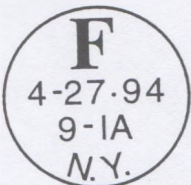
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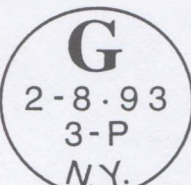
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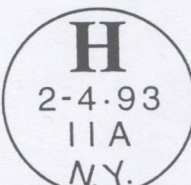
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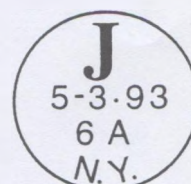
No. 5. Rarity A, 24mm., ERD  
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No. 6. Rarity A, 23mm., ERD  
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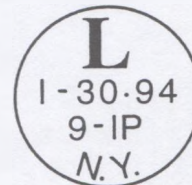
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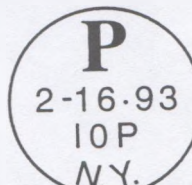
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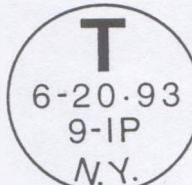
No. 9. Rarity A, 24mm., ERD  
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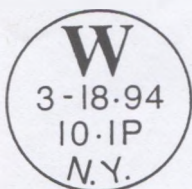


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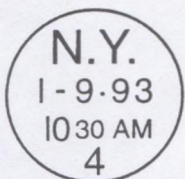


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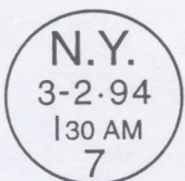




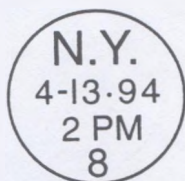
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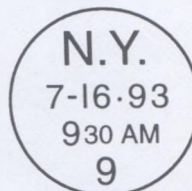
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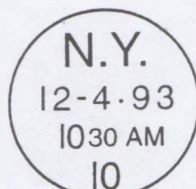
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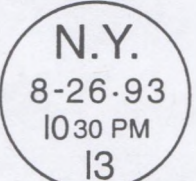
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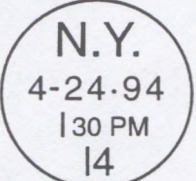
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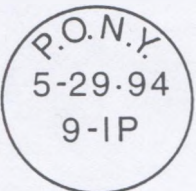
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11/26/93, LRD 6/1/94.



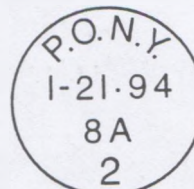
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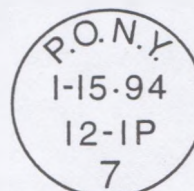
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4/24/94.



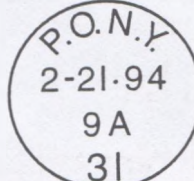
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number at bottom.



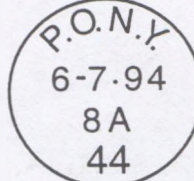
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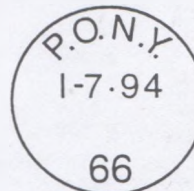
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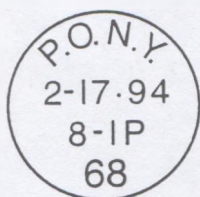
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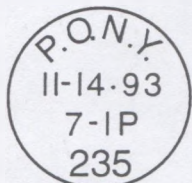
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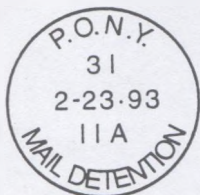
No. 27. Rarity A, 24mm., ERD  
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recorded.



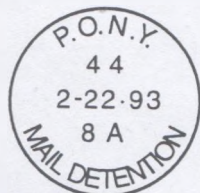
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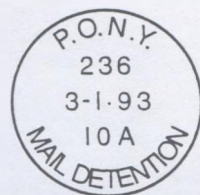
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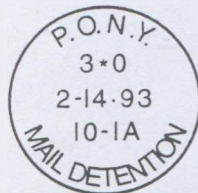
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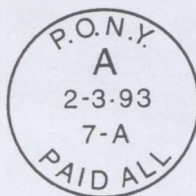
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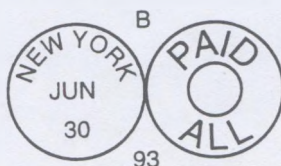
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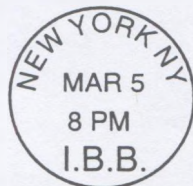
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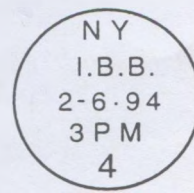
No. 34. Rarity C, 24mm.. From Portugal and forwarded in New York.



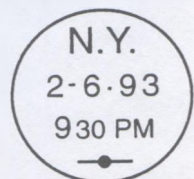
No. 35. Rarity C, 18mm. Returned from France.



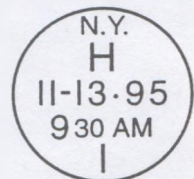
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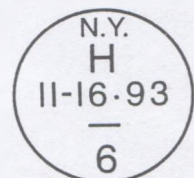
No. 37. Rarity C, 24mm., ERD 2/6/94, LRD 3/5/94. IBB receiving mark.



No. 38. Rarity A, 23mm., ERD 2/6/93.



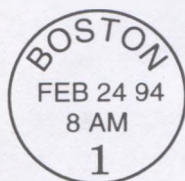
No. 39. Rarity B, 23mm.



No. 40. Rarity B, 23mm. "6" not clear.



# Boston Backstamps



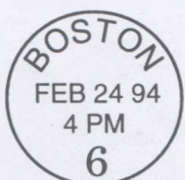
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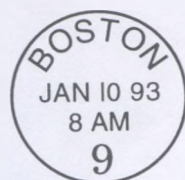
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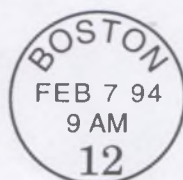
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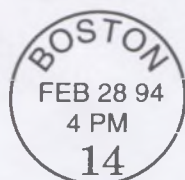
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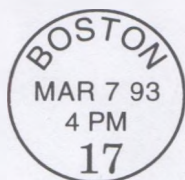
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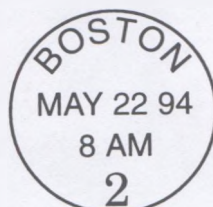
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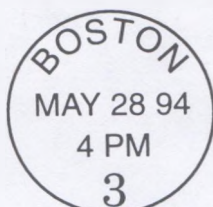
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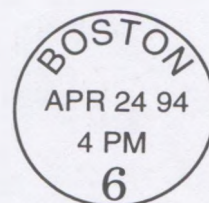
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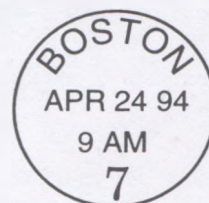
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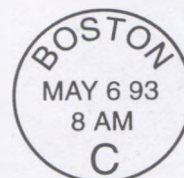
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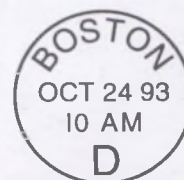
No. 11. Rarity A, 26mm., ERD 3/26/94, LRD 7/7/94.



No. 12. Rarity A, 26mm., ERD 4/24/94, LRD 7/15/94.



No. 13. Rarity B, 23mm. Block letter C receiving distribution marking.



No. 14. Rarity B, 23mm. Serif letter D receiving distribution marking.

## Philadelphia Backstamps



No. 1. Rarity A, ERD 5/15/93,  
LRD 3/9/94.



No. 2. Rarity A, ERD 8/29/93,  
LRD 3/15/94.



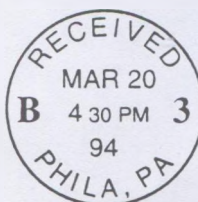
No. 3. Rarity A, ERD 5/31/93,  
LRD 10/8/96.



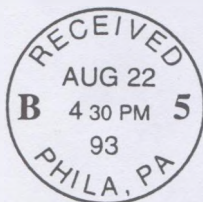
No. 4. Rarity A, ERD 9/5/93,  
LRD 3/29/94.



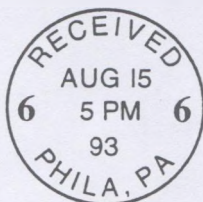
No. 5. Rarity A, ERD 8/15/93,  
LRD 4/21/94.



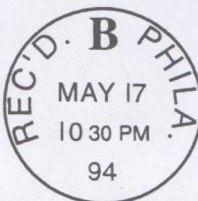
No. 6. Rarity A, 26mm., ERD  
3/20/94.



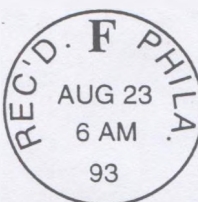
No. 7. Rarity A, 26mm., ERD  
8/22/93. Time not recorded.



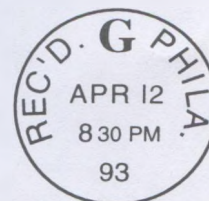
No. 8. Rarity B, 26mm., ERD  
8/15/93.



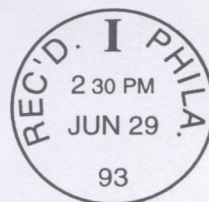
No. 9. Rarity A, 26mm., ERD  
5/17/94.



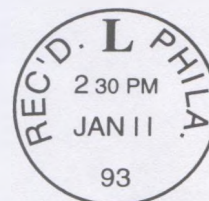
No. 10. Rarity A, 26mm., ERD  
8/5/93, LRD 8/23/93.



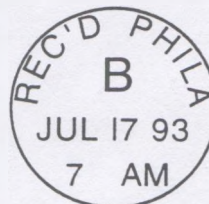
No. 11. Rarity A, 26mm., ERD  
4/11/93, LRD 7/18/93.



No. 12. Rarity A, 26mm., ERD  
6/29/93.



No. 13. Rarity A, 26mm., ERD  
1/11/93.



No. 14. Rarity A, 26.5mm., ERD  
7/17/93, LRD 2/21/94. Walter  
Wesson time on bottom.

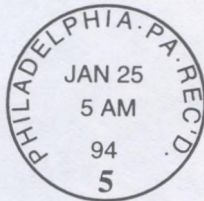


No. 15. Rarity B, 27mm., ERD  
3/10/93.





No. 16. Rarity A., 26mm., ERD 3/20/94.



No. 17. Rarity A, 26mm., ERD 1/2/94, LRD 1/25/94.



No. 18. Rarity A, 26mm., ERD 5/2/93.



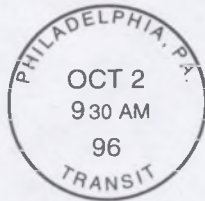
No. 19. Rarity A, 26mm., ERD 5/1/93, LRD 5/4/93.



No. 20. Rarity A, 26mm., 3-line MDTY, ERD 3/8/94, LRD 9/10/94.



No. 21. Rarity A, 27mm., 4-line MDTY, ERD 2/28/93, LRD 4/18/93.



No. 22. Rarity B, 26mm., ERD 10/2/96. Small letters.

**Insufficient Postage**

**Held for Postage**

No. 1. Rarity B, 39x4mm., magenta, Middletown, Ohio, 11/1/93.



No. 2. Rarity B, 25x11mm. Nashua, N.H., 4/24/94. Cleveland, Ohio, with serif letters, 1/20/94.

**HELD FOR POSTAGE**

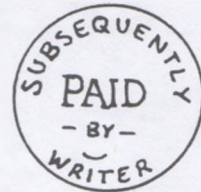
No. 3. Rarity B, 55x4mm. Xenia, Ohio, 8/18/93.



No. 4. Rarity C, 31x16mm. magenta

**U.S. CHARGE TO COLLECT 3 CENTS**

No. 5. Rarity C, 53x8mm. Mailed to San Francisco, 2/2/94 arrival marking. Similar marking with 10 in place of 3. Use unknown.



No. 6. Rarity C.

**Held For Postage.**

No. 7. Rarity B, 50x5mm., purple. Princeton, N.J., 1/22/94.

**HELD FOR POSTAGE**

No. 8. Rarity C, 28x15mm. Boston, Mass., 2/6/93. Blake & Davis cancel No. 2215.

**Held for Postage**

No. 9. Rarity B, magenta.

**RETURNED FOR POSTAGE DEC 9 1893**

No. 10. Rarity B, 28x15mm., magenta. Chicago, Ill.



No. 11. Rarity C, 22mm., purple.

DUE 2

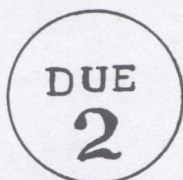
No. 12. Rarity A, 21x4mm., ERD 7/12/93, LRD 3/19/94. Philadelphia, Pa.

Due 2

No. 13. Rarity A, 31x10mm., ERD 2/23/93, LRD 2/24/94.

Due 2

No. 14. Rarity A, 25x7mm. Boston, 10/14/93.



No. 15. Rarity B, 23mm., purple. Lynn, Mass., to Kansas City, Missouri, 1/20/93.

Due 2

No. 16. Rarity B, 28x9mm. New York, 6/18/94.

DUE 2

No. 17. Rarity A, 18x4mm. Chicago to Wogansport, N.D., 6/26/93.

DUE 2

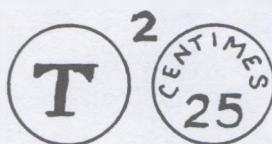
No. 18. Rarity B, 23x6mm. Trenton, N.J., 9/20/93.

Postage Due 2 Cents.

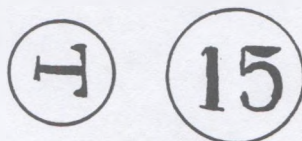
No. 19. Rarity B, 48x5mm. Canton, Ohio, to Van Wert, Ohio, 10/28/93.



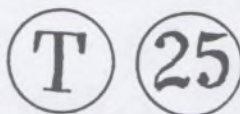
No. 20. Rarity A, 17mm. New York to Colombia, 2/12/94.



No. 21. Rarity A, 16mm. Buffalo, N.Y., to France, 6/6/93. Alcove, N.Y., to England, 3/27/93. New Jersey to England, 6/12/93. San Francisco to Germany. New York to England, 7/3/93.



No. 22. Rarity B, 14 and 18mm. Boston to Germany, 1/20/93.



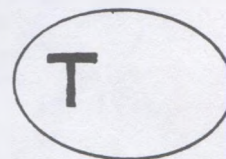
No. 23. Rarity C, 14mm. Philadelphia to Germany, 6/9/93.

T 1/15

No. 24. Rarity C, 25x10mm. Chicago to Germany on postcard, 6/7/93.



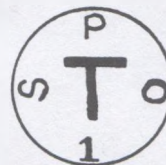
No. 25. Rarity B, 14mm. Ocean Grove, N.J., to Ireland, 8/7/93. Washington to Siam, 7/26/94.



No. 26. Rarity C, 31x22mm. San Francisco to Australia, 1/24/93. "4 d" in crayon inside oval.

20  
CTMS  
T

No. 27. Rarity C, 24x25mm. Marking on No. 26 cover. Size approximate.



No. 28. Rarity C, 21mm. Gibson, Ill., to Germany, 6/5/93. German sea post office postage due.



## Corrective Markings

### MISSENT

No. 1. Rarity A, 21x5mm., magenta. Berwick, Pa., to Hettlesville, Pa., 8/8/93.

### MISSENT

No. 2. Rarity A, 35x5mm. Atlanta, Ga., 6/5/94.  
33x5mm., Chattanooga + Meridian RPO NL,  
4/6/93; New York + Chicago RPO, 6/22/93;  
Louisville + Springfield RPO, 6/14/93.

### MISSENT

No. 3. Rarity A, 22x3mm. Atlanta + New Orleans  
RPO, 9/5/93.

### Missent

No. 4. Rarity A, 20x4mm., magenta.

### MISSENT

No. 5. Rarity B, 34x6mm., red. Crossdale, Ill.,  
3/15/94.

### MISSENT

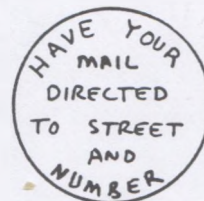
- TO -

### LOCKPORT, N.Y.

No. 6. Rarity B, 32x20mm., magenta.

### MISSENT TO LOS ANGELES, CAL

No. 7. Rarity B, 67x5mm., magenta. Sent to  
Pokegama, Cal., and forwarded to Sisson, Cal.,  
2/4/93.



No. 8. Rarity C, 26mm., red. New Orleans, La.,  
1/6/93.

Have your Letters Addressed to  
Street and Number

No. 9. Rarity B, 46x7mm., purple, Northampton,  
Mass., 2/94.

insufficiently addressed

No. 10. Rarity B, 49x6mm. On foreign mail.

Deficiency in address supplied  
by Post Office, Utica, N. Y.

No. 11. Rarity B, 64x8mm., purple. 12/30/93.



No. 12. Rarity B, 29mm., purple. Chicago to  
Charleston, N.C., changed to S.C., 3/17/94.



No. 13. Rarity C, 37mm., purple. Washington,  
9/7/93.

## RETURN TO WRITER.

No. 14. Rarity B, 49x3.5mm., green, Dunlow, W.Va., 8/1/94, with cancel No. 18 below.

## Returned to Writer.

No. 15. Rarity A, 48x5mm. Purple, Westfield, N.Y., 11/17/93. Magenta, Westport, N.Y., 9/29/93. Black.

## RETURNED TO WRITER

No. 16. Rarity A, 48x4mm. Phoenixville, Pa., 2/16/93. Yonkers, N.Y., 3/93.

## NO SUCH OFFICE IN STATE NAMED

5

No. 17. Rarity B, 68x4mm., purple. Chicago to Mechanicsville, Ind. Changed to Mechanicsburgh. 4/23/93.

## No such Office in State named.

No. 18. Rarity B, 55x4.5mm., green. Sent to Dunlow, W.Va., 8/1/94. With cancel No. 1. Changed to Dublin, Va.

## NO SUCH OFFICE IN STATE NAMED 4

No. 19. Rarity B, 49x10mm. From Boston to Bellows Falls, Mass., 8/22/93. Should be Bellows Falls, Vt.

## NO SUCH FIRM IN WHEELING.

No. 20. Rarity B, 67x4mm., purple. Wheeling W.Va., 12/9/93.

## Not Routes

1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10

No. 21. Rarity C, 50x19mm., magenta. East Orange, N.J., 1/23/94.

## Can Not be Found.

No. 22. Rarity B, 41x3.5mm., purple. Boston, 11/17/93.

## RETURNED - FOR BETTER DIRECTION

No. 23. Rarity B, 40x10mm. Hamilton, Ontario, 3/8/94.

## UNKNOWN.

No. 24. Rarity A, 27x5mm., magenta. Brooklyn, N.Y., 4/20/93.

## UNKNOWN (N.Y.)

No. 25. Rarity A, 31x9mm., purple. On "misdirected" post office label, mailed to hotel in Rockland County, N.Y., 1/1/94.

## Advertised and Unclaimed



No. 1. Rarity A, 29mm., magenta. Brooklyn, N.Y.



No. 2. Rarity A, 27mm. Bradford, Pa., 5/27/93.

## ADVERTISED

No. 3. Rarity B, 40x5mm., purple. White Oaks, N.M., 11/14/93.



ADVERTISED  
FEB 23 1893  
Spring Garden Station,  
PHILADELPHIA, PA.

No. 4. Rarity A, 40x20mm., magenta.

ADVERTISED

No. 5. Rarity B, 47x5.5mm., purple. Leominster,  
Mass., 6/30/93, with "unclaimed" cancel No. 11.

UNCLAIMED.

No. 6. Rarity A, 38x4mm., magenta. Lawrence,  
Mass., 2/4/93.

UNCLAIMED

No. 7. Rarity A, 44x5mm. Yonkers, N.Y., 3/93.

UNCLAIMED.

No. 8. Rarity B, 43x5mm., purple. Cave Springs,  
Ga., 4/29/93.

UNCLAIMED

No. 9. Rarity A, 37x4mm. Phoenixville, Pa.,  
2/16/93.

UNCLAIMED.

No. 10. Rarity A, 35x5mm., purple, Westfield, N.Y.,  
11/17/93. Rarity B, same size, magenta, Arlington,  
Tex., 10/24/93.

UNCLAIMED

No. 11. Rarity B, 36x10mm. Leominster, Mass.  
Used with "advertised" cancel No. 5.

UNCLAIMED.

No. 12. Rarity A. Paterson, N.J., to British North  
Borneo, 1/10/94. Size and color not recorded.

Forwarded

Forwarded.

No. 1. Rarity A, 25x5mm., magenta. Chicago,  
2/5/94 and 2/18/94.

FORWARDED

No. 2. Rarity A, 39x4mm. Indianapolis, Ind.,  
3/30/93. Appolo, Pa., 9/29/94.

FORWARDED

No. 3. Rarity A, 38x3mm. St. Louis, Mo., 2/5/94  
and 2/19/94.

Forwarded

No. 4. Rarity A, 29x5mm., magenta. Dublin, Va.,  
4/24 to 5/11/93.

FORWARDED

No. 5. Rarity A., 43x3mm. Columbus, Ohio,  
10/20/93.

FORWARD.

No. 6. Rarity B, 33x4mm. Fort Scott, Kans., 2/18/93.

FORWARDED  
(N.Y.P.O.-3rd Div.)

No. 7. Rarity A, 40x10mm., purple. 12/16/93.

Forwarded from Waterbury, Conn.

No. 8. Rarity A, 55x5mm., purple. 9/6/94.

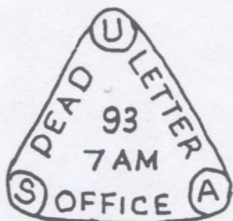


No. 9. Rarity B, 25mm. Wynne-wood, Pa., 2/19/94.

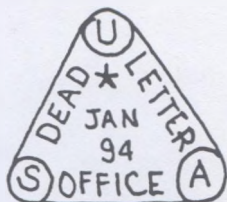


No. 10. Rarity A, 29mm., magenta, St. Paul & Helena RPO, N.D., to Adams, S.D. Changed to N.Y.

### Dead Letter Office



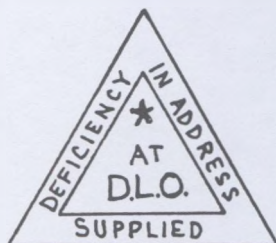
No. 1. Rarity A, 30mm. San Francisco to Ludwigshafen, Germany, and returned, 2/24/93.



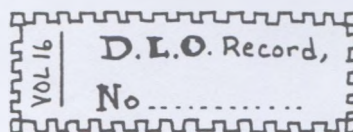
No. 2. Rarity A, 28mm. Cleveland, Ohio, to St. Wendel, Germany, and returned, 1/8/94.



No. 3. Rarity A, 28mm. Parkes-berg, Pa., to Interlaken, Germany, and returned, 7/24/94. Washington, 9/7/93.



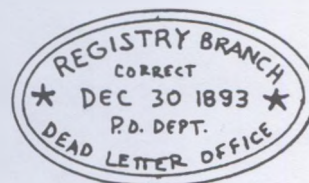
No. 4. Rarity C, 37mm., purple. Washington, 9/7/93.



No. 5. Rarity B, 46x16mm. To Ireland, 12/30/93.

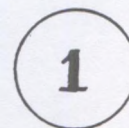


No. 6. Rarity B, 46x16mm., purple. Registered from St. Louis, Mo., to Argentina and returned, 11/5/94.

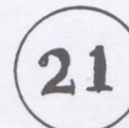


No. 7. Rarity C, 40x24mm., purple.

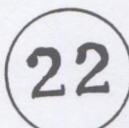
### Carrier



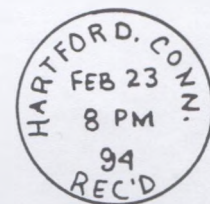
No. 1. Rarity A, 27 and 16mm.



No. 2. Rarity A, 27 and 17mm.



No. 3. Rarity A, 27 and 17mm.

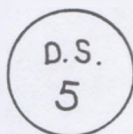


No. 4. Rarity A, 26 and 17mm.

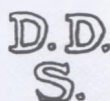




No. 5. Rarity B, 26mm.



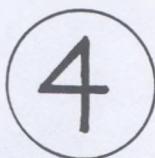
No. 6. Rarity A, 17mm., purple.  
Boston, 10/93.



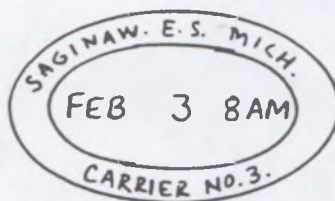
No. 7. Rarity A, 12x13mm.,  
magenta. Chicago, 3/21/93.



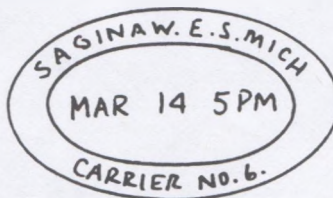
No. 8. Rarity A, 18mm., purple.  
Pittsburgh, Pa., 3/16/94.



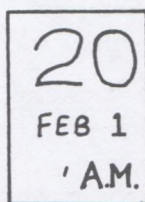
No. 9. Rarity A, 20mm. Boston,  
10/14/93.



No. 10. Rarity A, 43x28mm., red.  
2/3/94.



No. 11. Rarity A, 43x28mm., red.



No. 12. Rarity B, 18x26mm.,  
purple. Toledo, Ohio. Similar but  
without border and with number  
27, also Toledo, 11/25/93.

LETTER RETURNED TO P.O.  
NEW YORK, N.Y. BY CARRIER.  
IF THE ADDRESS ON THIS LETTER IS COR-  
RECT OR THERE IS ANY OTHER REASON  
WHY THE CARRIER SHOULD HAVE DELIVERED  
IT, PLEASE SEND THE ENVELOPE WITH  
A STATEMENT OF THE FACTS TO THE POST  
MASTER. THAT HE MAY INQUIRE WHY IT  
WAS NOT PROPERLY DELIVERED.

No. 13. Rarity B, 34x23mm.,  
magenta, New York, 3/22/93.  
Purple, New York, 7/30/93.

## Damaged

Rec'd unsealed at Cleve-  
land, Ohio

No. 1. Rarity B, 55x9mm., purple,  
12/15/93.

REC'D IN BAD ORDER AT  
HYDE PARK STA.

No. 2. Rarity B, 62x9mm.,  
6/8/93.

Received in this condition.

No. 3. Rarity B, 54x3mm.,  
magenta. Boston, 3/25/93.

RECEIVED AT NEW YORK P.O.  
(REG. DIV.) IN BAD CONDITION.

No. 4. Rarity A, 52x9mm.,  
magenta, 4/13/94.

ACCIDENTALLY  
MUTILATED BY  
POSTMARKING  
MACHINE

No. 5. Rarity C. Enhaut, Pa., to  
New York, 3/24/93.



No. 6. Rarity B, 27mm. 2/28/94.

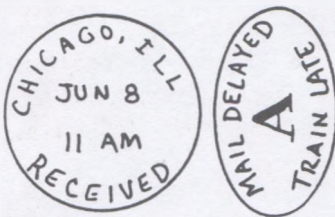


No. 7. Rarity B, 27mm., Pittsburgh, Pa., to New York, 1/5/94.

### Late Mail



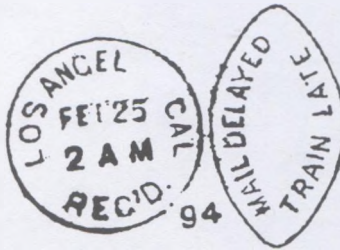
No. 1. Rarity A, 26mm. Collingsville, N.Y., to Cleveland, Ohio.



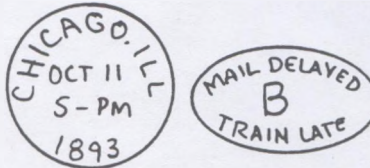
No. 2. Rarity A, 26mm., 6/8/93.



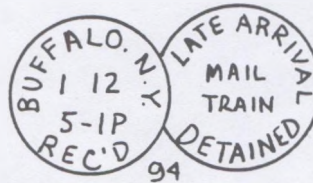
No. 3. Rarity A, 26mm. Philadelphia to Chicago, 11/18/93. Savannah, Georgia, to Chicago, 1/13/93.



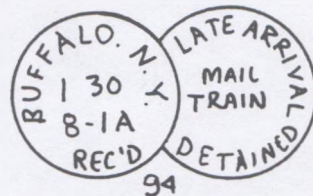
No. 4. Rarity B, 25mm. New York to Los Angeles.



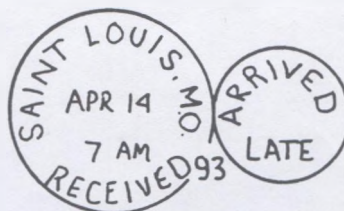
No. 5. Rarity B, 22mm.



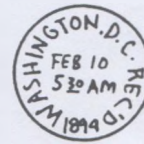
No. 6. Rarity B, 21 and 22mm., large "REC'D," T of train lined up under M of mail.



No. 7. Rarity B, 22 and 23mm., small "REC'D," T of train close to circle.



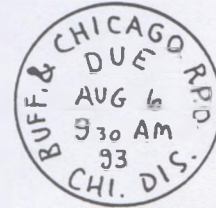
No. 8. Rarity C, 27 and 18mm. Junction City, Ohio, to St. Louis.



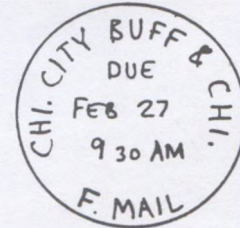
LATE MAIL

No. 9. Rarity D, 18mm. Springfield, Ky., to Washington.

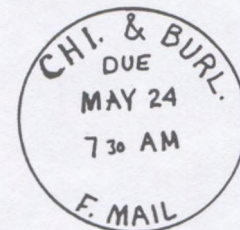
### Fast Mail



No. 1. Rarity A, 27mm.



No. 2. Rarity A, 30mm.

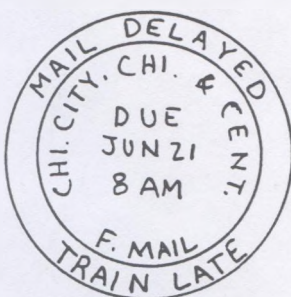


No. 3. Rarity A, 30mm. Vancouver, Wash., to Chicago, 10/10/93.





No. 4. Rarity A, 29/20mm., purple. Schenectady, N. Y., to Buffalo, N. Y., 1/31/94.



No. 5. Rarity A, 40/30mm. Baltimore, Md., to Chicago, 6/21/93.



No. 6. Rarity A, 32/25mm. Also 8/19/93.



No. 7. Rarity A, 34/24mm., purple.



No. 8. Rarity A, 34/25mm. St. Louis, Mo., to Kansas City, Mo.



No. 9. Rarity A, 32/24mm., magenta. Similar cancel with dots instead of stars at sides, from Fort Scott, Kans., to Kansas City, Mo., 2/19/93.

#### Ship, Boat and Streetcar



No. 1. Rarity C, 23mm. With ms. "please deliver on board." From Whitefield, N. H., to Southampton, England, via *Kaiser Wilhelm*. Mailed 8/27. Studd No. S24, Hosking No. 117.



No. 2. Rarity C, 24mm. Parkesburg, Pa., to Germany, mailed 7/25/94. Studd No. S24, Hosking No. 118.



No. 3. Rarity D, 18mm. Canceled San Francisco, to San Francisco, 5/22/94.

#### PAQUEBOT.

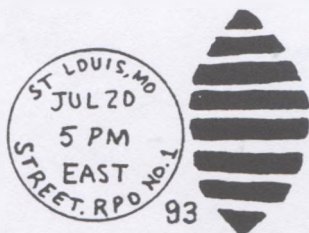
No. 4. Rarity D, 28x3.5mm., blue. To San Francisco, with San Francisco foreign division receiving mark, 2/2/94. Hosking No. 990.

#### Str. CITY of CAIRO

No. 5. Rarity D, 45x5mm., purple. Received at Chicago 4/10/94.



No. 6. Rarity C, 24mm. Also with ellipse Nos. 5 and 9.



No. 7. Rarity D, 25mm. MPOS No. SL-1Aa.

**Registered**

**Registered No.**

No. 1. Rarity A, 37x4mm., magenta. Pomeroy, Ohio, 5/93.

**Registered No. —**

No. 2. Rarity A, 45x4.5mm., purple. Charlevoix, Mich., 4/9/94.

**Registered No.**

No. 3. Rarity A, 38x5mm., purple. Plymouth, Mass., 4/12/94.

**REGISTERED**

No. 4. Rarity A, 32x5mm., purple. Cincinnati, Ohio, 6/7/94.

**REGISTERED**

No. 5. Rarity A, 37x5mm., purple. Greenwich, N.Y., 4/11/94.

**REGISTERED.**

No. 6. Rarity A, 45x6, red. San Francisco, 9/26/97.

**REGISTERED**

No. 7. Rarity A, 57x7mm.

**REGISTER.**

No. 8. Rarity A, 66x9mm., purple. Bethlehem, Pa., 4/5/94.

**REGISTERED**

**APR 12 1894**

**PLYMOUTH, MASS**

No. 9. Rarity A, 46x17mm., purple, Plymouth, Mass. Magenta, Syracuse, N.Y., 1/6/93. Magenta, Racine, Wis., 1/20/94. Magenta, San Jose, Cal., 1/4/94. Purple, Knoxville, Tenn., 11/6/93. Saginaw East Side, Mich., 5/31/94. St. Louis, Mo., 4/11/94. Kansas City, Mo., 5/13/93. Meriden, Conn., 10/4/93. Bath, Maine, 8/16/93. Springfield, Ill., 11/19/94.

**REGISTERED**

**JAN 25 1894**

**STATION C,**

**ST. LOUIS. MO.**

No. 10. Rarity A, 38x22mm., magenta.

**REGISTERED**

**APR 5 1894**

**BETHLEHEM PA**

**No. —**

No. 11. Rarity A, 48x28mm., purple.



REGISTERED,  
APR 17 1894  
Lebanon, - N. H.

No. 12. Rarity A, 52x17mm.,  
purple.



No. 13. Rarity A, 30/18mm.



No. 14. Rarity A, 36/24mm.,  
purple.



No. 15. Rarity A. 40x5mm.,  
magenta, New York, 12/27/93.  
42x5mm., magenta, New York,  
10/3/93 and 1/18/94.



No. 16. Rarity A, 44x5mm.,  
purple. Boston.



No. 17. Rarity A, 23mm. New  
York Station B receiving mark.



No. 18. Rarity A, 23mm.,  
magenta. New York Station C  
receiving mark.



No. 19. Rarity A, 23mm.,  
magenta, New York Station D  
receiving mark.



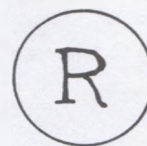
No. 20. Rarity A, 23mm., purple,  
New York Station O receiving  
mark.



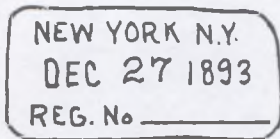
No. 21. Rarity A. 24mm.,  
magenta, New York Station S  
receiving mark. 22mm., magenta,  
4/13/94.



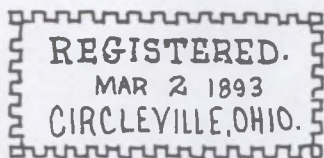
No. 22. Rarity A, 22mm.,  
magenta, New York Station U  
receiving mark.



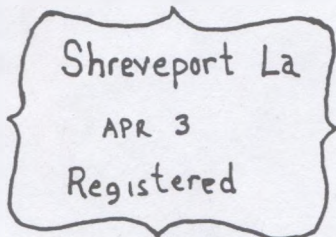
No. 23. Rarity B, 18mm.,  
magenta. New York, 4/13/94,  
registered from St. Louis, Mo., to  
Argentina via New York. New  
York, 1/28/94, registered from St.  
Louis to Canada via New York.



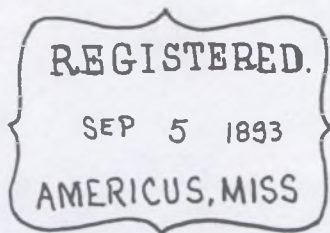
No. 24. Rarity A, 36x18mm., magenta, 10/3/93, purple, 1/18/94.



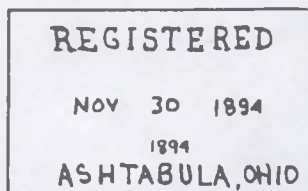
No. 25. Rarity B, 41x20mm., magenta.



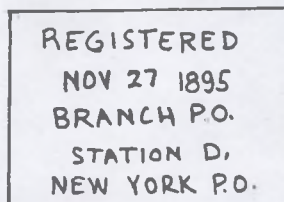
No. 26. Rarity A, 43x30mm., magenta.



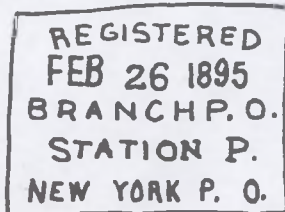
No. 27. Rarity A, 43x30mm., purple. Black, Biddeford, Maine, 8/15/93.



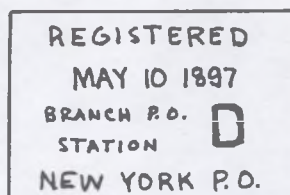
No. 28. Rarity A, 40x25mm.



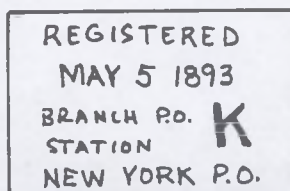
No. 29. Rarity A, 37x26mm., red.



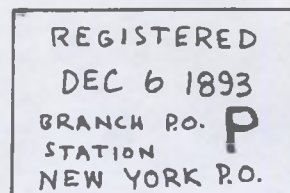
No. 30. Rarity A, 37x26mm.



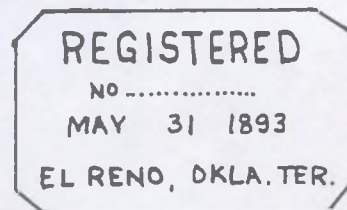
No. 31. Rarity A, 37x25mm., purple.



No. 32. Rarity A, 37x25mm., purple.



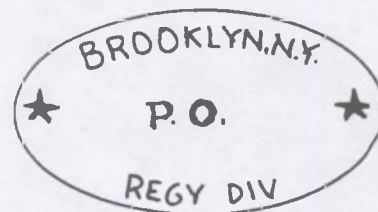
No. 33. Rarity A, 37x25mm., purple.



No. 34. Rarity A, 44x27mm., magenta.

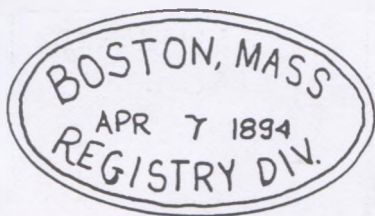


No. 35. Rarity A, 42x28mm., magenta.

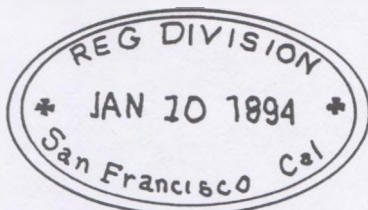


No. 36. Rarity A.





No. 37. Rarity A, 50x29mm., purple. Also 7/28/93, North Nottingham, N.H., to Boston.



No. 38. Rarity A, 47x28mm.



No. 39. Rarity A, 35x26mm. St. Louis, Mo., to St. Johns, N.B., Canada, via New York.



No. 40. Rarity A, 32x24mm.



No. 41. Rarity A, 31x25mm.



No. 42. Rarity A, 31x20mm.

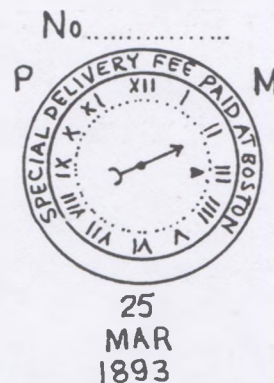


No. 43. Rarity A, 33x26mm.

### Special Delivery



No. 1. Rarity B, 53x36mm., blue. New York to Boston, 3/17/93. Greenfield, Mass., to Boston, 5/3/93. East Pepperell, Mass., to Boston, with "A" slanted to right, 1/17/94.



No. 2. Rarity B, 53x36mm., blue. Concord, Mass., to Boston.

### RECEIVED



No. 3. Rarity B, 53x36mm., blue. Warner, N.H., to Crawford House, Boston.

### OFFERED AT ADDRESS

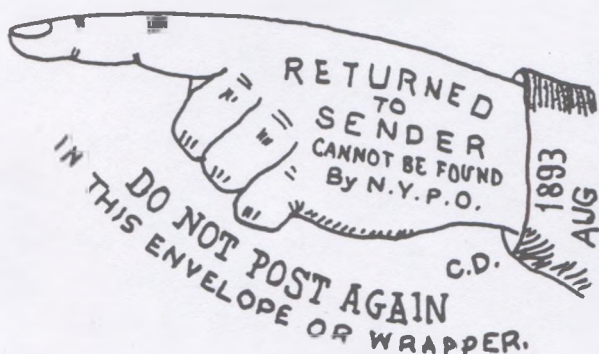
..... AT ..... M.  
CAUSE OF NON DELIVERY

No. 4. Rarity B, 55x22mm., purple. New York, 9/29/93.

MALDEN MASS  
 DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
 TIME \_\_\_\_\_  
 NO. \_\_\_\_\_

No. 5. Rarity A, 39x20mm. Brooklyn, N.Y., to Malden, Mass., 1/21/94, with special delivery stamp Scott No. E2; 9/17/93, with No. E3.

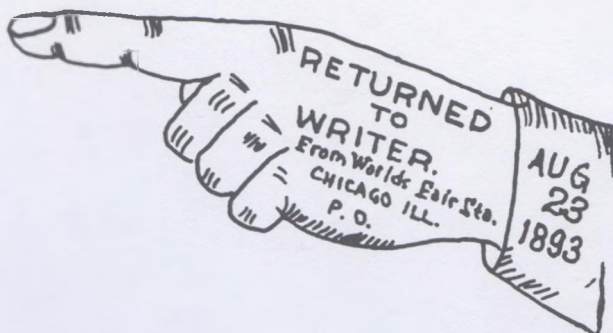
### Pointing Left Hands



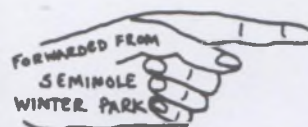
No. 1. Rarity B, 86mm., purple. Collection Division.



No. 2. Rarity B, 88mm., purple, 5/3/93.

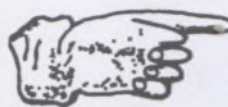


No. 3. Rarity C, 88mm., red. World's Fair Station, 8/23/93. Also 11/11/93.



TO INDIAN RIVER HOTEL  
 ROCKLEDGE.

No. 4. Rarity B, color NR. Florida.

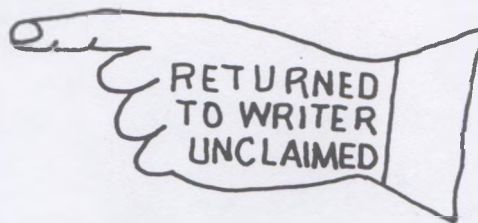


PLEASE HAVE YOUR MAIL  
 ADDRESSED TO STREET  
 AND NUMBER.

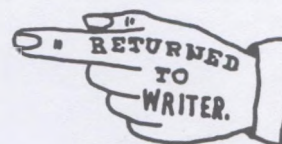
No. 5. Rarity B.



No. 6. Rarity A, 86mm., magenta.

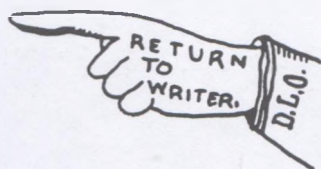


No. 7. Rarity B, 63mm. Boston, 11/17/93.

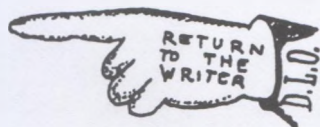


No. 8. Rarity A, 38mm., purple. Jesup, Iowa, 5/18/93.





No. 9. Rarity A, 40mm., purple. Parksburg, Pa., to Germany and returned, 8/94.



No. 10. Rarity A, 40mm., purple. Cleveland, Ohio, to St. Wendel, Germany, and returned, 12/26/93.



No. 11. Rarity A, 30mm. Ottawa, Ill., 7/15/93.

#### Pointing Right Hands



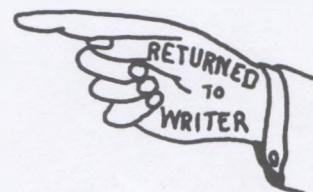
No. 1. Rarity A, 39mm., magenta, 10/3/93.



No. 2. Rarity A, 43mm., purple. Bangor, Maine, 11/19/93.



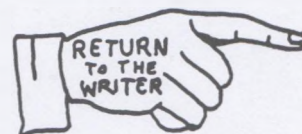
No. 3. Rarity A, 53mm., purple. Cave Spring, Ga., 4/29/93.



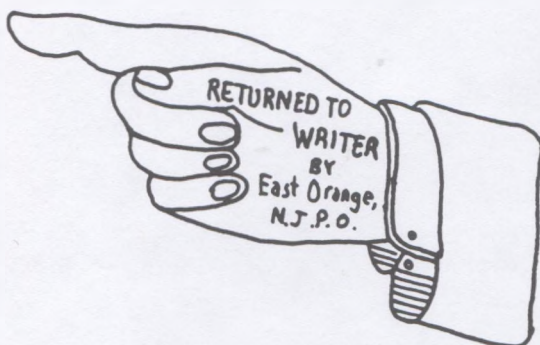
No. 4. Rarity A, 46mm., magenta. Allegheny, Pa., 9/30/93.



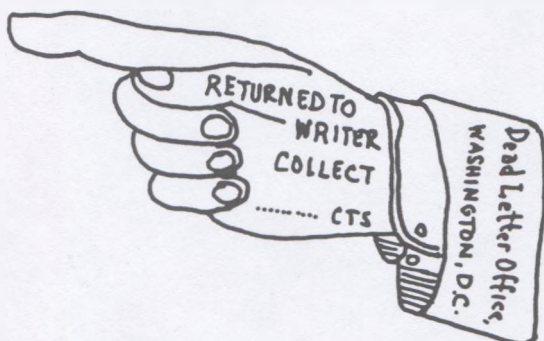
No. 5. Rarity A, 44mm., purple, 2/13/93.



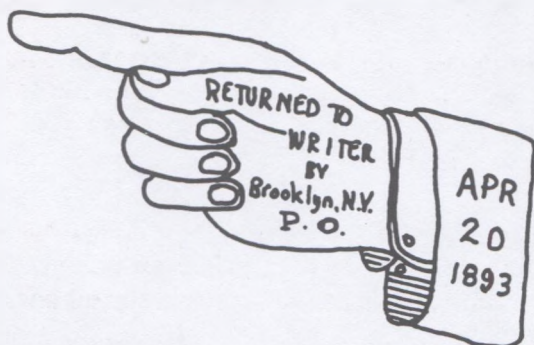
No. 6. Rarity B, 41mm., purple. Wheeling, W.Va., 12/9/93.



No. 7. Rarity A, 82mm., magenta. East Orange, N.J., 2/24/94.



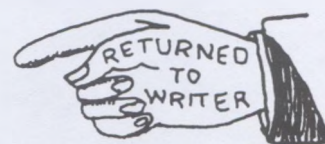
No. 8. Rarity B, 82mm., purple. Buffalo, N.Y., to France and returned, 6/6/93.



No. 9. Rarity A, 82mm., magenta.



No. 10. Rarity B, 73mm., magenta, 2/93.



No. 11. Rarity A, 43mm., magenta. Arlington, Tex., 10/24/93.

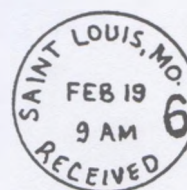
### Miscellaneous



No. 1. Rarity A, 26mm.



No. 2. Rarity B, 21mm., ERD 5/19/94, LRD 12/5/94. See MCF, Sept. 1975, p. 71. Morris Type W3-3.

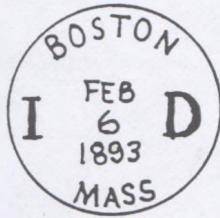


No. 3. Rarity A, 24mm, 1894.



No. 4. Rarity A, 27mm. Foreign Division. Also 2/2/94.





No. 5. Rarity B, 28mm. Inquiry Division. Blake and Davis No. 2230.

Philadelphia \_\_\_\_\_  
(Mailing Division)  
Withdrawn from the Mails  
Upon request of Writer

No. 6. Rarity C, 49x21mm., purple.

BOX CLOSED  
RENT NOT PAID.

No. 7. Rarity C, 45x9mm., purple. Portland, Ore., 7/5/94.

RECEIVED  
APR 16 1894  
CHICAGO, ILL.

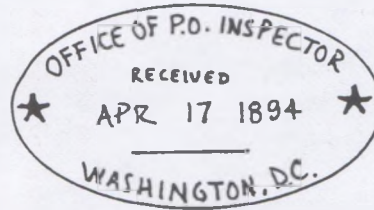
No. 8. Rarity B, 42x15mm., green. On registered cover to Canada.

SANTA BARBARA  
GENERAL DELIVERY  
MAY 24 1895

No. 9. Rarity A, 45x14mm., magenta.

Received at General Delivery  
JUN 1 1893  
New Orleans, La.

No. 10. Rarity A, 50x18mm., red.



No. 11. Rarity B, 47x30mm., purple. Mailed to Post Office Inspector.

Please do not handle this  
letter on Sunday

No. 12. Rarity C, 84x13mm., green, 11/17/93. With YMCA cc. Mailed on Friday.

## Foreign Mail Cancels of New York City

A Book Review by Calvet M. Hahn

*The Foreign Mail Cancellations of New York City 1870-1878* by William R. Weiss, Jr., 1992, 511 pages, 449 cover illustrations, 100s of off-cover examples, numerous tracings, no index, hardbound, 8 1/2"x11", on coated paper. Desktop published by author and available for \$75 postpaid (\$100 overseas) from him at Box 5358, Bethlehem, PA 18015.

Anyone familiar with Mr. Weiss through his auctions or dealer activities knows that he would use an idiosyncratic approach to publishing a book. They will not be disappointed. Most critical reviews have focused on Mr. Weiss's unusual production values rather than the high quality of his photographic illustrations. Yes, the book is larger than needed because of excessively large tracings of each foreign mail type and the large type and leading size, unusual in publishing. The lack of an index, cramming of every page with materials so there is little white space, positioning of odd numbered pages on the left rather than right, and the somewhat questionable logic of the book's order have all been commented on. For those who have the Van

Vlissingen/Waud (VW) 1968 Collectors Club of Chicago publication, it is possible the Weiss production idiosyncracies may be sufficient for them to be unwilling to invest \$75 in a new book.

While appreciating a well-designed book, this reviewer is much more interested in the quality of the content than appearance and would readily accept a photocopy book that contains a high degree of useful new material than a beautifully designed book that says nothing. As a foreign mail cancellation collector, Mr. Weiss obviously has found substantial gaps in the VW work and set about to supplement and replace it. Fellow collectors in the area need this work. Whether the more casual interest of others requires the purchase of a second work is more problematic. If they do not have the VW work, this one is definitely recommended. The remainder of this review will focus on content.

### Other Earlier Studies

As Mr. Weiss points out, early collectors referred to the New York Foreign Mail (NYFM) cancels as New York geometrics, having distinguished them from those available in other cities, such as New Orleans and San Francisco. The first work on these cancels as a specialty was Bartels' published listing in *The Collectors Club Philatelist* of 1926. This was followed by the 1933 Milliken monograph, the 31-page 1942 listing by Stewart, and 10 articles in *U.S. Cancellation Club News* in the late 1950s. However, it is the 1968 VW book that has become the standard.

Throughout Mr. Weiss's book he engages in a series of dialogs with the reader on various points. Early on he comments upon possible "creators" of the cancels (pp. 9-10). However, of the six men he records working in the NYFM Division in 1874, four were employed at least as early as July 1862, if not earlier! Mr. Weiss is specifically in error in asserting that Gregory entered New York Post Office employment "just prior to the period when NYFMs began to develop into a fancier style..." Gregory was on the payroll by July 1, 1862

Mr. Weiss places great reliance on a post office plan showing the separation of the Foreign Mail Division from other operations (p. 3) in May 1878. Unfortunately, the map is of the new post office opened August 28, 1875, well after the major use of NYFM fancies. Too, none of the dozen or so "local uses" of foreign mail cancels cited by Mr. Weiss can be dated after this move.

A more reliable map would be the one of the Old Dutch Church Post Office published in *The Collectors Club Philatelist* of July 1975, which shows separate operations but does not specifically identify the foreign mail operation. We do know there was a separate foreign mail operation at least as early as 1866 from the *Fourth Annual Address to Letter Carriers of New York*. In that the foreign department entrance is described as the "last door from Nassau St." This reviewer suspects that a separate operation could be traced back to the New York exchange office operation required under the postal treaties of the 1850s.

### Examples from 1860s

Mr. Weiss begins his listing of NYFMs with the wedges found in December 1869. He does not appear to be familiar with the discussion in the October 31, 1973, Zimmerman catalog of Leon Reusille's trans-Atlantic collection (lots 761-97). There a number of similar forerunners were recorded, suggesting that the 1870 date is rather arbitrary. Similarly, a study of major 1869 holdings and the 15-cent Lincoln indicate that a set of cancellations similar to the Bank Note NYFMs were used in the 1860s. Hubert Skinner has published almost 100 styles of NYFMs used prior to 1870.

There was need for a new classification system when Mr. Weiss decided to publish. First, the copyright holders of the VW book refused permission to use their system. Second, a more condensed and yet expandable system seemed useful to permit collectors to quickly identify cancels. The Weiss classifications appear to do this.

Earlier studies indicate that a cover census of about



700 items has been expanded to about 2,100 items by Mr. Weiss, a major contribution. Mr. Weiss obtained a group of records late in the production of this book. However, he did not incorporate 375 of the new listings into their respective chapters, a decision that makes collectors search in two locations for any analysis. I find this separate appendix a definite limitation in the value of this work.

Mr. Weiss comments on the problem of dating covers, an important problem with Bank Note covers, as a number of students can attest. There is no evidence he has used the Hubbard/Winter book on trans-Atlantic sailings to date covers where month or day information is known. It should be possible through this source to date all the pre-mid-1875 covers mailed overseas.

### **Changes in Appearance**

There is considerable comment about the problems of using overlays to check cancels. Mr. Weiss makes a good point about these problems. He also correctly notes the changes in appearance depending on whether a killer was worn or new, the angle of stroke and the humidity at the time of use. He did not go into the fine graining of a canceling device, which is particularly useful in telling whether two items are from the same device, nor the relative wear characteristics of different types of design, a study done by members of the Chicago Philatelic Society but not published. Students have raised questions about some of Mr. Weiss's classifications based on these points.

Regarding content and new information, the major contributions of Mr. Weiss are the tripling of the number of covers with data on sourcing so future students can do further analysis, the large quantity of illustrations of on- and off-cover examples, the pulling together of so much of the previously published material into one book, and a more flexible classification system than previously existed. For the Bank Note period this book is a very useful addition to the published literature.

The major drawbacks are the lack of determining date limits on NYFM operations (outside the title's purview), the confused presentation, and the long supplementary list of markings. If the recorded uses had been eliminated from the individual text listings and placed in the appendix or vice versa, this work might have made a better reference.

