



# Cancellation Club NEWS

Vol. 24, No. 3, Whole No. 229, Fall 1998

## The 'Local' Duplexes of 1887-9 for the District of Columbia

by Carl L. Stieg

Beginning in 1873, the Washington Post Office used special duplex "L" markings for local mail. The latest such duplex I have seen is dated March 12, 1909, but since I only collect this material through 1910, there could well be later usage of which I am not aware.

There is a gap between August 28, 1886 and April 17, 1889 for these "L" duplexes in my collection (or reported to me by others). However, there is a group of duplex markings, dated from October 17, 1887 to February 17, 1889, with a "C" in the ellipse killer (nine bar) seen only on local mail and with no identifiable relationship to any post office "C" related. I am convinced that these "C" duplexes are 'local' cancellations, which supplanted the "L" duplexes for this short period, although I can advance no explanation as to why such a change should have taken place.

The 1886 "L" duplex is practically identical with the "C" duplexes.

Illustrated are:

Figure 1 - August 28, 1886 "L" duplex; 28mm

diameter cds. (Thanks to Bill Sandrik).

Figure 2 - October 17, 1887 "C" duplex;  
29mm diameter cds. (Thanks to Bill Sandrik).

Figure 3 - January 12, 1889 "C" duplex;  
29mm diameter cds. (Thanks to Roger Curran).

Figure 4 - December 27, 1890 "L" duplex; 25  
1/2mm diameter cds.

To complicate the matter a little further, there is also a series of postal markings with a "C" in both the dial and the killer (Figures 5, 6, 7 and 8), which I have recorded for November 1887 through March 1896 and an experimental machine cancel of 1892, all of which I have always considered to be Station C postmarks. (Thanks to Bob Payne for the illustration of the Figure 8 cover.) These have been seen on both local (seldom) and out-of-city letters. Smith and Kay, in The Postal History of Maryland, the Delmarva Peninsula and the District of Columbia, list Station C as opening August 7, 1882.

(continued on page 51)

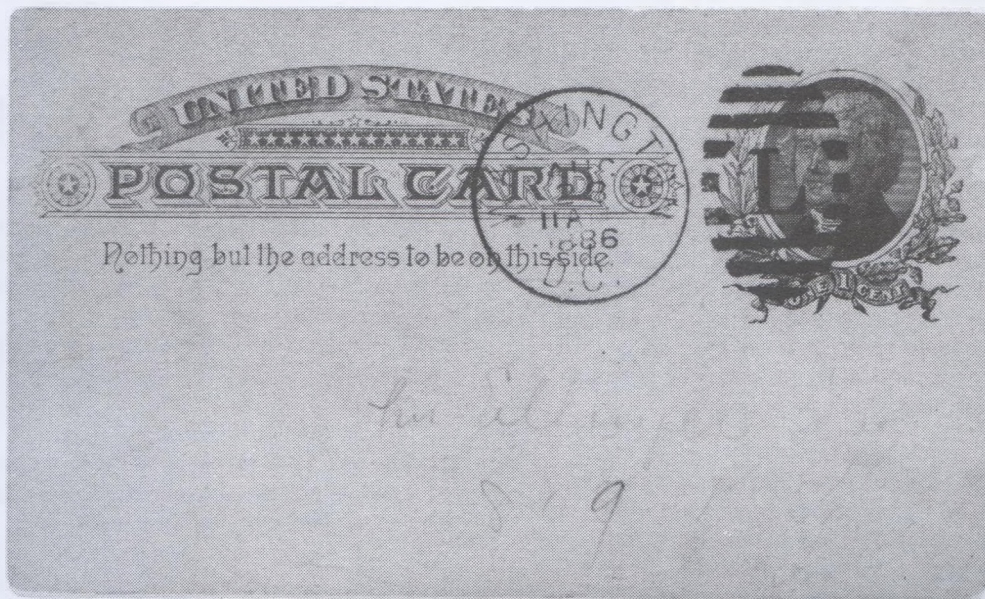


Figure 1



Dear Reader,

As advertised, the U.S. Cancellation Club's annual meeting and seminar was held October 3 at the Philadelphia National Stamp Exhibition (PNSE). There were 12 in attendance: officers Roger Rhoads, Tuck Taylor and Roger Curran; members Vince Costello, Tom Corrette, Tom Mazza, Ray Koch, Arthur Beane (and Mrs. Beane), and visitors Bruce Baryla and Linn's columnist Len Bellman.

The subject of the seminar was a discussion of the five one-frame USCC exhibits. This included brief presentations by the exhibitors themselves as well as comments by Tom Mazza, who judged the exhibits, on their strengths and weaknesses. Many thanks to Tom for his very thoughtful and constructive remarks. It all made for a lively and enjoyable discussion with much audience participation. The winning USCC exhibit was that of Roger Rhoads entitled "New York City Cancellations on the First Postal Card." Congratulations to Roger on an excellent presentation of a very interesting subject. And thanks to all USCC members who submitted an exhibit, including Jim Wrobliske for his six frame exhibit on the U.S. two cent issue of 1883-1887 that included a large and excellent section devoted to cancellations. As noted elsewhere in this issue, sets of photocopies of each of the one-frame exhibits are available for purchase. Check out the subjects covered and, if of interest, I encourage you to order a set.

The U.S.C.C. won the PNSE club competition award which consists of a large wooden plaque with brass plates identifying winners over the years. We get to keep the plaque until the show next October. And we have already received a challenge from the Pennsylvania Postal History Society for 1999. This society has won the award several times in the past but did not enter this year. So we will redouble our efforts for 1999 and hopefully keep the plaque comfortably located where it is now! I believe I can speak for all those entering a one-frame exhibit this year in reporting that the process of putting together the 16 pages needed was a most interesting and educational experience and, while definitely taking some time and effort, was a manageable undertaking even for those of us who had not done it before. In short, it is fun, produces a sense of accomplishment and provides an opportunity to inform others about an interest we have. Next year we look forward to more member participation. Start thinking now about what exhibit you might develop!

Enclosed with this issue is a combined dues notice and ballot for club officer elections. Please take a few moments to complete and return the form as soon as possible along with your dues check. Incidentally, if you have suggestions for additional activities for the club to consider, or areas where we could improve what we are currently doing, please let us know by jotting a note on the back of the form. Our club exists, of course, only to meet the needs of its members, and your views and ideas are essential to meeting that objective. Let us know what's on your mind.

You'll note that the dues for 1999 are increased from \$12.00 to \$14.00. The Board of Directors found this to be necessary for the reasons outlined by secretary-treasurer Roger Rhoads elsewhere in this issue. Please know that we are very conscious of our responsibility to operate economically and keep the dues as low as is feasible.

## 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: \$14.00 per year. Address inquires 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 inquires to: Vince Costello, 318 Hoffnagle St., Philadelphia, PA 19111.

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

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Full Page.....	\$60.00
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Quarter Page.....	15.00
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Also enclosed is the catalog for USCC auction #2. Please review it and consider submitting bids for items pertinent to your current collecting interests. A special note of thanks to Sy Stiss for his very capable efforts in organizing and managing these sales.

We have a new back issues coordinator - Vince Costello. Please direct back issues inquiries and orders to him at the address stated on the masthead. Vince has compiled a list of back issues that are available for purchase. If you are interested in obtaining a copy, send him a large #10 SASE. Thanks to Vince for taking on this important Club responsibility.

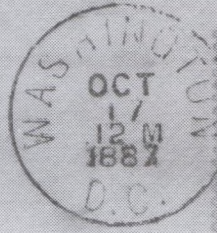
By the time this issue reaches you, December will be upon us and 1999 just ahead. I wish you and your families a most joyous holiday season and a new year filled with many delights, philatelic and otherwise.

Roger Curran



(Continued from front page)

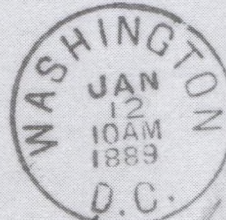
Hunton & Chaudler,  
Attorneys at Law,  
Corcoran Building,  
Washington, D. C.



*Chapin Brown Eng*  
*Atty at Law*  
*923 - 4 1/2 St -*  
*City*

Figure 2

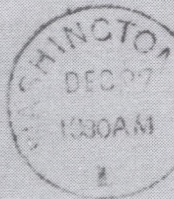
COSMOS CLUB,  
WASHINGTON, D. C.



*Dr. Washington Matthews*  
*U. S. A.,*  
*Army Medical Museum,*  
*City.*

Figure 3

delivered within 10 days, to be returned to



*Mr Henry Walter*  
*426, 11th St. N. W.*  
*City.*

Figure 4



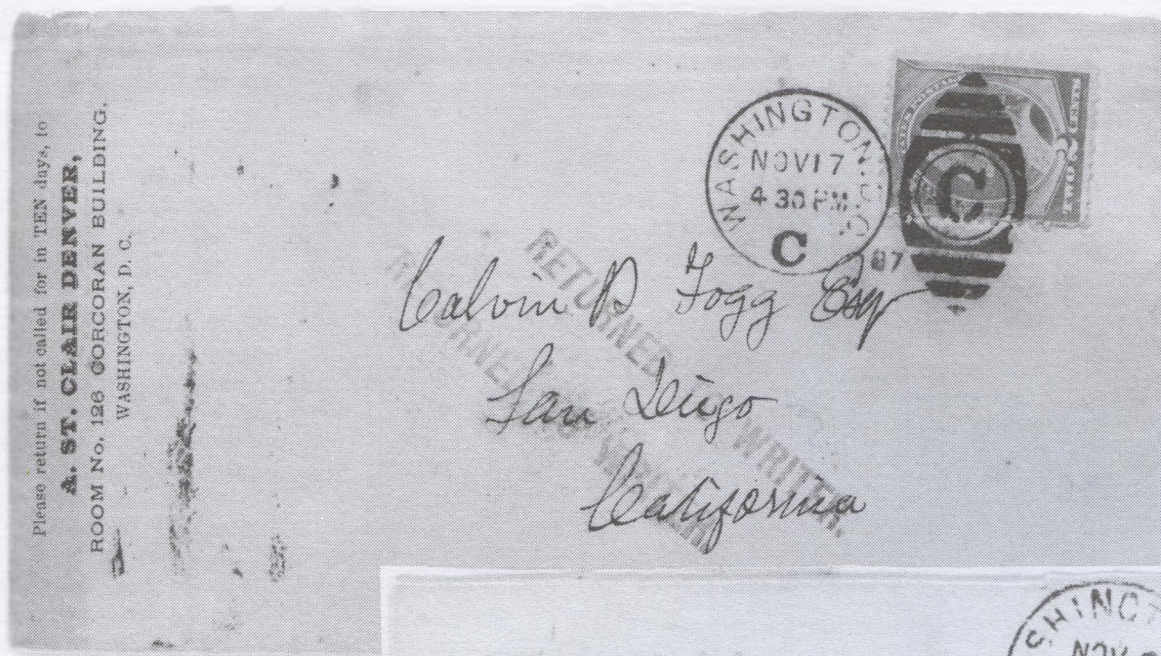


Figure 5



Figure 6

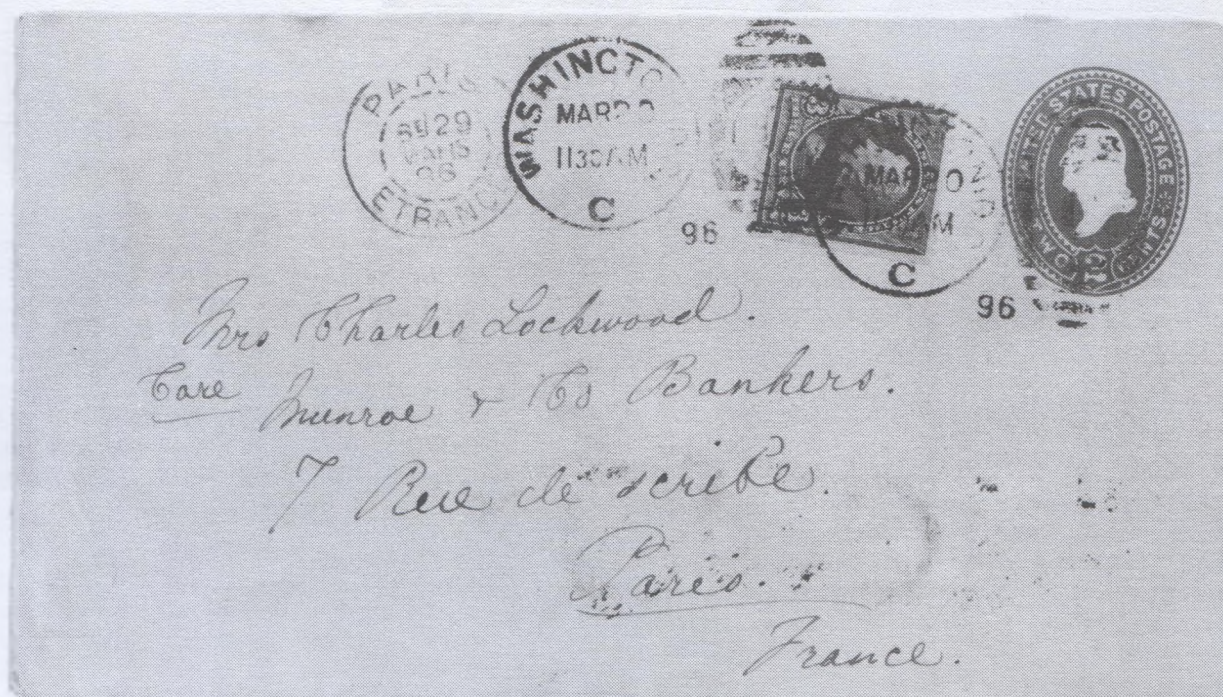
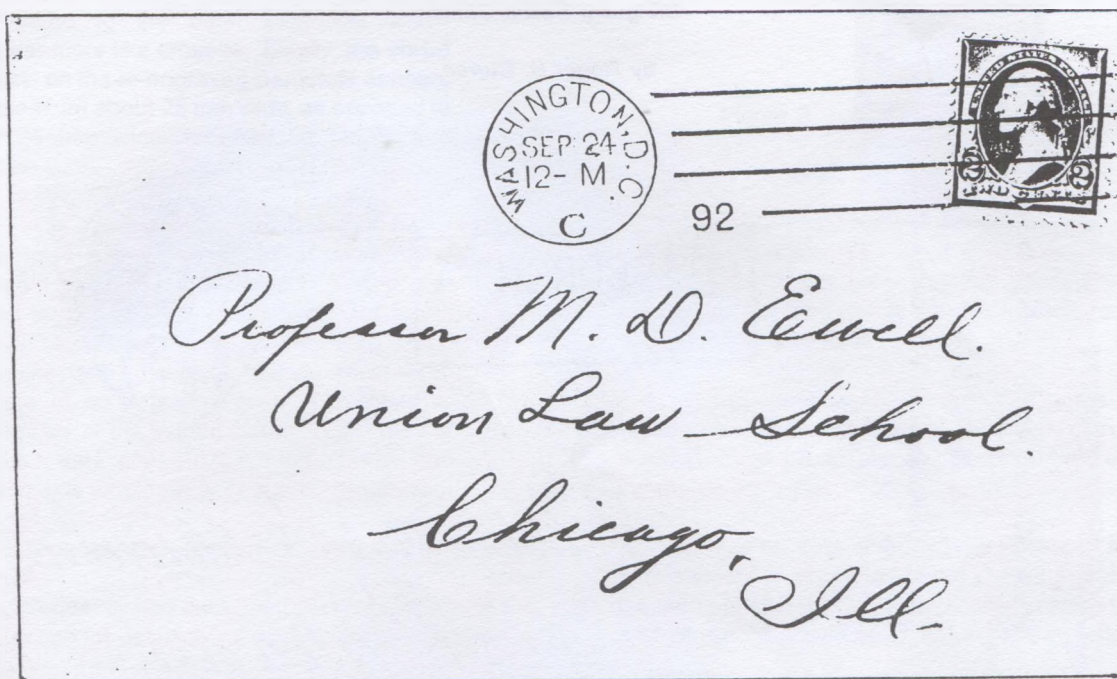


Figure 7



Figure 8



I must give credit to Bill Sandrik for first suggesting to me that the "C" duplexes might be local cancels.

I would appreciate hearing from anyone who can provide another explanation for these "C" duplexes or for earlier or later dates for any of the illustrated types.

#### Photocopies of USCC Exhibits Available

Second-generation photocopies of the five 16-page exhibits shown by club members at the Philadelphia National Stamp Exhibition, October 2-4, 1998 are available for purchase. For four of the exhibits, one of the pages will be in color. The exhibits are as follows:

**"Highlights from a Collection of Massachusetts Fancy Cancels 1855-1895"**

by Arthur E. Beane, Jr.

(a number of outstanding fancy cancels on cover)

**"Late Uses of 'Stampless' Cancelers"**

by Roger D. Curran

(on and off-cover stamps showing stampless markings used as cancelers at least 25 years after the domestic stampless mail era)

**"New York Cancellations on the First Postal Card"**

by Roger Rhoads

(a sampling of markings used from mid-1873 to early 1876 on domestic and foreign mail)

**"Evolution of the District of Columbia Postal System through the Nineteenth Century"**

by Carl L. Stieg

(a showing of covers that illustrate the changes made to the District's postal system from 1790 through the formation of stations during the latter portion of the 1800s)

**"To Kill a Stamp"**

by Thomas O. Taylor

(covers that illustrate various stages in the evolution of canceling practices of the Washington, D.C. post office through 1877)

Sets of photocopies are available for \$11.50 postpaid. For a spiral binding that includes a clear front and firm back cover, add \$2.25. Send orders to USCC, 20 University Ave., Lewisburg, PA 17837 to arrive not later than December 31. Copies will be made and sent out during the first two weeks of January.



## Intriguing Shield Cancel

by Roger D. Curran

Figure 1

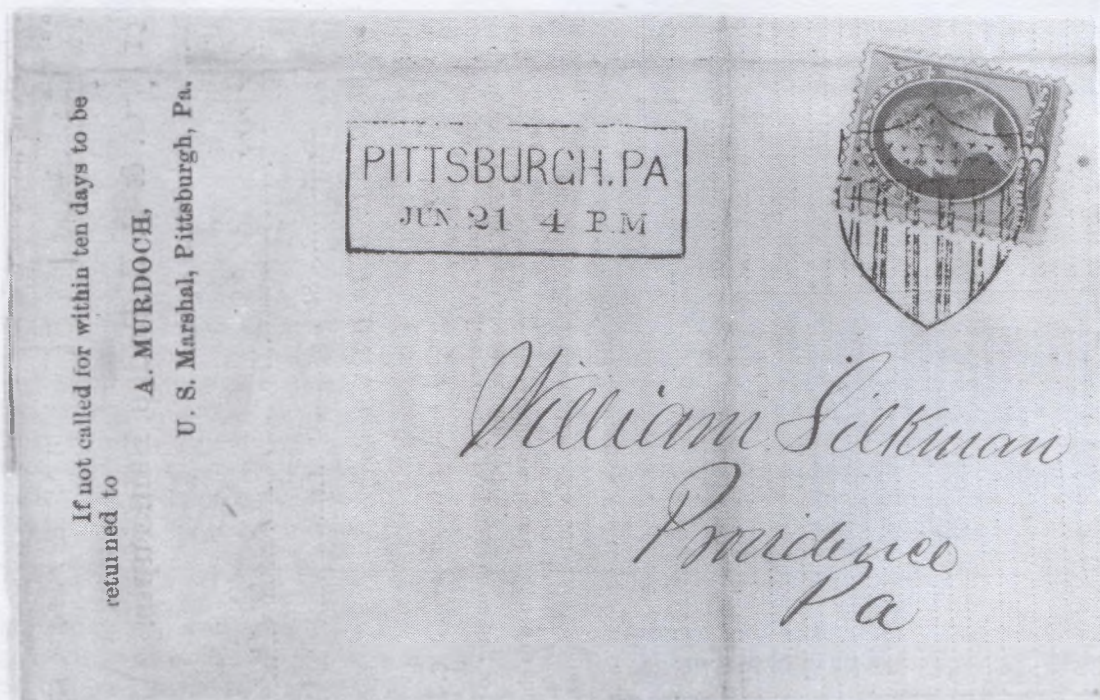


Figure 2



The earliest known U.S. cancels that are definitely the product of a machine come from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. We discussed this subject briefly on page 5 of the Winter 1998 NEWS. Examples of the 1871 hollow shield and star killers are rare. The striped shield used in 1872 is scarce but not rare. Figure 1 illustrates a cover bearing the 1872 striped shield. Figure 2 illustrates five off-cover stamps bearing this shield. These stamps are all National printings first issued during the 1870-71 period.

The January 1997 Machine Cancel Forum carried a brief article by your editor on a striped shield cancel. It is presented below, largely as it appeared originally.

Not long ago, I acquired a 3-cent green Banknote canceled by a shield which is illustrated herewith. It was assumed to be a



Pittsburgh machine cancel. However, there was an unusual aspect, I came to realize, in that the 3-cent Banknote is a re-engraved printing which was not issued until 1881.

Insofar as I know, all reported examples of the Pittsburgh striped shield that can be dated are 1872 usage. I had no real question about the stamp but showed it to an expert who immediately confirmed that the postage stamp was indeed a re-engraved Banknote (Scott #207). The possibility of a heretofore unknown 1880s trial of the canceling machine was an exciting thought.

Later, with perhaps a cooler head prevailing, I took a close look at the cancel and compared it to several Pittsburgh shields on 1872 era stamps and to illustrations reported in a comprehensive article on the subject by noted machine cancel specialists Reg Morris and Bob Payne.<sup>1</sup> Several observations resulted. First, there are 11 stars in each row on the re-engraved Banknote rather than 10 as reported by Morris and Payne. Second, the cancel's ink on the re-engraved Banknote is grayish rather than black as found on the other examples examined. Third, the "stars" of the cancel on the re-engraved Banknote look more like stars under magnification, very roughly speaking,



compared to the other examples which appear more like crosses. Finally, the shield cancel on the re-engraved Banknote appears to measure about 25 mm wide, as opposed to the 24 mm width reported by Morris and Payne.

I have not seen or heard of faked examples of this cancel, but of course they could surely occur. I will admit to harboring at least the trace of a hope that the cancel will be shown, at some point in the future, to be genuine. But I don't expect this. Are readers aware of faked examples of this shield or examples of the striped shield on stamps not issued until after 1872? Information and comments would be very much welcomed.

No additional reports were received as a result of the article.

I subsequently had occasion to review a clippings file devoted to auction lot descriptions and illustrations (1960s to 1980s sales primarily) of 3 cent green stamps on cover, organized by city. Under Pittsburgh, there were 24 lots of 3 cent greens canceled by the striped shield. Some covers appeared more than once. In six cases, the stamp was identified as Scott #158 - first issued in 1873. In one case, a 3 cent green stamp was misidentified as #157 - a 2 cent stamp issued in 1873. In two descriptions, the stamp was identified as a #184 - first issued in 1879. In one description the stamp was identified as a re-engraved Banknote.

What should one make of this situation? I believe the answer is erroneous identification. The 3 cent green stamp, in and of itself, is of nominal value regardless of which of the above identified Scott #s is involved. Lot describers thus may have felt limited incentive to take the time to really study the stamps. And, I assume that at least some, perhaps most, of the lot describers were not aware or did not remember that the cancel in question had only been seen in 1872. Also leading me to think that the stamps identified as 1873 or later issues were misidentified is the fact that the month/day postmark dates for all examples fit within the reported 1872 usage period.

More recently, a second striped shield on a 3 cent re-engraved stamp came to my attention. It is illustrated as Figure 3. In this case the canceling ink is black, as was noted for the striped shield examples on the 1872 era stamps, rather than grayish. However, the "stars," while more like blobs than the somewhat star-shaped "stars" on the Figure 1 stamp, were not similar to what might roughly be termed "crosses" used for stars on the several 1872 era stamps. And, more importantly, the Figure 2 shield only measures 28 mm. long as opposed to 31 mm. reported by Morris and Payne and has a rounded rather than a pointed end.

Earlier this year, I had occasion to meet Reg and Bob at NOJEX. I showed them the two off-cover stamps and mentioned the concern about their genuineness. Reg subsequently made a careful study of the shield cancels on these stamps and compared them to Pittsburgh shield cancels on stamps that were current in 1872 as well as with the striped shields described in the article mentioned above which depicts two similar but distinct shield dies used in 1872. In the October 1998 Machine Cancel Forum, Payne and Morris reported on that study concluding that "... the cancels on the

Figure 3

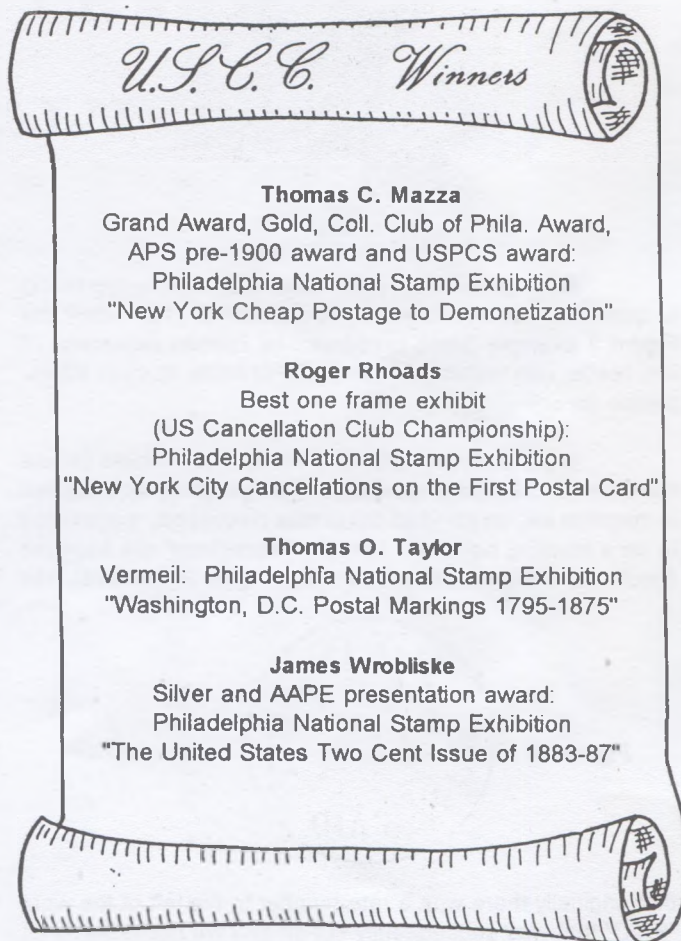


... 1881 issue stamps do not appear to match either of the authentic 1872 Pittsburgh 'shield' cancels." Readers are referred to this fine article for the several reasons why the conclusion was reached.

I suspect we have, in both Figures 1 and 2, faked Pittsburgh shields, although an 1880s trial of the machine may possibly have taken place. However, no on-cover 1880s examples have been noted.

Are readers of the NEWS aware of faked examples of this shield or examples of the striped shield on stamps not issued until after 1872? If so, I'd like to run a follow-up article and all reports would be gratefully acknowledged.

<sup>1</sup>Morris, Reg and Payne, Bob "The Pittsburgh Star and Shield Machine Cancel of Unknown Origin", Machine Cancel Forum (July 1987), pp. 101-122.

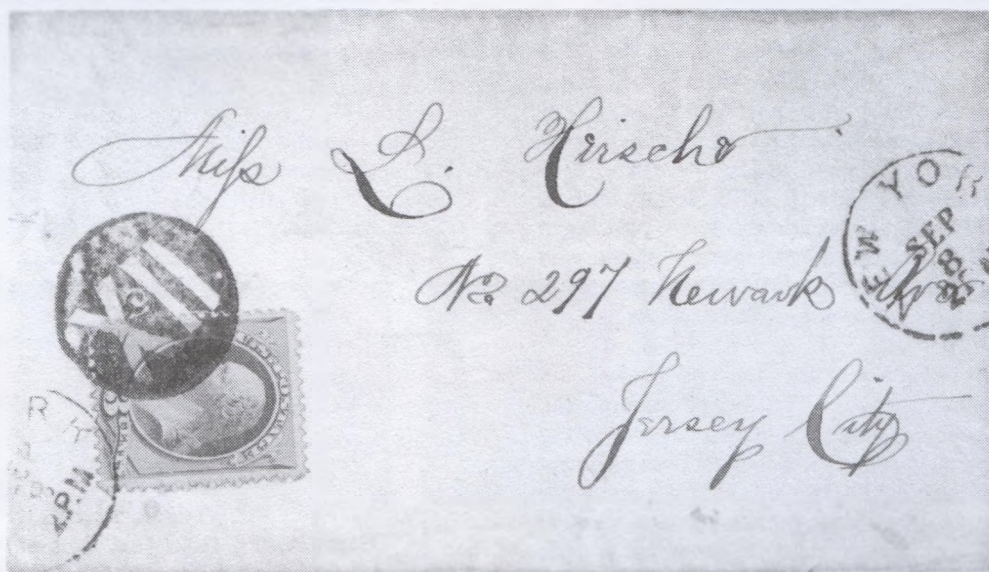




The Winter and Summer 1996 issues of the NEWS (whole numbers 218, 219) carried articles dealing with two New York City killers, each bearing a negative "12," that were made from rubber bottle stoppers. We know they were rubber because, in both cases, the number designating the size of the stopper can be seen in the strike of the killer.

Rubber bottle stoppers were manufactured with a raised size number on one end. Figure 1 illustrates a third example of a New York rubber stopper killer, this time displaying a negative "XII" with the stopper size clearly showing in the middle between the "X" and the first "I." As with the earlier examples, the Figure 1 killer was made from a size "2" stopper. Stopper size numbers always show, of course, in reverse when the killer is struck. There is no indication of what year the Figure 1 cover was mailed.

Figure 1



Although perhaps just a coincidence, it is interesting to note that each of three killers denotes a "12," albeit the Figure 1 example being expressed by Roman numerals. If any reader can report additional NYPO bottle stopper killers, please do so!

In the Summer 1996 and Winter 1997 issues (whole numbers 220, 222) a large circular Palmyra postmark, applied in magenta ink, on an 1885 cover was discussed. It appeared to be a marking held over from the "stampless" era because it included "PAID" at the bottom. See Figure 2. We assumed

Figure 2



that originally there was a rate number to the left of the word "PAID" that was subsequently cut off and we noted that a 31 mm Palmyra CDS with "3 PAID" was reported in American Stampless Cover Catalog. A second cover from the same era

to the same business addressee was reported by Bernard Biales bearing apparently the same magenta CDS. Because there was no date in these markings, speculation centered on the marking being applied by the company to incoming mail (perhaps paid orders?) for record-keeping purposes. Since these articles appeared, some further information and an additional cover have come to our attention. First, postal history dealer Elwyn Doubleday advises that he saw in the past a group of 30 or 40 such covers all bearing the Palmyra "PAID" CDS and addressed to the same business - Garlock & Crandall. Figure 3 is the additional cover. It has eleven strikes of a Palmyra marking in magenta with a "6" to the left of "PAID." No year date is present. This is probably the same CDS reported earlier except for the fact that the rating number is still present. The fact that there are so many strikes of the CDS suggests a possible test of using the handstamp. If so,

perhaps after it was decided to use the old handstamp on some regular or recurring basis, the "6" was removed because it confused or at least had no relevance to the internal recordkeeping notation that the company wanted to convey. Comment is invited.





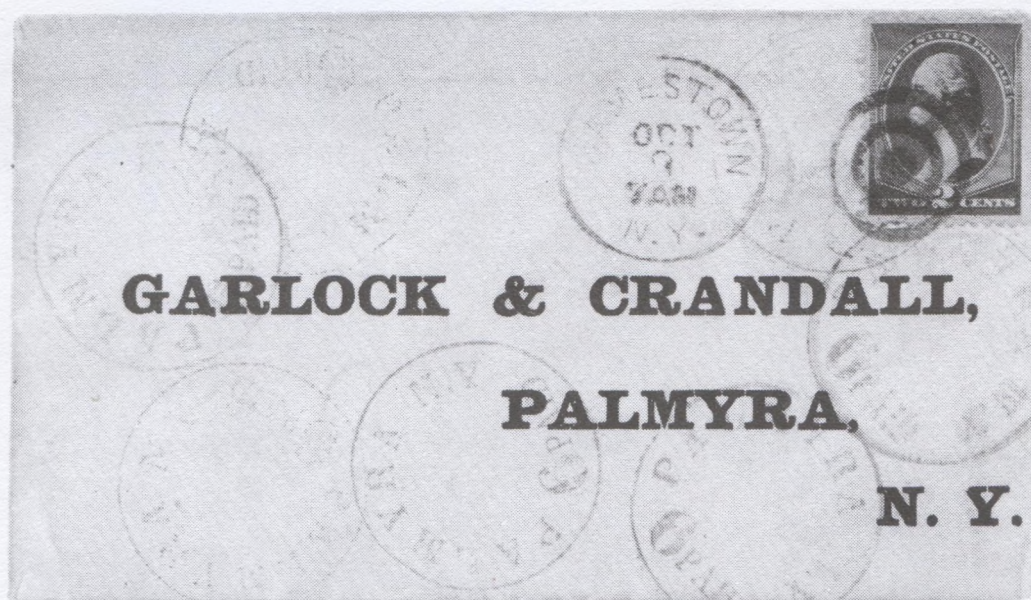


Figure 3





## Points of Interest

by Roger D. Curran

The cover illustrated in Figure 1 has the look of a common late 19th century item. However, something struck me about it. The stamp is a Scott #210 and is the color that Edward Willard described as "... approximating ox-blood shoe polish."<sup>1</sup> This color is from early printing and I recalled a chart Mr. Willard prepared based on a study of a large number of dated covers bearing #210.<sup>2</sup> The stamp was issued on October 1, 1883 and "ox-blood" was the only color (dark versions generally first and then light) noted on covers sent during the October-December 1883 period. By July 1884, the "ox-blood" color had given way largely to orange brown and by 1886 there were virtually no ox-bloods on cover noted. Although the stamp on the Figure 1 cover certainly could have been "found" in a Seymour Chair Company desk drawer several years after its purchase and used in 1888, the

docketing on the back of the cover (see Figure 2) gives the answer. It is not "1888" at all but "1883." Whether an "8" slug was erroneously inserted instead of a "3," or a "3" slug somehow picked up some extra ink, I find hard to determine. In any event, what we have is not a late use of the stamp but rather a second month use.

The Troy ellipse with seven bars and a "4" in the center is part of a set that presumably ran from at least "1" to "4." (Can any reader report a number above "4"?) I also found it interesting to note the wide spacing of the "." after "Y" in "N.Y." at the bottom of the CDS.

For those who are not familiar with Edward Willard's 1970 two volume work on Scott #210, it is a truly outstanding

Figure 1

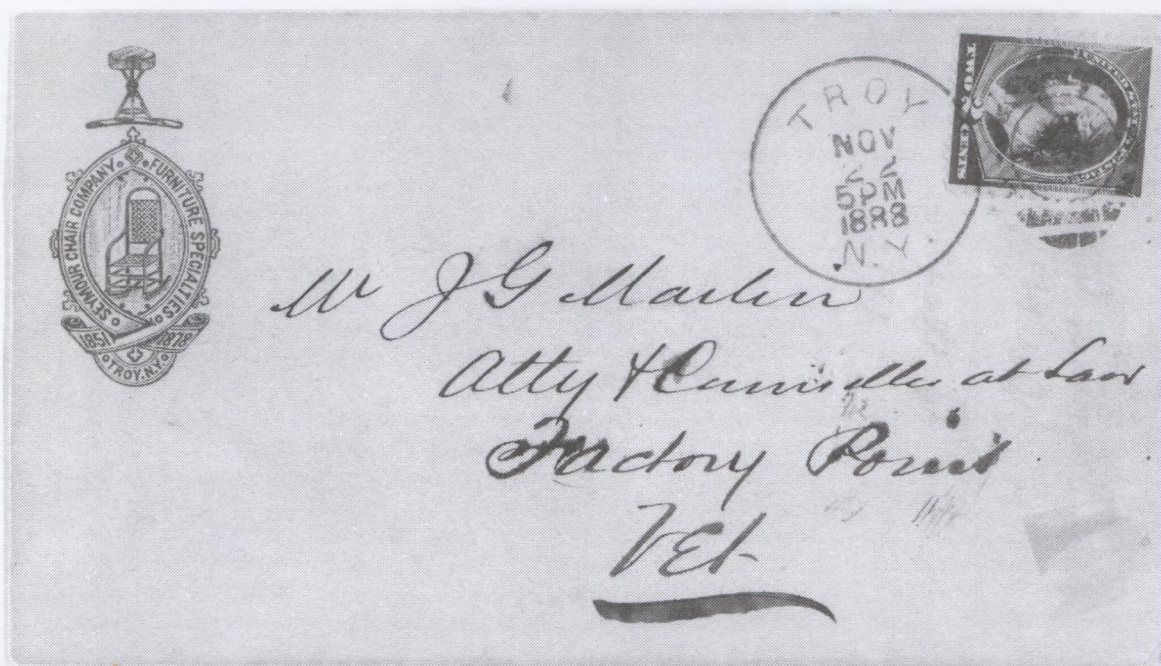
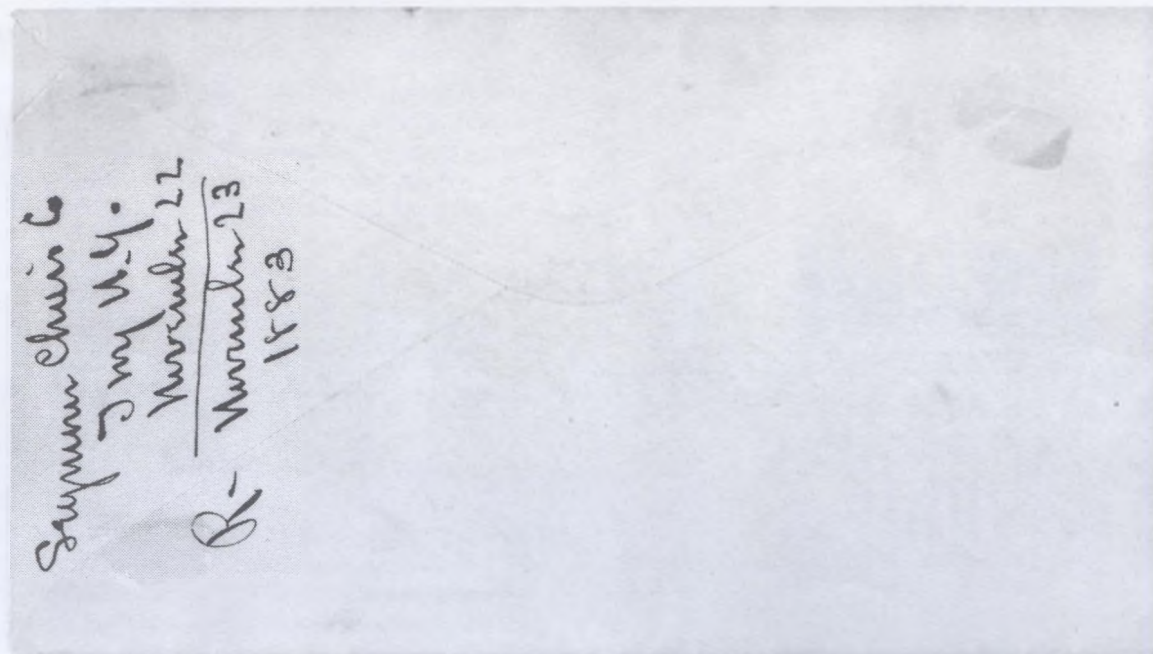


Figure 2





study of a single stamp and its postal uses. The second volume is devoted solely to cancellations with an extensive section on ellipse cancels. Mr. Willard served as president of the APS and his exhibit of #210 was highly acclaimed both nationally and internationally. He was a long time member of the U.S.C.C. and a major contributor to the Cancellation Club News in the 1950s and 60s. Although Mr. Willard's book is no longer in print, it is often available from philatelic literature

dealers.

<sup>1</sup>Willard, Edward L. The United States Two Cent Red Brown of 1883-1887, Volume I, H.L. Lindquist Publications, Inc., New York, NY (1970), p. 36.

<sup>2</sup>Ibid, pp. 37-38.

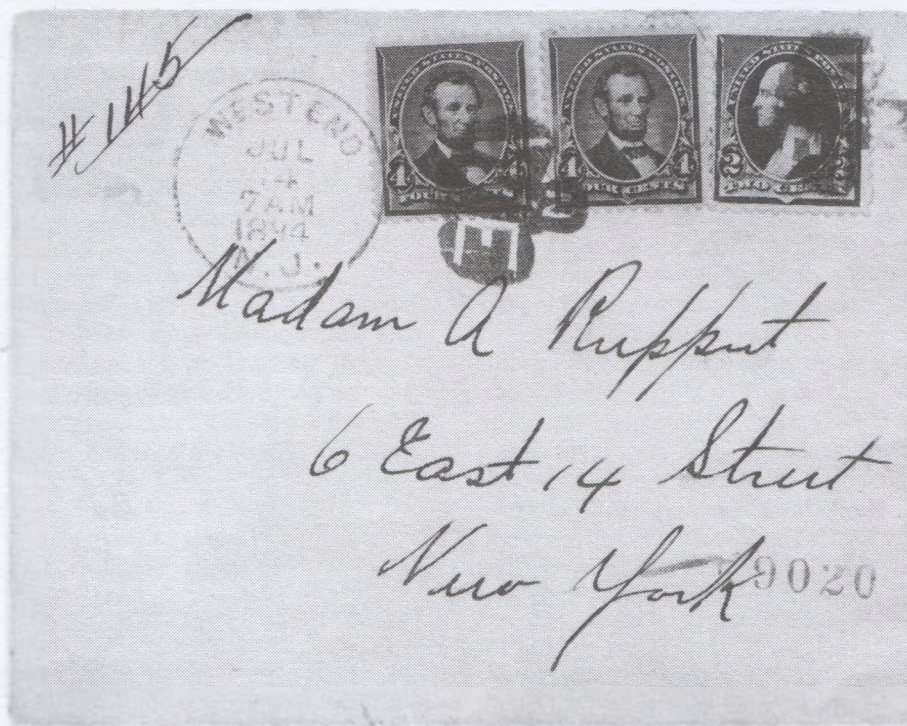
### The Rest of the Story

by Roger D. Curran

The registered cover in Figure 1 bears two strikes of a killer with a negative "WE." One quickly realizes that "WE" stands for West End, given the accompanying CDS. The killer is apparently duplexed to the CDS as a bit of the CDS rim shows to the right of the killer that was struck in the upper right corner. The clerk obviously made an effort to apply only

appeared, I believe, in an issue of Postal Markings published in the 1930s and 40s.) Perhaps the lower protrusion became damaged and someone rounded off the bottom of the killer to keep the neat appearance. Or is it just an incomplete strike of the full killer due to the effort to avoid the CDS? Note also the difference in the two strikes of "E" - one complete and one appearing to be rounded off.

Figure 1



the killer with this strike.

But there is more than "WE" in the killer. There is a smaller "N" above the "WE." At the bottom of the killer on the right there is a notch. It is hard to tell from this strike whether or not something was intended there. From another source, however, we learn about that notch. Figure 2 is a tracing of a strike of the killer as it must have originally existed. (It

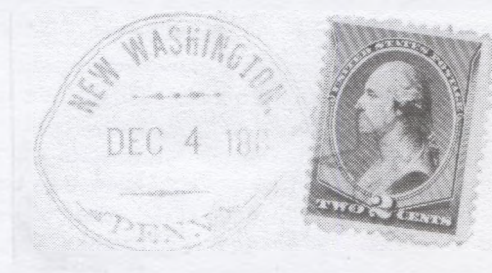


Figure 2

### Odd Postmark

Large Circular postmarks are sometimes called "Balloon" postmarks. We submit that the New Washington, Pennsylvania CDS illustrated as Figure 1 is a balloon postmark with some of the air let out!

Figure 1





## A Mysterious Ellipse Killer

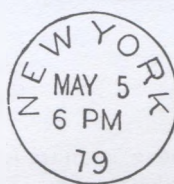
by Roger D. Curran

## BRASS, STEEL, RUBBER, AND RIBBON STAMPS.

Brass, price \$5.00.

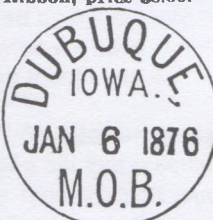
Ribbon, price \$8.00.

## POSTMASTERS,



We have the greatest variety of stamps made in the United States.

Before purchasing send for our 48-page catalogue, containing over one hundred different styles of Post Office Daters alone.



Eureka Rubber Dater, price \$3.00.

Figure 1

## READ! READ! READ!

A Postmaster's Outfit, consisting of Rubber Dater and Canceller, any style, on same or separate handles, with receipt for making our superior Rubber Stamp Ink, black, blue, red, and purple, accompanied with a set of Pads, a box of dates good for ten years in a walnut case, and a pair of tweezers in each; also 13 one-line stamps, any style of type desired, or any stamps wanted in place of these: Postmaster's name, Name of Post Office, Assistant Postmaster's Name, Registered No., Due 3c., Misent, Correct, Advertised, Held for Postage, Unclaimed, Returned to Writer, Postage Due, and Forwarded.

Sent, post-paid, to any address, on receipt of \$3.00.

Address F. P. HAMMOND & CO., 164 Madison Street, Chicago, Illinois.

Factory at Aurora, Ill.



The advertisement in Figure 1 has long been of interest to me, especially because of the New York CDS and killer combination illustrate therein. It certainly has the appearance, at least on initial observation, of being one of the standard New York handstamp designs employed during the Banknote era. Indeed, the CDS appears identical to those in use from 1878 onward for some years involving the same style of nonserifed lettering and a two digit year date at the bottom. The ellipse also has a New York appearance, especially regarding the shape of the numerals. But, alas, there is one big difference. The illustrated ellipse has eleven horizontal bars and the standard New York ellipse has but nine. Yes, there are a couple of 11-bar ellipses known from New York, used on a limited basis, but these contain a "5" or a "6" and the numerals are shaded with a very different appearance. No

New York 11-bar ellipses have been reported, to my knowledge, with a "24."

Perhaps not New York but there is such a killer known from Pennsylvania - Haverford College. Three covers are illustrated in Figures 2-4, dated March 23, (1886); March 8, 1887; and January 3, 1888. Why would there be so high a number from such a small post office? Surely there weren't 24 clerks there and no other numbers from Haverford College are reported. Edward Willard had this to say about it:

"There seems to be no reason why the numeral 24 should have been picked and there is only the number 24 for the college. Haverford College is located today, as it was

Figure 2





Figure 3

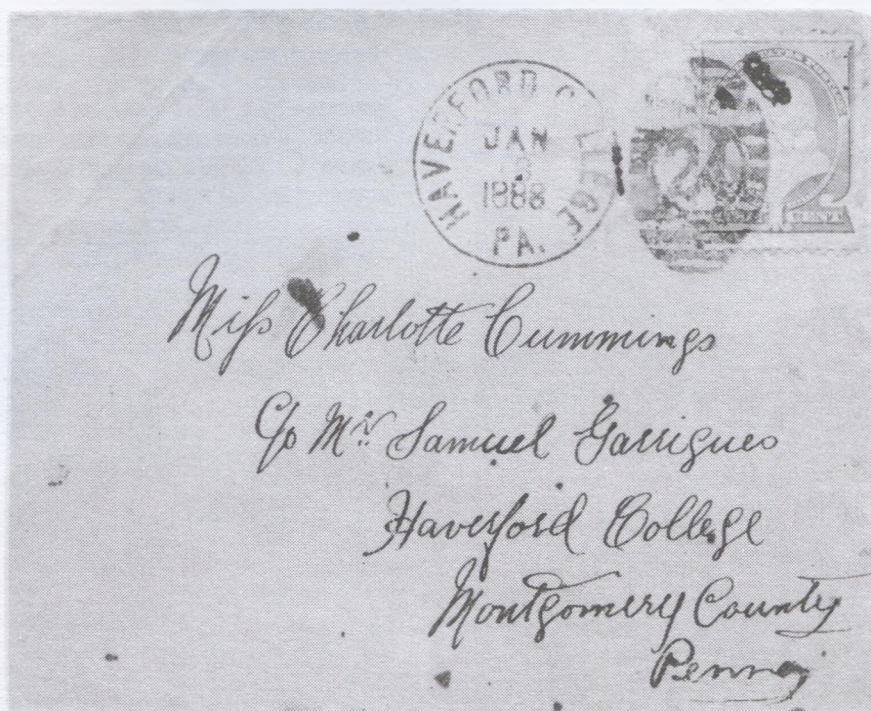
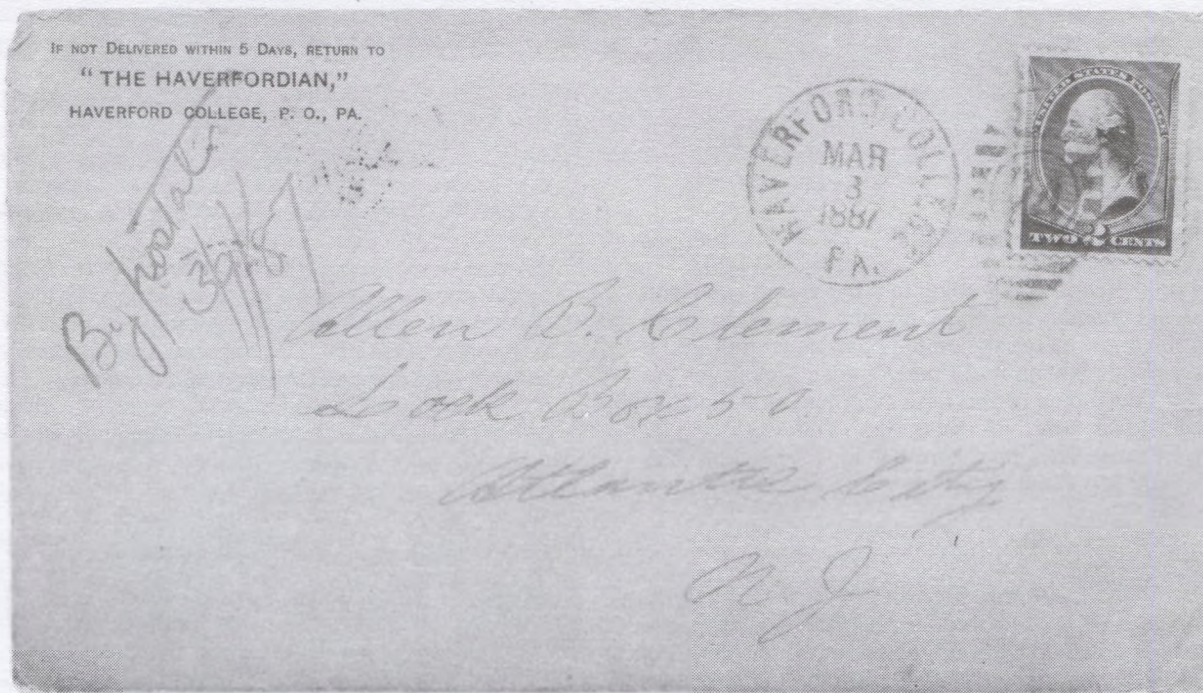


Figure 4



in 1887, in the town of Haverford, Pennsylvania, which is not too far from Philadelphia. The Postal Guide shows that the Philadelphia Post Office operated somewhat like Boston in that its stations in some cases lay outside the city, although Haverford is not. Our theory is that Haverford College was a sub-station under one of the stations outside Philadelphia. Perhaps someone familiar with the area outside Philadelphia can give a real clue to the meaning of this numeral."<sup>1</sup>

I don't know if he learned an explanation for the "24" but the NEWS has no authoritative explanation and would appreciate hearing from readers with knowledge of the subject. Incidentally, Willard shows a tracing of the Haverford College

"24" killer with a CDS dated March 2, 1885.

One other thing. I wonder about the material used for the face of the Haverford College handstamp. Surely all the New York handstamps were made of metal. And it's worth pointing out that in the advertisement, just above the illustration in question, there is a notation reading as follows: "Brass, price \$5.00." Nonetheless, I'm inclined to think that the Haverford College handstamp was made of rubber. First, the CDS letters differ greatly from the sharp, almost engraved look of the illustrated New York CDS. Second, on the March 3, 1887 cover, the ends of the ellipse bars on the right side tend to splay out as a rubber material might if under quite a bit of pressure on that side. And finally, the ad does offer a rubber dater and canceler in "any style." Could it be something as simple as the Haverford College postmaster



### Rating Numeral "3" as a Canceler

Several additions can be made to our list of stamps canceled by a "3" rating numeral that appeared in the Spring 1998 NEWS. John Valenti reports an off-cover Scott #14 in his retail stock bearing multiple strikes of a "3" cancel. He also reported a red "3" on a Scott #65 that recently passed through his hands. Michael Laurence reports a Scott #116

canceled by a "3." Finally, lot 629 in the September 26, 1998 Kukstis Auctions sale was the Scott #U119 cover illustrated as Figure 1. We are pleased to receive this information and solicit additional reports.

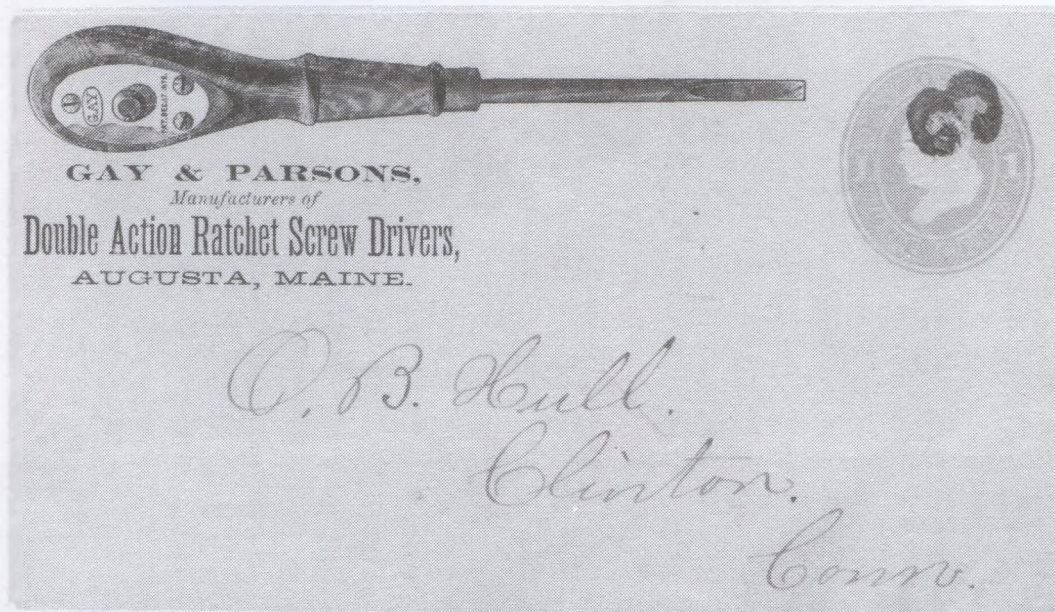


Figure 1

### Charles Molnar

One of the great things about going to a big stamp exhibition is to meet old friends. An even greater plus is to meet individuals you know by reputation but have never met. So it was at our annual meeting that I met Charles Molnar for the first time. Perhaps some of you remember him as a member collector and dealer from the 1950-60s. This is to let you know that he now lives in retirement in Wilmington, DE. Should you wish to contact him, please drop me a note.  
Roger Rhoads

### On the Internet

The club is now on the Internet with its own web site designed and maintained by Bob Trachimowicz. For those of you who have Internet access, look us up at <http://geocities/Athens/2088/USCChome.htm>.

Board members having E-mail addresses are:

Bob Trachimowicz	Track@worchester-ma.u-net.com
Carl Stieg	Carl_phil@webtv.net
Roger Rhoads	rrhoads@aol.com

### Addresses Changed and Corrected

Please note that club secretary/treasurer Roger Rhoads has recently moved. His new address is: 3 Ruthana Way, Hockessin, DE 19707.

Please also note that the current address for Warren R. Bower is: 610 Jefferson St., P.O. Box 188, Fontanelle, IA 50846. The address shown in the Summer 1998 membership list is incorrect.

Jim Cole reports that he has recently moved. His new address is: #108-D Mendingwall Way, Fairfield, OH 45014.

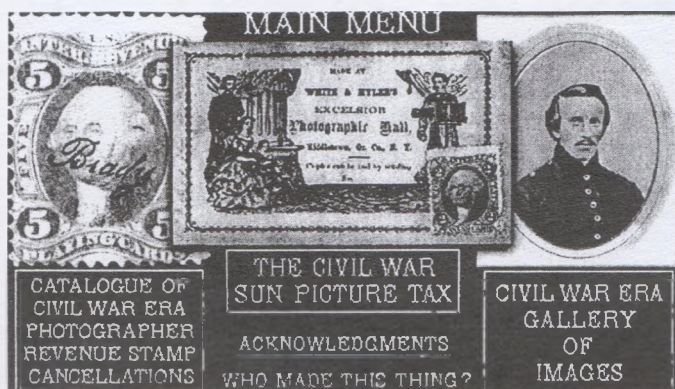
### Additions to U.S.C.C. Membership Roster

No.	Name	Address	City	State	Zip
1982	Paul Antokolsky	31 Bradlee St.	Boston	MA	02136-3295
1536	Dan Barber	PO Box 23055	Lansing	MI	48909-0000
1906	David L. Bueker	Westhaven Ct.	St. Louis	MO	63126-0000
1985	John Gonzales	2085 Maryellen Lane	State College	PA	16803-0000
1984	Stephan P. Kaplan	3238 Belvoir Blvd.	Beachwood	OH	44122-0000
1986	Mark W. Koss-Fillinger	6480 N. 82nd St, #217	Scottsdale	AZ	85350-0000
1987	David Naas	502 Waterside Dr.	Lafayette	LA	70503-0000
1983	Robert C. Swed	1204 Elderon Dr.	Wilmington	DE	19808-0000



ordering from F.P. Hammond & Co. a rubber CDS duplexed to a killer "like the oval with bars in your ad" and was supplied with literally that? Obviously, this is highly speculative. Comment is invited.

<sup>1</sup>Willard, Edward L. The United States Two Cent Red Brown of 1883-1887, H.L. Lindquist Publications, Inc., New York (1970), p. 134.



#### Civil War PhotoTax Stamp Cancellations by Roger Rhoads

Bruce Barylka has published a CD-ROM with over 500 illustrations of the cancellations found on revenue stamps used on photographs during the Civil War era. This is an extremely ambitious venture as one of the forerunners in a new era of private design and manufacture of CD-ROMs for our hobby.

This should really be considered a book, but it is much more. Each photographer is listed by name, by state where he worked and by the type of cancel he used. They range from A. A. Adams of Lawrence, KS to D. D. Wyman of Lockport, NY. I even found a namesake, William H. Rhoads of Philadelphia. A simple point-and-click allows the user to quickly get to the information he wants. No more flipping through a book that is not properly indexed. The only item found wanting is that there are no measurements included which will make it difficult to make good comparisons with new additions to a hobbyist's collection.

The canceled tax stamps are found on the backsides of photographs, so Mr. Barylka also added 65 of the pictures as a gallery of that era along with comments about the subjects. Of course, all of the images can be printed from the computer just as was the above photo of the main menu.

Since I know very little about this area of collecting, I was very surprised with the scope of the cancels available. Some of those categories that other cancellation collectors would recognize are patriotic shields, stars, letters (both hand carved and otherwise), fancies (e.g. man's belt, a heart, a sea shell), double line date canceler, straight lines, print type, ovals, stencils, linen markers, albino embossed, manuscripts and the oft found cork blobs.

Mr. Barylka, a graphics manager for an ad agency in Manhattan, notes that this was 15 years in the making, and the professionalism shown illustrates his commitment to this hobby segment. Furthermore, Mr. Barylka has an exhibit of this material which won a gold medal at the Philadelphia Natl. Stamp Exhibition where we held our annual meeting.

The only requirement is that you have a disk drive and a web browser such as Internet Explorer, Netscape Navigator, etc. The cost of the CD-ROM is \$25 (post paid), and Mr. Barylka's address is 1213 Avenue Z, #F-11, Brooklyn, NY 11235.

### Treasurer's Report

Last year at this time I reported a net loss of \$4,552.61, partly as a result of expenses from fiscal 1995-6 falling into 1996-7 but mostly due to increased expenses of publishing the *NEWS* over the previous 10 years without recouping them with dues or membership growth. The Board agreed to work to lower the costs of publication without harming its appearance or value and to raise the dues from \$8 to \$12 while continuing to look for ways to add to our membership.

Through increased membership, a concerted effort to collect delinquent dues and generous donations from over 20% of the membership, our dues income increased by about \$1400. Only 11 were dropped for non-payment this past year, and we now have 239 paid up members.

As can be seen in the following table, we have been successful in reducing the cost of the *NEWS* from over \$900 to \$800+ per issue. The closing date of this report did not include the costs associated with the publication of the fourth issue. Were that included, there would have been a deficit of about \$600. With no further expected improvement in this area, the Board acted to increase the dues to \$14 per year.

We have plans to enlarge our membership and if we are successful, we will lower our costs per member which can then be passed along in lower dues.

#### Assets as of 9/30/97

Money market and cash acct.	\$5,161.28
FNMA bond value	\$1,590.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$6,751.28</b>

#### Income

Dues, contributions	\$3,301.50
Publication sales	\$249.12
Interest and dividends	\$366.69
Exhibit fees	\$50.00
FNMA bond gain (loss)	\$18.28
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,985.59</b>

#### Expenses

<i>NEWS</i> publication including	\$2,433.74 (3 issues)
Office of the President (photocopies, postage, supplies, etc)	\$198.49
Board meeting expenses (phone conferences)	\$820.62
Advertising	\$12.75
Secy.-Treasurer (postage, supplies, etc.)	\$125.65
Exhibit fees	\$100.00
Financial fees	\$150.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,841.25</b>

#### Assets as of 9/30/98

Money market and cash acct.	\$6,895.62
FNMA bond value (\$1608.28 returned principle)	\$0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$6,895.62</b>

#### Net Gain (Loss)

\$144.34

Respectfully submitted:  
Roger Rhoads, Secy.-Treasurer



## What Happened Here?

by Roger D. Curran

The postal card illustrated in Figure 1 has three unusual aspects. First is the lack of an addressee. Second is the postmarking ink which is blue. No doubt in my mind that it is an actual New York duplex postal marking. The CDS has, at the bottom, the remnants of "P.O." which identifies it as a marking of the main NYPO used basically on local mail. The "Maltese cross" is a commonly seen killer duplexed to the New York "P.O." CDS. Indeed, on page 73 of the Winter 1991 NEWS, Roger Rhoads reported nine different "Maltese Cross" designs so duplexed. These were noted of the first postal card and covered the May 1874 through June 1875 period. However, I have not seen blue ink reported for any domestic New York CDS and killer markings during the Banknote era. Finally, on the back are the remnants of perforated strips (orange ink) on the two sides of the card.

Something quite out of the ordinary is obviously indicated by all of this. One theory is that the Figure 1 card was placed on top of a stack of postal cards that were taken to the post office by a clerk or messenger of the Automatic Signal Telegraph, whereupon the top card was stamped, not by a regular handstamping clerk, but by a clerk at a customer window and handed back as proof that the cards were delivered to the post office for mailing.

If readers have information about how the above card would have been processed, or theories concerning same, please let us know. We hope to run a follow-up article in the next issue.

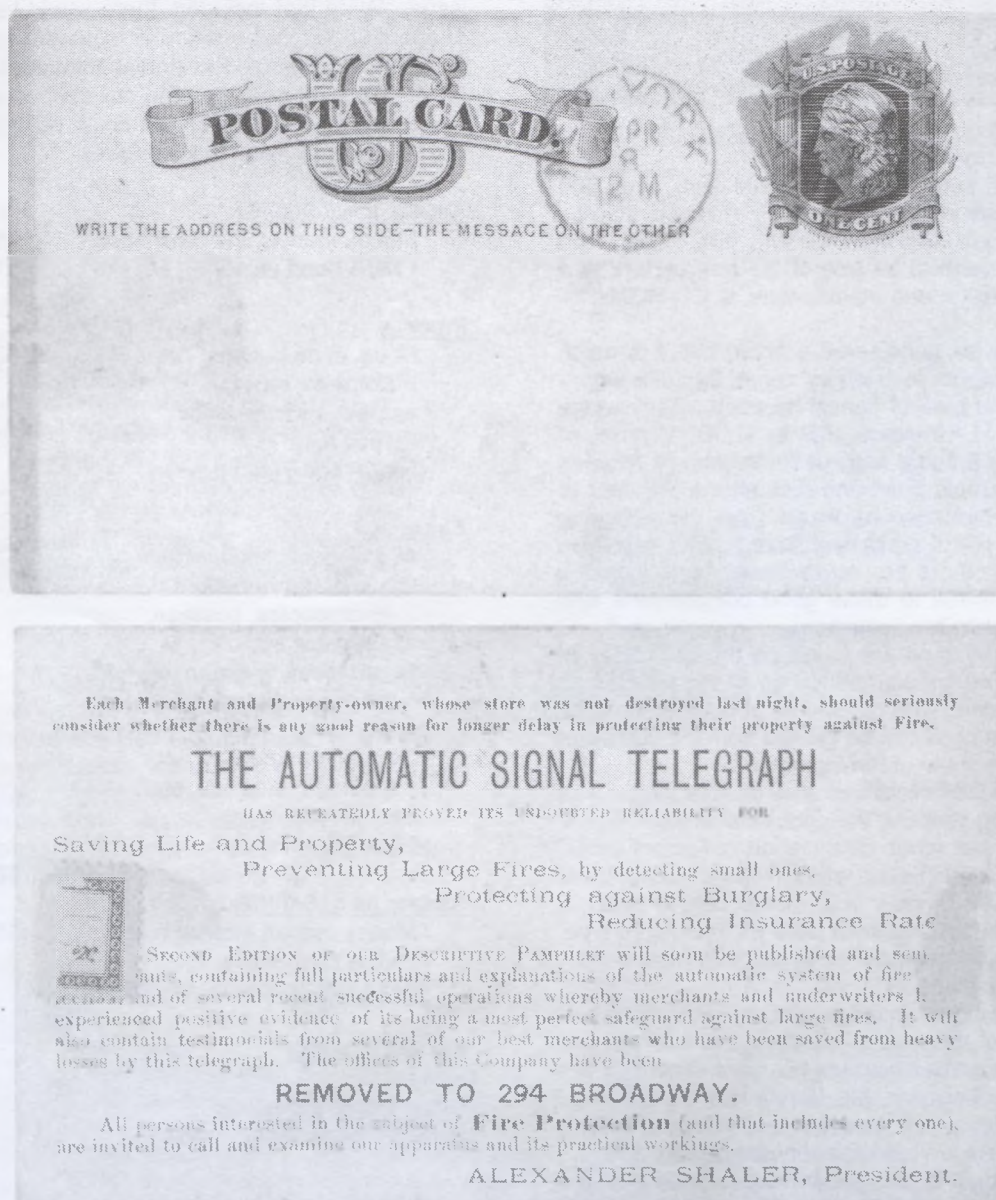


Figure 1