



# Cancellation Club NEWS

Vol. 24, No. 2, Whole No. 227, Spring 1998

## Cancellations - United States 1861 Issue

by Abe Boyarsky

Circuits most requested by members of The American Philatelic Society are for cancellations. In the 1860's, many postmasters used their imagination to make intriguing designs using cork, boxwood or other materials. Many collectors of cancellations will concentrate on a single stamp, a single issue, or just collect manuscripts, stars, masonics or whatever one's interest and income will allow. Shown here are some examples of cancellations that exist on stamps of the 1861 issue.

Figures 1, 2 and 3 show townmarks and dates on the 1 cent 1861. There are collectors that try and complete a calendar. The 3 dates shown here are ideal because they are well centered and clear. All are in black. That was the color of ink most frequently used on this issue. Figures 4, 5 and 6 are grid type markings. Figure 4 is red, 5 is struck with blue ink and #6 was used in Cincinnati, Ohio. Figure 7 is a series of V's. Figure 8 first appears to be a crossroads cancel but actually is a patent cancellation that cuts into the stamp. Figure 9, which is a 2 cent Jackson, shows a shield used in Cambridge, Mass. Figures 10 and 11 show examples of

rosette cancellations. If one were to exhibit cancellations, the question might arise as to which of these two stamps would be the best to show. I would choose the stamp that has the best and darker strike, but the final choice would be in which stamp compliments the other stamps that are on the same page or in the same group. Figure 12 is a leaf design and Figure 13 is a geometric. Figure 14 is a petal cancel from Alexandria, Virginia, and is struck in green. Figure 15 is a grid cancel that is blue. Figures 16 through 27 are all on the 10 cent stamp. Figure 16 is the New York sunburst and Figure 17 is the San Francisco cogwheel. Figure 18 is the Boston, Mass. "PAID" in frame. Figure 19 shows a dotted grid marking. Grids and



Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3



Figure 4



Figure 5



Figure 6



Figure 7



Figure 8



Figure 9



Figure 10



Figure 11



Figure 12



Figure 13



Figure 14



Figure 15



Figure 16



Figure 17



Figure 18

(Continued on page 19)



Dear Reader,

Enclosed with this issue is a flyer announcing USCC auction #1. Let's hope it will be a success and the first of many to follow! Member support by providing material for future auctions is, of course, essential and we all are urged to check through duplicates and any material that doesn't fit in with current interests to see if there are items that might be consigned. Please be guided by the yellow flyer that went out with the Winter 1998 NEWS. And good luck to all bidders!

As mentioned previously, the USCC will be holding its annual meeting and seminar this year at the Philadelphia national show that runs October 2-4. At that show, we are sponsoring a single-frame (16 page) exhibit competition devoted to cancellations. Club officers have committed to exhibit but we want to involve as many club members as possible. Unfortunately, response thus far has been very limited. Our plans are discussed on page 2 of the Winter 1998 NEWS and I appeal to club members to consider submitting a one-frame exhibit. If interested - even if it is just to learn more - please contact Tuck Taylor at (610)388-2558 or at his address on the masthead for answers to questions and to receive a prospectus. As with the auction program and everything else we do, success depends on member involvement.

An election of officers for the 1999-2000 term will be held later this year and we invite suggestions to the nominating committee which is composed of Carl Stieg, Tuck Taylor and Roger Curran. If you would be willing to serve in one of the positions listed below or if you wish to recommend another club member, please come forward as soon as possible. The committee will identify a nominee for each position. Also, five or more club members, acting together, may formally nominate persons whose names will automatically appear on the ballot. Contact any nominating committee member (see addresses on the masthead) if you wish to volunteer service, offer a suggestion, or make a formal nomination.

The election will cover the positions listed below. An abbreviated statement of duties for each position is provided.

President. Presides at occasional board meetings (see below) and otherwise provides general supervision over officers and committees. (Such meetings are typically handled through telephone conference calls.)

First Vice President, Second Vice President, Governor-at-Large. Serve as members of board and perform such other duties as the President or Board may assign. The First VP presides at board meetings in absence of President.

Secretary-Treasurer. Serves as a member of the board, keeps official records, and performs membership and financial operations.

The board has full power to manage the business and affairs of the Club except as otherwise provided by the Bylaws. A copy of the Bylaws will be sent to any member upon request.

## The U.S. Cancellation Club NEWS

Published four times a year by the U.S. CANCELLATION CLUB and included with membership. The U.S.C.C. is APS Affiliate #75.

Annual Dues: \$12.00 per year. Address inquiries to: Roger Rhoads at the address below.

Address library inquiries to: William H. Bauer, PO Box 519, Unadilla, NY 13849-0519

Back Issues through 1997 are available at \$2.00 each postpaid. 1998 issues, \$3.00. Discount of 10% on orders of 25 or more issues. Address inquiries to: Roger D. Curran at the address below.

Address all other communications to the NEWS editor: Roger D. Curran at the address below.

## U.S.C.C. Officers

Roger D. Curran, 20 University Ave., Lewisburg, PA 17837  
.....President

Thomas O. Taylor, 19 Ingleton Circle, Kennett Square, PA 19348.....1st Vice President

Carl L. Stieg, 260 Merrydale Rd., #15, San Rafael, CA 94903.....2nd Vice President

Roger Rhoads, 1313 Newbridge Dr., Lockport, IL 60441.....Secretary/Treasurer

Robert Trachimowicz, 118 East St., Uxbridge, MA 01569  
.....Governor at Large

## Advertising Rates

Full Page.....	\$60.00
Half Page.....	30.00
Quarter Page.....	15.00
Column Inch.....	4.00

On another matter, if there are subjects you would like to see covered in the NEWS, please let me know. We are eager to address your interests. Also, contributions to the NEWS, be they long or short articles, are especially solicited. Indeed, it is vital that more contributors to the NEWS step forward. And if we can assist through some writing/editing support, we'll be pleased to do so. Let us hear from you!

Roger Curran



(Continued from front page)



Figure 19



Figure 20



Figure 21



Figure 22



Figure 23



Figure 24



Figure 25



Figure 26



Figure 27



Figure 28



Figure 29



Figure 30



Figure 31



Figure 32



Figure 33

concentric circle cancellations on the 1861 issue are the most common. However, Figure 20 is a red grid and Figure 21 is a concentric circle in orange. Figure 22 is a star in a serrated circle and Figure 23 is a leaf design, both from New York City. Figure 24 is a numeral 5 and Figure 25 is a series of Vs. Figure 26 is a star in circle and Figure 27 is a geometric. I have found that well-centered cancellations on the 12 cent stamp are rare. Figure 28 depicts a heart cancel. Figure 29 shows a Shield of David cancellation on the 24 cent stamp. Figure 30 shows another type of cog cancel from San Francisco with 14 cogs. Figures 31 and 32 show two different leaf cancels and Figure 33 is a sock-on-the-nose cancel from Cincinnati, Ohio, struck in blue on the 30 cent stamp.

(NOTE: Abe Boyarsky is a past president of the U.S. Cancellation Club and is currently working on a definitive study of shades on the United States 3-cent stamp of 1861.)

## U.S.C.C. Winners

### William H. Bauer

Reserve Grand, gold and USCC, USPS and PHS awards: Sarasota NSE  
"Colorado, 1858-1876"

### Stanley P. Bednarczyk

Gold and APS 1900-40 medal  
Peach State Show  
"The Chicago Street Railway Post Office and Postmarks"

### Alan C. Campbell

Gold: March Party 1998  
"United States Official Stamps, 1873-1884"

### John M. Hotchner

Reserve Grand (display class): Ameristamp Expo  
"The Little Red - The 1934 U.S. Christmas Seal"

### Clyde Jennings

Ameristamp Expo  
Gold: A B-I-I-I-I-G Bellyache  
(with Francis Dixon)  
Silver: "Gittin Thar (Rebeles for Getting There)"  
Silver: "Ya Gotta Have Balls"  
Gold and AAPE creativity award:  
"The First U.S. Half Penny Postage Stamp"  
(with Jay Jennings)

### James E. Lee

Vermeil: St. Louis Expo  
"Domestic Uses of the 1 cent 1861-67 Issues"

### Robert L. Markovits

Ameristamp Expo-single frame  
Platinum: "Stanton 7-Cent Postal Stationery"  
Gold: "14-Cent Indian 1922-1938"  
Vermeil: "5-Cent United Nations Stamp of the United States: A Tribute to FDR"  
Silver: "Cheapskates: Reuse of Postal Cards and Cut Squares, 1855-1960"

### Norman Shachat

Gold: March Party 1998  
"Philadelphia-French Packet Mail"

### Thomas O. Taylor

Vermeil: March Party 1998  
"Capitol Classics - a Study of Pre-Stamp Washington, D.C. markings"



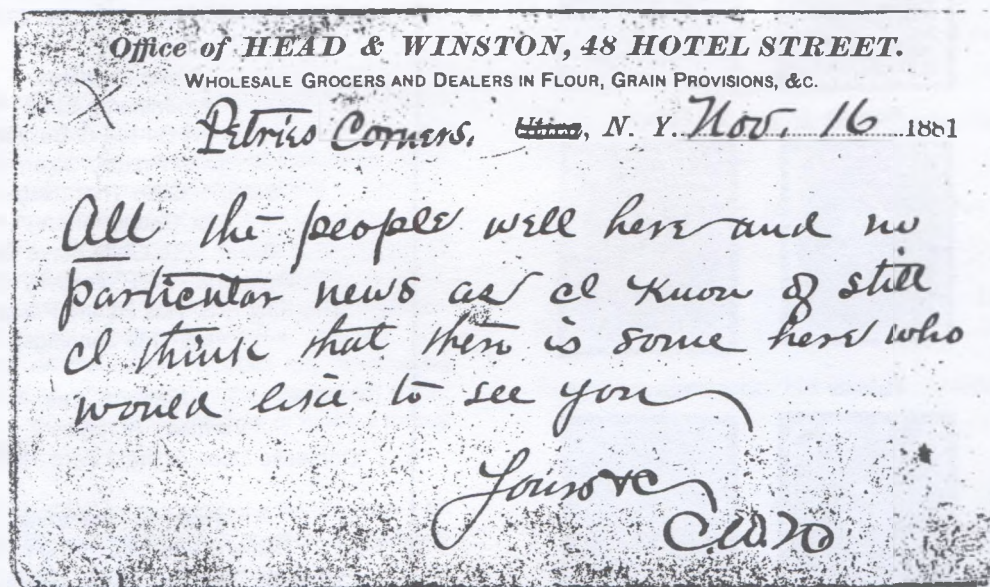
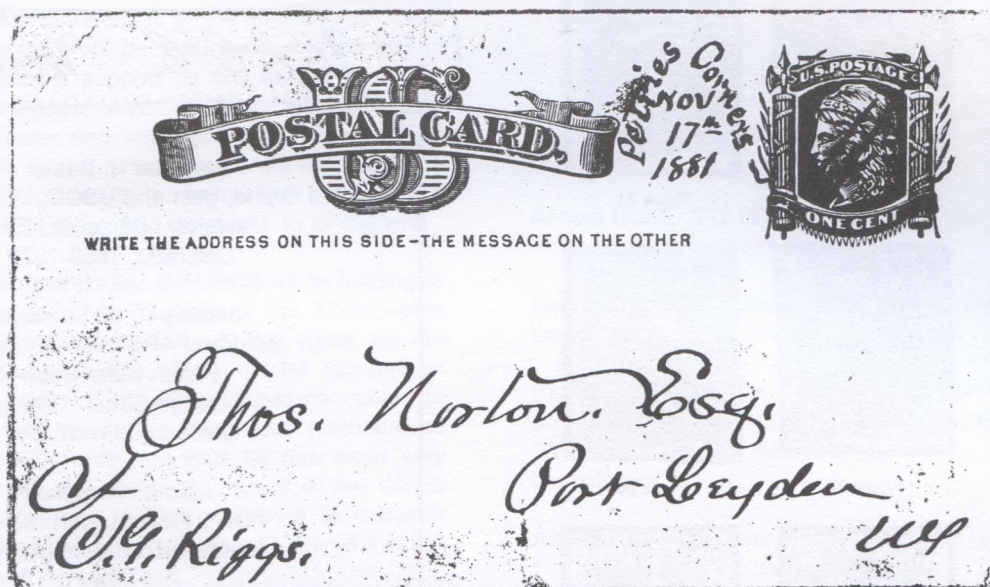
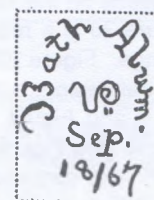


Figure 1

Gerald Wiley sent in the postal card illustrated in Figure 1. It bears a carefully applied manuscript townmark as follows: "Petries Corners/NOV/17th/1881." It appears that the person who wrote the message on Mr. Wiley's card was the person who "postmarked" it. The manuscript postmark is printed whereas the message is in script but there is a similarity in overall appearance. Especially noticeable is the dash under "P" in "Petries."

This postmark is similar to one discussed in an interesting article by Walter I. Plant in the January 1952 Cancellation Club Quarterly which is reproduced herewith.



THE BATH ALUM PEN CANCEL  
By Walter I. Plant

Speaking of Pen and Ink Cancellations, also known as "Manuscript Cancellations", as was Mr. Art V. Farrell in our Quarterly of July 1951, it is agreed that our experts look upon such killers with an eye of indifference as well as



with an eye of suspicion as regards authenticity, with the general result that ALL such marks have been placed in the "no good - not wanted" class.

One instance that comes to mind at this time is the Weston, Mass. goose quill "W". Those who can recognize and identify the goose quill as against the steel pen variety from the same city, have an item that is rare as well as one that should be much desired.

Another is being presented herewith from the writers collection, in the form of an excellent tracing by Ken Whitfield, one of our members. This item incidentally has brought "water" to the mouths of many collectors who consider themselves "experts". It comes from Bath Alum, Virginia, is off cover and appears on a #65 stamp dated Sept. 18, 1867. A survey of the Postal Guide of that period tells us that Bath Alum was located in Bath County. Incidentally the famous Hot Springs of Virginia are also located in that county, no doubt both of these offices were located close to each other.

It is to be assumed that Bath Alum was a small office handling only a small amount of

outgoing mail, else the P.M. could not have had time to use his pen and ink canceller very often. It is quite evident that he was something of a penman because his work is a fine example of penmanship. It is particularly noted too, how he uses the first two figures of the year 1867 to serve also as the date of the day of the month. All in all his work runs into the making of what many who have viewed this cancellation, place in the "gem" class in the field of postal markings.

It would be interesting to know if any other member has a specimen of this particular item. It is being shown at this time to refute the flat statement that Manuscript Cancellations lack interest as well as being not desirable.

Bath Alum covers do occasionally come on the market and one of at least two that were in the collection of Perry Sapperstein is shown as Figure 2.

Comments and more information about either marking are eagerly sought.

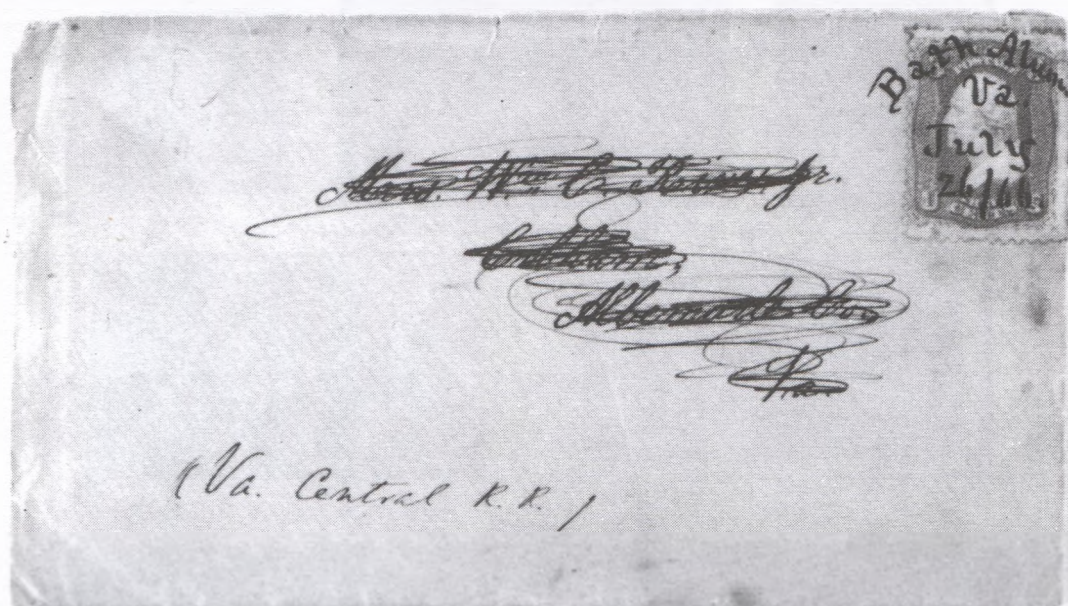


Figure 2

#### Additions to U.S.C.C. Membership Roster

Booth, Raymond and Betsy	4579 Clover Hill Circle	Walnutport	PA	18088
Campbell, Alan	2746 29th St.	San Diego	CA	92104
Costello, Vincent	318 Hoffnagle St.	Philadelphia	PA	19111
Foster, William D.	608 W. 40th, #1	Kansas City	MO	64111-2932
Horan, Michael J.	46 Olney Rd.	Wethersfield	CT	06109
Loschiavo, Christopher J.	315 W. Carolina Ave.	Crewe	VA	23930
Pascale, Ronald J.	42 Fairfield Ave.	Westport	CT	06880
Perilstein, Stephen E.	221 Meetinghouse Lane	Merion	PA	19066-1224
Roth, Steven M.	1280 21st St., N.W., #209	Washington	DC	20036
Stambaugh, James D.	220 Wakeman Ave.	Wheaton	IL	60187
Tesmer, Dr. Irving	127 Fayette Ave	Buffalo	NY	14223-2707
Vetter, Richard E.	7258 Beechwood Cr.	Watervliet	MI	49098
Winkelman, George	4435 Heatheridge Dr.	Janesville	WI	53546
Wisconsin State Hist. Society	816 State St.	Madison	WI	53706-1488



# Rating Numeral "3" as a Canceler

by Roger D. Curran

The era of stampless mail in the U.S. largely ended on January 1, 1856. Prepayment of postage by stamps was then required on domestic mail except for drop letters. Prepayment itself on such mail, by money or stamps, was required as of April 1, 1855.

Rating numeral handstamps, designed for use on stampless mail, were sometimes employed simply as obliterators of stamps rather than to signify the rate assigned to a letter. On 1847-issue stamps, "5" and "10" handstamp markings are most commonly seen. This is not surprising since, at the time, five cents was the domestic rate for single weight letters conveyed under 300 miles and ten cents for distances over 300 miles. Since the overwhelming percentage of mail during the 1847-1851 period was still sent without stamps, "5" and "10" markings were in more or less constant use and would have been conveniently available to serve as obliterators when stamped letters were processed.

I have not seen a "3" canceling an 1847-issue stamp but the "3" is seen with some frequency on 1851 and 1857 issues. This owes, of course, to the fact that in July 1851 the prepaid domestic rate was reduced to three cents for single-weight letters conveyed up to 3,000 miles, thereby creating a demand for "PAID 3" and "3" handstamps. An example of a "3" used to rate a stampless cover is shown in Figure 1.

The post office best known for using a "3" as a canceler is Leominster, Massachusetts. The Leominster "3", which is a stock style, is noted on 1851, 1857 and 1861 issue stamps. An example on an 1851 issue is shown as Figure 2. The Leominster "3" was viewed by many as a precancel since strikes are bold and typically impressed well within the margins of the stamp being canceled. However, an article by Lester Downing in the October 1964 *Chronicle* quite effectively lays that idea to rest. And a cover submitted by Arthur Beane, Jr. showing the Leominster "3" tying the stamp to the cover, was

Figure 1

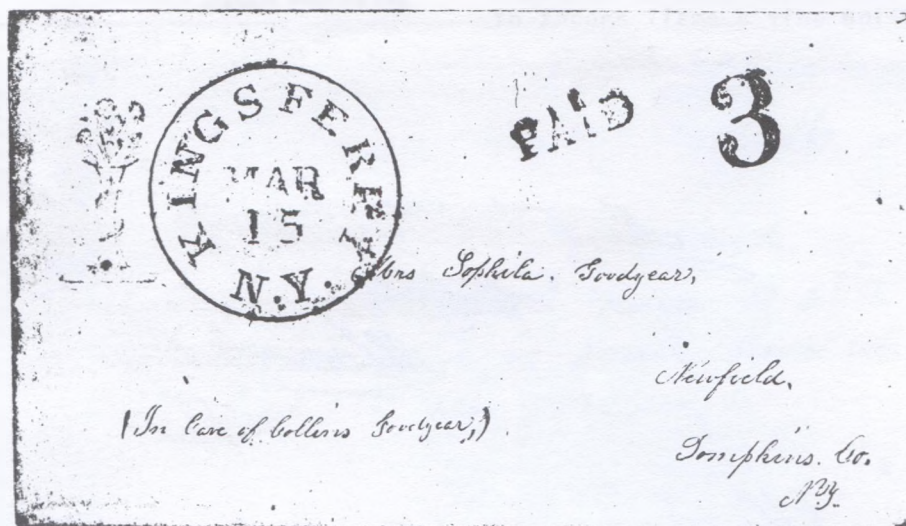
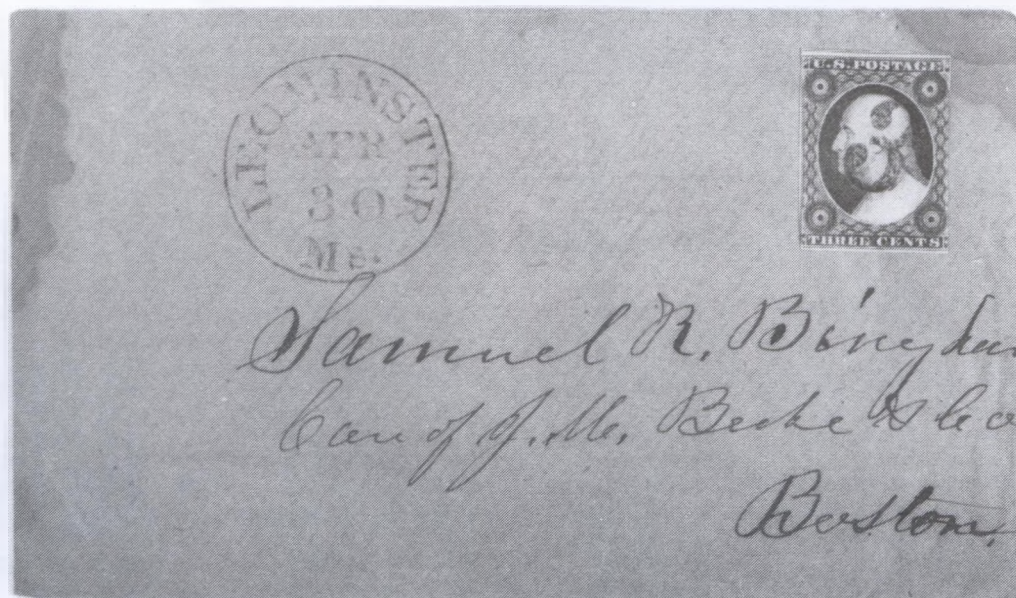


Figure 2





shown in the Spring 1984 NEWS. Instances of a "3" as a canceler on issues later than 1861 are rather scarce and become progressively more so on succeeding issues. We illustrate in Figures 3-6 some on and off-cover examples. Double strikes are occasionally noted as illustrated by Figure 7. An unusual and quite distinctive "3" is shown on a 3 cent 1861 issued in Figure 8. I have no idea what post office used it.

Numeral "3" cancels on the 3 cent National without grill (Scott 147) are, in my experience, scarce but not rare. I have seen no examples on 3 cent 1873 or 1879 printings, although they surely exist, perhaps in a fair number. In my own collection, there is but one example of a "3" on each of the following: 3 cent re-engraved (Scott 207), Scott 210 and Scott 213. Examples of a "3" on any Bank Note era stamp



Figure 3

Figure 4  
Strafford, Vermont

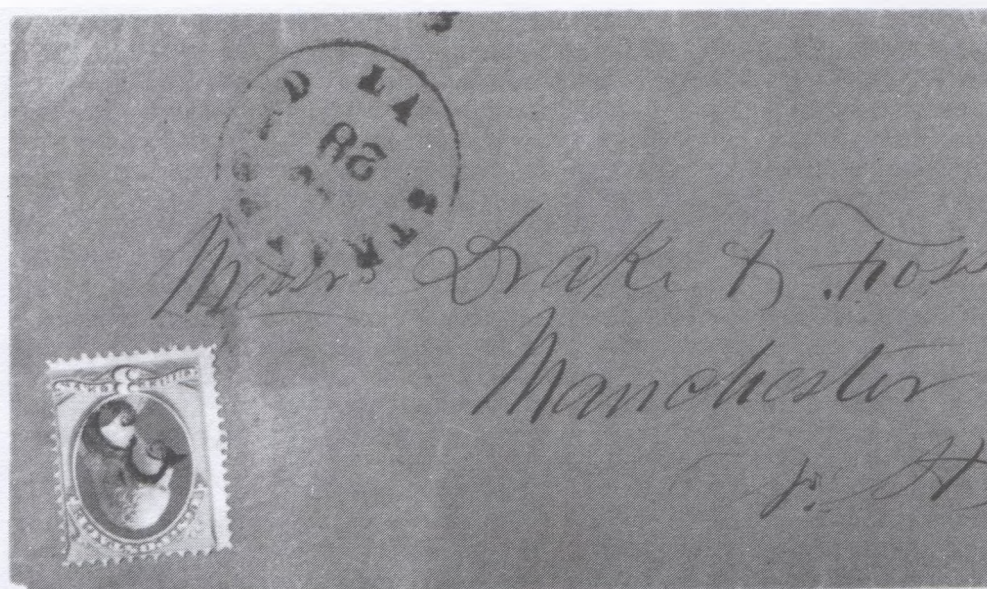






Figure 5

Williamson, N.Y.



Figure 6

Libertyville, Iowa

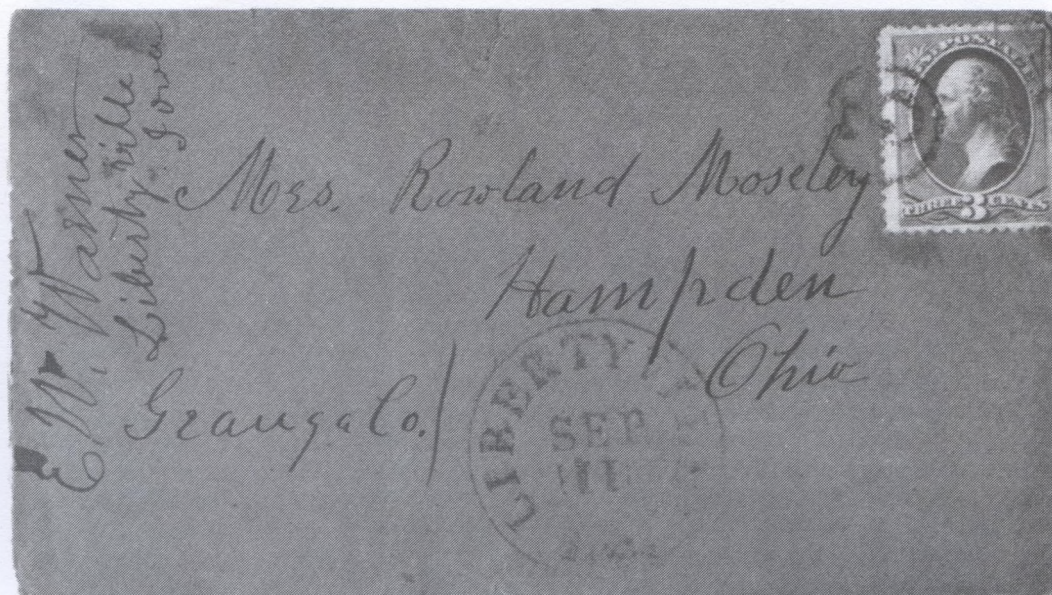






Figure 7



Figure 8



Figure 9

other than that paying the domestic, out-of-town letter rate should, in my opinion, be considered very scarce, at least.

The Strafford, Vermont "3" (see Figure 4) on Bank Note stamps is listed in The Postal History of Vermont by Slawson et al. Slawson reports two other towns using a "3" on Bank Note era stamps: a "3" in circle from Wallingford and the well-known and very large "3" from South Woodstock. In the 1985 Congress Book, Frank Mandel reported (pages 81-2) that the large "3" (Figure 9) is not recorded used by South Woodstock during the 1850s. We cannot assume, of course, that all numerals are from the stampless era. In the case of South Woodstock, it appears that the postmaster prepared or had prepared a "3" specifically to cancel 3 cent stamps and a large "1," which has also been noted, to cancel 1 cent stamps.

In the 1979 edition of Simpson's U.S. Postal Markings, forty-two "3" rating numerals, in one form or

another, are listed with the origin identified for all but four. The Skinner-Eno Book, United States Cancellations, 1845-1869, lists about 20 "3" markings that appear to be "stampless" and identifies the origin of twelve. Cole's Cancellations and Killers of the Banknote Era, 1870-1894 lists seven "3" markings, that appear to be "stampless" with no origins noted. In his The United States Two Cent Red Brown of 1883-1887, Mr. Willard listed one "3" cancel that he considered to be an old rating numeral. Salkind's U.S. Cancellations 1890-1900 shows two "3" cancels, appearing to be "stampless," with no origins noted. Based on this, I think we can say that the use of a rating numeral "3" as a canceler of stamps, particularly in the years 1861 and beyond, is an area ripe for further research.

Table 1 is a preliminary and no doubt very incomplete summary list of the stamp issues on which a rating numeral "3" has been seen. A companion table would be one that lists the towns of origin of specific "3" cancels. We eagerly seek additional reports of covers and off-cover stamps for an expanded article in the future.

#### Stamps Canceled by a Rating Numeral "3"

Issue	Scott#
1851	9,11
1857	24,26
1861	63,65
1869	112, 114
1870-1	147, 152
1881-2	207
1883	210
1887	213
1890-3	220

Table 1

#### Reference Books

Your editor is moved to write a few words in praise of reference books and all who contribute to them. It really goes without saying that such works contribute greatly to one's enjoyment and understanding of any field and this surely includes the collection of cancellations and postmarks.

I acquired the stamp in Figure 1 recently because of the cancellation. It rather looks like a machine cancel but, given only three bars, seemed unusual. With the idea that it might be a precancel, I consulted Silent Precancels, a catalog by David W. Smith published in 1995 by the Precancel Stamp Society. In short order one learns that this cancel is a precancel from Chicago, is known on seven different values of the Columbian issue, and has been reported used by the Chicago Mail Order House. Quite a detailed description of the dimensions of the cancel was also presented. Now this stamp can go in an album with a couple of sentences about the cancel - how nice!



Figure 1

The book contains several indexes including one arranged by the number of bars and it was an easy matter to check those with three bars reported on Columbian issues and then zero in. Well-conceived indexes to aid collectors in accessing the large amount of data in a reference work such as this are, of course, invaluable.

Thanks to David Smith and his collaborators and to all who do such work.



# More From Central Falls

In the last issue of the NEWS, we discussed the fact that Central Falls, RI was the only post office to use Wesson Time-On-Bottom handstamps after 1900. Bob Payne submits a late usage with a remarkable aspect. Illustrated in Figure 1, it is a first day cover for the two cent Lincoln stamp! To cap it off, there is a nice Janesville CDS and flag cancel as a received marking on the back.

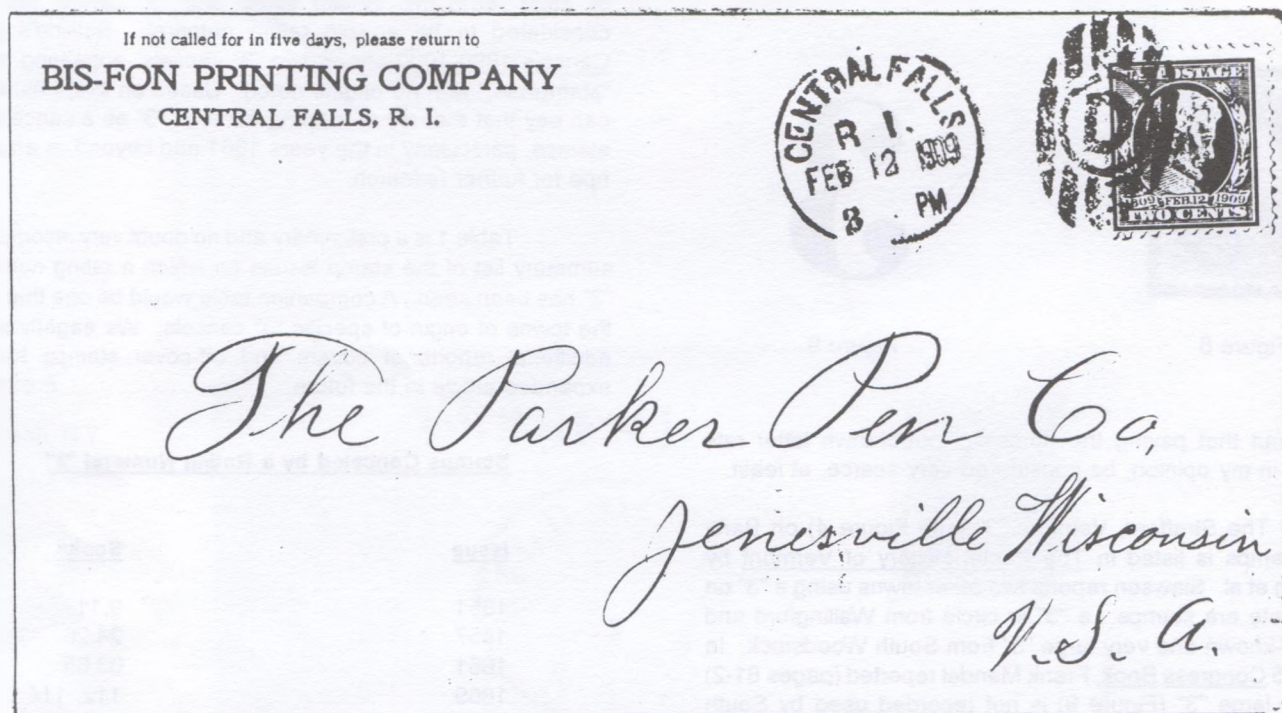


Figure 1

## More on Offsets

by Roger D. Curran

On pages 5-8 of the Winter 1998 NEWS, two 1863 New York cancels were discussed that may have been the product of a machine. Extremely important to this analysis is the presence on the back of the covers of mirror-image offsets. On one cover the offset is very clear (considering that it is an offset) and on the other is rather ghost-like but nonetheless present.

A canceling machine with a feed mechanism would have sent letters to a spot where canceling dies were automatically struck. If no letter was in place when the canceling dies were activated, the dies would have deposited the ink on the underlying surface on which the letter was supposed to be resting. Then, when a letter came through and was canceled, the force of the canceling strike would have pressed the back of the cover down on the inked impression left by the die when it struck the underlying surface. While it is true that mirror image offsets are also seen that result from simply placing handstamped letters on top of one another after processing, such offsets are typically very unclear.

Having stated all of the above, which was covered in the earlier article, there is one point that should have been emphasized by your editor but wasn't. This concerns what has been called the "registration" of the front marking on the two covers to the offset on the back. In the case of the April 8 cover, the offset on the back is essentially exactly under the marking on the front; that is, the registration is essentially exact. The postmark on the front of the letter thus was just above the underlying surface that received the earlier strike,

This point strongly suggests that there was a feed mechanism involved that placed the letter in a specific spot to receive the strike because the likelihood that this exact registration would be found on letters postmarked by a regular handstamp or mechanical handstamp is remote, indeed. The offset on the March 28 cover is not clear enough to be precise about its registration with the postmark but it certainly appears to be close.



### Red Maltese Crosses

In response to our discussion of Maltese cross cancels in the last issue, Warren Bower directs attention to the red Maltese cross cancels used by Boston on postage due stamps in the early 1880s. Warren reviewed these in an article entitled Cancels Used at Boston on Bank Note Era Postage Due Stamps in *The United States Specialist* of May 1976. They are illustrated here as Figures 1-3. Figure 1 was used in 1880. Figure 2 is considered to have been used in 1881 based on one year-dated cover and two others wherein the shades of the postage due stamps "... tend to confirm the 1881 date." The Figure 3 cross is scarce on and off cover. Warren reported a single cover dated April 26 that also bears a 3 cent re-engraved postage stamp, Scott #207. He presumes an 1882 year date, in part based on the fact that #207 has not been reported used before October 1881. For a fuller presentation on these killers, the above-mentioned article is recommended.



Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3

Another example of a red Maltese cross is illustrated in Figure 4, this time from Washington, D.C. Insofar as I know, these red inks were used by the Washington Post Office only on local or city mail and not on letters transmitted to other post offices.

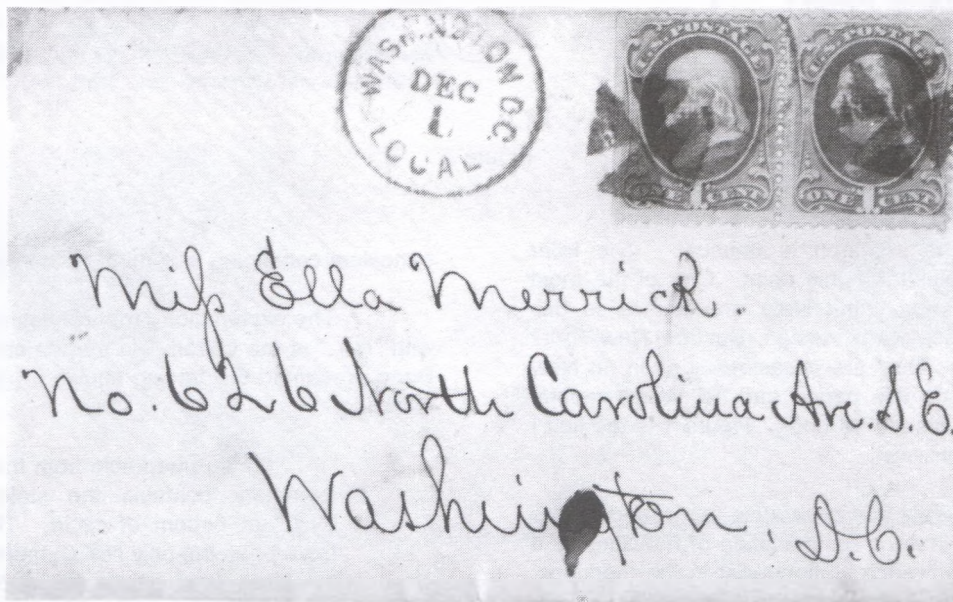


Figure 4

### Pop Quiz

Much has been made in these pages about the introduction of handstamps that duplexed the townmark to a killer in August 1860. This happened because the Post Office Department no longer permitted post offices to cancel stamps with the townmark.

However, some years before, at least one post office used regularly for some months a killer that was duplexed to another postal marking. We're not considering here a marking such as the New York "ocean mail" marking which included a small round 8-bar grid as one aspect of an overall townmark design. Nor are we considering any other single marking that had two purposes, one of which was to cancel a stamp. What we have in mind is a true duplex handstamp containing two totally separate and distinct markings, one of which is a killer.

If you know the answer, please write your editor at the masthead address. We'll publish the names of those submitting the correct answer in the next NEWS and illustrate the marking in question.



## Unusual New York Killer

by Roger D. Curran

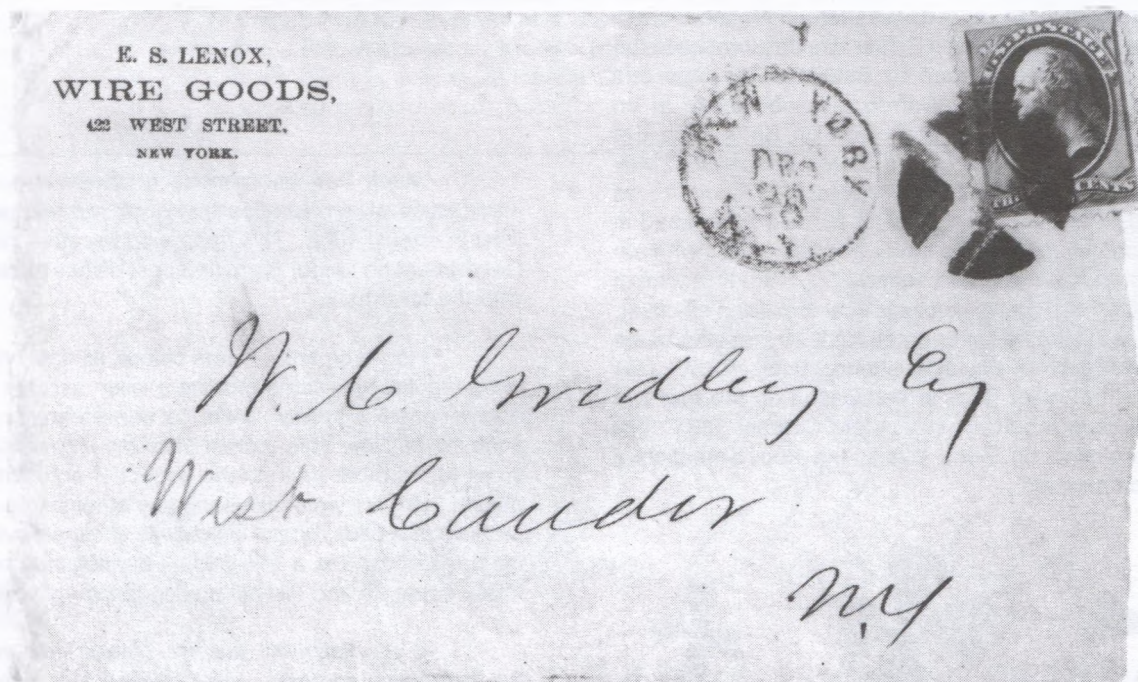


Figure 1



OFFICE OF  
**E. S. LENOX,**  
 Successor to  
 LAWTON & LENOX,  
 No. 422 WEST STREET,

*New York, Dec 28 1876*

Figure 2

Sometimes the common is unusual. The killer depicted in Figure 1 illustrates this point. One of the most frequently seen killers on Bank Note era stamps is this "quartered cork" or "cross-roads" design. But from New York? Not in my experience. They are occasionally seen on New York foreign mail during this period and Bill Weiss reports several such killers in his NYFM book. Figure 1 is the first I have noted on domestic mail.

I assumed initially this cover was processed by the main NYPO because there is no indication of handling by a branch station; i.e., no branch station letter in the markings. And I thus thought it rather remarkable that the enclosure was datelined December 1876 (see Figure 2). After all, as has been discussed previously in these pages, the hand carved killers used by the main NYPO, incorporating a number or other design, were replaced in May 1876 by metal ellipse

cancelers containing a number in the center.

The explanation probably lies with the unusual CDS with "N.Y." at the bottom. In the March 1968 NEWS, Arthur Bond presented the tracing shown in Figure 3 and said the following:

"... (it) is remarkable from the fact that the townmark contains the state designation "N.Y." at bottom of circle. This seems to have been the only N.Y.C. marking indicating the state at any time before 1889. It was used at Stations D and E and is found with positive and negative killer letters on both city and out-of-town mail from 1873 to 1877."

Actually, I believe an 1850s New York CDS with "N.Y."



(perhaps without the periods) has subsequently been noted and I know the Figure 3 CDS has been seen with killers bearing letters from additional branch stations. But, other than the Figure 1 cover, I am not aware of any uses of this CDS type without an accompanying killer showing the station letter. Nonetheless, because of the CDS and the date, I'm quite confident that the cover did originate at a branch station.



Figure 3

It should be pointed out that Bond's tracing shows a time slug and the Figure 1 CDS does not. However, given the "N.Y." at the bottom, the very similar circle diameters, and the wide spacing between "NEW" and "YORK," I believe they do represent the same CDS type.

Comment is invited as is information on other uses of NYPO "cross-roads" killers on domestic mail.

#### "PAID" Twice

by Roger D. Curran

Figures 1 and 2 illustrate stamps with a similar but unusual aspect. They each bear two "PAID" cancels. The cover in Figure 1, addressed to Boston, entered the mails at Amherst, Mass. The stamp on the left was canceled by a sideways strike of a "PAID/3" as illustrated in Figure 3.<sup>1</sup> After the Boston post office determined that the addressee was located back in Amherst, a stamp was placed in the upper right hand corner to pay the forwarding fee and canceled by a well-known Boston enclosed "PAID" marking. Since the stamp on the left corner had only been lightly canceled at



Figure 2

PAID  
3/10

Figure 3

Amherst, the Boston postal clerk canceled it further with his "PAID" marking.

Figure 2 is a Scott no. 149. These stamps are usually seen on mail addressed to Germany or Austria.<sup>2</sup> This item bears a black horizontal, albeit upside-down, "PAID" and a vertical red "PAID (ALL)" running down the left side. We can speculate that the cover (1) originated at a small town since, by the time this stamp was issued, such "PAID" markings were used as cancelers just about entirely, if not entirely, by small post offices, and (2) was routed to New York for probable dispatch across the north Atlantic to one of the countries mentioned. The "PAID ALL" is known as a marking of the foreign section of the New York Post Office.

<sup>1</sup>Linn, George W. The PAID Markings on the Three Cent U.S. Stamp of 1861, Sidney, Ohio, 1955, page 82.

<sup>2</sup>Brookman, Lester G. The United States Postage Stamps of the 19th Century, Vol. II, D.G. Phillips Co., Inc., North Miami, FL, 1989, page 225.

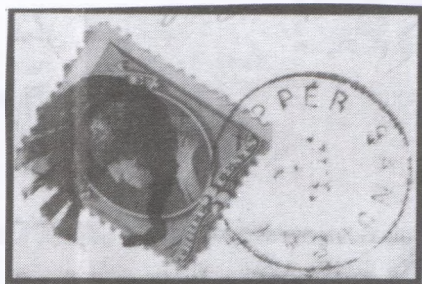
Figure 1





## Bought at the Bourse

Although the actual cancels below will not show clearly, they are all very fine strikes.



Indian Head, Cole #JO-118  
Upper Sandusky, OH  
3 cent BN \$100 on piece



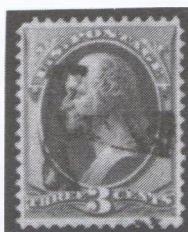
Indian Head, Cole #JO-118  
Upper Sandusky, OH  
Sc 158  
\$250 off-cover



Indian Head  
Similar to Cole #JO-161  
Sc 210 \$175 on piece



Indian Head  
Similar to Cole #JO-161  
Sc 184  
\$125 off-cover



Axhead  
SC 147  
Off-cover  
\$175



These cancels represent items purchased from dealers in recent months and are provided as a guide to the membership as to availability. Please share your buys by sending to the editor a sharp photocopy or tracing along with a description of the stamp or cover, city of origin and year of use (if known) and the price paid.



## New Early Date - Cincinnati Duplex

by Roger Curran

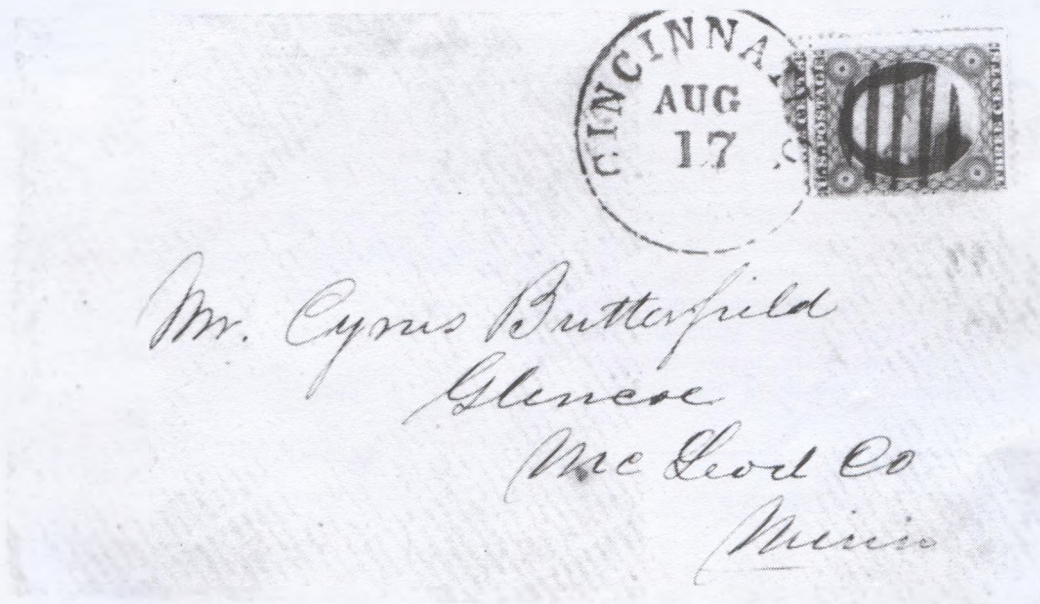


Figure 1

In the Spring 1996 NEWS, we discussed the introduction of handstamps in Cincinnati that duplexed a CDS to a killer. No doubt this innovation was occasioned by the July 23, 1860 postal regulation that forbade use of the CDS as a canceler of stamps. An August 20, 1860 cover bearing a Cincinnati duplex was illustrated. The article also mentioned that a Cleveland duplex marking dated August 17, 1860 was reported in 19th Century Cleveland, Ohio Postal Markings published in 1991 by the Garfield-Perry Stamp Club.

Comes now an August 17 Cincinnati duplex marking in dark blue ink illustrated in Figure 1. Although there is no enclosure, docketing, or other marking with an 1860 date, I believe we can be confident that it is 1860 since a smaller, double circle CDS and killer style was introduced by mid-October 1860, apparently as a replacement for the large circle CDS and killer.

To recap briefly, we have the New York Post Office introducing a duplexed CDS and killer at least as early as August 8, 1860 and now two Ohio cities vying to be proven the second earliest user of such handstamps. If any reader has August 1860 covers bearing duplexed handstamp markings, or records of such covers, from cities other than the three mentioned, or from those cities that would serve to push back the dates reported, please let me know. Any and all contributions will be gratefully acknowledged in the NEWS.

**"U.S. Due"**

Dick Wrona submits the Black Jack illustrated in Figure 1 bearing what appears to be a cut cork geometric killer and, in a more intense black ink, a "U.S. Due" marking. Dick asks about the origin and meaning of the "U.S. Due." Your editor has found no reference to it in the literature and can offer no speculation. Are there readers who are familiar with it? Have other examples been noted? Please write the NEWS if you can shed any light on this intriguing marking.



Figure 1



### Information Requested

John Roberts writes to ask about two cancels in his collection. The CDS and two strikes of the first cancel are shown in Figure 1. The CDS reads "MOUNT PLEASANT/UTAH/ FEB/23/1887." John's hand-drawn representation (not actual size) of the cancel is shown as Figure 2. He wonders if there is some possible association of the fleur-de-lis with the postmaster. Could he have been French? Probably not, at least insofar as the cancel being uniquely associated with that postmaster. It appears that the killer may have been a stock style as Figure 3 illustrates what is perhaps the same killer design duplexed to Dalton, New York CDS. However, in his book on the 2 cent red brown of 1883-87, Edward Willard illustrated four similar killers which he believed were all hand carved. One enclosed a three-leaf clover, one a club and only one, as he viewed it, enclosed a fleur-de-lis. That killer was used by Lansing, Michigan. The others were unattributed. Readers are encouraged to submit information about or additional examples of this attractive fancy cancel.



Figure 1



Figure 2

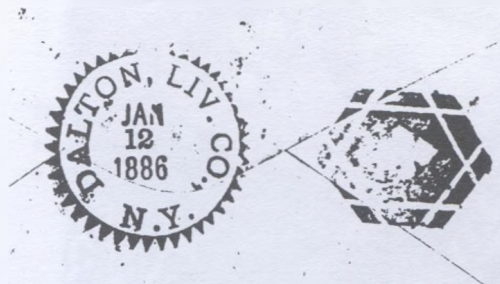


Figure 3

The second killer involves a less clear strike and will undoubtedly not show well in the Figure 4 illustration. John thinks that it may have been intended as a smoking train with the number "88." His hand-drawn representation (with some filling in) is illustrated in Figure 5. Is any reader familiar with the cancels used by the New York & Chicago R.P.O. or of this particular cancel? If so, please write.



Figure 4



Figure 5

### Dealer Alert

The *NEWS* is planning to print a listing of all dealers who are members of the club. Unfortunately, the staff doesn't know all of you and your specialties. So that our data is current and complete, please send the appropriate information to Roger Rhoads. You should include not only your specialties but also such things as whether you have a mail auction and catalog, a net price list, travel the show circuit, sell by mail only, will send approvals, etc. Please don't procrastinate and be left out.

