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THE U.S. 90c. STAMP OF 1860.

BY STANLEY B. ASHBROOK, F.R.P.S.L.

WELL do I remember a trip I made to New York many years ago with one of America's keenest students of U.S. Stamps. It was at a time when my knowledge of our early issues was in the A.B.C. class, but I was anxious to learn, so I tagged along with my friend, keeping my ears open and my mouth shut, when we visited the most important stamp shop in Nassau Street.

I recall we had "first pick" at a well-known collection that had just come on the market. I state "first pick," because at the time I was innocent and really did believe we had been especially honoured. I suppose instead of "first pick" it was more like the twentieth or thirtieth. At any rate, I recall looking over my friend's shoulder while he carefully examined a page, on which were mounted quite a number of the U.S. 90c. 1860. Very beautiful stamp, that dark blue with a portrait of Washington, in general's uniform, after a painting by Trumbull. I think at the time it was called the 90c. 1857, though it was not issued until 1860. I tried to guess the copies my friend would select and was quite astonished when he passed up a finely centered mint full O.G. copy at \$25.00 and selected a rather indifferent used copy at \$125.00. I held my tongue until we were later alone at lunch, and then most casually I remarked:

"Why \$125.00 for that 90c.?" His reply rather surprised me: "Wasn't that a copy, and the cancellation good beyond any question of a doubt." Still



dumb, I said: "Well what of it—why \$125.00?" And then he gave me something to really think about, by asking: "And how many genuinely used copies have you ever seen? So far as I am concerned, mighty few." The water was getting a little too deep for me, so I dropped the subject, not however without a firm resolve to do a little bit of investigating on this subject.

Off hand I do not recall catalogue quotations of that day, but Scott's U.S. for 1936 quotes an unused copy at \$40.00, used \$100.00 and one on cover at \$2,000.00, and the latter figure is not imaginary, but based on an actual transaction. I may be repeating a very old story but nevertheless I am going to tell it just as though it had never been told before.

This 90c. stamp was not issued until September of 1860. Mr. Lincoln was elected President in November 1860, and South Carolina withdrew from the Union the following December 20th. Fort Sumter was fired upon on April 12, 1861, and the great American Civil War was on.

The Federal Government issued a new set of stamps in August of 1861 and all preceding issues were declared obsolete, and no longer good for postal service. The Confederate Government took over the postal system throughout the seceded States on June 1, 1861. The postmasters of many offices, well stocked with the old issue of stamps, refused to forward their stocks to Washington. Years after the War, supplies of these unused remainders came upon the market. Thus we have a stamp, the use of which was much restricted because of its high value, and in addition a stamp that was in use only a comparatively short time. On the other hand the remainders from Southern Post Offices have given us a limited supply of unused copies. For the year ending June 30, 1861, there was issued only a total 24,280 of these 90c. stamps. We have no figures as to how many were issued between July 1, 1861, and the time the stamp was superseded by the "90c. of 1861," but no doubt the quantity was greatly restricted and was probably much less than 2,000, the number issued in the quarter ending June 30, 1861.

It has long been a favourite pastime of the Philatelic underworld to put fake cancellations on unused copies of this stamp. Thus we have lost through this practice, many of the unused copies that existed at one time. These "fakes" deceive many of our European friends, but students on this side of the water spot them with little trouble.

Likewise "fake" covers come to light ever so often but to one familiar with our postal markings, these generally appear positively ridiculous.

For a number of years this writer owned what is unquestionably the finest 90c. 1860 cover known to exist, but like many of the finest of U.S. items, it finally found its way into the truly marvellous collection of my good friend, Judge Robert S. Emerson of Providence, R.I. I consider this cover the finest gem of the General Issues of the United States. Herewith is an illustration. This remarkable item is a folded letter sheet and bears a quadruple rate (4 plus 33c.) from Boston, Mass., to the Cape of Good Hope in July 1861.

In addition to the 90c., the face contains a 10c. 1857, Type V, a 30c. 1860, and a pair of the 1c. 1857, Type V. Total postage \$1.32. The stamps are attractively tied by the familiar Boston "Paid in a Grid" in black. In manuscript in upper left is a notation that the letter is to go "via England" on the Steamship

Persia. Also on face is the London transit postmark in red, "London E. E. Jy 27—61 PAID."

In red pencil is the rate marking 1.12, meaning \$1.12, was to be credited by the U.S. Post Office to the credit of the British P.O. Below the 1.12 is "4" denoting the quadruple rate. In 1861 the single rate, per half-ounce to the Cape via London was 33c. If carried by a British Packet, 28c. was credited to the British, if the postage was prepaid.

On the reverse of the cover is the well-known circular foreign mail postmark of Boston, Mass., in red reading: "Boston British Pkt—July 16," also "Cape Town Cape of Good Hope," "Cape Town Cape of Good Hope," and "Port Elizabeth, C. G. H.," both in red.

The forwarding agent is handstamped in blue "Lasigi Goddard & Co. Boston."

Quite a number of covers from the "Edwin Howland" correspondence were turned up in Boston some twenty-five years ago. This was the only cover in the lot with a 90c. 1860 stamp. There were prepaid stampless items dating back to 1856, showing single prepaid rates of 33c.—double rates of 66c.—triple rates of 99c. and quadruple rates of \$1.32.

Some of the covers in the find had singles of the 30c. 1860 and 3c. 1857. Others had pairs of the 30c. 1860 and 3c. 1857.

I recall one beautiful cover with horizontal strip of three of the 30c. and 3c. The find included covers with stamps of the subsequent 1861 issue but in the whole lot there was not a single 90c. 1861, so far as I know.

This superb cover was exhibited at the "Tipex" in New York last May, and many a lover of superb U.S. Covers had the pleasure of viewing it for the first time.

Another 90c. on cover was exhibited by Mr. Lapham of Boston at the Tipex. This also showed a rate of \$1.32 to India in January 1861, made up as follows: 90c. 1860, 30c. 1860, and 12c. 1857 (Plate 3). The stamps, tied by red gridirons and the cover postmarked "New York Amer. Pkt Jan. 26." The 30c. on this cover is badly discoloured, in fact it could well afford a good bath in peroxide to restore its once brilliant colour.

Years ago it was the custom of many wealthy American collectors to prefer unused stamps of our early issues to used copies, but this has changed greatly in the last decade. The late Arthur Hind preferred unused U.S., and therefore missed the real pleasure in forming a highly specialized collection of our Early Issues. In great contrast is Judge Robert S. Emerson, who appreciated covers and cancellations in his early collecting days. His collection to-day is a veritable mine of valuable information for the student of our early Postal History. He has many fine things but none I admire any more than his unique cover with the 90c. of 1860.

On January 27th Mr. J. B. Seymour is giving a display from his world-famous collection of Great Britain at the International Philatelic Union. The meeting is at the Essex Hall, Strand, and commences at 6.30 p.m. Visitors are welcomed.

MY REFERENCE COLLECTION.

No. 13. *Swiss Re-entry.*

There is a re-entry to be found on the 10 rappen of 1854-59. It takes the form of a slight double print in the inscription FRANCO at the top. In the



enlarged illustration, the effect of the re-entry can just be discerned in some of the letters. The actual stamp usually shows up the variety more easily.

It is not a valuable item and only of interest for the specialist. However, it is the type of stamp one may easily have the pleasure of finding in an odd lot.

NOTES AND NEWS

FOLKESTONE CONGRESS NEWS.

The Entertainment Committee have drawn up a provisional programme providing for an Official Reception by the Mayor and Corporation at the Leas Cliff Hall on the first evening (June 8th, 1937). Other attractions are, a trip to Canterbury, a trip to Sir Philip Sassoon's garden at Port Lympne and the Cinque Flying Club and a visit to Dover Castle.

AIR MAIL SOCIETY CELEBRATES.

The Air Mail Society celebrated the 25th Anniversary of the Aerial Post at a dinner held at the Cafe Royal, London, on October 28th.

The guest of honour was Sir Walter Windham who first proposed the idea

of special Coronation Flights in 1911.

The gathering was a distinguished one and speeches were made by Sir Herbert Samuel, who was Postmaster-General in 1911, and Sir Alan Cobham, the famous airman. The Dowager Viscountess Downe was the Chairman.

PHILATELIC CAR.

A reader has written, telling of a unique stamp collection: 11,000 postage stamps pasted on a saloon car! It took five girls about six weeks to complete the task and not an inch of paint is visible on the body of the car. The stamps have been coated with clear shellac, so that mud and rain does not affect the specimens.

Now you know what to do with your duplicates!

Stamp Collecting, Nov. 21st, 1936.

PARIS EXHIBITION.

The revised prospectus is not yet to hand but is expected to be ready in the course of the next week or so.

NEW SANABRIA CATALOGUE.

Mr. Nicolas Sanabria sends us an advance copy of his catalogue of Air Mail stamps which is rapidly becoming known as the standard for aerophilatelists. This work was formerly published by the Scott Stamp and Coin Co., but was taken over by Mr. Sanabria last year.

The book is remarkable for the wealth of information and number of illustrations. Prices are quoted for mint and used singles and mint blocks of four.

We use this catalogue as our reference book for Air Mails and can, therefore, recommend it as a valuable book.

Published by Nicolas Sanabria, 17, East 42nd Street, New York, U.S.A. Price \$2.00 cloth bound and \$4.00 De Luxe edition.

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Sept. 6, 1939.

Mr. L. B. Mason,
104 Cranford Ave.,
Cranford, N.J.

My dear L.B.:

Re - yours of the 5th. I have seen two stampless covers with the "40" in circle. One is addressed to San Francisco and has the red "New York Aug. 27" - black "40" and curved "Paid" in red. My memo fails to show who owns this cover, but I think it must belong to Knapp.

Knapp also owns a stampless cover addressed to New York with red "Pan & San. Fran. S.S." and black 40 in ring.

Elliott Perry has a single 5¢ 1847 off cover with this same 40 with ring in black. Quite a nice little item and the only one I have ever seen. I find no indication of year on either of above covers, but surmise the "Aug 27" must be 1849. The Pan San is Jan 15 and is more likely 1851 than 1850 because I don't recall off hand seeing the Pan San as early as Jan 15, 1850.

The ringed 40 is evidently quite scarce. I do not believe Jssup has one and I doubt if Wiltsee ever saw one. He don't know a thing about New York markings though he pretends to know all about everything.

Regarding your cover - I note it is dated "S.F. Sep 30, 1849". On face is apparently "Free - Thos Hurley - M.C." This is strange as California was not a state at this time, hence had no member of Congress. Perhaps this Hurley might have been a member of Congress from some eastern state on a trip to California, and didn't the law recite the franking privilege was only extended - During Congress and thirty days before and thirty days after each session? I expect this is the explanation. You could find out by writing Washington if a Thos Hurley was a member of Congress in 1849.

The "S.S. Oregon" sailed from S.F. on Oct. 1, 1849 with the U. S. Mail. Carhart has a cover which went by this mail and in Volume 2 of my book is an illustration of this postmark of "S.F. Oct. 1" with a black "40" in small rectangle. Surely your letter went by this steamer - but it was a wharf letter - not put in S.F. P.O.

If other letters by same mail were so franked and marked Free and got by O.K. it meant that the officials of P.O. at S.F. were not conversant with the law whereas this letter reached a P.O. first at New York where they did know the law hence treated it as unpaid and 40 cents due. You know if any post office recognized a letter as properly paid or franked it had to be so delivered. Probably New York noticed other letters franked as per yours but had to let

Mr. L. B. Mason - Sep. 6, 1939.

them pass "Free" inasmuch as S.F. had so rated them. All New York could do was to report the S.F. Office to Washington. This was an important Regulation of the P.O.D. and I made mention of it in my book.

With every good wish,

Cordially,

LAURENCE B. MASON

104 Cranford Avenue
Cranford, New Jersey

September 4, 1939.

Dear Stanley:

War or no war I guess stamp collecting will go on and collectors will still discuss matters of interest as in this case.

Plate 44L in your second volume of the Ic 185I lists a cancellation black 40 in circle found on letters from New York to California prior to July 1, 1851. Would you be surprised to learn I never saw a cover with this mark until I secured the enclosed.

You will note the letter is dated San Francisco Sept 30, 1849 and is marked Free by a M.C., "Thos Hurley," I think, but was not placed in the San Francisco Post Office being carried outside of the regular mail where it received the 40 marking, unless I am wrong, upon arrival in New York in which case the M.C. frank was not recognized.

I think a steamer sailed on Oct. 1st, 1849 and strange to say I have seen another letter from this correspondence where the M.C. frank was accepted and the letter stamped Free and in addition postmarked in black San Francisco Oct 1, (1849) .

Have you any record of letters from New York to Cal. with this black 40 and on what dates; were the letters postmarked with New York.

Please reply at once as my exhibit at the A.P.S. Convention will include the enclosed cover.

With kindest regards, Sincerely yours,

S. *Laurence*

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Sept. 8, 1939.

Mr. Edwin A. Wolf,
123 Tenth Ave.,
So. Charleston, W. Va.

My dear Mr. Wolf:

I am returning herewith the vertical pair of the One Cent 1851 you so kindly sent me in yours of the 1st.

I am pleased to report to you that your analysis was perfectly correct as this is indeed quite a nice pair from the One Cent Plate Three.

I heartily congratulate you on your clever diagnosis. The shade of the pair is not at all unusual, in fact it is just the usual "Plate 2 shade" and would lead no one to suspect it might come from Plate 3. I note carefully the different plating marks you noted, but you failed to mention a very important feature - the small diagonal surface cracks below the bottom row stamp.

This bottom row position has several important plating marks but its principal one for ready identification is the scratch at top as per diagram enclosed. I am sure I never saw a copy of this position before - further I never saw a bottom row position before with diagonal surface cracks. These are definitely cracks - very fine, but surely not plate scratches.

Further I have never seen a duplicate of the 9th row position - I have no record of a stamp showing the identical markings in the "0" of one.

I was therefore much pleased to see this pair and before returning it I very carefully made some fine enlarged photos - measurements etc. for future reference.

I am sorry that this is about all I can tell you. I have no idea which pane it comes from much less any clue as to the positions but thank heavens it is a pair and not a single from the bottom row. My photographs will indeed be useful in the future.

I do think it was indeed quite remarkable that you were able to identify this item. It pleases me immensely to realize that perhaps I did put in my book some useful information for anyone who cared to study the One Cent and to use their brains.

I will forward you several prints of my negatives in the near future.

#2.

Mr. Edwin A. Wolf - Sept. 8, 1939.

With many thanks to you and Mr. Bacon, I am

Cordially yours,

September 1, 1939

Mr. Stanley. B. Ashbrooke
424 S. Grand Ave.
Fort Thomas, Ky.
My dear Mr. Ashbrooke;

I hope I am not trespassing too greatly upon your time with my very frequent letters and requests for confirmations concerning various stamps you have been so good as to examine for me.

Presuming again, therefore, upon your good nature, I am sending for your examination another item I believe and hope will be of real interest and value to you. It is a pair Scott #31 Type II imperforate that I think comes from the bottom two rows of Plate III. I cannot fit it into either Plate I or II and certainly not Plate IV. May I ask for your confirmation of my analysis.

This pair is the property of Mr. Wm. V. V. Bacon of St. Albans, W. Va. who has very kindly loaned it to me for exhibition purposes and I am sending it to you at his request.

The special characteristics I have noted in this pair are as follows;

A guide dot between the 8th & 9th rows- No dots supposed to be in the space.

9th row copy- Blur at top of design

Slight short transfer at bottom

Blurs and scratches in O of One and below N & O in white border of label.

A guide dot between 9th & 10th rows

10th row copy- Blur at top of design

Scratches in ornaments W*X*Z and below right full plume

Edge of plate apparently $14\frac{1}{2}$ mm below bottom of design

Guide dot 5 mm below L.R. plume and approximately $1\frac{1}{2}$ mm to the right of the right edge of the design.

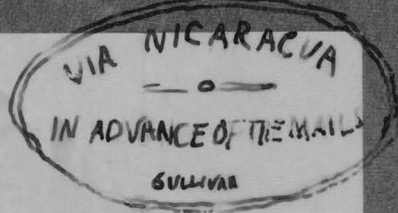
I sincerely hope this pair comes from pPlate III and may be of some assistance to you in your reconstruction of Plate III

Yours sincerely

Edwin A. Wolf

Edwin A. Wolf
123 Tenth Ave.
South Charleston, W. Va.

MRS. R. H. MCKNIGHT
1428 INVERNESS AVENUE
PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA



My dear Mr Ashbrook -

Having read your article in "Stamps" of June 17, on Via Nicaragua covers, I wonder if you could tell me anything about my cover.

It is post marked New York June 26 on a pair of the 3¢ stamps and addressed to a young lady in Pgh. It is a small valentine envelope with an embossed border. This has never been in a dealers hands, has just been in the family a long time. Several years ago I sent it to Mrs Wells

in N.Y. who thought she could find out
something about it, but got no information.
We since seen several articles in the
different stamp magazines but none seem
to have this same cachet, a tracing of
which I enclose.

The word at the bottom is "Sullivan"
I enclose a stamped envelope and hope
you will be able to find time to answer

Sincerely

Alice G. McKnight

July 4 '39

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

July 7, 1939.

Mrs. R. H. McKnight,
1428 Inverness Ave.,
Pittsburg, Pa.

Dear Mrs. McKnight:

Your letter of the 4th addressed care of "Stamps" was forwarded to me by Mr. Lindquist.

I am quite familiar with the "Via Nicaragua" marking as contained on your cover. If you have a Scott U. S. Catalogue you will find this marking illustrated on page 312. Sullivan was a news dealer and forwarder of mail in San Francisco in the middle 1850's.

Your cover shows a use in 1854, in fact it left San Francisco on Thursday, June 1, 1854 by the "S. S. Sierra Nevada", out of the regular mail, and was deposited in the New York Post Office on June 26, 1854, and thence to its destination.

At this period the Vanderbilt Line of ships were making better time to New York than the regular U. S. Mail steamers. The writer, desiring his letter to reach its destination in the shortest space of time, handed it to the forwarder "Sullivan" to deposit it in the mail-bag on board the Sierra Nevada. In order that there be no mistake, Sullivan handstamped the envelope with his private handstamp, which indicated it was not to be deposited in the San Francisco Post Office, but was to go by the Nicaragua steamer. From Nicaragua it was transmitted to New York by the "S. S. Prometheus."

As I am very much interested in covers with the various "Via Nicaragua" markings, I would greatly appreciate the favor of a loan of your cover so that I could photograph it for my records. If you would be willing to dispose of it, so that I might add it to my specialized collection, I would like very much to acquire it.

Thanking you for your letter, I am

Yours sincerely,

MRS. R. H. MCKNIGHT
1428 INVERNESS AVENUE
PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

July 29

My dear Mr Ashbrook, —

I've been
very remiss answering your prompt
letter and I'm very glad to have
an idea about my cover and thank
you very much for all your
information.

I believe I'd rather keep the cover
that is my trouble. I'm always a bit
unwilling to part with any of my
collection and that little cover was
given me by a relative of the one

to whom it is addressed

Thanking you again

Sincerely

Alice G. Mc Knight

MRS. R. H. MCKNIGHT
1428 INVERNESS AVENUE
PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

My Dear Mr Ashbrook -

Thank you so
much for the information. My U S
Scott Catalog is 1933 vintage!

I enclose the cover for your
inspection, to photograph if you
wish.

While I had no intention of selling
it is too bad not to have something
like that in a special collection of
similar covers. It is odd & alone with me.

Perhaps you wont wish it when you
see it for the condition is not too good

and the face evidently marred by a
splotch of sealing-wax.

I wish you would set a price on it
however. The only thing I've ever
had to go by is Makeels auction price
quotations and then of course I've
not known which cashed it was

Thanking you again for your
information

Sincerely

A. G. Mc Knight

July 11 '39



Miss Louisa Johnston
Care of Mr. W. H. Johnston
Pittsburgh
Pa

MRS MCKNIGHT

DR. ANDRÉS D. CRUZ F. R. P. S. L.
113 AVENIDA ALCOY
ALICANTE

Alicante, Spain.
Aug. 14th. 1939.

Mr Stanley B. Ashbrook
in
Kentucky

Dear Sir;—

Being a modest stamp collector,
I am starting 19th Century U.S.A.

Recently I bought a cover having a
10 cents Green 1857-60 Type V Plate II with
a circular New York Paid cancellation #108
as described ^{as common} in your interesting book. "U. S.
Ten Cents Stamp 1855-1857."

The cover is sent from New York to
Manzanillo, Cuba. "por vapor Colombia"
"by Steamship Colombia" but what I am
interested to know is, what does it mean
an oval with NA1. in black. on the face
of the cover.

Thanking you in advance

for your wise information

I am sincerely yours

Dr Andrés D. Cruz F.R.P.S.L.

Please address
your answers this way.

Consul Dominican Republic

Alicante, Spain.



434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Aug. 31st, 1939.

Dr. Andres D. Cruz,
113 Avenida Alcoy,
Alicante, Spain.

Dear Doctor:

Your letter of the 14th received.

The "N A 1" found on letters from this country to Cuba, was a Cuban applied marking, no doubt handstamped at Havana. I do not think I have ever heard the exact meaning of this marking, but I judge it was a Cuban domestic postage due. Mail from this country to points in Cuba could not be prepaid to destination, that is, to include the Cuban domestic.

The rate was 10¢ to Havana - (2500 miles, 20¢ for distances above 2500 miles) but as I understand, the Cuban domestic was collected from the addressee.

We had no postal treaty with Cuba at that period whereby mail could be forwarded from the origin in one country to the destination in the other. It has been suggested that the "N.A." meant "North America" but whether this is correct I do not know. The marking was applied in black and blue.

I am enclosing you a circular regarding my latest book, which contains quite a bit of information on the U. S. postal markings of the period up to 1862.

Sincerely yours,

to S.B. re his list. H.M.K. Aug. 1st/23

Lady Pike. No doubt, as others of this line, used #
CINCINNATI & LOUNVILLE MAIL ROUTE Circle, Black & Blue.
& CINCINNATI & SB Circle. (and others in 1860-70 period).
Telegraph. There was a # 2 which had a printed
marking (envelope as corner Card 1; and
a 37mm circle reading: "TELEGRAPH No. 2- U.S.
MAIL STEAMER. M. Mc Lelland, Master" in 1853. Red.
Reindeer. In 1867 oval was: "REINDEER STR. SATURDAY;
NIGHT PACKET. J. W. STONE. Earlier ovals; 1848-51.

Horsier State. No record of markings.

Tashomings " " " "

Alvin Adams " " " "

There was a "ADAMS, B. J. LOUNVILLE & NEW
ORLEANS PASSENGER STEAMER. J. S. RICHEY
MASTER, B. F. MOODY CLERK" Printed Envelope 1858

Cystal Palace. No record of markings.

J. N. Lucas " " " "

Belle Sheridan " " " "

S.T. J. T. Rabue " " " "

High Flyer " " " "

* also of course "LOUNVILLE & CINCINNATI MAIL LINE"
and "LOO & CINCINNATI S.B. MAIL LINE"
and variations thereof - circles & ovals

Empress. Several markings for "Packet Empress". One
 "report" I have says: "Mobile Boat."
 Chancellor. Master in 185⁶ was J. W. Stewart if
 it's STEAMER CHANCELLOR which I have
 oval, 1851-64 Blue x But I also have FROM
 PACKET CHANCELLOR, 1851-55, oval, different
 size & color to other oval. (Could be same boat).

Mary Hunt. No markings known to me.

Robert I. Ward " " " "

A. L. Shotwell " " " "

James Trabue " " " "

Lexington " " " "

D. A. Green " " " "

Emma Watts " " " "

T. C. Twitchell " " " "

Join Page 2:

FORREST Rose. No marking date known to me.

FANNY Bullitt. " " " " " "

ARABIA " " " " " "

Ben Lee " " " " " "

Fort Pitt " " " " " "

FARMER, PACKET 1852 oval Blank

Reported to me as "Alabama River" packet
 I have several FARMER - "packet" & "steamer"

Fort Henry. No markings known to me.

Castle Gordon. No markings known to me.
 Umpire of Nashville " " " "
 Rainbow " " " "
 Ariel. " " " "
 I. G. Cline " " " "
 Lone Star " " " "
 Bee " " " "
 James Jackson " " " "
 golden Gate " " " "
 Southerner " " " "

NATIONAL. NEW ORLEANS & SHREVEPORT

STEAMER. R. SINNOTT, MASTER. (No date) Oval. Black, ex

As above is named as "Red River" I might
 suppose the National on your list is a
 different boat.

William Garvin. No marking data known to me.
 Lewis Whiteman. N. ORLEANS &

OUACHITA PACKET. 1853 Double Oval 49x22 Red
 LEWIS WHITEMAN. STEAMER 1855 Oval 57x10 Blue
 is what I have.

INGOMAR. MEMPHIS & NEW ORLEANS

U.S.M. MONDAY PACKET. J.D.

CLARK, COMMANDER. 1859-60 Oval Red.

is what I have on Ingomar.

Indah Tours. (OK) 1851-1860 Various Ovals.

4

Yanion. No markings known to me.

Capitol " " " " "

Peter Fellon " " " " "

Ben Franklin. I have

FRANKLIN, DR STEAMER (no date) straight line Bord. Red

" " " No. 2, 1844 no details → Red

Niagara. No marking data known to me.

Your Page 3:

David Tatum. No marking data known to me.

FLORIDA " " " " "

P. C. Waller I have several markings

Belle Sheridan No marks known to me

MAGNOLIA. I have 4 "Magnolia" but no M. BRANNER

Belle Quigley. No markings data known to me.

James E. Woodruff. " " " " "

Evansville " " " " "

Fawn " " " " "

Princess, Steamer No. 3, in oval, 1851-52

Princess, Steamer (and Steam) in SL 40x5; Blue or Green in 1856

Cobb, R. L. No marking data known to me.

Rodolfe " " " " "

Yazzo-Belle " " " " "

J

STAR OF THE West. No marking data known to M.E.

"LECOMPTÉ, NEW ORLEANS & RED RIVER

PACKET CHENEY JOHNSON, MASTER, SIM

SMITH, CLERK. " Cover shows this in Shield design. ^{on 3/1857}

(Is this same Lecompte as yours?)

John Bell. No marking data known to M.E.

Grapeshot " " " " " "

Albertine " " " " " "

Carrier " " " " " "

Vermont " " " " " "

City of Cairo " " " " " "

Blanche Lewis " " " " " "

Grace Darling " " " " " "

A RACE, ALICE. FROM STEAMER. 1854 oval Red. ↓

Have you perchance any ability to check this A RACE?

HARRY D. ULLERY

Coal, Coke and Mason Supplies
SOUTH BEND, IND.

Office and Yards:
318-319 South St. Peter Street

July 15, 1939

Mr Stanley B Ashbrook
434 South Grand Ave
Fort Thomas, Ky

Dear Sir:

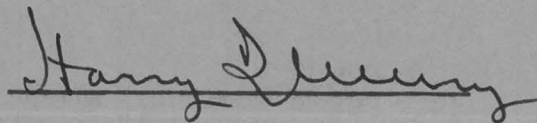
I am sorry for not answering you letter of April 22nd sooner but I have been spending considerable time at the lake and leave all of my correspondence neglected.

The last time I wrote you we ~~were~~ talking about my sending you some 5¢ Orange-browns to inspect I will send them ~~later~~ as I have them in a vault at the bank and it would be inconveint to get them at this time.

I hope to meet you personally in the near future and if you are ever in this vicinity I would deem it a pleasure to have you drop in.

Thanking you for your very kind letters and assuring you that I will contact you in September, I am

Yours truly,



HUD: CAS

HAPPY NEW YEAR
1857



TO ALL AT
HOME.

T. C. BOYD, SAN FRANCISCO.

Henry Scott, Esq.,
Coopers Town, N.Y.

Dear Sir:

My mind will revert occasionally to the scenes of my childhood in your beautiful village and among my most pleasant and agreeable recollections are those connected with yourself and family. I wish you and family the compliments of the season with many returns of the same.

I am pleased to inform you that I am in good health and prospects with me are favorable. I have been three times rich, once in Arkansas, and twice here and now prospects good for the fourth, and when I accomplish it, I will visit "Home again". Please present my highest regards to Mrs. Scott and accept for yourself much esteem.

Your friend,

J. B. Lynde

P. S. I have had the pleasure of hearing from you through my sister, Mrs. Babcock. Just as I am closing our old friend Erastus Sparrow stepped in and I told him to whom I was writing. He requests me to give his respects. The old man is very rich and looks about as he did in the "Green Store".

Yours in haste,

J. B. L.

Nov. 17, 1938.

Dr. Carroll Chase,
% Chase Bank,
41 rue Cambon,
Paris, France.

Dear Doc:

Your two letters of the 24th and 8th received. I sent you the two deluxe copies via express about a week ago and no doubt you have received them by this time.

Regarding Luff's "Premieres". From time to time I cross swords with Clark on this subject without causing him enough irritation to rub my name from his list of friends. I am quite sure if I have a little patience Hugh will come around O.K. and put the "samples" where they belong. The chances were never better than they are at present. Hugh is no longer in the stamp business and Luff is dead. So what? I don't think Hugh gives a tinker's damn about these labels and personally don't give a rap when they are placed in the catalogue. In the past he feared Luff, and other dealers brought much pressure. Now he has no strings tied to him, and he told me last June that he thought he would tell both stories when he wrote this section of the new Luff book - our story and Luff's and let readers form their own conclusions. I told him that was O.K. with me. The chances are we will move to New York in the near future and when located there I will have plenty of opportunities to talk to Hugh and explain fully to him how silly the Luff tale really is. I am enclosing copies of some correspondence I had with him last August. I doubt if I sent you copies of this before. I think you will get a kick out of the letter I wrote him.

Just between ourselves it was intimated to me about a year ago that Ward would like to make some arrangement with me to join his "organization". I really considered such an arrangement, because I had about come to the conclusion I would either chuck all stamp work and go back into the brokerage business, or go with some dealer who had plenty of money. But the more I thought about Ward the more I became convinced his ways were not my ways and that any connection I would make with him would be a very great mistake. I am quite sure you are thinking, thank God Stan did not commit such a silly act. Am I right? I am going to locate somewhere close to New York and operate as a free lance with no strings. Of course I will not have any office and will operate from home as I am now doing. Perhaps you may come back home. I think we could co-operate to very great advantage. Think it over.

Regarding Ward. I certainly do recall the Valley Forge stamp and Ward's story of it. No I could not imagine Philip returning any money to anyone under any circumstances. Money is his God. I am quite sure you recall my attitude toward him in the early years of the 1920's. At that time I never condescended to even speak to him. I thought he was a louse.

Don't bother about the two books I sent you until such a

#2.

Dr. Carroll Chase - Nov. 17, 1938.

time as it is perfectly convenient. Harry charged \$5.00 each for them.

When I first glanced at the Crocker sale catalogue I noted the 5¢ 1847 descriptions and said to myself - Who but Doc could write such descriptions - later I found your name at the head of the catalogue. I knew damn well no one but you could name the year shades of the 5¢ 1847. Shortly after Jessup sent me one of Colson's monthly circular letters and unless I am terribly mistaken that louse took an awful crack at you. You certainly are a source of great irritation to the Boston red head. Jessup could not imagine to whom Colson referred. I enclose you a copy of this blast. In the second paragraph I judge he refers to my praise of the Newbury collection in the One Cent volumes.

Note third paragraph - this refers to you, not to me, because I never made a single comment on any "Special printings". He classes you as an "Alleged American Authority" whose services were engaged to assist in preparing a catalogue. What a d - s - o - b, that stinker really is. Some day I am going to bust him in the teeth. Did you expertize that 7¢ Special printing?

I thought the average condition of the Crocker collection was lousy and who but Colson put all this junk in Crocker's collection. I suppose Colson was sore because you called attention that certain lots were marked "W.H.C."

Re - yours of the 24th. The last report from Harry practically all copies of Volume 1 and 2 had been sold. When one considers there were 1200 copies of each volume printed I think it is rather remarkable all would be sold. I hope they will revive interest in Early U. S. God knows we need some stimulant very bad to offset the craze over 20th Century.

I never had any idea you still owned your Territorials. If I had known you still owned them I would have welcomed the chance to list and illustrate any you could have sent me. I wonder if you would be willing to sell any of these? If so send me a bunch of 1¢ and 3¢ with net prices to me marked and I am sure I can place quite a few. Also send me any express items you care to sell, also any other California or western items. How about "Via Nicaragua" covers? Have you any at present?

Re - that "Oct 51" year-date. Perry owns your old 1¢ cover and he has a 3¢ 51 O.B. with "Jan 51". It is possible the "Oct 51" actually meant "Oct 51" and it was used in Oct - Nov - and Dec., then the "51" was not changed in Jan. 1852. It does seem strange that the 15 of Oct and the 15 of Jan. were both transposed. Why not the "14" making "Jan. 41" or the "25th" - making "52". It is just possible the "Oct 51" meant "Oct 1851". I'll leave it to you.

Regarding the Paid 3 - Figure 44 F - page 120 - Volume 2. This is a Type II - Plate 2 - an unsealed envelope - addressed to Center Sandwich, N.H. It is in black. Chances are it was a piece of circular mail with origin unknown. On the other hand it may have been a drop (but it was not sealed) from Center Sandwich. It is in the Newbury collection. I think it is O.K. Note your book - page 228. The Brattleboro is similar.

#3.

Dr. Carroll Chase - Nov. 17, 1938.

I certainly did spend many hours tracing postal markings. It is very tedious work and everyone in Volume 2 is from my pen.

I wish I had known you had kept up your list of year-dates R.R.'s - Packets, etc. We might have published much additional information. I do wish you were back in this country.

I certainly would like to see your 10¢ 1847 with an Oregon marking. What sort of a rate could it be? Only thing I can think of is a use after April 1st, 1855 after the 47's were obsolete.

I nearly wrecked myself doing this work both physically and financially and while I would like to do the 1847's I would not consider tackling the job without your co-operation and joint authorship. I have your 1847 article and I often refer to it and recommend it to others. It is a grand piece of work and it should be revised and brought up to date. But such work pays no dividends but requires a sacrifice of time and money. If such a work was undertaken it would only be proper to include Perry's plating of the 10¢. I have done a lot of checking on his work but so far I have not found a single mistake.

It sure would be nice if we lived in the same town and American Philately would certainly benefit and I think we could make plenty of money.

My best regards, in which Mildred wishes to join.

As ever,

Yours etc.,

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Aug. 10, 1939.

Dr. Carroll Chase,
41 rue Cambon,
% Chase Bank,
Paris, France.

Dear Doc:

Referring to mine of the 5th, I am enclosing you a copy of the Souren booklet herewith. You will note the explanation of their examination of the Knapp "shift". I had Knapp submit this stamp to Souren. You will recall Perry is on record that this stamp is a "rank fake". Quite naturally the Souren opinion will not do me any harm, also his positive statement the plates "were of copper". However I do not want you to think that I consider Souren's findings as final in any sense. That stamp is a queer bird and while I think it is genuine, I would not bet any great sum I was right. At least it is nice to be thought right and Perry wrong.

What I am really sending this book to you for is to see the way Souren has put Colson on the spot - Note the balls to Martin in Warren's own hand writing.

I want you to especially note the 30¢ 1869 cover on page 46. Souren has pronounced this a fake. I examined this cover about a month ago - but only casually - just looked at it for a few moments. At the time, I did not even know it had been submitted to Martin and my impression was that it was good in spite of the fact I was told several "experts" in New York had declared it a fake. The red New York on face is the regular New York foreign mail marking but the exchange marking at bottom does not show. If there was originally a 30¢ 1869 on this cover, the exchange mark should have been 6, or 6 cents, if the rate originally was 15¢ then the figure at bottom in the N.Y. Postmark should have been "3" or 3 cents. Note the N.Y. date is "Aug. 21" (1869). Now note the French marking in purple. This reads, "Etats Unis - 21 Aout 69 - Paq. Fr. H. N° 2". I was told this French postmark had been pronounced a fake because the date was the same as New York. Of course the explanation is very simple - This was a French Packet marking applied on board at New York on receipt of the mail from the New York Post Office. I am quite sure this marking means - "United States by French Packet to Havre" but I am not sure what the "N° 2" means. I surmise that it signifies the particular ship which carried this mail. I note in the Yvert "Catalogue des Estampilles - 1929 edition" that this marking is listed on page 413. This listing is as follows:

- | | |
|-----|--------------------------------|
| (A) | "Etats - Unis - Paq. Fr. Brest |
| (B) | " " " Fr. 2. Brest 2. |
| (C) | " " " Fr. Le Havre |
| (D) | " " " Fr. 2 Le Havre 2 |
| (E) | " " " Fr. H. N° 1 (ou 2) |

#2.

Dr. Carroll Chase - Aug. 10, 1939.

Thus I conclude there were two ships which used this (E) type, and two more using the "C" and "D" types, making four in all.

Can you give me any information on this or if not can you obtain any for me? Is there any better or later publication on the packet markings of France other than the above Yvert Catalogue?

On the back of this cover is the handstamp of Seybold as you will note. Colson claims this cover was purchased years ago by Seybold for \$2.75 and at a time when the 30¢ stamp only catalogued at \$4 or \$5. He claims it was never out of the collection which purchased it from Seybold hence it is silly to suppose this cover was a fake when Seybold purchased it. I never knew Seybold, I suppose he was out of the game long before my time. Did you know him? I have several of his covers with his rubber stamp on the reverse. It is possible that Seuren may be right in his statement that this "30¢ stamp was not originally used on this cover" because it is possible this cover had a 15¢ stamp on it when Seybold owned it and that in later years it fell into the hands of Zareski(?) who simply substituted a 30¢ for the 15¢.

You will note Seuren did not know anything about that French Packet marking and made little comment regarding it other than it was the same date as the New York. I think this convinced him the French was a fake whereas it is perfectly O.K.

I am going to have someone look up the files of the N.Y. Herald and find out what French Packet sailed from N.Y. on Aug. 21, 1869.

Any information you can give me will be greatly appreciated.

With best regards,

Cordially yours,

432 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Aug. 10, 1939.

Dr. Carroll Chase,
41 rue Cambon,
% Chase Bank,
Paris, France.

Dear Doc:

Re - yours of Apr. 24th. I find I failed to answer several of your questions. I certainly did read your remarks on the 1867 and 1869 issues. In fact I have all of the numbers Diamond published. Too bad this chap was a crook as his little monthly was good and quite above the ordinary.

Re - Grills. I have never had any use for them and never devoted any time to their study. One copy known of a certain 18 X 15 seems rather fishy and the explanation you gave is in all probability the answer. While plugging away at Clark I think I will suggest he cut out such trash as this 18 X 15 Grill. I am glad you mentioned it.

Souren illustrated the "mint" 1869 without "Grills" and I saw all the copies Colson submitted to Martin including the block of four of the 90%. I do not know a thing about such trash but they looked to me like some sort of unissued proofs. I think I'll also add a few remarks to Clark on these.

Souren states the lot shows the grills were ironed out. I doubt this, and believe they were some sort of proofs. Colson says his lot are absolutely genuine - he knows their history - and that anyone who knows his stuff can very easily tell these "rare stamps" by the peculiar shades and dark brown gum. Do you really think the gum on these items is any different from certain batches of gum used for the 1869 stamps? Seems strange a special gum would be used for proofs. If the gum is different from any used for the 1869 stamps then I suppose Colson would call these "Special Printings" made at a subsequent date to the regular issue.

I also find I failed to thank you for your suggestions re-the Collector's Club. This was most thoughtful of you Doc but in my opinion I would hardly qualify for such a place. In the first place, I have no knowledge of foreign stamps or 20th Century U. S. Considering the field I cover I would have a hard time finding enough to do at the Club. If such a plan was feasible Lindquist could make arrangements if anyone could and Harry and I are very close. I know he would go far out of his way to do me a favor. No I think my best bet is to locate near New York and operate as a free lance with no strings tied to anyone with my time as my own. I know I could make a good living but to be really successful along this line capital is required and while I can obtain same I dislike the very thought of borrowing money. I have several plans in mind, details of which are hard to outline in a letter. What I am hoping to land is an "angel" - a chap with gobs of money and a desire to go strong for stamps - To take me over to show him how to get the

#2.

Dr. Carroll Chase - Aug. 10, 1939.

most pleasure out of collecting and to guard him against the wolves and fakers. I could fill a job like that if such a person would relieve me of all worry of paying the bills on the first of each month. Some day I'll land such a bird then we will go places. And by the way that Bradley Martin is a good prospect. He should be out of Souren's hands and in tow of just such a chap as myself - Rather sensible, don't you agree?

When such a thing happens then I'll take a trip to Paris to visit you and bring my angel along. Not bad, such a thought.

As ever,

Yours,

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Aug. 5, 1939.

Dr. Carrol Chase,
41 rue Cambon,
Paris, France.

My dear Doc:

I certainly wish to apologize for the delay in replying to your several letters, but this has been a rather strenuous summer and I have had so much to do I have had to let all personal correspondence slide. Thanks for your nice letter of the 24th which was much appreciated by Mildred as well as myself.

Tracy was slightly misinformed as it was Mildred's mother who passed away the last of June. She was a grand woman and a wonderful mother-in-law and her death was almost as great a shock to me as it was to Mildred. I lost my mother in 1927 and my father in 1929. No doubt you remember both of them. Mildred was an only child and she and her mother were unusually close as her father died when Mildred was only fifteen. Her mother's death was very sudden and we were entirely unprepared for it. She went to the hospital, to have what we all considered an operation which would surely not result as fatal. It was to sever the "Eighth Nerve" at the base of the brain, back of the right ear. The operation, as we were told, a complete success but she suddenly expired about three hours after they had taken her back to her room after the operation. About the only reason the doctors could assign was a sudden stroke in another part of the brain. It was a most unusual case, and for this reason I thought you might be interested.

Regarding Stiles. While I have no interest one way or the other my inclination is to side with the N.Y. Times. I resent English dealers coming over here and taking American Collections over there to sell back to us. If this sale was in N.Y. I would attend but of course I can't go to London and hence I won't bid on a thing. To bid by mail at auctions is the biggest sap stuff in the world. Therefore I hope the suit which Harmer has filed against the N.Y. Times will fall down flat.

I resented the gossip Colson and others were spreading that you wrote the entire Crocker Catalogue. I told Stiles this was a lie - that you only wrote the 1847-1851 and 1857 section and that Harmer had no right to give the impression you had written the whole thing.

Back of Stiles is Souren and take it from me he is the

#2.

Dr. Carrol Chase - Aug. 5, 1939.

slickest rattle snake who has ever been in the stamp game. Charlie Mekeel in his palmiest days was a mere amateur beside this fellow Souren. I keep on the good side of him because if he is your enemy he is poison itself. I would just as soon have the devil on my tail as Souren. If there is anything in hypnotic powers, then Souren has a full measure because he unquestionably hypnotizes those who swear by him. My guess is that Harmer will never get very far in that suit with Souren in the background. If they knew the true situation they would lay off.

I can't write you the details but you should see the way Souren is going for Colson. For the first time in his life Colson has been placed on the defensive. For years he has been going around calling everyone a crook and pronouncing many covers, etc. as "fakes". It seems that Colson tried to take away from Souren his star customer - one Bradley Martin of New York. This is the chap to whom Souren sold the Crocker block of four 1869 inverts to at a price of \$25,000, and this figure was not phony.

Souren had Martin get a whole mess of stuff from Colson, then Souren turned the material over to his "Experts" and a number of the items were reported to be repaired - re-perforated - grills ironed out - and faked covers. Souren has just issued an illustrated booklet reproducing Colson's bills etc. etc. and photos purporting to show the fraudulent items.

You can well imagine how Warren is taking this stuff. Can you imagine the great Colson being accused of selling fake items? If you wish I'll send you one of the Souren booklets. Let me know. Take a tip from me Doc and be very careful in any dealings you might have with Souren. If you write him be very careful what you put in a letter. He has every dealer in Nassau St. scared to death and he is causing a lot of them to refund money on fake stuff.

While he is poison itself I do believe some good will result because, as you well know, some dealers have been getting away with murder for years. Take that crook Hardy in Chicago. The stuff that bird has pulled smells to the sky and believe me Doc, Jake's association with Hardy is no credit to Ernie.

At present we have no plans about moving to New York. Conditions over here have been bad since the first of the year and with a presidential election in the offing I figured the sanest thing to do was to sit tight and not rock the boat. While I am not setting the world afire I am at least keeping busy and managing to make a living. I do know I could do much better in New York but I do not want to take a chance moving down there and running into a period when the real buyers lay off and refuse to buy anything.

One more word about Stiles. Do not worry because I never did have any intention of disclosing to him or anyone else any comments from any of your letters.

I was down to New York in May and had quite a chat with

#3.

Dr. Carroll Chase - Aug. 5, 1939.

Hugh Clark at which conference his wife was present. As you well know she wears the pants and she told me positively the "Augusts" would not be taken out of the catalogue or albums. Inasmuch as it is a waste of time to argue with a woman I promptly dropped the subject. After all it is nothing in my life. You inquired about the Augusts - 30¢, 24¢ and 10¢. Re - the 24¢. Unused copies which we know positively come from the "Sample Sets" sent to Europe are all in a different color than the regular used copies of the 24¢ Violet. In fact we have no used copies of the 24¢ sample no more than we have used copies of the 1¢ August. All used 24¢ Violets are simply early shades of the issued stamps and are in the same class as 3¢ Pinks or 5¢ Buffs. To call a used 24¢ Violet a "Premiere" is just as silly as to call a 3¢ Pink a Premiere.

The sample sets were sent to Europe early in August of 1861, before the "regularly issued" plates were laid down.

I doubt if Clark fears any demands at this late day for refunds. Besides even if a person pressed such a demand he would have no ground to stand on because the "Samples" were not fakes and the only thing about them is that they were never issued by the U. S. P. O. D. I have not been up to Chicago for over a year so have not seen any of your material. Jake mentioned he had some of your Western covers. If this is true and you have any for sale I can place them. I am especially keen for any "Noisy Carriers" or "Via Nicaragua" items.

Herewith I am sending you the 3¢ 1857 photos. I have had these laid aside for you for months.

Mildred joins me in best regards and best wishes.

As ever yours,

Can See Clear Bank
41, rue Cambon Paris.

July 24 1939

Dear Stan :-

I received a letter a few days ago from Lady Swinson
telling me of the death of your mother. It is difficult to say much
in words, but you know you have all my sympathy. It must have been
a hard blow, and you have had enough of them in recent years.

I wonder if you are yet in New York, or if you have
changed your plans.

Another letter just a hand from Mr. Kent B. Stiles, stamp
editor of the New York Times says "a month or so ago I met Mr. Stanley
B. Ashbrook and in the course of a conversation with him remarked about
that statement [regarding my having helped in writing the Crocker Auction Catalogue]
USA." Mr. Ashbrook replied that although he agreed with me that it is the
general opinion over here that you wrote the whole Crocker Catalogue, he was quite
sure that you had prepared or assisted in describing only certain of the early
issues. He further stated that he thought he had a letter from you to that effect
and hoped to look up his file when he returned to his home. Evidently he
has done this as he has advised me by letter that he has in his file a
personal communication from you but does not feel that he should let me
have a copy of it or of that portion of it in which I am interested. He
states "it would hardly be ethical for me to make any of its contents public."

Good for you Stan. Please keep for yourself anything I
may have written in this regard.

I guess you know the story, so I won't go into details.

Drop me a line when you find time.

Best to you both

as ever

CD.

Care du Chaux Bank

41, rue Cambon Paris

June 17 1939

Dear Stan :-

I have an idea that you have been moving & that this may find you in a near N.Y. Good luck and may things go smoothly.

While I think J.T. Simpson of Oakland Calif. said you had sent me some photos of Plate 15 3" (85) II piece. I've not received them, but sure would like to see them when you get around to it.

Another thing. Strictly confidential please. Some years ago there was some idea that I might have a position with the Collectors Club to act as expert for their reference collection, to start a list (with photos) of all great U.S. varieties - for pedigree purposes - to run their "laboratory" etc. etc. Nothing came of it, partly perhaps because of the slump.

Why don't you look into the question? Dickerson's, of course, is the way, but I can't stand him, or Konwiser or some other of the bunch. Perhaps you can. Insist on a decent salary with at least a couple of months vacation in the summer, so that you may come over to see me for example. Tell me what you think of the idea. You are surely the man for the job.

I'm in Brittany until fall at least & busy as the devil.

Best to you both

as ever

C.F.

Care the Chase Bank
41, rue Cambon Paris France
Apr 24 1939

Dear Stan:-

Yours of the 11th regarding the "Anguste" safely at hand. We read it carefully. To begin with we never done anything of any account at all on the 1861 issues. We know for years that the "Anguste" aren't stamps, but that's about all.

I take it for granted that you have some definite proof that the 10^c 24^c & 30^c plates had not been made when the N.B.S.C. got the contract. Without such proof it seems more reasonable to suppose that all the plates were made before the contract. When were the samples sent to Europe? Do you know? Weren't the 30^c and orange, the 10^c & 24^c in dark violet included in these sets, and weren't they on the same paper?

I have an idea that it would be very easy to get Clark to take them out of the catalogue entirely if it wasn't for one thing - the fear of having the repurchase the copies sold - and that amount probably to quite a sum.

The same is true for many other unissued "stamps" in the catalogue - the 24^c 30^c & 90^c 1860 imperfs - the 3^c scarlet & white, the Continental Gulls etc. etc.

You can handle this matter with Clark much better than I. He isn't very keen for me, I believe.

Please don't send this letter to Clark, but if you wish I'll write another along such lines as you suggest that you may send him.

What more can I say? I'll be glad to help as I may - but I'm afraid I can't help very much.

The whole V.S. listing needs revising. Many "stamps" should be left out entirely or put with the proofs where they belong.

The famous 18 x 15 guill is another "green" item to my mind. Did you see what I said about it in the Stamp Collector's Companion for May 1938? If not, I'll send you a copy. I'll state frankly what you think of my theory of a "miracle" guill?

We figure here that there are 4 chances in 5 that we'll have war. Not a very happy prospect.

Very best

As ever

C.

UNION INTERNATIONALE
33, FAUBOURG ST HONORÉ
ANJOU 96-02

Care Street Bank
41, rue Cambon
Paris France
April 8 1939

Dear Stan :-

Your letter in a few days ago.

I see that you, as I, keep right busy. Wouldn't
I be miserable if I had nothing to do?

I wonder how you making out with your plans
for New York. I guess you are making a wise move.

How did the 3rd collection go? There seems to
be quite some interest in the old stamp. I don't
think I've heard from Grant & Chicago. If Mr. Taker
preserves I guess I'd better keep it.

The S2 claret shade is scarce. It's hard to
tell if you sometimes unless it comes from
Plate 1 which went out of use in 1855.

I finally got the two, & took from the
American Express but the damned robbers
made me pay nearly \$5 "charge"! The first
two, which came by mail, didn't cost me a
cent! Please mail anything in the
future & don't send anything by the A. M.

If you get to Chicago ask Cohen or Tabe
to show you the 3rd S1 set I recently sent over.
It will surely be rarer there than here, as war
nearly seems inevitable. I don't see how it can
be avoided, but perhaps a way out may be found.

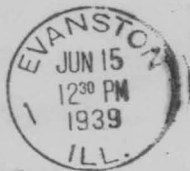
We rented a little house out in Brittany
for a year, so, in case of war, I'll have a
quiet spot to go to.

There are also a few pretty Express covers in
the lot I sent over — all with addresses which
of course are much rarer than envelope stamps.
There is one 1¢ cover that you might find
quite pretty.

Best regards to you both

as ever

CA.



Mr. Edgar B. Jessup,
#1475 Powell Street,
Oakland,

PERSONAL.

California.

(Copy)

Dear Stan:-

June 14th/39

I note some misstatements in your article in STAMPS about Via Nicaragua covers and I think best to set you right. (STAMPS June 19/39)

On page #375 you say that those certain covers (two to be exact) were represented as "genuine in every respect". As a matter of fact I offered these two covers with several others to Mr. B. L. Voorhees and pointed out that the stamps appeared to have been placed on two of them, (or replaced). He did not agree with me and sent the lot to Mr. Wiltsee without calling attention to this. On the cover bearing the pair of 3¢ 1851, I have Mr. Dull's written guarantee and the other cover bearing the 10¢ Green came from Mr. Olin D. Clark of Hartford, Conn and St Petersburg, Fla. Dull sent me a similar cover to the last but it was in poor condition so I destroyed it.

Later Ed Wiltsee said the Via Nicaragua cancellations were bad. He returned the covers to Voorhees, who sent them to you and you wrote Voorhees that all of the covers including the 3¢ pair were OK. except the 10¢ green cover to which I called attention in the first instance. Then Ed. Knapp wrote Voorhees that he did not agree with Wiltsee and bought all four of the covers in two lots just to back his opinion. Because there had been so many conflicting opinions about this matter, I sent you word you could remove the stamps and sell them all as you thought best. The covers were just as I bought them, all reports to the contrary. However, it is worth nothing that you contradicted your own opinion in saying they were all OK. except the 10¢ cover and then you later said that two covers were not right. What is the value of such an opinion?

I also note in your article that you have formed a research group. This is commendable but you may have also noted that UNCLE SAM has formed a research Group headed by Attorney General Murphy assisted by "21 men. As a result the Newspapers say that Al Capone, Prendergast and many more of the same sort are spending their time at Alcatraz, Atlanta, etc. etc.

Perhaps it may interest you to know that certain parties have discovered that you concealed the facts about your valuable stamp collection when you went thru Bankruptcy at Miami some time ago. It is reported that while you were professing poverty, you were at the same time selling me hundreds of dollars worth of your stamps, when I was in Miami and later by mail at Clearwater. You also asked my advice as to where you might sell others. Did you complete your sale of the 10¢ plates to Ed. Jessup? Since I am asked to testify when the case comes up at Miami this Fall, I learn that the penalty for PERJURY if it is so established, is five to ten years at hard labor at Atlanta Penitentiary. Naturally I shall hate to see you go through with this trying situation, for it will not only cost you from \$5,000 to \$10,000 to defend yourself but you will also loose cast Philatelically and in addition I would not be surprised if Mr. Gus Mosler would be in Court and let out one of his loud uproarious laughs.

Have you any comments to make?

Very sincerely yours

E.B.J.

There are always TWO
sides to a story.

H.

(Copy)

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Have you any comments to make?

Very sincerely yours

Harry:-
Please read
this carefully.
Looks like Stan
was in a bad
spot!
Jim

JAMES S. HARDY

1426 CHICAGO AVENUE

EVANSTON, ILLINOIS

June 14th/39

Mr. H. L. Lindquist, Publisher, STAMPS MAGAZINE,

#2 West 46th Street,

New York City.

Dear Harry:-

As there are some mistakes in Ashbrooks article in STAMPS this week, I thought you might care to read a copy of a letter I have today sent him.

I especially call your attention to the last paragraph of my letter.

With best wishes, I am

Very truly yours

Jim

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Aug. 5, 1939.

Mr. E. R. Jacobs,
1251 Asbury Ave.,
Evanston, Ills.

Dear Ernie:

I showed Ireton the letter which Hardy sent me and have talked the matter over with him. He advises me that this is a clear case of slander and that I have a clear case against the big fat head for damages. I am therefore going to bring suit against Hardy and am thinking of having MacGuffin bring the suit for me in Chicago. What is your opinion regarding MacGuffin handling the case? Do you think he would be capable of doing so? If so would you mind seeing him regarding it, or call him up and see how he feels about it and if he has any objections. In order that you might be better informed, here are the facts.

Everything I did regarding the filing of my bankruptcy petition was done under the supervision of Deppe, to whom I introduced you, and who is Vice President of The Fifth Third Union Trust Co. All details of my financial condition were known to him and the steps I took were under his supervision with the advice of the bank's counsel.

No customers of my firm lost any money when I retired from business and my indebtedness consisted of loans to the Fifth Third Union Trust Co. and collateral loans to other local banks - Before I filed my petition the bank canceled all my notes took over the collateral and returned my notes to me, hence when I filed the petition the Fifth Third was not involved in any way and were not mentioned.

Hardy certainly don't know what he was talking about because the records in the case are as clear as a hound's tooth. My attorney in Miami was one of the most prominent lawyers down there and a close personal friend of my brother Claude.

Now for what stamps I am accused of owning at the time the petition was filed. The first mortgage I put on the house in Fort Thomas was in the Spring of 1929. At that time the home was in Mildred's name and was her property not only in name but in fact as I had presented it to her shortly after we were married at the same time making provision for Elliott and Marjorie. At time of the mortgage I transferred to Mildred all the stamps in my possession which as you know were not very many. The consideration of course being the mortgage placed on her property. I sold Hardy, for Mildred's account stamps to the amount of approximately \$750 in the Spring of 1934, and this check, the records will show was indorsed over to her and was deposited in her account at the bank in Miami Beach. I never had anything to do with this money. Hardy claims I also sold at that time large amounts of stamps to Jessup. This is of course untrue. In fact I never met Jessup

#2.

Mr. E. H. Jacobs - Aug. 5, 1939.

until 1935 when he stopped off in Cincinnati and this was some six months after I had filed my petition. So far as selling him large amounts, such chatter is foolish as I doubt if Jessup has ever given me a check for even as much as \$150.

Hardy's whole letter is a pack of lies and misrepresentations and I do not intend for one minute to permit him getting away with such stuff.

I never pronounced those Gibbons covers as genuine as Hardy states in the letter. He infers that I said they were genuine then reversed my position and said they were fakes. To even broadcast such information as this is damaging and is alone a basis for libel and black mail.

I do not think I will have any trouble in proving that Hardy sent this letter to me in an effort to intimidate me and to call me off from having him publicly exposed and expelled from the A.P.S. All of which I intend to do as it takes the last breath in my body.

Will you kindly discuss this matter with Paul and let me hear from you as soon as possible. If Hardy's statements regarding Voorhees are true it would appear that Barney's connection with this case will certainly do him no good.

For fear you have no copy of the Hardy letter I am enclosing you a copy.

With best regards,

Yours etc.,

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Aug. 5, 1939.

Mr. Harry L. Lindquist,
2 W. 46th St.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Harry:

I enclose you copy of a letter I have today written to Ernie also copy of the letter Hardy wrote me some weeks ago.

I understand he sent you a copy of this letter. Will you be so kind as to inform me whether this is true or not. If so would you mind sending me the letter or a photostat of same?

Cordially yours,

H. L. LINDQUIST

PUBLICATIONS

2 WEST 46TH STREET NEW YORK, N. Y.

Dear Stan:

8/9/39.

I received a copy of the Hardy letter referred to in yours of Aug. 5 just received. and am advising my office to send it on to you if it is still in the files. I talked the matter over with Jake in Chicago & he also saw the original before it was sent out and thought he had discouraged Hardy from sending it. Jessup also got a copy & fortunately kept the original envelope.

It sounds like libel to me and the few of us who know about all feel that Jim has laid himself wide open.

Sincerely.

Harry

H. L. LINDQUIST
PUBLICATIONS

2 WEST 46TH STREET NEW YORK, N. Y.

August 11, 1939

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
434 S. Grand Ave.
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Mr. Lindquist has requested that
we forward to you the enclosed copy of a letter re-
ceived here from Mr. Hardy.

Sincerely yours,

P. M. Bram

B
Enc.

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Aug. 25, 1939.

Dear Ernie:

Please drop me a line re - my last, in regard to the Hardy libel case as Ireton is anxious to proceed. I have the original which was sent to Lindquist and also the original which was sent to Jessup, the latter in the original envelope.

I have consulted with a Federal Official who urges me to proceed without delay. What about Mac? Do you advise him or someone else.

Please let me know as soon as possible.

Yours etc.,

POSTAL MARKINGS

Publisher: WILLIAM R. STEWART, 9 South Clinton Street, Chicago

Editor: MANNEL HAHN, Winnetka, Ill.

Winnetka, Illinois.
October 6, 1937

Stanley B. Ashbrook,
434 S. Grand Avenue,
Fort Thomas, Kentucky.

Dear Stan,

I have two letters from you to answer, and I will in their order.

First, regarding Hill's postcard, enclosed herewith, I think he might have gone further. As near as I can make out, his soreness at you is because you said to him that I said something or other about something that he said, and he believes he is too much of an authority to be questioned by a punk like myself. He is a young chap with overinflated ego.

I don't know about W.S.C. paying, and I doubt if they do pay Irion anything. Even if they do, they pay him too much. But my attitude on this is drastically different than yours. I am in the stamp business; it is the only source of living that I have today; I have to make it pay. I am not a student to the general world. The studies I do make are my hobby, and I cannot afford to indulge in my hobby to the extent of presenting my only production; i.e., articles on stamps, to a palpitating world without recompense. I probably lose in the free exchange of information as a result of it. I am perfectly willing to present my studies to serious journals, but where the journal itself is being run for profit, I want a share in it. Harry's business is publishing for profit and he is doing a damn good job. The C.C.P. is being published for a limited audience and I wouldn't think of asking them for any money if they should ever ask me for a story. So far, they haven't. Nor have they ever intimated that my contributions would be welcome. (I am a member of the C.C.). If I were a member of the A.P.S. I should probably give Kimble some work. He has asked me to join so that he could publish my stories. I am just funny about it.

I am not trying to be selfish - I am just trying to make a living, and it is hard lines no matter how you look at it. I started in the stamp business without capital, and I am still that way, but I am trying to get somewhere. I used to write for the love of it to get the publicity. I don't make a cent out of PM and it takes about 1/6 of my full time. I am inconsistent, so what?

Now, as to serious matters, let us go back to these four covers.

Following your markings on these:

I don't know why the half-wit who used them bi-sected them. I do not believe that they were circulars. I think they were intended to be letters. Possibly, as an officer's lady, she thought she was entitled to

POSTAL MARKINGS

Publisher: WILLIAM R. STEWART, 9 South Clinton Street, Chicago

Editor: MANNEL HAHN, Winnetka, Ill.

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half rate or something. At any rate, the two covers with the ringed "5" (A & D) are both from Washington, and I believe that this postage due numeral was placed on there. The PD on A I believe to be the earliest Postage Due marking that I have ever seen. It has nothing to do with the French PD, meaning PAID. That was an international marking, and so far as I have been able to establish, was used only in France and Germany. I have no record of its being used in England, and I have never seen it applied in the U.S. I am convinced in my own mind that the PD applied at Washington signified Postage Due.

Cover B was evidently accepted by the postmaster at Charlottesville, Virginia, as paid, in spite of the bi-sect. The "DUE 3" refers to the forwarding postage, in my opinion.

Cover C is a normal cover. If it had been addressed to the Major at Philadelphia, Pa., it, too, would have had a forwarding and a "DUE 3".

Apparently, these are all right; they may be faked, but they look okay on the face of it. And apparently they are all stamped with the right figures. Apparently, two of them did not get through as bi-sects and one of them did. It is conceivable that the postmaster at Charlottesville would have been dumber than his associate at Washington. What gets me is why she should have used a bi-sect at all. Did she think she could get away with it? Or was she trying to be funny? Or was she just writing her husband for money? And then, again, maybe he wasn't her husband at all. Oh, well, as you once said - this figuring out what somebody was thinking about a generation ago! Referring to the Nicaragua mail, I am very hazy. One thing, though, we must remember - that is, that where mail is carried along a post road or on the same route already established, the minimum charge permitted was the same as it would have cost by the other route. This seems to have been passed on purpose to prevent Vanderbilt from carrying ship letters for less than 7¢, or, to ^{prevent} permit him to carry letters already stamped with 6¢ to New York. I will write more fully about the Nicaragua mail as soon as I have looked it up a little bit.

Of course, it was quite possible for some passenger to smuggle a letter in and mail it for 3¢ from New York, or even some member of the crew. The chances are that a lot of passengers did it. Probably, in our family archives there are some from my great uncle that friends of ours brought back and mailed. I seem to recall a couple of them. ~~These~~ These letter~~s~~; however, are scattered now - some in New York, some in St. Louis, and some of them burned up.

Another thing: a ship "breaks bulk" when she starts to unload.

POSTAL MARKINGS

Publisher: WILLIAM R. STEWART, 9 South Clinton Street, Chicago

Editor: MANNEL HAHN, Winnetka, Ill.

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A ship cannot break bulk until it is "entered", and entering means, customs' authorities' permission to unload. Entry could not be made until all letters on board had been deposited in the post office. To break bulk is, therefore, synonymous with entering in this regard.

As to being hurt by your reference, God forbid! No, I didn't even think of such a thing. I knew what you meant. And accepted it as such. Don't hesitate to tell me what you think even if I am wrong. Between you and me, I have made a mistake or two in my life. That is a dead secret, though.

Yours, etc.,

Mannel

MH:CB

Encl.

144 Providence Road
Charlotte, N. C.
August 7, 1939.

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
Fort Thomas, Ky.

My dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Your courteous letter of June 20th has remained unanswered due to a rush of work, followed by an illness of several weeks, and today is my first effort to sit up and answer correspondence.

Am returning your two Canada covers. These are similar to the ones I wrote you about, and believe that they clear up the situation nicely. Appreciate your kindness in sending them for inspection.

Your recent article in "STAMPS" on the "Steamer Sierra Nevada" was most interesting. Wish that I could be of help in compiling such data on Pacific steamers, however, in the event that the data you are preparing is to be published, please enroll me as a subscriber to the volume.

In Mr. Bartel's recent article in "STAMPS" about the stamped envelopes, he probably did not mention my early date of the star die due to it not being sent to him for inspection. Am enclosing it for your records, so that you may record its date.

✓ Am enclosing cover purchased last winter in Philadelphia as a 4la, with New York Carrier, your type 46YY. However, on close inspection it seems to me that this is a Type I, relief "C" from Plate XII, as the bottom perforations still permit part of the design to be seen, and particularly the lower left ornament is undoubtedly a Type I. Am I correct in my identification?

It would be impossible to tell you the enjoyment I am deriving from your early stamp books, particularly Vol. II of the lc stamp. You show so many interesting markings that I often wonder whether or not you would be interested in seeing others of these types. As an illustration, I have one of your so-called "bootleg" covers from Russia, on Russian watermarked paper, addressed to Richmond, Me. and postmarked with large, red "Boston 3 cts" with the SMALL PAID, dated Oct. 3, (1851).

A "ROUTE 7309" on first issue stamped envelope, mailed to Natchez, with manuscript "Princess". Your "C" of figure 48JR. San Francisco Paid 6, on stampless to Philadelphia, type "o" 50-B. In Mr. Perry's chapter on "Carriers" he notes usage in 1860 of the perforated lc as carrier stamps. Am enclosing a cover with type V, on Star Die envelope, dated Boston, Ms. Nov. 7, 1860, black PAID. Have a nice Philadelphia blue postmark on 3c imperforate, with no carrier stamp, but marked with the red star, dated May 11. Another cover with pair 3c imperforates, postmarked San Francisco, Cal. 16 Dec. addressed to Albion, Mich. with two line oval marking "Too Late" Pencil memo. enclosed listing this marking as "doubtful" and signed "CC" (evidently Chase), as memo. to him was from WFG (Goerner), asking data on cover. What is this Too Late? Perry says it is "Too Late" for Frisco sailing. However, as ink is different shade from postmark, I doubt it originating at Frisco.

An interesting and probably unusual cover of my group is addressed to Halifax, Nova Scotia, with manuscript "pr Canada" bearing 3c imperforate 1851, cancelled with large black "PAID" similar to the Boston type, but having no townmark. Large numeral "5" on cover in black. Evidently "collect 5 c". Did mail to Nova Scotia pass through the mails contrary to the stipulated 16c postage agreement. It is evident that the single 3c stamp paid postage to steamer, as the 5c collect marking is the only other marking on cover.

What is the "N A" 1 (?) marking on covers to Cuba from US.

I have a Registered Letter receipt dated Aug. 13, 1858 from Edenton, N.C. showing receipt of letter addressed to Phila, Pa., Messrs. Davis & Bisney, and containing "\$110.60", signed J.A.Fleetwood, P.M.

A cover to "Guadalajara" (Mexico ?) postmarked New Orleans, La., Jun. 15, 1860 (?) with single 3c perf. type II, bearing large black 3, and no other indication of postage.

With further reference to my COC&PP cover from Denver. There were 8 or 9 covers in this "find", so I have just been informed, and I have written for complete data as to dates, markings, etc. on the other covers. Will send this data to you when assembled. However, I have found that one of the Denver covers, marked COC&PP contained a St. Joseph received mark, showing 6 day trip, then postmarked from St. Joseph the following day, or an actual elapse of 7 days from its original Denver marking.

Some time ago I received a courteous letter from Mr. Knapp, in reply to my letter regarding the Denver cover. From his letter I believe he is still "on the fence" about the Denver covers. Doubtless, from the many covers that you have checked, your records are fairly sure or certain on this issue, however, I am in hopes that the group of covers above mentioned will throw additional light on the issue and be of further help in this question. It is evident that the time elapsed of 6 or 7 days for the journey is rather long, yet, it is highly probable that such covers, intended for the trip by Pony, were cancelled early enough to make the trip to Julesburg in ample time for the Pony; then, as the Pony was usually somewhat late in arriving at Julesburg, then they remained over. You and Mr. Perry both agree on the fact that Denver covers were not carried by Pony, but by stage, and doubtless you are correct - yet, there remains the fact that there is, or so reported to me, one cover with St. Joseph received marking showing 6 day trip, evidently arriving at night as it was postmarked the following, or 7th day.

Appreciate your kind offer to send photograph of the "Pony" with the St. Joseph postmark of Jun. 20th (the date of my St. Jo. postmark); but the cut in your Vol. II is ample for me. It is rather strange that Mr. Knapp reported no Pony covers showing this St. Joseph date, and that, evidently, the piece you pictured is the only one of this date. Probably a stage arrived from Denver on this date, otherwise, it is a coincidence that my cover shows this date - the first arrival of the Pony following the Indian trouble.

Purely for your records, I am also enclosing the cover with the two strips of five each of the 1c perforate stamps, with California

postmark, showing the plate flaw from Plate 7. This may be the cover you mentioned having seen in New York, as it answers your description fairly well, as the cover is not any too good in condition, yet I think that the two strips of stamps are high above the average of this issue, as the perforating is well centered.

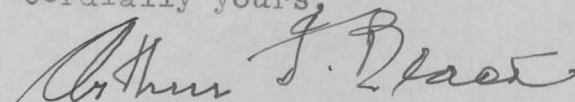
I am almost a "lone wolf" in cover collecting here, and as I have never been able to determine values on such items, would appreciate your comments. We well know that such a use is somewhat rare, and that strips of five are also rare; then, such a use from California adds considerable interest to the cover. Chase gave some quite interesting figures as to the relative value of strips as compared with singles, which probably apply to the 1c stamps fairly well. The cover cost me \$25.00, and on showing it to a collector in another city, I was immediately offered \$50.00 for it. Will you please give me your idea of its worth, not that the item is for sale, but purely as a guide to me in future. My pleasure is in the actual collecting; with values meaning little, except where items are prohibitive in cost, as I am limited largely in collecting many desired items by the cost. My purse will not permit me to collect many desirable items, accordingly, my small collection is limited to items that appeal to me in history, usage, markings, etc., particularly such items that require much study to completely unfold the story and usage.

Am enclosing the "Wells Fargo" cover mentioned in our recent letters. In view of the rather peculiar circumstances surrounding this cover may I request that you treat the matter confidentially. The cover was legitimately purchased from Buckey, at the SPA convention in Asheville two years ago, and following his criticism against me for submitting to you the original group purchased from him. However, I thought that my explanation on my motive for sending the Denver covers to you had cleared the situation, as he had NOT requested the various transactions be kept confidential. This cover was in a large group of covers of the 1851-57 period, and I do not believe that he had fully appreciated its usage, even though it was marked "Express" in his notes on the back. Evidently, my correspondence with you on the original lot of Denver covers had placed him in a "ticklish" position, for reasons unknown to me, therefore, in order to prevent reopening such a situation, I again request that the data from this be recorded purely for your own records, as well as Scott's if you desire, and so handled that further criticism against me by Mr. Buckey be eliminated. I still am unable to understand "WHY" the criticism was directed at me in this matter, as I am firm in my opinion that all my transactions were open and above board, and that legally and morally I was within my rights in showing the covers to ANYONE.

Your comments on this situation will be taken confidentially, as I imagine that you were, doubtless, familiar with the situation.

With kind regards.

Cordially yours,


Arthur F. Black

144 Providence Road
Charlotte, N. C.
August 21, 1939.

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
434 South Grand Ave.
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Your very interesting and courteous letter of the 17th duly received, and again I thank you for the painstaking manner in which you answered, so completely, my numerous inquiries.

Your comments on the "Denver" correspondence were appreciated, as I had started, several times, to write you about it, particularly after meeting Buckey for the first time in Asheville and having him criticize me for sending you the covers. The thought had occurred to me that probably he had promised these covers to Mr. Aull, whom you had mentioned in a previous letter, and that as Mr. Aull was not taking them quite rapidly enough, he decided to sell some to me and that when I sent them, innocently, on to you, it uncovered his breach of promise. However, this idea did not remain long with me, and now that you have explained all of it, I appreciate the circumstances surrounding the situation and will treat your comments as confidential.

By the way, you once mentioned your writing a story of Gen'l Denver for some magazine, and I am wondering if this has been done, or is being compiled for the near future. Am sure that it would prove of interest to all collectors, particularly those having Denver covers, or copy of your one cent book in which several are pictured. When I first secured my Denver covers, having been in the army during the war, my first impulse was to "look up" his history, which I found briefly outlined in the Enc. Americana., thus my comments to you in my first letter relative to the covers.

My application to the A.P.S. was sent in on your invitation, and at the time of mailing it, a local member gave me my first copy of the magazine, which singularly was the copy containing your article on the ten cent 1847 "freak" printing. When I recently secured the Souren booklet, I again referred to your article, hence my comments to you in my last letter. The almost astounding facts as revealed by them were intensely interesting to me, particularly in view of my life work having been spent in the dyestuff and chemical industry, and my familiarity with dyestuffs, pigments, inks, etc. gave me an idea that this company was actually accomplishing something that we had been, definitely, unable to determine, except where we had so much of an item that a chemical analysis was made. True, inks used during that period, prior to the advent of coal tar colors, are somewhat out of our work, but as the group of materials available was so limited, it is fairly easy to determine the character of most of them and identify them readily. I have made many tests, with various lights and filters, on some of my stamps that I knew were genuine, and have, for comparison, added bits of ink to some marks

on discarded covers to determine just how accurate such methods were. In some cases I was able to so nearly approach the original depth and shade of the marking inks that the slight difference was barely noticable to me, knowing just where to look for it. Quite accurate results may be accomplished by use of a "colorimeter", but this instrument is only available in the laboratories of the dye manufacturers.

The financial results of the "depression", coupled with a long and expensive illness, prevented my small engineering organization from prospering as anticipated, hence the change, in recent years, to more simplified work in my present organization. After my return from the war, had been connected with DuPont in their dyestuffs division for ten years, and had just branched into my own little enterprise when "ker-blooe" went everything. A very limited income, today, prevents my securing many desired items in stamps, and covers, so I am trying to secure an interesting collection of odd and unusual items, such as one can usually purchase at a very nominal cost. Lack of extra, or "junk" material, has prevented my carrying out some desired color tests on many of the earlier groups of stamps, however, I find that Dr. Chase, and others, have fairly well covered this, but yet little research has been given to the various inks, largely home-made, used in postmarks. I hope, some time, to accomplish something worth while on this subject, and am sure that you, and others in your research fields, would have many helpful suggestions to make on the work.

The recent discussion of "color designations" in the APS have been amusing, with many suggestions absolutely ludicrous to me. Almost as amusing as Konwiser's recent outburst in "STAMPS" on balances (scales, to him) accurate enough to weigh postmarks. It might interest him to know that most of us in the chemical field use, daily, balances so accurate that we can weigh, accurately, a single mark of a pencil point, and that we subdivide even such small weights as milligrams into thousandths of a part. Even such balances as these, and there are many more that are even more sensitive, are worthless in weighing postmarks, as "identical" markings would each have a different weight, for everyone should know that there were probably no two markings ever produced from the same device that had identically the same amount of ink on them.

Am enclosing the covers mentioned by you, viz:

Route 7309 - manuscript "Princeps"

San Francisco Paid 6 - stampless.

San Francisco "Too Late". You will note enclosure in it of a memorandum, evidently from W.F. Goerner, and Dr. Chase's reply. To me, the ink of the "Too Late" looks suspicious, and while I have not yet had the opportunity of examining it in its entirety, yet it almost appears as an ink produced from "precipitated coal tar colors", such as is used often in modern stamp pads. This was purchased from the Goerner collection by me.

Nova Scotia with 3c 1851 - Black "5" - Boston Br. Pkt., and the "border" postal marking.

3c 1851 to Mexico, from New Orleans.

In further reference to the star die cover, just returned by you, I

find in my notes that I had three copies of this - having "traded" off two items as follows: Both 3c Star Die envelopes:
Star Die plus 1c Ty. V, dated Boston, Nov.16,1860 - buff envelope.
" " " " " " " " Dec. 8, 1860 white "

Many postmasters, during the early days, changed color of ink used in postmarks. Recently, I secured folded letter with RED Cumberland, Md. bearing 5c brown of 1847. In this letter, it was reported that three slaves had been purchased at good prices. Another letter from same person, dated just 11 days later, was postmarked in BLUE, and without stamp, thus "collect" as represented by the oval enclosed 5. Red marking dated Mar.20 (1849) and Blue dated Mar.31 (1849). In the latter letter, he reports the sad fact that he was badly "cheated" on the three slaves as to purchase price.

In sending you the enclosed group of covers, I wonder if I am overlooking others that would prove of more interest to you. We have an office in Chicago, where I usually visit once or twice each year, and if possible, would certainly like to stop off in Cincinnati and have a little visit with you. On my last several trips, I had urgent calls elsewhere while enroute home, thus did not have the privilege of stopping off to have the long anticipated chat with you.

Your further remarks about the Denver City covers are most appreciated. I am not trying to disprove any facts in this matter, but as I am in hopes of securing much additional data on some of these covers, have hopes of this data being of such a nature that it will more readily prove the facts, as now believed. I have gone into this to some extent, and most heartily agree with you that there is such a lack of proof of certain data that it is more difficult to definitely prove such facts, even though the inference is evident. I cannot see that there would be much more of interest in a cover from Denver by Pony than by the ~~more~~ picturesque stage of that day. As to value, I don't care, as either item is certainly a very desirable item for any collection.

In the near future I hope to be able to see and study the Com. Wilkes correspondence, which is being preserved by the family at present, and will, eventually, be turned over to either the state or some other museum. I shall most certainly report anything in it to you, if of philatelic interest, though there are no hopes of any of the items being secured from the collection, however, if any items are of real interest, I feel sure that I could secure them long enough for you to photograph as a matter of record.

With kindest regards and my sincere appreciation for the courteous manner in which you have detailed the story of my various covers.

Cordially yours,

A. J. B. East

Arthur F. Black

That U. S. Collection

Don't you get this?

When we closed last season's volume of the News Letter with the June issue, we were discussing the wonderful U. S. collection that we are distributing

In the stamp collecting world today we are being treated to a vast supply of superlatives—from both sides of the Atlantic. Collections that are well known as being very ordinary ones are played up through the use of extravagant phraseology so that to those who know, they are really unrecognizable, and to those who do not know must come a feeling that fine stamps are now really growing on bushes

And so we urge our readers to lay in a good stock of sodium chloride to be taken liberally with many recent announcements. When it comes to offering a seven cent hard paper special printing of the 1873 issue, and on examination one finds the stamp to be printed from the National plate, it leads one to wonder if the services of an alleged American authority are worth acknowledging as having assisted in the preparation of a catalog wherein such an obvious error can be made. If an "authority" can call a stamp not even printed from the Continental plate a special printing, how much reliance is to be placed on this authority's opinion as to special printings, or in fact anything requiring a sound basic knowledge

And so we hope our readers will gain the idea from our description of this truly wonderful U. S. collection that *Colson of Boston* is describing REAL stamps and that they will stand the most searching examination for what he states them to be

And in this respect let us repeat from the June News Letter that the set of *soft paper special printings* of the American issue of 1880 (#192-204) are all *genuine special printings*, and not masqueraders. Furthermore, if finer examples of the 2c vermilion (#203) and 5c blue (#204) are in existence, we have never seen them

The middle issues, starting with that of 1882, are handled very generously—usually a page to a stamp. The 5c gray Garfield fills one page, the finest item being a horizontal half arrow block of twelve with complete imprint and plate number—surely a rare item today

The re-engraved issue of 1882 is here in singles and blocks in every possible shade, including a 10c in the real black brown. The finest item in the lot is a block of nine of the 6c brown red including one stamp with a fine "shift" in "POSTAGE", which follows the 6c dull rose and brown red, both in mint blocks of four

The 1883-88 series is naturally well worked out in fine shades of both singles and blocks, and notable here are such items as a block of four as well as single copy of the 2c "pale red brown" *special printing*, and of course singles and blocks of all values right up through the 90c purple

The 1890's are a well rounded lot—shades galore in singles and blocks from the 1c through the 90c

We illustrate an extraordinarily deeply colored example of the 3 lire Tuscany on the calendar. Color is the most important factor in the desirability of this rare stamp, and this example is truly marvelous in this respect

November 1, 1938

Volume XXXIII
Number 2

With this issue we continue the distribution of the fine economic "talks" of the Ford Sunday Evening Hour, and herewith enclose "The Small Town", "The Future is Being Born", "On Our Own", and "A Challenge"

To whom does he refer? Not you?

POSTAGE STAMPS
FOR
ADVANCED COLLECTORS

SPECIAL NOTICE

We are always in the market as buyers of specialized and important general collection single rarities and pieces, no matter of how great value

We shall be pleased to receive offers of anything issued before the year 1900 although our special interest is in the issues prior to 1800 in foreign stamps—U. S. right up to the current issue

We shall be glad to have want lists of any country

Suggestions as to details of stamp collection freely given

WARREN H. COLSON
260 CLARENDON STREET
BOSTON 17, MASS.

Cable Address, "Warcolson, Boston"
Codes: Lieber's, A B C-5th Ed.

A. P. S. Convention Trip

AUG 21 1939

All American Philatelic Society members in the east and middle west who are planning to attend the 54th annual A. P. S. Convention in San Francisco, Sept. 25-29, are cordially invited to make the trip on the "Pres. Glass Special" leaving Buffalo, N. Y., 12.30 A. M., Wednesday, Sept. 20, or leaving Chicago at 10.30 A. M., the same day.

The "Pres. Glass Special" will be the "official" train to the convention, carrying Pres., Carter Glass, Jr.; Vice Pres., Rollin E. Flower; Treas., H. H. Elliott; Int. Sec., Eugene Klein; A. P. S. Atty., Frederick W. Green, and others prominent in A. P. S. affairs.

Going, stops will be made at Grand Canyon and Los Angeles. Returning, the party will visit Salt Lake City, Royal Gorge, Colorado Springs, Pikes Peak and the Will Rogers Shrine arriving in Buffalo, 9 A. M., Thursday, October 5. The complete schedule follows:

Tuesday Evening, A. M. of Wednesday, Sept. 20: Lv. Buffalo (Central Term.) via NYC RR, 12.30 A. M.; Ar. Chicago (La Salle Sta.), 8.20 A. M. Transfer to Santa Fe Sta. Lv. Chicago via San Fe RR, 10.30 A. M.

Friday, Sept. 22: Ar. Grand Canyon, 8.00 A. M. Entire day at the Canyon. Morning, Grand Canyon Rim Drive. Lv. Grand Canyon via San Fe RR, 8.00 P. M.

Saturday, Sept. 23: Ar. Los Angeles, 11.40 A. M. Overnight at hotel.

Sunday, Sept. 24: Morning sightseeing trip—City, Hollywood, Beverly Hills and Beach. Lv. Los Angeles via Sou. Pac. RR, 7.00 P. M.

Monday, Sept. 25: Ar. San Francisco, 7.50 A. M. Sept. 25-29—Convention and World's Fair.

Saturday, Sept. 30: Lv. San Francisco via Sou. Pac. RR, 8.35 A. M.

Sunday, Oct. 1: Ar. Salt Lake City,

9.40 A. M. Morning sightseeing trip of City. Afternoon trip to Great Salt Lake and Saltair Beach. Lv. Salt Lake City via D&RGW RR, 9.35 P. M.

Monday, Oct. 2: Stop at Royal Gorge. Ar. Colorado Springs, 5.10 P. M. Overnight at hotel.

Tuesday, Oct. 3: All day sightseeing trip—Pikes Peak, Cheyenne Mts. and Will Rogers Shrine. Lv. Colorado Springs via D&RGW RR, 5.15 P. M.; Ar. Denver, 7.25 P. M.; Lv. Denver via CB&Q RR, 8.00 P. M.

Wednesday, Oct. 4: Ar. Chicago, 4.20 P. M.; Lv. Chicago via MC RR, 10.15 P. M.

Thursday, Oct. 5: Ar. Buffalo, 9.05 A. M.

This plan affords an economical arrangement in both time and expense, and includes the more interesting points in both directions to and from your convention city. Standard Pullman equipment is provided Buffalo to Chicago and Chicago to Buffalo, and Tourist Pullman equipment on all moves west of Chicago. All sleepers will be air-conditioned and you are assured of a most comfortable journey.

The All-Expense per capita cost from Buffalo—One to a lower berth, \$199.65; One to an upper berth, \$191.75. All-Expense features start and terminate at Buffalo. For those from other eastern points we name the per capita costs from certain other cities which includes all the features mentioned from Buffalo or Chicago and in addition your round trip railroad ticket (Pullman fares to and from Buffalo extra) from such points. Additional fares from other points will be quoted on application.

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Early U. S.	Good to Fine
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64 8.00	#217 2.00
71 2.00	#218 5.50
#112 1.75	#229 2.75
#155 4.00	#259 1.25

BRIDGEPORT STAMP SHOP
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Fall Wholesale Catalogue

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LOST?

You will be if you don't get

SCOTT'S 1940 CATALOGUE

\$2.15

Telephone:
Flaxman 6666.

E.C.

2, SWAN WALK.

CHELSEA, S.W.3.

25th July 1939.

Stanley Ashbrook, Esq.,
434, South Grand Avenue,
Fort Thomas,
Kentucky, U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

I am sorry to bother you with this letter but I have recently purchased an item which I have never seen before and the existence of which was unknown to me till I looked it up in the Specialised Catalogue. I note, however, that it is only recorded in fairly recent editions of the Catalogue.

The stamp is the 1875 2c vermillion, split and used as a 1c. The copy that I have is the top half of the stamp tied to cover with the numeral "5", and it looks to me absolutely O.K. It is a local envelope posted in Williamson,

N.Y., the addressee being in the same city. *The enclosure is a statement of account dated 29 NOV. 1877. No town postmark on envelope.*

I should be much obliged if you could give me any information as to the use of this split and whether many examples are known. Though listed in the Specialised Catalogue it is unpriced and I speculated the thick end of \$100 on it !

With kind regards,
Yours sincerely,

W. Whitehouse

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Aug. 19, 1939.

Sir N.E. Waterhouse,
2 Swanwalk,
Chelsea S.W. 3,
London England.

My dear Sir Nicholas:

Your letter of the 25th of July is before me and I wish to assure you that any information I can give you is no bother, but on the other hand your letters are always welcome.

I do not know if I can be of very much assistance to you on the 2/ 1875 bisect, Scott 178 E. I take very little interest in U. S. bisected stamps with the possible exception of the following:

10/ 1847	used as	5/
3/ 1851	" "	1/
12/ 1851	" "	6/
12/ 1857	" "	6/
3/ 1857	" "	1/
2/ 1862	" "	1/.

There are later issues which are no doubt legitimate but in the majority of cases they are made to order items, or fakes and comparatively few represent actual provisional uses.

I am disposed to question many items which show dates after stamp collecting became popular. Genuine bisects exist of the 10/ 1847, the 3/ 1851 and the 12/ 1851 and in the majority of cases we know why these were provisionally used. Further such uses were prior to the time when stamp collecting became popular in this country.

From the description of your cover, I would naturally be disposed to question it, but of course it may have passed thru the mails in a perfectly legitimate manner. Perhaps I am a little cranky and a trifle requiring when it comes to bisects, because they have little appeal to me unless the following requirements are included:

First - Was there an actual need for a bisected stamp at the time of use? Meaning of course, does any proof exist that the Post Office was out of certain values and the postage could only have been prepaid by the provisional use of certain bisected stamps.

Second - And most important, did the provisional use actually pay the rate of postage?

I will cite examples. During the latter part of August and for a part of September 1853, the San Francisco Post Office ran

#2.

Sir N.E. Waterhouse - Aug. 19, 1939.

short of 3¢ stamps (issue of 1851). In all probability the office also ran short of 1¢ stamps but of this we have no proof. The only other value in use was the 12¢ of 1851, and a meager supply of 3¢ U. S. stamped envelopes. At this period the S.F. P.O. recognized the use of halves of the 12¢ to prepay the 6¢ rate to the Eastern States. Later when supplies of the 3¢ were received and placed on sale, the San Francisco Post Office refused to recognize bisects of the 12¢ and though they generally canceled the bisected stamp with the San Francisco postmark, the letter was rated as totally unpaid with 10¢ due on delivery. Thus we have two kinds of uses of the 12¢ bisect from San Francisco, viz.,

(A) Covers showing the bisect legitimately tied to cover by the San Francisco postmark with the provisional use officially recognized, because no due markings were placed on the cover.

(B) Covers showing the bisect legitimately tied to cover by the San Francisco postmark with the provisional use not recognized, and rated "10" meaning the full unpaid rate of 10¢ was due on delivery.

In the old days all that was required of a bisect was that it be tied to cover, and hence it is no wonder that a lot of crooked people took advantage of this lax requirement. Advanced collectors in this country now recognize the difference between my "A" and "B" examples, and as a result, will pay quite a premium for an "A" example and rather shun a "B" example, permitting the uninformed collector to purchase such items, at what appears to them to be bargain prices.

Some dealers over here take the position that a bisect is a legitimate variety, if it is genuinely tied to the cover, but I maintain that if a piece of a stamp which is in fact a badly damaged part of the original, did not pay the postage for which it was intended, it is not a legitimate variety and actually has little more standing than a half of a proof, a half of a tobacco tag or other pieces of paper pasted on the cover and struck either intentionally or unintentionally by a postmark.

Covers with the 12¢ bisect from San Francisco in August and September of 1853 also exist which went by the non-mail route, "Via Nicaragua". Mail by this Independent Line was not placed in a U. S. Post Office until the steamer reached New York. At certain periods the New York Post Office recognized the 12¢ bisect on letters brought by the Nicaragua ships. Possibly this was done on advice from the San Francisco Post Office. At other periods, the New York Office refused to recognize such damaged portions of a 12¢ stamp and rated the letters as Ship Letters, postage due on delivery. Thus it will be noted that a "Via Nicaragua" cover with a recognized 12¢ bisect is far more valuable than a similar item wherein the halved stamp was not recognized as paying the rate.

Again referring to your query. It is my belief that both Mr. Tiffany and Mr. Luff were both familiar with halves of the 1875 Two Cent vermilion but that they considered them of so little importance and non-essential items, that they did not consider them

#3.

Mr N.E. Waterhouse - Aug. 19, 1939.

worthy of mention in their studies of our stamps. Probably because of this, no listings were inserted in the catalogue - until recent years. I have seen such items in the past but never paid much attention to them because of my antipathy to questionable items of all sorts.

I recall the last one I saw. This was an Emerson cover in a sale I attended in Boston, June 11, 1939 - (Kelleher 399th sale). The following is a description of the lot:

"1875 Issue. (Lot) 310. Diagonal half of 2¢ used as 1¢ on cover in Glen Cove N.Y. The town cancellation and a Maltese Cross in purple ties it to the cover. N°178 E, very fine, rare."

The cover was sold to the Grace Stamp Co. of New York for \$38. I fear this is about the extent of the information I can give you on this bisect.

Regarding our former correspondence on the "Premiere Gravures" of 1861. I believe that eventually the "Sample Labels" will be deleted from their present listing in the Scott Catalogues and placed in a section where they rightfully belong. As a step in this direction I have just been advised by Mr. Clark that the following notation will be inserted in both of the Scott catalogues to be issued this Fall.

"It is doubtful that Nos. 55, 56, 57, 59, 61 and 62 were regularly issued".

This recalls to mind quite a wonderful little item I recently acquired and which I have an idea is unique. A superb horizontal pair of the 24¢ Violet of 1861, off cover, and clearly postmarked in light blue, "Baltimore Sep 11, 1861". I had considered a copy of this 24¢ stamp in my reference collection the finest color I had ever seen of the Violet but the pair was even more beautiful. A fresh, fine engraving in a most glorious color. Never before had I seen a pair of the real Violet.

I am taking the liberty of sending you under separate cover a little booklet which has created quite a sensation in this country. It was recently issued by Y. Souren, a New York dealer, and it is a direct attack of Warren Colson, well known dealer of Boston. The invoices illustrated are in Colson's handwriting. I suggest that you do not form any conclusions on the opinions expressed by Mr. Souren. Personally I can hardly conceive of Colson submitting questionable items to anyone, and it is my opinion if such a thing was done, as for example the 30¢ 1869 cover, it was done in perfect good faith by Colson. It is possible a 50¢ 1869, on the cover illustrated, was substituted for a 15¢ of the same issue, but this is not my opinion, but merely a suggestion for what might have happened if Mr. Souren can prove beyond doubt his examination was accurate.

A law-suit will undoubtedly follow, the course of which will be watched with great interest in this country.

#4.

Sir N.E. Waterhouse - Aug. 19, 1939

In the Forepart of the Souren booklet you will find Souren's remarks on his examination of Mr. Knapp's 10¢ 1847. Probably you will recall that I reviewed this same stamp in the American Philatelist, issue of February 1936.

With kindest regards,

Cordially yours,

August 23, 1939

Sir Nicholas Waterhouse
2, Swan Walk
Chelsea, S.W.3, England

Dear Sir:

I have had a letter from Stanley Ashbrook asking for any data that I may have concerning the split provisional of the U.S., 2 c vermilion, 1875 issue.

I am sorry to say that I have no data as to its use or history. Two copies, both on cover, were shown to me a little over a year ago and examination having satisfied me that they were genuinely used, I listed them in the Specialized Catalogue.

Very sorry that I am unable to give you further particulars.

Very truly yours,

SCOTT PUBLICATIONS, Inc.

HUGH M. CLARK

HMC:JK
C.C. to Mr. Ashbrook




EZRA D. COLE
DEALER IN POSTAGE STAMPS

NYACK, N. Y.
August 10, 1939


Re-
Souren
Booklet
#2

Mr. Stanley Ashbrook
434 S. Grand Ave.
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Stan:



I just received Souren's booklet #2 "The Philately of Tomorrow". I take it from the illustrations that our red headed friend from Boston submitted some stamps to Ezmond Bradley Martin, Esq. I think there will be some fun over this before it is finished. However, as far as I am concerned it is a case of dog eat dog, and I hope the fur will fly. By the way, I happened to have seen some of the stamps, and inspite of what the Philatelic Research Laboratories, Inc. says, some of the stamps are perfectly genuine. For instance, the block of 30¢ 1869's, the original without grill are perfectly all right. I know that Coulson had a lot of these. There was a big block of fifty at one time on the market which he bought. It has since been broken up, but I can even identify this block from the centering, and I know that if any of them are genuine, this block is. Unquestionably, some of the bisects are no good, but one of these days Souren is going to stick his neck out to far.

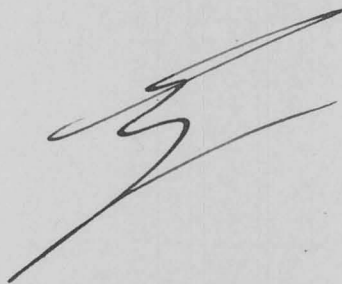


I read with interest what he said about the 10¢ stamp of Knapp's, and if I were a lawyer, I still think I could find fault with what he says. My reaction after reading the whole thing was that I think that Mr. Souren is still to smart for you and Knapp possibly also, and is proceeding to cash in on the fact that Knapp asked for an opinion. I also can smell a rat in that I think he is trying to get into your good graces. As far as I am concerned this is perfectly all right, but please don't ever say that I did not warn you.

I am enclosing a 1¢ Blue cover. Can you do anything with it? I would like to get a fair offer. I will either sell it to you outright, or any way you want to work it; so that you can make something.

Sincerely yours,

C:A

A stylized, handwritten signature in dark ink, consisting of several fluid, overlapping strokes that form a unique, abstract shape.



EZRA D. COLE

DEALER IN POSTAGE STAMPS

NYACK, N. Y.
June 20, 1939

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
434 S. Grand Ave.
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Stan:

Undoubtedly you have a copy and have read Souren's booklet entitled "Philately of Tomorrow". I finally acquired a copy and sent it on to my brother in Washington, and asked him to comment in brief on the scientific aspect of the book, and what he thought of it. It was an unbiased opinion for he knew nothing about the Y. Souren Company.

I am enclosing a copy of his letter and would like to have you read it. There are several paragraphs in his letter that sound mighty interesting to me, and there is a possibility that he has the germ of an idea that perhaps we could put into practice and use to a very great advantage.

Sincerely yours,

C:A



C O P Y

June 16, 1939.

Dear Ez,

I have read the guff that you sent me regarding the scientific examination by Y. Souren and company. There are several things that come to mind after reading it and I have thought about the problem at length and have consulted some experts in various fields of scientific endeavor to confirm some of my beliefs and also to put me right on others.

In the first place the firm of Y. Souren seem to be able to write very very fluently about two or at the most three relatively simple and well established methods of scientific examination. In a few words they are taking photomicrographs of stamps using various wavelengths also polarized light. They talk a lot about using soft X-rays but I doubt very much if they employ this method of attack as the technique is rather difficult and I doubt if they are capable of it.

Secondly before I get too far in the discussion I must say that I approve of the idea of taking photomicrographs of stamps. A photograph has a much better memory than most customers and even a few dealers. There is also the possibility that a good photomicrograph may reveal something that even the best hand magnifier may fail to get. Soft X-rays may be useful to determine the nature of the paper of the stamp, but I don't believe they can reveal much that a good microscope would fail to detect in this direction.

Thirdly, I think that fifteen bucks is way to high for this service. It is sort of like the doctor who charges about fifty bucks for a chest X-ray plate--he likes to pay for the machine in a year and keep next years earnings for the wife and kids. In cooperation with a good reliable stamp dealer I would do it for five.

Fourthly, I have consulted one fellow who has used a microscope all his life and he said he thought it was a swell idea. The expert on X-rays however seemed to think that a microscope could do everything that was needed and the X-ray business would be sort of gilding the lily. The consensus of opinion seems to be that a microscope for the job could be purchased for from \$200 to \$500 complete. The X-ray outfit would cost quite a bit more say \$2000.

Fifthly, Y. Souren's stooge Mr. Ellsworth is no ball of fire as a physicist and has little or no ranking as such. The examination of stamps is necessarily a physical examination because the stamp must undergo the ordeal and come out unharmed. I am convinced that a rival concern could beat them at their own game if an expert dealer or dealers and a physicist were on its staff.

Sixthly, This sort of examination would best be lead by an association of dealers or the Philatelic Association (or whatever it is called). The term "Scientific Examination" has a distinct aura of authority that could become dangerous to the whole

trade if it were handled fraudulently. The only means of stopping this danger is competing with this bunch. This could be done by several dealers setting up similar examination facilities or to bank together and set up a better shop. The customers will eat out of Y. Souren's hand, unless I am crazy,--Americans fall for anything that sounds scientific and they will probably fall for the bilge that he has handed out in that little booklet entitled "Philately of Tomorrow". The contents as well as the title reek of the Grover Whelan influence.

Seventhly, Scientific examination of stamps is completely impossible without an excellent set of control stamps and an honest and a reliable stamp expert or group of such stamp experts to judge the fitness of controls and also the results of the examination. The facts discerned by a microscope can be easily demonstrated to laymen even though they may sometimes be quite technical and also difficult to attain. All the instruments and all the Physicist, chemist, art experts in the world be of no use to the stamp trade unless the above two requisits were fulfilled--in short the examination would cease to be scientific.

Finally, I am quite interested in this problem and would be glad to be a consultant in any other organization that might develop in the future doing this work. Advice to you is free but not to anybody else and this letter is strictly personal. I know several young boys who would be capable of doing photomicrography and are very anxious to obtain work of this sort in case you hear of anyone setting up this type of business. I do not like to appear prudish about giving free advice but as the old saying goes, "Free advice is worth about as much as it costs". This is also true in the field of physics as in the stamp game.

C O P Y

June 16, 1939.

Dear Ez,

I have read the guff that you sent me regarding the scientific examination by Y. Souren and company. There are several things that come to mind after reading it and I have thought about the problem at length and have consulted some experts in various fields of scientific endeavor to confirm some of my beliefs and also to put me right on others.

In the first place the firm of Y. Souren seem to be able to write very very fluently about two or at the most three relatively simple and well established methods of scientific examination. In a few words they are taking photomicrographs of stamps using various wavelengths also polarized light. They talk a lot about using soft X-rays but I doubt very much if they employ this method of attack as the technique is rather difficult and I doubt if they are capable of it.

Secondly before I get too far in the discussion I must say that I approve of the idea of taking photomicrographs of stamps. A photograph has a much better memory than most customers and even a few dealers. There is also the possibility that a good photomicrograph may reveal something that even the best hand magnifier may fail to get. Soft X-rays may be useful to determine the nature of the paper of the stamp, but I don't believe they can reveal much that a good microscope would fail to detect in this direction.

Thirdly, I think that fifteen bucks is way to high for this service. It is sort of like the doctor who charges about fifty bucks for a chest X-ray plate--he likes to pay for the machine in a year and keep next years earnings for the wife and kids. In cooperation with a good reliable stamp dealer I would do it for five.

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Sixthly, This sort of examination would best be lead by an association of dealers or the Philatelic Association (or whatever it is called). The term "Scientific Examination" has a distinct aura of authority that could become dangerous to the whole

#2.

trade if it were handled fraudulently. The only means of stopping this danger is competing with this bunch. This could be done by several dealers setting up similar examination facilities or to bank together and set up a better shop. The customers will eat out of Y. Souren's hand, unless I am crazy,--Americans fall for anything that sounds scientific and they will probably fall for the bilge that he has handed out in that little booklet entitled "Philately of Tomorrow". The contents as well as the title reek of the Grover Whelan influence.

Seventhly, Scientific examination of stamps is completely impossible without an excellent set of control stamps and an honest and a reliable stamp expert or group of such stamp experts to judge the fitness of controls and also the results of the examination. The facts discerned by a microscope can be easily demonstrated to laymen even though they may sometimes be quite technical and also difficult to attain. All the instruments and all the Physicist, chemist, art experts in the world be of no use to the stamp trade unless the above two requisits were fulfilled--in short the examination would cease to be scientific.

Finally, I am quite interested in this problem and would be glad to be a consultant in any other organization that might develop in the future doing this work. Advice to you is free but not to anybody else and this letter is strictly personal. I know several young boys who would be capable of doing photomicrography and are very anxious to obtain work of this sort in case you hear of anyone setting up this type of business. I do not like to appear prudish about giving free advice but as the old saying goes, "Free advice is worth about as much as it costs". This is also true in the field of physics as in the stamp game.

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Aug. 5, 1939.

Mr. Ezra D. Cole,
Nyack, N.Y.

My dear Ez:

A letter from Dan Kelleher today inquires if I was ever able to acquire through you the Steve Brown photos of the 5¢ 1847's he had gathered together. As I explained to you some time ago, these photos are no earthly good to anyone but me and I would sincerely love to have them. I think if you would explain the matter to Steve's brother that unquestionably he would be pleased to see that they were turned over to me.

In the lot are many which I presented to Steve without any charge and many others, Steve obtained thru my assistance. I do wish you would look into this as I fear further delay might cause me to lose all track of the batch.

Sincerely,



EZRA D. COLE
DEALER IN POSTAGE STAMPS

NYACK, N. Y.
August 7, 1939

Mr. Stanley Ashbrook
434 South Grand Ave.
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan:

I have been trying to get from Steve Brown's Estate the records and photographs that not only would be interesting, but perhaps valuable. Steve's brother has been promising them to me for nearly a year, but as yet I have not seen them. I am writing him today to see what he says, and I will let you know what happens.

Many thanks for the return of the 10¢ pair of framelines. I think that Larry Shinfield has that other pair. Why don't you write him and see if he has it or knows where it is. Tell him you mislaid your photograph and want to photograph it again. If John Kleeman has it the price is so high no one can touch it.

The catalogs of the sale are enroute I believe now. I think you will get some direct from Harmer, but in any event I will see that you get several from my supply if necessary.

Make any arrangements you want regarding my stay in Cincinnati. Don't forget that you are going to Chicago with me to spend a day or two, and I have made all of the reservations.

Sincerely yours,

C:A

434 South Grand Ave.,
Port Thomas, Ky.

Aug. 17, 1939.

Mr. Ezra D. Cole,
Nyack, N.Y.

Dear Ez:

The Brown catalogues came in yesterday and it is quite a fine job indeed. My compliments to you and Harry.

I think it is quite strange that the 1¢ 1851 - Type I or the 10¢ 1855 big Double Transfer were not illustrated.

Regarding the footnote at the bottom of page 21. I was quite surprised to see this. I have no recollection of ever examining any Plate 3 items for Steve, though it is possible I may have done so. I may have made a photograph or several photographs but if I did so I have no recollection. In fact in my special file of Plate 3 photographs I have not a single one of any of Steve's Pl 3 stamps. This rather confirms my suspicion that I never examined any for him. I think Steve considered he was quite good himself and probably didn't give a damn for my opinion on any stamps in his collection.

If there exists no proof in Steve's effects that I examined each of the lots, 253 to 271 inclusive, I request that a public retraction of this statement be made by Harmer, Rook & Co. for I certainly would not want anyone to buy any of the lots with the assurance that I had passed on them. Ordinarily I would probably not pay any attention to a notation such as this, but in this case I have special reasons for not wishing any misrepresentation because of the trouble I had several years ago with Harry Jefferys of Ardmore, Pa. who acquired all of my Plate 3 material.

This Jefferys is a bad egg and he would welcome an opportunity to call me on any misstatement on Plate 3 stamps.

Jessup has been visiting me for several days and I have not had an opportunity to go over the catalogue carefully. Casually I note Lot 1959. I think it is a great mistake to call this a Pony Express cover. This cover, and all in the same class, were carried by stage - not pony.

Regarding the One Cent strip on cover with U. S. Express Mail. Suppose you name your lowest price and I will see what I can do. I never put a price on the other fellow's property.

Regarding the Chicago trip. While I have been looking forward to it with much anticipation, the thought has suddenly dawned on me that someone might have offered to pay my expenses. I do not recall your former letters, but if such an offer was made I regret to state that I cannot accept. If I go to Chicago with you, I will pay my own way as there certainly would be no reason in the world why anyone should do this for me.

#2.

Mr. Ezra D. Cole - Aug. 17, 1939.

I will hold the One Cent cover for further advice.

We have been having some terrible weather and Jessup almost melted while he was here.

Our regards to Jean and yourself.

Cordially yours,

P.S.--Stan Jr. wants a nice copy of the Penny Black. Will you get a nice copy for me and send bill.

S.B.A.



EZRA D. COLE
DEALER IN POSTAGE STAMPS

NYACK, N. Y.
August 19, 1939

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
434 South Grand Ave.
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan:

I have your letter of August 17 with the comments on the Brown catalog. All of your comments are justified and without any alibis all that I can say is:

- (1) Have you ever tried to argue with an Englishman?
- (2) Have you ever had any printing done by English printers?
- (3) Have you ever had a book printed 3,000 miles away, and never have a chance to correct the proof?

The footnote on the bottom of page 21: I inserted this, for among Steve's notes I found some notes which I thought were in your handwriting identifying some of these stamps as plate 3. There were a lot of other notes and scratches which were either in Frank Hollowbush's or Jeffreys's handwriting. In any event, this is all my fault and I will take full responsibility for it, and there is no need to publically retract anything, for there will be no harm done. I doubt if Jeffreys sees the stamps and if he complains, he can go jump in the lake.

You are perfectly right about lot 1959. It is not a Pony Express cover, but it is worth drawing attention to.

The reason the 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ and 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ were not illustrated was through a sad error. More about this when I see you.

We will argue about the Chicago trip when I get to Cincinnati. It is almost as hot here and I don't feel like arguing.

I haven't the slightest idea about that lg cover. All I want you to do is make some money on it. I paid very little for it.

I will pick up a copy of the Penny Black for Stan Jr. and send it out.

Sincerely yours,

C:A

A handwritten signature in dark ink, consisting of several fluid, overlapping strokes that form a stylized, somewhat abstract shape.

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Aug. 25, 1939.

Mr. Ezra D. Cole,
Nyack, N.Y.

Dear Ez:

I really am quite put out about the notation heading the Plate 3 items in the Brown catalogue. I have gone thru my file of correspondence with Steve and can find no indication that he ever sent me any Plate 3 stamps. I never knew or heard of Steve until late in 1934. When I wrote him asking for the loan of his 10¢ 1855 big shift copy, so you see our acquaintance did not extend back very far. I met him for the first time at the A.P.S. Convention in Washington in 1935.

I learned at that time that for some years previous he had been in close touch with Jefferys and Hollowbush. While I would hate to have Jefferys get anything on me, he is not the only one to consider in this matter. I have an idea quite a number of collectors will bid on the Plate 3 items taking it for granted I had passed on these as Plate 3 stamps. If I allow the matter to pass as it is, I will certainly be a party to a misstatement and indorsement even though it occurred quite unintentionally on your part. I think Harmer Rook & Co. should insert a notice in "Stamps" and "Mekeels" and call attention to this error. In view of their suit against the New York Times, I really think they should do this because if this unintentional misrepresentation was brought out at the trial it would not do their case any good.

I suppose you are well aware that the attorneys for the New York Times are checking this Brown catalogue with a fine tooth comb in order to find errors of description. I can tell you that they will have various people go over every lot in this sale to pick out flaws. I received a letter yesterday from a certain source which was suspicious and the inquiry was made if I considered Lot 1959 a "Pony Cover". In reply I simply pointed out my remarks in Volume 2. Unless I miss my guess they are going to hop onto descriptions like this and attempt to prove "misrepresentation".

I am darn glad I had no part in writing this catalogue and it will be a lesson to me never to do any work of this kind. Chase got himself in bad when he "wrote" the Crocker sale as you will see from developments which will happen later if the dope I get is anywhere half correct.

Thus from the above you will see why I am worried about that Plate 3 notation and think it no more than right that it be corrected and the correction made with as little delay as possible.

#2.

Mr. Ezra D. Cole - Aug. 25, 1939.

I sent the One Cent cover to a prospect at \$30.00.
I will report later. If he does not keep it, I will return it.

Regarding the Chicago trip. Now that Mildred's mother has passed away I have no one to leave her with when away, so I will not make any trips unless some are necessary or take her with me. For this reason you will no doubt have to make the Chicago trip without me.

With best regards,

Sincerely yours,



EZRA D. COLE
DEALER IN POSTAGE STAMPS

NYACK, N. Y.
August 28, 1939

Mr. Stanley Ashbrook
434 South Grand Ave.
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan:

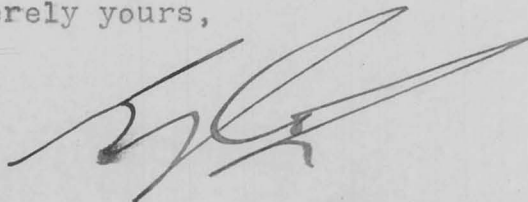
It seems to me you are making a mountain out of a mole hill. I always knew you were good, but how in the world can you tell from Cincinnati that those stamps are not plate 3 stamps, especially as you say you have never seen them before.

Of course I do not know everything that is going on, but I have already been warned about all of the legal business. We know perfectly well that there are errors in the catalog, and that has all been taken care of. As far as anyone checking the stamps, they are not going to leave my sight while they are in America; so if there is any "monkey business" I will at least know what it is. I think the best solution of the problem is to wait until after I see you in Cincinnati, then providing the stamps are not from plate 3, I will send a note to the effect to be published in the papers. Also corrections can be made on the auction sheet and announced from the floor when the stamps are sold. Besides all this there is no one going to bid on the stamps that has not seen them; so if there is any come back we will know why.

With reference to the 1¢ blue cover; I paid \$15 for it and thought I had something of a "Sleeper", for it catalogs over \$100. However, if it sticks at \$30, which it should, keep half of the profit. I would like to have Mildred come along with us to Chicago. Why not give her a couple of days vacation?

The way it looks this morning, there may not be any auction sale at all; so don't get bothered over what your alledged New York friends tell you.

Sincerely yours,



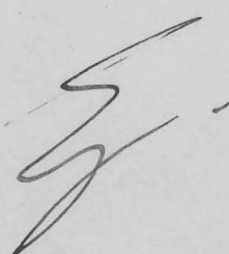
C:A

P.S.

I have just reread your letter and I can find more mistakes in the Brown catalog than you have so far. With reference to lot #1959, I asked several people what they thought about the cover. They all told me that it had always been considered a Pony Express cover and marking. You can check this for yourself by reading Knapp's or any of the early books on Western Express items. As far as I am concerned, I do not know whether it was carried by a pony or not. Very likely it was on a stagecoach, although it might have been delivered by a runner. Maybe some Indian brought it across from Denver, and if Souren or whoever it is that doesn't like this description, my best answer would be to inquire if they were in St. Joseph in 1860 and saw the letter arrive. "Was youthere Stanley"?

I wish you would give me some idea of who the collectors are who will bid on the plate 3 items. They seem to be a group there is no interest in. Of course these collectors may be ^{AS} psychic as you and may be able to tell that they are not plate 3 stamps without looking at them.

However, don't take all of this too seriously, and we can thrash it all out when I see you next week. I have a million things to do in connection with the sale. As I said before, there may not be any, or it may be postponed indefinitely. However, don't quote me or tell anyone this until you hear from me definitely, for I have not heard from Harmer in two weeks. I am going to definitely make the trip out West, whether the sale is postponed or not.





The Johnson Cover

Five-Cent 1847 Used at New York

ON JULY 15 1847

BACK in March, 1914, the *United Stamp Herald*, of Chicago, illustrated a 5-cent 1847 on cover (as shown herewith). This is a portion of the face of a folded letter postmarked at New York City, July 15, 1847. The postmarks, at the lower left, were placed there for the purpose of better illustration. On the original they were applied on the back.

"NEW YORK 15 JUL 5 cts" is in red; "1 JY 29 1847 D" is in vermilion; "BALLYMENA JY 30 1847" is in blue. The straight line reading "Gracehill Ballymena" is in green. The bar cancelation on the stamp is in black, in the same ink as the New York circle, and the heiroglyphics at the right indicate the English shilling mark, which is in black. This mark was presumably applied to correct the postage rate.

Dr. Iver Johnson, who wrote the *Herald* story in 1914, believed up to the time of his death (in 1936) that this cover was properly the "earliest known 5-cent 1847 on cover."

Stanley Ashbrook, foremost American in research on many early United States stamps, when asked to comment on the "earliest 5-cent 1847" postally used, said that he wrote Sir Nicolas Waterhouse and under date of June 9, 1936, the reply was: "1847, 5-cent. I had a cover dated in manuscript 10th July 1847, but though there was no PRINTED year date in the postmark I think the cover was undoubted."

This was, of course, the cover listed in the Waterhouse sale of November 18, 1924, Lot No. 185, which was described as: "5c Brown on entire cover, postmarked New York, 10 July, 5c over stamp and letter dated 1847.—Earliest dated canceled stamp known of the General Issues of the U. S. A." Where is the Waterhouse cover?

Neither Mr. Ashbrook (nor the writer) recall seeing it in the Emerson collection, which very fine collection did have a July 15, 1847 (postmarked New York) cover, per notes made while looking through portions of United States Number One collection.

There are several letters, apparently written in the middle of July, 1847, but the Johnson cover appears to be the only one produced for the record that has 1847 dates in two postmarks.

The Johnson cover carries the inscription: "Steamer Caledonia," and this Cunarder certainly hadn't made many trips prior to carrying this cover.

At the time the 1847 cover was first brought to the philatelic light, a stamp periodical pooh-poohed the *Herald* story, but produced no evidence of any earlier date of use, and maybe the 5-cent as used on July 15, 1847, is the very earliest known date of usage—preserved to philately.

The records of the Post Office Department indicate that 5-cent and 10-cent 1847 stamps were sent out to some of the foremost cities, as follows:

Sent 1847	Received	Post Office	Denomination	
			10c	5c
July 1	July 1	New York	20,000	60,000
July 2	July 2	Boston	10,000	40,000
July 7	July 7	Philadelphia	10,000	40,000
July 7	July 9	Washington	1,000	3,000
July 16	July 16	Baltimore	500	500
July 22	July 23	Baltimore	300	2,000
July 29	July 31	Worcester	400	1,200
July 29	July 31	Providence	400	1,200
July 29	July 31	Richmond	400	1,200

The totals as given, likewise the dates, are taken from stories on the records of the 1847 issue which appeared in *The Phila-*

By Harry M. Konwiser

telic Gazette, December 10, 1910, and January 1, 1912. These totals and dates were taken from an old record book, discovered in the Government archives. The book was then in the possession of the Third Assistant Postmaster General.

The 10-cent 1847 (according to Luff's *United States Stamps*), as the 5-cent stamp of the same period, was engraved by Rawdon, Wright, Hatch & Edson, which firm occupied the top floor of the building at the (then) corner of William and Wall Streets, New York.

Under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1847, the use of stamps became effective July 1, 1847, thus allowing four months for the making of the new stamps, and in referring to the "sent and received" captions, Doc Johnson is of the opinion there might have been some confusion in the Post Office Department and that possibly the "day received" column is incorrect on the official record, from where the dates and totals were copied.

Through the courtesy of Percy G. Doane, I was enabled, a few years ago, to see the Letter Press Book of Robert H. Morris, Postmaster at New York City, which Letter Press Book contained copies of letters sent by the famous New York City postmaster. It is obvious, from reading this Letter Press Book, that at least one letter was sent, properly carrying a 5-cent stamp with a grid cancellation on July 7, addressed to a town in Ohio, for on July 13, Postmaster Morris wrote a letter explaining to the postmaster at the Ohio office that the stamp employed on the letter of the seventh represented the fee had been prepaid, and no other charge was to be laid against the letter.

The New York postmaster plainly stated that when letters are received, not canceled, at New York, these should be canceled "X" and in several letters (inquiring) this "X" is depicted in bold hand.

In *The Philatelic Gazette* story on the 5-cent 1847, Carroll Chase says he saw a cover carrying a 5-cent stamp postmarked "NEW YORK 9 JUL 5 cts" in red, circular format, the receiver's memo indicating receipt on July 9, 1847, but the stamp was not canceled. William Evans had a cover bearing the 5-cent 1847, addressed to Philadelphia, but minus a postmark, the letter carrying memos indicative of receipt on July 7-8, 1847.

The Waterhouse copy and the Ashbrook notes appear not to place the Johnson cover out of Number One spot, with the Emerson cover. (Maybe it is the same cover?)

It is interesting to note that at the New York Stamp Exhibition, May, 1936, the American Bank Note Company showed a photostat of a letter from Rawdon, Wright, to Cave John-

July 29, 1936

Dear Harry:

In reply to your letter of July 25, concerning my 10c 1847 cover bearing postmark "New York July 9", I would say that the cover is a letter sheet to which the stamp is attached and properly tied with the red New York grid. The date of the letter inside is July 8, 1847. The letter is addressed to Mr. James H. Johnson, Galena, Ill., and is signed by H. H. Schiefelin & Co.

My stamp is tied to the letter sheet, and the date of the letter, etc., are so unmistakably clear, that there can be no question that this cover was used on July 9, 1847.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) ROBERT S. EMERSON

son, Postmaster General, dated June 26, 1847, reading:

"Sir—We beg leave to inform you that the stamps ordered per your letter of 1st inst. are ready for delivery, and we hold them subject to your further instructions. Twenty thousand dollars in 10 ct. stamps, and thirty thousand in 5 ct. stamps or 200,000 stamps of 10 cts. and 600,000 of 5 cents."

Commenting on the early usage of the 5-cent 1847 stamps, Elliott Perry says that he believes July 15 is "an early date," and that he recalls a cover, used on July 10, as also one used on July 7, but on the latter (at least) the stamp is not canceled.

So—is the Johnson cover the earliest known 5-cent 1847 on cover? The letter was sent from New York on July 15th, via the "Caledonia" which landed at Dublin on July 29 and the letter was delivered at Ballymena on July 30, 1847.

THE BUREAU of Engraving and Printing charged 5 cents per 1,000 to print our 1895 issue.

Enjoying Your Hobby

IN AN effort to encourage new collectors and to stimulate the interest of the general public in the educational value, and the enjoyment offered by our hobby philatelists (individuals, groups, clubs) have donated, both personally and for limited exhibitions, interesting parts of their collections to museums, libraries, schools and art galleries. From various sources of information I find that work has been carried on most exclusively in the larger cities. This is quite true, I suppose, due to the large number of collectors there, but for those living in smaller towns, where the work of this sort has been done to stimulate interest in collecting, it could be accomplished more simply in the larger cities.

Naturally, every collector likes to create interest and start all the collectors he can, so to live in a community where nothing of this type has been done in the interest of the hobby, lately, why not start something? Put the problem up to your fellow collectors, find out just what they have donated or lent, and

where it can best be displayed, attract the greatest amount of attention. Contact the librarian, if possible, or the museum, if thought best for the museum, the principal of a leading school, if your desire is to gain the interest of the younger collectors. You will be surprised at the cooperation you will receive.

In smaller communities, local newspapers welcome such broad publicity and will be glad to give free space to put your idea over with a good will.

To sum it up in short, the reason why you can't do your hobby is usually due to a lack of interest in stamp collecting. If you really want to.—RICHARD SCOTT.

CARTAGENA'S first issue of stamps (see page 269 of Scott's catalogue) came into being because there was a revolution in progress and it was impossible to use any stamps from the capital of Spain. The overprint of stars was applied as a control mark, and generally appears to be an unintentional smudge. The first printing of the imperfs was said to be 5,000 of each.

This letter is from Fred Jarrett, % The Gregg Publishing Company, 1200 Bay Street, Toronto, Canada.

C O P Y

August 11, 1939

Mr. Paul MacGuffin
Attorney at Law
503 N. Milwaukee Avenue
Libertyville, Ill., U. S. A.

Dear Mr. MacGuffin:

Sorry for the delay in writing due to holidays. I know Dr. Reford personally. He has possibly the largest collection of British North America in existence. He does not practice medicine but has private means to the extent of a few millions and has a suite of offices in a down town office building with secretaries and spends a large part of his time studying his philatelic material. His address is University Tower Building, St. Catherines Street West, Montreal, Quebec.

C O P Y

August 6, 1939

Dear Mr. MacGuffin:

I'm quite sure you'll find Dr. Reford at home during the summer months as the weather in Montreal is cool. He allows his correspondence to pile up sometimes and no doubt this is why you haven't heard from him.

Yours truly,

Signed, Eugene Telfer

PAUL MACGUFFIN

ATTORNEY AT LAW

503 N. MILWAUKEE AVE.

LIBERTYVILLE, ILL.

OFFICE PHONE 33

RES. PHONE 83

August 14, 1939

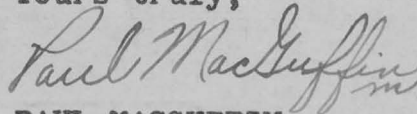
Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
434 S. Grand Avenue
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

My dear Stanley:

Enclosed herewith find correspondence from Eugene Telfer and Fred Jarrett in re Dr. Lewis L. Reford of Montreal.

Apparently, I have made a very serious mistake. He is probably one of the most leading stamp collectors in Canada. Have you ever had any correspondence with him?

Yours truly,



PAUL MACGUFFIN
Attorney at Law

PM:m
Enc.2

PAUL MACGUFFIN

ATTORNEY AT LAW

503 N. MILWAUKEE AVE.

LIBERTYVILLE, ILL.

OFFICE PHONE 33

RES. PHONE 83

July 21, 1939

Mr. Stanley Ashbrook
434 S. Grand Avenue
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

My dear Stanley:

After cleaning house extensively I found the missing photos, I then could find nothing as to where they came from. There is nothing in the letter book to show that I answered acknowledging receipt of the photos. This would not prove anything as the letter was not a business letter and would not necessarily appear in the letter book. Again some more house cleaning and the cover was found in a bushel of accumulation of modern covers. The photos were sent by registered mail and the cover saved with the return address. I found the original letter in the miscellaneous files. The party was Dr. Lewis L. Reford of Montreal, Canada.

Meanwhile, I had written to Fred Jarret and Farnham asking for the name of the collector who had these covers. Jarret answered stating that he had photographed them, but that he had cleaned out his files a year ago and could not tell for whom. Farnham answered stating that he had never heard of him.

I could not find the Dr.'s name in the A.P.S. although his stationery showed that he was a Fellow Royal Philatelic, a member of the A.P.S. and a member of the Collectors Club. The '36 list of Collectors Club shows him as Dr. L. L. Reford, Montreal, Canada and the '39 A.P.S. shows him as #13536 Dr. Lewis L. Reford, Univ. Tower Bldg., Montreal, Canada. The A.P.S. listing is evidently a mistake as his signature on his letter of June 6, 1936 was Lewis L. Reford.

I have written him and enclose copy of the letter for your information and have received no reply. My guess is that he is connected with McGill University and is associated on the faculty of McGill with Dr. Banting and his associate who discovered insulin. If so, he is more or less self-centered and will be difficult to see. If I do see him I anticipate a very pleasant call. My impression at the time I heard from him was that the covers were not for sale and that he was a self-centered individual who is interested in research and that the habit is carried on into his hobby of philatelic. He ought to be a swell guy.

Mr. Stanley Ashbrook

-2-

July 21, 1939

Remember me to Richey and Fennel. I am still hoping to make Cincinnati largely for the purpose of forgetting the law for a couple of days as that is my idea of a vacation. If I am able to see the doctor I will write you immediately upon my return as to my visit and undoubtedly he will write you direct. He specializes in early Canada.

Yours truly,

Paul MacGuffin

PAUL MACGUFFIN
Attorney at Law

PM:m

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Aug. 17, 1939.

Dr. L. L. Reford,
University Tower Bldg.,
St. Catherines St. West,
Montreal, Canada.

My dear Doctor:

I trust you will pardon this intrusion but several years ago I was shown several photographs of some 1847 covers which I was informed repose in your collection.

I am gathering data for a new hand book I am writing on the 1847 stamps and wish to inquire if it would be possible to obtain photographs of the covers you own. If perchance you have no further prints I would appreciate the loan of your items so that I could make photographs of them myself.

Sincerely yours,

F. R. P. S. L.
A.P.S. 2497.

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK
434 S. GRAND AVE.
FORT THOMAS, KENTUCKY.

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

July 20, 1939.

(Copy)

Mr. Hugh Clark,
% Scott Publications,
2 W. 47th St.,
New York, N.Y.

My dear Hugh:

In the past I have had several or more 3¢ 1861's submitted to me which were claimed to be "cracked plate" varieties, but in each case I was convinced the varieties were "plate scratches" rather than actual surface cracks. The latter have a habit of running in irregular lines, whereas scratches are generally more or less straight. I note under #65, you list a "cracked plate" and inasmuch as I am not familiar with the one or ones you list, I am wondering if you can give me a little information on the listing. Have you an example or a photograph, and if not can you put me in touch with whoever was responsible for the listing? Please understand I am not questioning same, but merely seeking information as I would like to be familiar with the variety so I could express a more efficient explanation of it in the future.

I am enclosing a #65 with a supposed crack in upper left corner. It is my opinion this is not a crack but merely a plate scratch. Do you recall whether the listed variety was anything like the enclosed?

My dear Hugh I certainly did enjoy the little reunion with you in May. It was indeed like old times and I trust the future holds many similar opportunities.

With every good wish, as Always,

Yours,
Stanley B. Ashbrook

SCOTT PUBLICATIONS, Inc.

POSTAGE STAMP CATALOGUES
ALBUMS AND BOOKS



*One West Forty-seventh Street
New York City*

HUGH M. CLARK, . . . President
THERESA M. CLARK, Vice President
ARTHUR C. ZIMMERMANN, Treasurer

August 7, 1939

Mr. Stan Ashbrook
434 So. Grand Avenue
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan:

Answering yours of July 20,
I am now in the final throes of preparation
of copy for the new Specialized. Sorry I
have no data as to the source for listing
the cracked plate under #65. I have a re-
collection, however, of having seen something
that was definitely and positively a crack;
it was nothing like the scratch on the copy
you sent and which I am returning herewith.

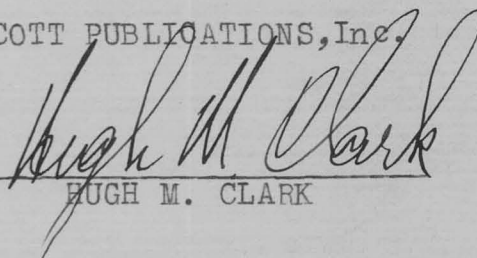
In regard to the August issue,
I am putting in a note, both in the general
and specialized catalogues, reading: "It is
doubtful that Nos. 55, 56, 57, 59, 61 and 62
were regularly issued".

I return your stamp herewith,
and want to thank you for writing me.

With kindest regards, I remain

Very truly yours,

SCOTT PUBLICATIONS, Inc.


HUGH M. CLARK

HMC:JK
Ret. stp. reg.

SCOTT PUBLICATIONS, Inc.

POSTAGE STAMP CATALOGUES
ALBUMS AND BOOKS



*One West Forty-seventh Street
New York City*

HUGH M. CLARK, . . . President
THERESA M. CLARK, Vice President
ARTHUR C. ZIMMERMANN, Treasurer

August 15, 1939

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
434 So. Grand Ave.
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan:

Yours of August 11 just received.
In the new listings I have changed the envelope
date of 1857-61 to read "1860-61".

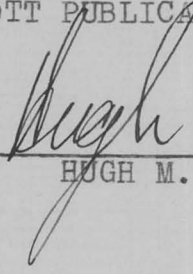
About the first date of us of
the other envelopes, I had hoped to include this
sort of information in the Specialized this year
but cannot do it as time does not permit.

About the listing of the Knapp
shift, just what would you call it anyway? if
I do put it in.

As to the other letter concerning
the 1861's, I still want to go over this with you
in detail sometime when we can get together and
devote the better part of a day to it.

Very truly yours,

SCOTT PUBLICATIONS, Inc.



HUGH M. CLARK

HMC:JK

ERIK HEYL

338 East Hazeltine Avenue

KENMORE. N.Y.

July 13 1939

Mr Stanley B. Ashbrook,
434 South Grand Avenue,
FORT THOMAS. KY

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:-

I read your article on the "STEAMER SIERRA NEVADA" on the June 17 issue of Stamps with a great deal of interest and thoroly enjoyd it. I do hope that from time to time you will have similar articles in the magazine.

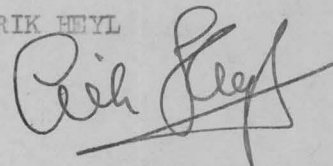
Some time ago I obtained a cover sent from the U.S. Consulate at Kanagawa, Japan, to Greenfield, Mass., via San Francisco in 1866. The letter was carried by the ORIFLAMME to San Francisco and then by the GOLDEN AGE to Panama. The ORIFLAMME arrived at S.F. Feb. 4. 1866; the GOLDEN AGE departed from S.F. Feb. 10. Allwong 14 days to make the run to Panama, she would arrived there about Feb. 24. Now what I especially want to ascertain, is whether your records would show what steamer picked up the letter at Chagres and forwarded it to N.Y. There is no N.Y. back-stamp on the cover to indicate the time of its arrival.

I also have a cover from Matanzas, Cuba sent to Portland, Me, by the OHIO. This is stamped STEAMSHIP 10 in a circle. Neither the New York Public Library, the Buffalo Public Library, the Grosvenor Reference Library nor the Congressional Library have a picture of this ship. Do you have any idea where I might find one? That there was such a steamer is amply proven. Incidentlt Grant's Memoirs mention that she carried him and several companies of the 4th U.S. Infantry in July 1852 from N.Y. to Panama, when the reg ment was transferred to the Pacific Coast. They reached Aspinwall in 8 days.

I will be deeply appreciative of any suggestions or assistance your care to offer me. And also. If at some future time you want to run another article on one of the Gold Rush steamers, I'd be very glad to make a scale broadside sketch of her, if you wish. Thank you a lot.

Very cordially yours,

ERIK HEYL



434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Aug. 5, 1939.

Mr. Erik Heyl,
338 East Hazeltime Ave.,
Kenmore, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Heyl:

I have been away on a little vacation and found your letter of July 13th on my return. I was quite pleased to hear from you as I have read with much interest your various articles in "Stamps", in fact I have been quite careful to clip them and preserve them in my scrap book.

The subject of the Ocean Mails has long been of much interest to me, but I have confined practically all my research work to the period 1839 - 1862. I might add that I have devoted more study to the methods employed in transporting the mails, rates, markings, postal treaties, etc. than to much of a detailed study of the various ships.

I regret to state that I have no data in my files regarding the California - Eastern mails of the period of 1866. I believe you could obtain the information you desire by referring to the files of the N.Y.Herald at the New York Public Library.

I am sorry to state that I have no picture of the "S.S. Ohio" though I have in my files quite a detailed history of this early mail steamship, which entered the New York-Chagres run in September of 1849. I hardly know where to refer you for a picture of this steamship though you might get some results if you would write to any of the following:

Frank C. Bowen,
Author of "A Century of Atlantic Travel - 1830 - 1930"
Published by Sampson Low Marston & Co., Ltd. London

or

F. Laurence Babcock,
Author of "Spanning the Atlantic"
Published by Alfred A. Knopf, New York, N.Y.

or

David B. Tyler,
Author of "Steam Conquers the Atlantic"
Published by D. Appleton-Century Co. New York.

Perhaps the best of the three would be Mr. Babcock.

#2.

Mr. Erik Heyl - Aug. 5, 1939.

Thanks very much for your offer to make a sketch for me of any of the early gold rush steamers. I have had in mind an article on the "California", but I have been unable to locate a satisfactory picture of this ship. May I inquire if you have one or know where I can obtain one? The half tone in the Berthold book is very unsatisfactory.

Again thanking you for your kind letter, I am

Cordially yours,

338 East Hazeltine Avenue
KENMORE. NEW YORK.

Aug. 7. 1939

Mr Stanley B. Ashbrook,
434 South Grand Avenue
FT. THOMAS. KY

Dear Mr Ashbrook:-

Thank you for your very nice letter. I have taken your hint and have written Mr Babcock in re OHIO. From the Navy Dep't I have received word that she was not in Naval Service during the War 1861-4.

I have a picture of the CALIFORNIA (P.M.S.S.) tho I don't know if it is the CALIFORNIA or the OREGON. Wiltsee shows the picture in his GOLD RUSH STEAMERS as CALIFORNIA, but A. R. Rowell used the same picture in an article in STAMPS about a year ago and labelled it OREGON. I have written Wiltsee and asked him. Rowell wrote me that in some books it is labelled OREGON, in others CALIFORNIA.

Anyway I am herewith sending you both photo and scale drawing. Probably the confusion will be solved when I hear from Wiltsee. Then I'll let you know.

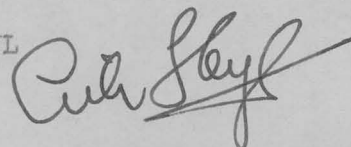
I recently bumped into a rather similar mix-up. In one book, and I regret that I cannot recall the name and author, it was stated that the U.S. auxiliary cruiser FORT JACKSON was an ex-merchant liner and was formerly, before having been taken over by the Navy in 1862, the NORTH AMERICA of the Vanderbilt Independent Pacific Line. However Wiltsee states that the NORTH AMERICA was run ashore in a bright moonlit night about 60 miles off Acapulco in 1852 or 53 and became a total loss. According to the Navy Dep't, which has the original bill of sale, signed C. Vanderbilt, the FORT JACKSON had that name when she was sold by Vanderbilt. After the War she was sold for \$108,000.00 to D. B. Allen at New York in 1865.

The other day I sent to you a sample set of my Steamship Cover Album Leaves. Since then I have been asked whether I'd just sell the page with the picture, omitting the page with the history. I've decided to do this and am therefore setting a price of 25¢ for the page with the photograph and 20¢ for the photograph itself without page, as some collectors might just want to have the photo to paste in their albums.

Sometime or the other, if you could send me the HISTORY OF THE OHIO, I'd much appreciate it. I have a letter from her from Matanzas, Cuba., marked steamship 10. Incidentally I also have an interesting cover, stamped "SAVED FROM THE WRECK OF THE COLOMBO". After months of writing I finally got the whole history of this mishap together.

Cordially yours,

ERIK HEYL



434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Aug. 10, 1939.

Mr. Erik Heyl,
338 East Hazeltine Ave.,
Kenmore, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Heyl:

Your communication of recent date enclosing photo and data on the Cunard "S. S. Persia" was duly received. The enclosures were quite interesting and I am returning them to you with my sincere thanks.

I am also in receipt of yours of the 7th with your sketch, photo and description of the "S. S. California". I must confess that what little research work I have done pertaining to the Atlantic and California Lines of Mail Steamers was devoted more to securing data regarding the various Lines and ships, departures, arrivals, etc. - than to illustrations of the various ships or statistics regarding their size, horse power, etc. etc.

I was interested in your statement that Wiltsee illustrated a picture in his Gold Rush Steamers as the Oregon which was probably the California. I note the photo you enclosed me is the same as the Wiltsee illustration of the Oregon and your sketch is no doubt of the same ship although I have made no attempt to study the details. I might add that I had not noticed that Wiltsee had probably made a mistake in his illustration. Perhaps he did as I have noted many errors and misstatements in the Wiltsee book and I think it advisable to use caution in quoting from this book. Wiltsee is getting well along in years and in my opinion is a cranky old man who is more interested in proving that Wiltsee is right rather than in stating facts.

May I inquire if you have a copy of Dr. Berthold's book, "The Pioneer Steamer - California"? In my opinion this work is excellent. Berthold illustrated a rather poor picture of the California and I have every reason this cut is of this ship. Your illustrations show three masts whereas the Berthold picture shows but two.

An account in the New York Daily Tribune, Oct. 9, 1848, as quoted by Berthold states, "She has an upright stem and no bowsprit". Your illustrations and the one in the Wiltsee book seem totally different from the Berthold picture. The same article states the ship was 1100 tons, with 200 feet keel, 34 feet beam, and 20 feet depth of hold.

According to the report of Commodore Perry to the Secretary of the Navy under date of June 12, 1850 (Ex. Doc. #91 - H. of Reps - 32nd Congress - 1st Session), it was stated the "California" was 1050 tons, not 1100 as above, the "Panama" was "1087 tons" sailing from New York on Dec. 2, 1848, and the Oregon was 1099 tons sailing

#2.

Mr. Erik Heyl - Aug. 10, 1939.

from New York on Dec. 7, 1848. The contract for all three of these ships called for steam ships of 1500 tons each, but notwithstanding this specification, the three were accepted by the Navy Department. These facts I suppose you well know.

The S. S. Ohio operated on the N.Y. to Chagres run and entered the service of the U. S. Mail Steamship Co. on Sept. 20, 1849 sailing from N.Y. for Chagres on that date. She reached Havana on Sept. 27th and then sailed for New Orleans and back to New York. The Falcon operated between Havana and Chagres and as far as my records show the Ohio continued on the run from New York to Havana to New Orleans and back to New York during the balance of 1849 and the first six months of 1850 with several exceptions when trips to Chagres were made.

The first trip of the "Ohio" to Chagres was made from New Orleans on Feb. 28, 1850. I have quite several long reports on the building of the Ohio but I doubt if very much of these would be of interest to you. A report to Commodore M. C. Perry U. S. N. (General Superintending Agent for U. S. Ocean Mail Steamers, New York) dated Jan. 21, 1849 gives the following:

The Ohio was built by Bishop & Simonson - Dimensions, length of keel 228 feet, length on deck 248 feet, extreme beam 46 feet, depth 25 feet, height between decks 8 feet, custom house tonnage 2400 tons.

As near as my records show the Ohio was taken off the regular run and replaced by larger and more modern ships. The U. S. Mail Steamship Co. evidently held her in reserve and she made occasional trips in 1852 and 1853. The last record I have of a trip she made was on the New York - Chagres run, leaving New York on Mar. 6, 1854. Whether the Company sold her to some other company after this, and her name was changed I do not know. I have no record that she was wrecked but after March of 1854 I can find nothing in my records indicating she was still the property of the U. S. M. S. S. Co. So far as I am aware she was never transferred to Pacific waters and I doubt if she entered any European run.

Regarding the North America. Wiltsee is quite correct as the Vanderbilt ship - San Francisco to San Juan del Sud (in 1851-1852) was wrecked on the night of Feb. 27, 1852. There was a sailing ship by the name of the North America which left New York early in 1852 and went around the Horn to San Francisco. I have no record that Vanderbilt afterwards named any of his ships the North America.

In the Civil War days there was a U. S. Transport ship by the name of the North America which was wrecked at sea Dec. 22, 1864 with a loss of 194 lives. Where I do not know.

Regarding the "Fort Jackson". "Photographia History of the Civil War" - ten volumes - by Miller - Published 1911 by the Review of Reviews Co. has a picture of the "Fort Jackson" on page 61, Volume 6. Beneath this picture is, "From the Merchant Marine - The Fort Jackson" - Picture taken in Dec. 1864 - and further "This powerful side wheel steamer of 1770 tons burden was a regular river passenger steamer". As far as being a regular river passenger steamer,

#3.

Mr. Erik Heyl - Aug. 10, 1939.

this is surely an error.

It is possible that Wiltsee is wrong and that the ship was not a total loss and that it was salvaged and put back into service. His accounts were from newspaper reports immediately after the wreck in early March of 1852.

I trust what incomplete information I have given you will be of some assistance.

Cordially yours,

338 East Hazeltine Avenue
KENMORE, N.Y.

Aug. 12, 1939

Mr Stanley B. Ashbrook,
434 South Grand Avenue
Fort Thomas. Ky

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:-

Thank you for your long, interesting and informative letter. Now as regards the CALIFORNIA. I am of the opinion that the description as given in Dr. Berthold's Book, which I do not have and which is not in any of our local libraries is sufficiently accurate to match the picture. The bow or stem is "upright", even tho there is a slight flare-out at the top. This is especially apparant when the profile of the bow is compared to the usual clipper stem in vogue in those days. I do not believe that the absence or presence of a bow-sprit and an extra moast is of any considerable moment, as these ships were re-rigged every once in so often.

However I'm of an open mind in the matter. In the matter of measurements, particularly as pertains to the length of any ship, it depends what length is meant; over-all or over-deck; between perpendiculars or the distance from where the stem cuts the water to a vertical line drawn thru the center of the rudder-post, or the water-line. My record shows an o-a length of the CALIFORNIA of 225' and a p.p. length of 2008. The same thing applies to the registered tonnage. In fact the OREGONIAN of the C & O Line, which changed hands about four times, had a different tonnage every time she changed owners, tho there was no change in her exterior domensions.

I have since writing you received the following letter from the Navy Dep't regarding the FT. JACKSON: The original bill of sale signed by C. Vanderbilt and executed July 20 1863 in in possession of the Department. She was listed as being about 1850 tons burden and was sold including all her fittings of machinery, masts, bowsprit, sails, boilers, boats &c., &c., for \$350,000.00

She was rigged as a hermaphrodite brig; length 250'; beam 38'6"; depth 27'; draft 18'. average speed 9 knots. On Feb 1 1864 she carried 1 Parrott 100-pounder rifle, 2 Parrott 30-pounder rifles, 8 Dahlgren 9" smooth bore guns.

U.S.S. FORT JACKSON was commissioned Aug. 18 1863 and stood out to sea Sep. 2. joining the North Atlantic Blockading Squadron. Actovely engaged on blockade between Fortress Monroe and Wilmington N.C. till Feb 1865, when she was transferred to the Texas coast. Arrived back at New York in July and was sold September 27 1865 at public auction to D. B. Allen for \$108,000.00.

I have the Photographic History of the Civil War and saw her picture in it. But she most certainly was no RIVER STEAMER! Her build is that of an ocean steamer. No river steamer would have a draft of 18'. And hard up as the Navy was for ships at the beginning of the conflict, even using New York ferry boats in the sounds off the Carolinas, they certainly wo ld not have taken the risk of sending a river steamer

clear around Florida to Texas and the Gulf and also would not have used her for capturing blockade runners on the open sea, especially off Cape Hatteras.

The OHIO was not attached to the Navy during the war; it may be possible that the Army used her and I am waiting information about that point from the Q.M. Dep't in Washington.

Regarding the NORTH AMERICA. I agree with you that there is no doubt that the original was wrecked and became a total loss. The name itself, like NEW YORK, is very popular and undoubtedly was at once used for another ship. There was a Lloyd ship NEW YORK launched in 1858, a P.M.S.S. side wheeler New York launched in 1864 and an English liner operated by the Glasgow & New York Steampacket Co., built in 1850, all operating at the same time.

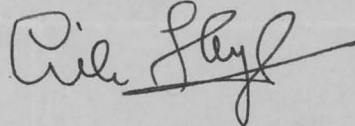
Thank you for returning the drawing to me. You need not have returned the PERSIA pages, as I intended you to keep them. If you want them, I'll be very glad to send them again to you.

Whatever additional information I get about some of these ships, I'll be more than glad to forward it on to you, if you so desire.

Thank you very much for your kindness and your great help.

Cordially yours,

ERIK HEYL



338 East Hazeltine Ave
KENMORE. N.Y.

Aug. 19. 1939

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook,
434 South Grand Avenue,
FORT THOMAS. KY.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:-

Thank you for your letter of the 17th. Referring again to the varying illustrations of the CALIFORNIA, I think that you have hit on the right solution, especially as regards the rigging.

GOLDEN AGE

I made a very careful drawing of the ~~EXORADO~~ from Wiltsee's book. Later on I got a photostat from the N.Y. Public Library. It looks like an entirely different ship!! Two masts instead of three, fore-mast minus yards. The upper part of the bow not only shaped differently but painted with a white band, &c., &c. Were it not for identical, small details, such as paddle-box decorations, &c., one could jump to the conclusion that it is two different ships.

I don't have Wiltsee's book handy, but it seems to me that the picture of pg.20 is labelled OREGON, tho it is the same picture which is labelled CALIFORNIA from another book and of which I sent you a photostat. I guess you "Pays your money and you takes your choice!"

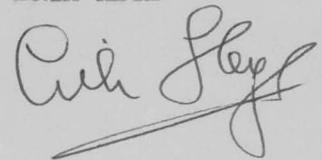
Incidently Martin Behrman, 2481 Rawson St. San Francisco, has sent me a list of photos he has of old P.M.S.S. Ships. 8 x 10 prints \$1.00 each. I'll be glad to make a copy for you if you want one.

I'm making a check-up thru the Treasury Department and also the N.Y. Collector of the Port on the titles of some of the old ships; especially BALTIC, ATLANTIC and ADRIATIC of Collins Line, OHIO and NEW YORK of P.M.S.S.; FORT JACKSON, SANTIAGO DE CUBA and NORTH AMERICA, the latter of the N.Y. & Brazil Mail S.S. Co. When I get definite data I'll send it on to you.

With kindest regards,

Cordially yours,

ERIK HEYL





1609 Kennedy Place N.W.

Washington D.C.

March 1st. 1939.

My dear Mr. Ashbrook:

I received your letter of Feb. 23rd. The 30¢ cover belongs to a friend who has just ~~phoned me that~~ he is satisfied that Washington postmark is not authentic and therefore does not want an expert opinion. He has certainly changed fronts since I last talked to him.

As the one cent on circular is not true plate III color and has none of the other characteristics of plate III I am sorry I bothered you with it. I bought it for a plate III and my reason for sending it to you was because of request to inspect such covers which you made in your book.

I have just been given a cover which has a copy of 3¢ (No. 44) tied to cover by marking which is at head of this letter. Cover is struck again by this mark, also Stockton, Cal. - March 24th. Fortunately the original letter is enclosed and it bears date of March 24th. 1862. Letter is addressed to Woodbridge, Cal. This letter with demonetized stamp was handled differently (as to marks) than those described in your book and it occurred to me that you might possibly like to see it. If so I will send it to you and in that case you may hold two covers which you have and return the three covers at same time. With kindest personal regards, believe me to be,

Very cordially yours,

Taylor B. Dixon
Taylor B. Dixon.

P.S. I enclose herewith stamped envelope in which to return covers.

T.B.D.

List of Steamboats inspected by the Steamboat inspector at
Louisville, Ky. during the years 1854-55.

LADY PIKE 239 tons. Built at Wheeling. 1851.
Sol Catterian, master. Louisville and Cinn. Mail Line, owner
TELEGRAPH #3 747 tons Built at Cinn. 1852. Moses McClelland, master
REINDEER 407 tons. Built New Albany, Ind. 1851
D. C. Adams, Master, Chicago and Miss. R. R. Co., owner
Ran between Louisville and St. Louis.
HOOSIER STATE 344 tons. Built Cinn. 1850. J. E. Montgomery, master
Ran between Louisville and St. Louis.
TASHOMINGO ? tons. Built New Albany 1852 A.J. Briscoe, master
Ran between Louisville and Memphis
ALVIN ADAMS 592 tons. Built Pittsburg 1853. W. B. Boies, master
Madison, Indianapolis, and Penn. R. R. owner
Ran between Louisville and Cinn.
CRYSTAL PALACE 541 tons. Pittsburg 1852 Wm. J. Kountz, master
Ran between Louisville and St. Louis.
J. H. LUCAS 466 tons. Jeffersonville, Ind. 1854. Andrew Wineland,
master.
Ran between Louisville and St. Louis.
BELLE SHERIDAN 573 tons. New Albany 1854. J. E. Montgomery, master
Ran between Louisville and New Orleans.
S. T. J. TRABUE 577 tons. New Albany 1853. Jas. Tucker, master
Louisville to New Orleans.
HIGH FLYER 466 Madison, Ind. 1854. T. T. Wright, master
Lou. & Cinn. Mail Line, owner, Lou. to Cincinnati.
EMPRESS 692 tons Louisville 1852 Chas. Van Dugan, master
Louisville to New Orleans.
DAVID WHITE 636 tons Madison 1852 Wm. McClain, master
Louisville to Cincinnati.
TELEGRAPH 375 tons Louisville 1849. T. M. Irvin, master
Louisville to St. Louis
ECLIPSE 1117 tons New Albany 1852 E. T. Sturgeon
Louisville to New Orleans.
CHANCELLOR 373 tons. Louisville 1850. Chas. P. Bacon, master
Louisville to New Orleans
EMPIRE 447 tons New Albany 1849 Chas. H. Meekin, master
Louisville to New Orleans.
FASHION 408 tons New Albany 1851. Horatio Church, master
Lou. & Cinn. Mail Line, owner. Lou. to St. Louis.
GLEN DY BURK 425 tons New Albany 1851 H. W. Smith, master
Lou. to New Orleans.
MARY HUNT 669 tons New Albany 1852 Harry Spotts, master
Lou. to New Orleans
ROBERT I WARD 798 tons New Albany 1852 Silas F. Miller, master
Lou. to New Orleans.
A. L. SHOTWELL 583 tons New Albany 1852 B. L. Elliott, master
Lou. to New Orleans.
JAMES TRABUE 244 tons Louisville 1854 C. Heslep, master
Lou. to Pittsburg
LEXINGTON 312 tons Louisville 1850 Jas. Mather, master
Lou. to New Orleans.
D. A. GIVEN 183 tons Paducah, Ky. 1852 E. Woods, master
Lou. to Memphis.
LUCY ROBINSON 239 tons New Albany 1852 S. Mallon, master
Lou. to New Orleans.
EMMA WATTS 111 tons Paducah 1852 N.B. Brown, master
Lou. to Memphis
T. C. Twitchell 496 tons New Albany 1854 J. H. Faucett, master
Lou. to New Orleans.

#2.

FORREST ROSE 205 tons Pittsburg 1852 John W. Skets, master
Louisville to St. Louis.

FANNY BULLITT 438 tons Jeffersonville 1854 L. B. Dunham, master
Lou. to New Orleans.

ARABIA 222 tons Brownsville, Pa. 1853 John Woodburn, master
Lou. to Cinn.

BEN LEE 122 tons. Cinn. 1852 W. C. Crawford, master
Lou. to Memphis

FORT PITT 130 tons Brownsville 1848 Andrew Miller, master
Lou. to Cinn.

WILLIAM W. FARMER 207 tons Louisville 1854 J. W. Cannon, master
Lou. to New Orleans.

FORT HENRY 157 tons Wheeling 1853 Sam. Mason, master
Lou. to St. Louis.

CASTLE GORDON 161 tons McKeesport, Pa. 1853 Alex Devenny, master
Pittsburg to St. Louis

UMPIRE OF NASHVILLE 139 tons Nashville 1854 Hughes David, master
Lou. to St. Louis

RAINBOW 486 tons New Albany 1854 Wm. R. Hollcroft, master
Lou. to Evansville

ARIEL 169 tons Cinn. 1854 T. M. Buffington, master
Lou. to New Orleans.

I. G. CLINE 295 tons Madison 1853 I. C. Hite, master
Lou. to St. Louis.

BLOFF CITY 252 tons Lou. 1854 I. F. Hicks, master
Lou. to Memphis.

LONE STAR 126 tons Lou. 1854 I. S. Smith, master
Lou. to New Orleans.

BEE 150 tons New Albany 1851 G.W. Stewart, master
Lou. to New Orleans.

JAMES JACKSON 144 tons Pittsburg 1849 J. S. Sullivan, master
Lou. to Henderson, Ky.

GOLDEN GATE 317 tons Madison 1852 John C. Crane, master
Lou. to New Orleans.

SOUTHERNER 393 tons Jeffersonville 1853 ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~
~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ Sol Catterline,
master
Lou. & Cinn. Mail Line, owner. Lou. to St. Louis

NATIONAL 248 tons Lou. 1854 J. C. McManus, master
Lou. to New Orleans

WILLIAM GARVIN 269 tons Lou. 1853 James F. Irvin, master
Lou. to Elarence, Ala. (Tenn. river boat)

ANTELOPE 587 tons New Albany 1853 Edward Brown, master
Lou. to New Orleans.

LEWIS WHITMAN 317 tons Cinn. 1850 F. W. Florer, master
Lou. to New Orleans.

SULTANA 565 tons Paducah 1851 Sam. Montgomery, master
Lou. to New Orleans

INGOMAR 730 tons Lou. 1854 J. O. Greenlaw, master
Lou. to New Orleans

JUDAH TOURO 332 tons New Albany 1854 Sam. Gwartney, master
Lou. to New Orleans.

MARION 133 tons. Lou. 1854 W. McPherson, master Lou. to New Orleans

CAPITAL 448 Lou. 1855 J. H. Ure, master Lou. to New Orleans

PETER FELLON 737 New Albany 1853 John Box, master Lou. to N.O.

BEN FRANKLIN 732 Lou. 1855 Issac H. Dollis, master
Lou. & Cinn. Mail Line, owner, Lou. to N.O.

W. N. SHERMAN 1954 New Albany 1855 M. Gwartney, master Lou. to N.O.

R.W. POWELL 249 New Albany 1855 R. H. Martin, master Lou. to N.O.

RAPIDE 408 New Albany 1855 J. C. Dowty, master Lou. to N.O.

NIAGARA 798 New Albany 1855 H. I. Spotts, master Lou. to N.O.

#3.

DAVID TATUM 373 Jeffersonville 1855 T. E. Draffine, master Lou.
to St. Louis
FLORIDA 546 Lou. 1855 Starling Wells, master Lou. to N.O.
P. C. Wallas 230 Lou. 1855 G. W. Carras, master Lou. to N.O.
BELLE SHERIDAN 573 New Albany 1855 Horatio Duvall, master
Lou. to N.O.
MAGNOLIA BRANNER 160 Lou. 1855 Adam Leonard, master Lou. to N.O.
BELLE QUIGLEY 132 tons Brownsville 1852 Geo. W. Triplett, master
Lou. to Madison, Ind.
JAMES E. WOODRUFF 512 New Albany 1852 E. W. Gould, master
Lou. St. Louis, and N.O.
EVANSVILLE 155 Brownsville 1854 Abner Baird, master
Lou. to White and Arkansas Rivers.
FAWN 182 Lou. 1851 Bunce, master Lou. to Henderson
PRINCESS 715 Cinn. 1855 T. C. Holmes, master Lou. to N.O.
R. L. COBB 197 Lou. 1855 L. Northerner, master
Lou. to Nashville (Cumberland River Boat)
RODOLPH 272 Madison 1855 John Crane, master Lou. to St. Louis
YAZOO BELLE 138 Jeffersonville 1855 J. C. Rieves, master
Lou. to Vicksburg
STAR OF THE WEST 435 McKeesport 1855 T. W. Garvey, master
Lou. to St. Louis
REPUBLIC 699 New Albany 1855 J. E. Montgomery, master Lou. to N.O.
LE COMPTE 238 Lou. 1855 A. Greenlaw, master, Lou. to N.O.
JOHN BELL 209 Lou. 1855 E. Van Sickle, master Lou. to Nashville
GRAPESHOT 179 Lou. 1855 S. P. McGuire, master Lou. to Memphis
ALBERTINE 160 Lou. 1850 Milton Aikin, master Lou. to Nashville
CARRIER 345 Lou. 1855 T. E. Draffine, master Lou. to St. Louis
VERMONT 161 Pittsburg 1848 J. R. Vance, master Lou. to
Carrollton, Ky.
CITY OF CAIRO 199 Lou. 1855 J. D. Yocum, master Lou. to Nashville
BLANCHE LEWIS 155 Paducah 1855 Z. Shaw, master Lou. to Nashville
GRACE DARLING 261 Madison 1855 J. S. Neal Lou. to Pittsburg.

List of Steamboats inspected by the Steamboat inspector at
Louisville, Ky. during the years 1854-55.

LADY PIKE 239 tons. Built at Wheeling. 1851.
Sol Catterlin, master. Louisville and Cinn. Mail Line, owner

TELEGRAPH#3 747 tons Built at Cinn. 1852. Moses McClelland, master

REINDEER 407 tons built New Albany, Ind. 1851
D. C. Adams, master, Chicago and Miss. R. R. Co., owner
Ran between Louisville and St Louis.

HOOSIER STATE 344 tons Built Cinn. 1850. J. E. Montgomery, master
Ran between Louisville and St Louis

TASHOMINGO 188' tons built New Albany 1852 A. J. Briscoe, master
Ran between Louisville and Memphis

ALVIN ADAMS 592 tons built Pittsburg 1853 W. B. Boies, master
Madison, Indianapolis, and Penn. R. R. owner
Ran between Louisville and Cinn.

CRYSTAL PALACE 541 tons Pittsburg 1852 Wm. J. Kountz, master
Ran between Louisville and St Louis

J. H. LUCAS 466 tons Jeffersonville, Ind. 1854 Andrew Wineland, master
Ran between Louisville and St Louis

BELLE SHERIDAN 573 tons new albany 1854 J. E. Montgomery, master
Ran between Louisville and New Orleans

S. T. J. TRABUE 577 tons New Albany 1853 Jas. Tucker, master
Louisville to New Orleans

HIGH FLYER 466 Madison, Ind. 1854 T. T. Wright, master
Lou. & Cinn. Mail Line, owner, Lou. to Cinn.

EMPRESS 692 Louisville 1852 Chas. Van Dugan, master
Louisville to New Orleans

DAVID WHITE 636 Madison 1852 Wm. McClain, master
Louisville to Cinn.

TELEGRAPH 375 Louisville 1849 T. M. Irvin, master
Louisville to St Louis

ECLIPSE 1117 New Albany 1852 E. T. Sturgeon
Louisville to New Orleans

CHANCELLOR 373 Louisville 1850 Chas. P. Bacon, master
Louisville to New Orleans

EMPIRE 447 New Albany 1849 Chas. H. Meekin, master
Louisville to New Orleans

FASHION 408 New Albany 1851 Horatio Church, master
Lou. & Cinn. Mail Line, owner. Lou. to St Louis

Glendy Burk 425 New Albany 1851 H. W. Smith, master
Lou. to New Orleans

MARY HUNT 669 New Albany 1852 Harry Spotts, master
Lou. to New Orleans

ROBERT I WARD 798 New Albany 1852 Silas f. Miller, master
Lou. to New Orleans

A. L. SHOTWELL 583 New Albany 1852 B. L. Ellitt, master
Lou. to New Orleans

JAMES TRABUE 244 Louisville 1854 C. Heslep, master
Lou. to Pittsburg

LEXINGTON 312 Louisville 1850 Jas. Mather, master
Lou. to New Orleans

ED. A. GIVEN 183 Paducah, Ky. 1852 E. Woods, master
LOU. to Memphis

2

LUCY ROBINSON 239 New Albany 1852 S. Mallon, master
 Lou. to New Orleans

EMMA WATTS 111 Paducah 1852 N. B. Brow, master
 Lou. to Memphis

T. C. TWITCHELL 496 New Albany 1854 J. H. Faucett, master
 Lou. to New Orleans

FOREST ROSE 205 Pittsburg 1852 John W. Skets, master
 Lou. to St Louis

FANNY BULLITT 438 Jeffersonville 1854 L. B. Dunham, master
 Lou. to New Orleans

ARABIA 222 Brownsville, Pa. 1853 John Woodburn, master
 Lou. to Cinn.

BEN LEE 122 Cinn. 1852 W. C. Crawford, master
 Lou. to Memphis

FORT PITT 1300 Brownsville 1848 Andrew Miller, master
 Lou. to Cinn.

WILLIAM W. FARMER 207 Louisville 1854 J. W. Cannon, master
 Lou. to New Orleans

FORT HENRY 157 Wheeling 1853 Sam. Mason, master
 Lou. to St Louis

CASTLE GORDON 161 McKeesport, Pa. 1853 Alex Devenny, master
 Pittsburg to St Louis

UMPIRE OF NASHVILLE 139 Nashville 1854 Hughes David, master
 Lou. to St Louis

RAINBOW 486 New Albany 1854 Wm. R. Hollcroft, master
 Lou. to Evansville

ARIEL 169 Cinn 1854 T. M. Buffington, master
 Lou. to New Orleans

I. G. CLINE 295 Madison 1853 I. C. Hite, master
 Lou. to St Louis

BLUFF CITY 252 Lou. 1854 I. F. Hicks, master
 Lou. to Memphis

LONE STAR 126 Lou. 1854 I. S. Smith, master
 Lou. to New Orleans

BEE 150 New Albany 1851 G. W. Stewart, master
 Lou. to New Orleans

JAMES JACKSON 144 Pittsburg 1849 J. S. Sullivan, master
 Lou. to Henderson, Ky

GOLDEN GATE 317 Madison 1852 John C Crane, master
 Lou. to New Orleans

SOUTHERNER 393 Jeffersonville 1853 Sol Catterline, master
 Lou. & Cinn. Mail Line, owner. Lou. to St Louis

NATIONAL 248 Lou. 1854 J. C. McManus, master
 Lou. to New Orleans

WILLIAM GARVIN 269 Lou. 1853 James F. Irvin, master
 Lou. to Florence, Ala. (Tenn. river boat)

ANTELOPE 587 New Albany 1853 Edward Brown, master
 Lou. to New Orleans

LEWIS WHITEMAN 317 Cinn. 1850 F. W. Florer, master
 Lou. to New Orleans

SULTANA 565 Paducah 1851 Sam. Montgomery, master
 Lou. to New Orleans

INGOMAR 730 Lou. 1854 J. O. Greenlaw, master
 Lou. to New Orleans

JUDAH TOURO 332 New Albany 1854 Sam. Gwartney, master
 Lou. to New Orleans

MARION 133 Lou. 1854 W. McPherson, master Lou. to New Orleans
CAPITOL 448 Lou. 1855 J. H. Ure, master Lou. to New Orleans
PETER FELLON 737 New Albany 1853 John Box, msater Lou. to N. O.
BEN FRANKLIN 732 Lou. 1855 Issac H. Dollis, master
Lou. & Cinn. Mail Line, owner, Lou. to N. O.
W. N. SHERMAN 194 New Albany 1855 M. Gwartney, master Lou. to N. O.
R. W. POWELL 249 New Albany 1855 R. H. Martin, master Lou. to N. O.
RAPIDE 408 New Albany 1855 J.C. Dowty, master Lou. to N. O.
NIAGARA 798 New Albany 1855 H. I. Spotts, master Lou. to N. O.
DAVID TATUM 373 Jeffersonville 1855 T. E. Draffine, master
Lou. to St Louis
FLORIDA 546 Lou. 1855 Starling Wells, masher Lou. to N. O.
P. C. WALLAS 230 Lou. 1855 G. W. Carras, master Lou. to N. O.
BELLE SHERIDAN 573 New Albany 18 55 Horatio Duvall, master
Lou. to N. O.
MAGNOLIA BRANNER 160 Lou. 1855 Adam Leonard, master
Lou. to N. O.
BELLE QUIGLEY 132 Brownsville 1852 Geo. W. Triplett, master
Lou. to Madison, Ind.
JAMES E. WOODRUFF 512 New Albant 1852 E. W. Gould, master
Lou. St Louis, and N. O.
EVANSVILLE 155 Brownsville 1 854 Abner Baird, master
Lou. to White and Arkansas Rivers
FAWN 182 Lou. 1851 Bunce, master Lou. to Henderson
PRINCESS 715 Cinn. 1855 T. C. Holmes, master
Lou. to N.O.
R. L. COBB 197 Lou. 1855 L. Northerner, master
Lou. to Nashville (Cumberland River Boat)
RODOLPH 272 Madison 1855 John Crane, master Lou. to St Louis
YAZOO BELLE 138 Jeffersonville 1855 J. C. Rieves, master
Lou. to Vicksburg
STAR OF THE WEST 435 McKeesport 1855 T. W. Garvey, master
Lou. to St Louis
REPUBLIC 699 New Albany 1855 J. E. Montgomery, master Lou. to N. O.
LE COMPTE 238 Lou. 1855 A. Greenlaw, master, Lou. to N. O.
JOHN BELL 209 Lou. 1855 E. Van Sickle, master Lou. to Nashville
GRAPESHOT 179 Lou. 1855 S. P. McGuire, master Lou. to Memphis
ALBERTINE 160 Lou. 1850 Milton Aik in, master Lou. to Nashville
CARRIER 345 Lou. 1855 T. E. Draffine, master Lou. to St Louis

4

VERMONT	161	Pittsburg	1848	J. R. Vance, master	Lou. to Carrollton, Ky.
CITY OF CAIRO	199	Lou.	1855	J. D. Yocum, master	Lou. to Nashville
BLANCHE LEWIS	155	Paducah	1855	Z. Shaw, master	Lou. to Nashville
GRACE DARLING	261	Madison	1855	J. S. Neal	Lou. to Pittsburg

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

May 23, 1939.

Mr. Towner K. Webster, Jr.,
111 West Washington St.,
Chicago, Ills.

My dear Towner:

Herewith I am returning the 1¢ 1857 Type V stamp. This is an interesting little item and most unusual. That black "21" at first glance indicates a single rate to England - that is, a rate of 24¢ with the letter sent by an American packet. One shilling was to be collected on delivery and 21¢ of this amount credited to the American P.O. However this marking is almost always found on unpaid or stampless mail. That is why it bothered me at first, because "why on a stamp"? Naturally the answer was very simple as such problems generally turn out.

The letter was only "partly paid" by stamps, or "insufficiently paid" or "Short Paid". Where only part of the postage was paid, the amount paid was entirely disregarded and the letter was sent entirely "unpaid". See One Cent book, Volume 2 - page 338, tracing "N".

Note the "Short Paid". These tracings were taken from a cover from Clarksburg, Va. in March, 1861 to London. On the face of the envelope are stamps as follows: 3¢ 1857 - 10¢ 1857 - 1¢ 1857 - total 14¢ paid. The letter was rated at N.Y. as "unpaid" and forwarded by an American Packet. It was marked "Short Paid" and the British P.O. was debited 21¢. On the face is the British "Due" of one shilling. The handstamp illustrated is of the same type but slightly different - note the "2" of 21. The wording and size however are the same.

I think this makes quite an interesting little story and if you have no immediate use for your 1¢ stamp, will you loan it to me until such a time as I can write a little story around it and use the stamp to illustrate same?

I enjoyed your little visit and trust you will run down often in the future.

With every good wish,

Cordially,

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

April 22, 1939.

Messrs. Hoen & Co.,

Baltimore, Md.

Gentlemen:

I understand that you intend to republish the Ridgway book "Color Standards and Nomenclature" which your firm originally published in 1912. I have owned a copy of this superb work for a great many years, and am making this inquiry as I have several friends who would be interested in obtaining copies of a new edition.

If you can furnish me with any particulars, I will greatly appreciate the favor.

Very truly yours,

A. HOEN & COMPANY

INCORPORATED
LITHOGRAPHERS - PRINTERSCHESTER, CHASE & BIDDLE STS.
BALTIMORE

April 26, 1939.

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook,
434 S. Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Sir:

We sincerely thank you for your kind letter of April 22 regarding Ridgway's COLOR STANDARDS AND COLOR NOMENCLATURE.

The first run of this publication has been sold and we are now preparing a new run (of the same edition). As this work goes slowly, we regret that we are unable, at this writing, to say definitely when delivery can be made.

However, we are keeping your letter (with others concerning this book) on file and shall gladly write you as soon as we have again reached the order-filling stage.

Very truly yours,
A. HOEN & CO. INC.

mc

By

SPENCER ANDERSON

SIXTY FIVE NASSAU STREET . . . CORTLANDT 7-2572 . . . NEW YORK, N. Y.

Collections bought and appraised.

June 13, 1939

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
434 S. Grand Avenue
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan:

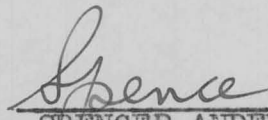
The orange brown cover of mine that you now have came from a recent original find. It was brought into me by a small dealer who did not even know which color the stamp was.

We discussed value when you were in New York several months ago. At that time you told me it should be well worth \$100.00 to an interested collector, so I set a price of \$75.00 net to you. I do not believe I would care to sell it for any less money.

I have not yet sold the Hawaii cover with pair of 3¢ 1851. I would be willing to let you have this for \$200.00 net.

I had a long talk with Souren the other day and he told me you were in New York recently. Sorry I did not get to see you at the time.

Sincerely yours,


SPENCER ANDERSON

SA:PS

Hanovia Chemical and Manufacturing Company

Chestnut Street & N. J. R. R. Avenue

ELECTRICAL DEPARTMENT
SCIENTIFIC & THERAPEUTIC APPARATUS
CABLE ADDRESS "HANCHEMCO"

Newark, N. J.

Feb. 23, 1939

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
434 South Grand Ave.
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Sir:

In regard to your letter of Feb. 16th, one thing to bear in mind is that the unfiltered radiations from this powerful source of Ultraviolet light will have a tendency to fade the pink pigments in your stamps.

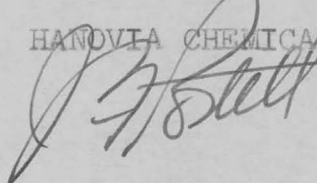
You won't have this difficulty when observing fluorescence since the filter absorbs the radiations that cause the fading to occur.

In regard to cutting out the ultraviolet radiations, cheap and ordinary window glass serve very well or you can use the Pittsburg Plate if you wish.

I suggest that you write to the Eastman Kodak Co., tell them you intend using a quartz mercury vapor arc as a source of illumination and ask for specific information as to the proper photograph procedure and technique as they can give you far better information on this subject than I can.

Very truly yours,

HANOVIA CHEMICAL & MFG. CO.



J. F. Postell/RR

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Feb. 16, 1939.

Mr. J. F. Postell;
% Hanovia Chemical & Mfg. Co.,
Chestnut St. and N.J.R.R. Ave.,
Newark, N.J.

My dear Mr. Postell:

Regarding my Examalite Lamp. I wish to use this in connection with my stamp photography. I have quite a large enlarging and reducing camera I have been using for stamp photography for quite a number of years. This camera is securely mounted on a large heavy table eight feet long in a dark room. I intend to mount my lamp on top of this camera, and make exposures with the sole aid of the examalite lamp, without the heavy glass filter. On my lens I will use a Wratten 2 A filter and will employ process panchromatic plates. My subjects will be about fifteen inches from the lens. Do I need anything further?

I have been using the process panchromatic plates and various Wratten filters for some twenty years, so I am quite familiar with both.

If you can offer any suggestions they will be quite welcome.

The Pittsburg Plate Glass Company manufactures a new quality of clear glass which cuts out the strong ultra violet rays. In photographing stamps, I use this glass over the stamps. Are you familiar with this product and do you recommend I use it in connection with the examalite lamp?

Sincerely yours,



SINCE 1915

December 4, 1938

Dear Stanley,

Yours of the 1st. Klein had a violet ray machine and John Klemman has one, also Max Ohlman. Kessler bought one a few years ago. Those are the only ones I know of. It is my impression that violet ray and quartz lamp are two names for the same thing, - the violet being separated from the other light rays by a quartz prism. I am convinced that the best results are obtainable only by more study, patience and knowledge of what they are trying to do than most of the fellows have ever given. Toasty fooled with one of the machines for a while but I doubt if he had education enough to thoroughly understand what he was doing. Johnny Andrews was an unusual physicist yet the machine showed him things he said were impossible.

My own experience has been very limited. My idea would be to take sample "readings" and mark them for reference, gradually building up a mass of data, from which conclusions might be drawn. From what I have read I judge it is not difficult to reach conclusions that are only partially true. There must be books in the Cincinnati Library, or you might get in touch with some professor of physics at the University who could help you or tell you what to read. This is college stuff, while I went to work before I was 16 and have never had money enough to study all the things I wanted to. Until I read the Ridgway book I had never heard of an Engstrom unit.

Some color variations distinct to the eye will be hardly noticeable under the ray while others almost identical to the eye will differ greatly under the ray. A good physicist can probably tell you why, but I don't know enough high-brow stuff. If you start with a sample of any stamp, take a Ridgway reading, and then compare other stamps with the sample under the ray I think you can get somewhere. If anyone has made the kind of a study of the possibilities (and limitations) of the ray which we expected to make with Johnny Andrews I haven't heard of it. If you can find out what has been done with the ray in other fields of work you may get some valuable clues. Very likely the thing to watch out for is to be sure that the results you get mean what you may think they mean. Color retention and other human factors may enter the apparent ~~results~~ results.

I don't think the ray will distinguish between carbon blacks (lampblack), bone-black (calcium content), or negroes, but probably few different cleaning agents have been used and



it should not be difficult to get samples of these, (many have a chlorine base), - apply them to stamps and see how they react to the ray. Of course if the cancellation has been cleaned off it doesn't make much difference what was used to do the cleaning but if you know what to look for, finding it may be much easier. Some slicker may have found a cleaning agent that will fool the ray.

The only way I know of to detect negrosin is by photography with infra-red rays. Most oldtime blacks were either carbon or bone black while modern blacks are either made of negrosin or contain it. Infra-red rays go through carbon like sunlight through a window pane while negrosin stops them like a brick wall. You can make tests with common calcium compounds and see if and how they react to the ray. Most of the pigments used in the early stamps can probably be determined by reference to books of the period. Perkins' mauve - the first of the coal tar derivatives - was probably not used much in this country before 1860, and most of the anilines are of much later date.

Thanks for the Boston carrier pmk photo. I am sorry Clara's did not get into the carrier chapter, especially as it could have been squeezed in if I had known John made a drawing of it before I got back from camp. If I am licked in your other letter it is all right with,

Yours sincerely,

Elliott Perry

Hanovia Chemical and Manufacturing Company

Chestnut Street & N. J. R. R. Avenue

ELECTRICAL DEPARTMENT
SCIENTIFIC & THERAPEUTIC APPARATUS
CABLE ADDRESS "HANCHEMCO"

Newark, N. J.

November 22, 1938

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
434 S. Grand Avenue
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Sir:

I am glad that you see eye to eye on the proposition of the Examalite lamp. This will be sent o you very shortly. In the meantime we are mailing you, under separate cover, such data as we have regarding the use of ultraviolet lamps for examining stamps.

There is just one question that arises, namely, it is possible to use one of several filters and we have chosen to put into this lamp a heat resistant filter. This we did, first - because of its durability, and, second - because of its cost. The second filter is the so-called Corning G 986 filter which is denser insofar as transmission of visible light and somewhat more monochromatic as far as ultraviolet is concerned. These latter filters are sold by the Corning Glass Works, at \$10.00 per 6-1/2 inch square, with molded surfaces, and several dollars additional for one with ground and polished surfaces.

If you feel that you want to you can order the second filter either through ourselves or from the Corning Glass Works and try it at the same time. We, ourselves, do not feel that it has sufficient value to warrant the greater expense but we do not want to take an arbitrary attitude about the matter since fluorescence effects are sometimes obtainable with very slight changes in technique. We suggest, however, that you proceed with the filter that is a standard part of the lamp.

Very truly yours,

J. F. Postell
HANOVIA CHEMICAL & MFG. CO.

Research Apparatus Division

J.F. Postell/HC

Nov. 17, 1938.

Mr. J. F. Postell,
% Hanovia Chemical & Mfg. Co.,
Chestnut St. & N.J. R. R. Ave.,
Newark, N.J.

Dear Mr. Postell:

Your letter of the 10th received and your proposition is indeed very fair. I did not want to invest \$135 in a product I knew nothing about and which might prove utterly worthless to me.

I am therefore enclosing my check for \$135.00 and you can forward the lamp to me subject to the conditions specified in your letter. When you forward it, I trust you will include necessary instructions and suggestions, so that I will be able to give the lamp the best trial I can.

Elliott Perry has recommended your product very highly and in a letter just received from him, he stated that he could assure me it would produce the results I am seeking.

Thanking you for your interest, I am

Sincerely yours,

Hanovia Chemical and Manufacturing Company

Chestnut Street & N. J. R. R. Avenue

ELECTRICAL DEPARTMENT
SCIENTIFIC & THERAPEUTIC APPARATUS
CABLE ADDRESS "HANCHEMCO"

Newark, N. J.

November 10, 1938

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
434 S. Grand Avenue
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Sir:

We were very pleased to receive your letter of November 5th and happy that you are willing to test our equipment. We feel that you will like it. However, unfortunately, we cannot do exactly as you want but we offer a counter proposition which we hope will be entirely acceptable to you.

If you will be kind enough to remit your check for the price of the lamp we will be glad to send the equipment to you. You may try the lamp for fifteen days, which should give you ample time to determine whether or not it is as we state, and, if at the termination of that period, you see fit to return the lamp you may do so and re-claim the amount paid in. We will, of course, expect you to adequately pack the equipment and insure it so that it will arrive here undamaged.

If you do not like this offer perhaps you will agree to supply, for the benefit of our Credit Department, adequate information concerning yourself and give them time to look into your credit standing and we will then ship the lamp to you. I hope you understand that these suggestions are governed by the fact that we must proceed according to rather strict regulations insofar as shipping equipment wherein we have had no past business dealings, and not by any desire to make the purchase of the equipment difficult.

We are glad that you are taking such an interest and under the circumstances will be glad to offer you a 10% Commission on any sales wherein you are responsible for the purchase, if the equipment is purchased directly thru ourselves and not thru a dealer.

-2-

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook

11-10038

Please rely on me to cooperate in every way possible.

Very truly yours,

HANOVIA CHEMICAL & MFG. COMPANY

J. F. Postell

Research Apparatus Division

J.F.Postell/HC

Nov. 5, 1938.

Mr. J. F. Postell,
% Hanovia Chemical & Mfg. Co.,
Chestnut St. & N.J. H. R. Ave.,
Newark, N.J.

Dear Mr. Postell:

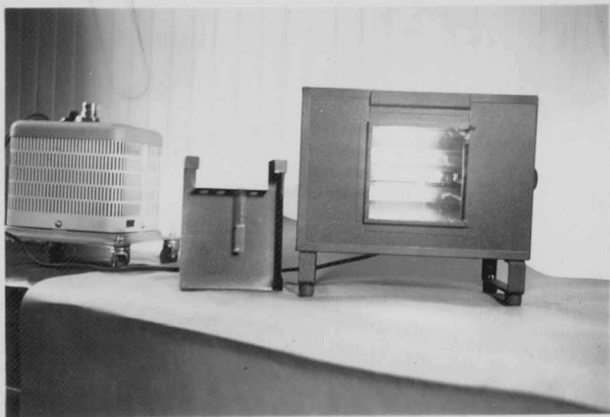
Many thanks for your letter of the 29th. I am very much interested in your new lamp and if it is all you claim for it, I want to obtain one. I suggest therefore that you make up one for me and forward so that I can give it a trial. If satisfactory I will remit check immediately.

I have quite a number of friends whom I think I could interest in purchasing these lamps provided I could give my unqualified approval of them.

However before doing so I would want to be in a position to assure them that your lamp is the best one on the market at the present time and much more efficient than those now in use.

If I could influence any of my friends to purchase, may I inquire if you would allow me a commission on each lamp, and how much.

Sincerely yours,



44

Hanovia Chemical and Manufacturing Company

Chestnut Street & N. J. R. R. Avenue

ELECTRICAL DEPARTMENT
SCIENTIFIC & THERAPEUTIC APPARATUS
CABLE ADDRESS "HANCHEMCO"

Newark, N. J.
October 29, 1938

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
434 So. Grand Avenue
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Sir:

Our mutual good friend, Mr. Perry, has told me that you are interested in securing a good ultraviolet lamp for the examination of postage stamps. I am happy to advise you that very shortly we are going to put an absolutely new model on the market.

This equipment is illustrated in the enclosed snap shot. It consists of a new form of quartz mercury arc enclosed in a lamp housing, as shown, and fitted with a special filter which transmits only radiations suitable for fluorescence analysis.

A suitable transformer is furnished to operate from an alternating current lighting circuit, 110-120 volts. The price of the complete equipment is only \$135.00, this being more than \$100.00 cheaper than any apparatus of a similar nature that we have been able to produce previously.

The lamp starts with the turn of a switch and is ready for use within four or five minutes, during which time it builds up to the maximum intensity. It is small and easily portable and will operate in any position. For the time being this is being termed the S-200 Exam-A-Lite.

These lamps are not yet in production, however we can make one up special for you and will furnish it within two weeks after receipt of your order. We know that you will find it highly satisfactory and we look forward to serving you.

Perhaps you will find the enclosed papers of interest. They have to do with the examination of postage stamps.

-2-

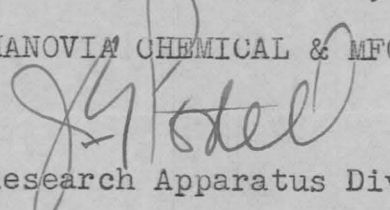
Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook

10-29-38

The last time I saw Mr. Perry we spent several very enjoyable and profitable hours going over his private collection and I learned a great deal about his specimens.

Very truly yours,

HANOVIA CHEMICAL & MFG. CO.



Research Apparatus Division

J.F. Postell/HC
encl.

P.S.

The mid part of the lamp shown on the enclosed snap shot is not a part of the apparatus for examining stamps.

m did

not mean to cross this out.

Reprinted from
THE PHILATELIC JOURNAL OF GREAT BRITAIN

April-1927
Edited By - A.J. Sefi.

EDITORIAL

- - - - -

In our January issue, under the title of "Harnessing Science to Philately" we gave some particulars of the experimental work we were doing in the utilization of ultraviolet rays for the detection of forged and faked stamps. Since the appearance of those notes we have received many requests from readers to amplify our remarks to the extent of explaining the broad principles upon which we apply this invention. We have no hesitation in devoting another Editorial to this subject as it is one of the greatest importance and one that marks a very definite step forward in philatelic research. Let us say at once that this mercury vapor quartz lamp has exceeded our expectations in many ways and has already proved itself of great assistance in opening up avenues of expertisation previously closed to us. It is not a magic Aladdin's lamp that can achieve miracles, but wisely used it is proving an inestimable boon. Advisedly we say "wisely used", as very naturally it takes experience and care correctly to read and to diagnose the pictures it presents. Just as it takes an expert to "read" and "X-ray" plate, so will it become necessary for the philatelic experts to evolve the technique of the new apparatus. We have already explained in our previous notes that most bodies or materials show under the influence of strong light an individual fluorescence. By the use of ultraviolet rays received on the object through a special filter, it is possible to obtain a source of light giving out rays of enormous power but dark to the eyes and yet possessing sufficient actinism to produce the fluorescence. The effect of the application of this process to a stamp is that on any given stamp any addition of matter not of the same composition as the original can be detected by the different fluorescence given off by the materials so differing. This means that if a stamp has been repaired, the repairs (unless made with material of a chemical composition identical with the original) will show up a different color or shade under the rays. Similarly, should ink pen-marks have been removed from a stamp, even so that their presence cannot be detected under a strong magnifying glass, there is generally enough of the chemical properties of the ink left, where the old marks were, for them to become immediately visible under the rays. These are two most valuable ways in which the lamp may be of service. There is another, and that is the detection of a reprint or of an actual out-and-out forgery. For this test a specimen of the genuine stamp is needed, then, if the doubtful stamp is placed under the rays alongside the genuine, a

fluorescence possibly totally different will be observed unless the paper and ink are of the same composition in both specimens. We can thus apply these new tests to: -

1. - Repaired Stamps
2. - Cleaned Stamps.
3. - Reprints
4. - Forgeries

We have before us as we write an original and a reprint of the 1 franc stamp of the first issue of France. Under the rays, the genuine appears normal as regards color and paper, while the reprint appears almost black on a deep bluish paper. Similarly we have before us originals and reprints of the first issues of Sweden which show equally characteristic differences. Apparently dangerous forgeries of early classic stamps almost invariably show tremendously different reactions to those of the originals, as the forger hardly ever succeeded in getting both ink and paper of the same chemical composition as the original, even though he has satisfied the eye by the color and texture he has obtained.

We have always considered stamps the safest form of collecting, as they are objects produced from definite dies and plates, the exact description of which is known, so that any departure from the genuine type can be detected. To the expertisation of stamps by the scrutiny with the unaided human eye for such divergence from the normal is now added a great scientific force which, either alone or in conjunction with other methods, cannot but render the hobby even still safer for the collector. We have received from a correspondent a translation of an article by Mr. E. Muller on this subject in the "Postmarke".

"In the first place we took some complete forgeries and subjected them to ultraviolet light radiation, for the purpose of comparison putting beside each stamp under investigation an original of the same denomination. In each instance, a pronounced difference was immediately apparent between the original and the forgery. In the case of a Holstein $1\frac{1}{2}$ sch. stamp of 1864 with the small lettering, the original remained quite dull under ultraviolet radiation, the paper appeared dark and the color of the stamp almost black; with a forgery of the same stamp, on the other hand, the paper remained pure white and the color of the stamp appeared to be a brilliant blue. With a Belgian 5 franc stamp 1878-81 the forgery remained almost unchanged in ultraviolet light, whereas the color of the original stamp appeared a blackish-brown; the color of the paper also displayed a distinct difference; and the gum of the two stamps reacted quite differently in each case. From the tests it is seen that analysis with ultraviolet light is very valuable aid in cases of complete forgeries especially in those rare cases where there have been only one or two issues of the original, for where there have been a number of issues the possibility of distinguishing differences becomes much more difficult. In order to be absolutely certain, it would be necessary to compare the suspected forgery with originals from each issue.

"As regards forgeries of overprints only, in the case of black inscription ultraviolet light shows no different visible to the naked eye between the real and the false overprint. Analysis with the help of the quartz lamp is only useful, therefore, for stamps with colored (red, blue, etc.) overprints. This applies to complete forgeries.

"This method of testing is particularly suitable for detecting tampering. We examined a few cases where the color has been tampered with chemically and obtained a remarkable result. The color of an original of the yellow Mercury of Austria appeared under ultraviolet light as a brilliant yellow, the paper remaining white, whereas the color of fakes made from the blue Mercury appeared as a dull brownish pink and the paper had a dark shade. With a Baden No. 1 the paper appeared quite dark, whilst a fake of No. 1 made by coloring a No. 5 displayed a light brown color. A test with a fake of a specimen of the rare faulty issue of the Baden 9 Kreuzer, black on green, which had been produced by recoloring the original stamp on a heliotrope ground gave very interesting result. With originals of the 6 Kreuzer, black on green, and of the 9 Kreuzer, black on heliotrope, the paper, when placed on the test ray, displayed a dull dark brown, whereas that of the colored fake appeared as a very bright green". This extract shows that experts of all countries are gradually finding out the advantages of this apparatus.

Apart from the actually detecting of repair or cleaning, it is of great use to the expert as a means of showing to the uninitiated or the unbeliever exactly how the stamp has been tampered with. A defect quite easily seen by the practised eye may be not so readily seen by the novice, but with the aid of the ultraviolet light further discussion or explanation is generally unnecessary. The enormous scientific progress of the human race has not left even stamps untouched, and we hope to see more and more stamp men, amateur and professional, developing and using aids now available. May we quote the words written by Francis Bacon somewhere about the year 1595: -

"I hold every man a debtor to his profession; from the which as men of course do seek to receive countenance and profit, so ought they of duty to endeavor themselves by way of amends to be a help and ornament thereunto."

by BACCNIUS, B. Sc.

Messrs. Sefi, Pemberton & Co., Ltd., are to be congratulated on devising and perfecting a method of harnessing science to philately, whereby the nefarious trade in cleaned and repaired stamps will stand a good chance of eventual extermination.

In the past, one of the methods of dealing with a repaired stamp has been to soak it in benzene, when the repaired portion would sometimes appear more opaque. The new process consists in the examination of specimens in a special cabinet under powerful ultra-violet rays directed upon the object through a special filter, and it is claimed that by this method any portion of the stamp which has been repaired, no matter how skillfully, will immediately stand out, while in a cleaned specimen the old pen-marks, even if invisible under a magnifying glass, are promptly and clearly revealed.

By courtesy of Messrs. Sefi, Pemberton & Co., we append herewith a few scientific details which may interest some of our readers.

Very many bodies or materials, probably a far larger number than has hitherto been supposed, show under the influence of strong light an individual fluorescence, but usually of so weak an intensity that their own luminosity, coloured red, green, blue, etc., is not perceptible under the influence of ordinary sources of light. The brighter the source of light, the more intense the fluorescence; the darker the light, the less intense the fluorescence; in any case it remains imperceptible, because it is always over-powered by the bright light which produces it. What is required, therefore, is a source of light which gives out rays dark to the eyes, but possessing, nevertheless, sufficient actinism to produce the fluorescence

Such a source of light was discovered to exist in the quartz lamp, after it had been found possible to produce easily-handled filters permeable only to the invisible dark ultra-violet rays, i. e., the rays of less than 4,000 A.U. wave length, all the bright light being entirely cut off. It is true that there was in existence already a certain fluid filter, composed of 2-3 different solutions placed one behind the other in layers (the so-called "Wood-filter"); but the production and handling of this filter was so complicated that a large number of those interested in this process found it impossible to fit to their lamps.

The new filter which Messrs. Sefi, Pemberton & Co. use is made of glass, which appears quite black to the naked eye. The sun appears dark red through it, and the quartz burner itself very dark violet. But the effective ultra-violet rays of the quartz lamp, of about wave length 4,000 to 3,000 A. U., particularly wave length 3,660 A. U., which are invisible to the naked eye, penetrate the filter. By means of these particularly actinic rays, with the simultaneous cutting off of all visible light, the characteristic fluorescence is produced with extraordinary intensity.

In the quartz lamp, mercury vapor, contained in a transparent vacuum tube made of fused quartz is brought to its maximum temperature by means of electric current, and, thereby, produces a light of extraordinary strength.

It has long been known that incandescent mercury vapor sends out chemically active rays (ultra-violet rays) in great intensity. But with ordinary mercury vapor lamps, made of glass, the ultra-violet rays, were absorbed by the glass covering. This is not the case with the quartz lamp. Fused quartz is in the first place entirely permeable by ultra-violet rays, and at the same time allows the mercury to be brought to a much higher temperature than is possible in glass lamps, because fused quartz withstands a much higher temperature than that at which ordinary glass liquifies. Owing to the extraordinarily high temperature the amount of ultra-violet light produced is greatly increased, so it became possible to construct a lamp which greatly surpassed any existing source of radiation as regards ultra-violet rays.

The New York Times

TIMES SQUARE, NEW YORK, N. Y.
LACKAWANNA 4-1000

June 19, 1939.

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook,
434 South Grand Avenue,
Fort Thomas, Kentucky.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

You will recall our conversation in Mr. Souren's office some weeks ago, regarding the Harmer, Rooke sales of the Crocker collection at London. We find that the impression seems to be general, in the trade here, that Dr. Carroll Chase prepared the descriptions of U.S. stamps as set down in the Crocker catalog. I do not believe he did, except with regard to a certain few, and I think you feel the same way about it, judging from what you told me.

The purpose of this letter is to inquire as to whether you have come across that letter you mentioned---the one from Dr. Chase. If you have, we would appreciate having it. Our attorney thinks it should be valuable to us.

Perhaps also you will be willing to give me an address where I can reach Dr. Chase direct, in Paris or London.

May I have your cooperation?

Yours truly,

Kent B. Stiles,

Kent B. Stiles,
Stamp Editor.

SIDNEY B. JONES
5 RUTLEDGE AVENUE
CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA

May 3, 1939

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook,
434 Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Thanks for your letter and the photo of my block of 1¢-57. I appreciate your kindness. You certainly made a clear photo - are you an expert photographer as well as a "57 to 60" expert?

Not knowing buyers of such material I really have not tried to sell these stamps. I sent a photostat to a dealer from whom I ordered some stamps but he declined to make an offer, stating that he had no customer interested at the time.

Like most novices - I would figure the value of the stamps at about one-half catalogue. If I decided to break the block I would divide it as follows:

Type I single (81) catalogue	-----\$ 30.00
" Block of 4 (82-93) "	----- 400.00
" " " " (84-95) "	----- 400.00
" Cracked plate (91) "	----- not listed
Type II Strip of 3 (72-74)"	----- 60.00
" Double transfer (71)	----- 30.00

which would total \$920.00 without the cracked plate (91) added in. Therefore according to the "rule of thumb" I would say the value to be about \$500.00. However, you could give me an idea of how right this would be. I would hate to break the block for my general collection and would welcome advice from you as to its disposal intact.

I have offered the stamps to no collector, although I intended doing so by sending the photo to several in turn; however, I will not do this until I hear from you, for I would like to have you make a sale and get paid (thru a commission) for the splendid photo you sent me.

Any information or advice you care to give me will be appreciated.

Yours truly,

Sidney B. Jones

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

May 18, 1939.

Mr. Sidney B. Jones,
5 Rutledge Ave.,
Charleston, S. C.

My dear Mr. Jones:

I have been down East for several weeks and found your letter of the 3rd on my return.

I would indeed like to be of some assistance to you in finding a buyer for your Plate 12 stamps and I will do so if possible. The trend of collection at the present time is "condition", and it seems as though rarity or catalogue prices cut little figure. Collectors seem to disregard every feature but "condition" and personally I rather deplore this, because I am of the old school and went thru my early years in philately with an appreciation of rarity in spite of condition. Blocks of any size from Plate 12 are rare, in fact very few exist, hence such pieces regardless of imperfect perforations should command a premium over catalogue quotations. But in selling, one has to find a buyer, and at the present time, if a stamp, a strip, or a block is not "perfectly centered", buyers do not seem to be interested.

I would advise you not to sever the block because I really do believe that eventually you will obtain more for it if left in its present shape.

I will keep your letter before me and should I be able to locate anyone who would seriously be interested in acquiring the item, I will write you.

I fear I am not an "expert" in any line, in fact I rather dislike to be placed in such an exalted position. I love the serious side of philately and some 25 years back I recognized what an immense help photography would be to me in my work. So I started to experiment with philatelic photography and thru the years I have perhaps acquired the knack of producing the results I want on a negative. I have a marvelous photographic record of rare and unusual items and this record has been of immense assistance to me.

With kindest regards,

Cordially yours,

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

April 18, 1939.

Mr. Clarence W. Brazer,
415 Lexington Ave.,
New York, N.Y.

My dear Clarence :

Many thanks for your kind letter of the 10th. I return herewith the 1861 contract, also a typewritten copy. I have marked my copy as confidential and will make no use of it whatsoever, that is, by communicating any of the contents to anyone or making any reference by word, letter or article.

If I might impose further, may I make a copy of the March 1861 advertisement for proposals for the contract? I will also send you typed copy and will treat this as confidential as the contract.

Regarding the print of the vignette for the \$1.00 Omaha. I intended to write you regarding this. I thought I had enough 5 X 7 plates, but ran out of them before the job was finished and had to make the \$1.00 vignette on a 4 X 5 plate which was just a little bit short at right. I suppose I should have held this over until I got a fresh supply, but there would have been several days delay. I am sending you another print, printed to the edge of the negative, but I doubt if this is any different from the other. If you would prefer not too use this print for the cut, send the vignette out to me and I will make a same size on a 5 X 7.

Cordially yours.,

CLARENCE W. BRAZER
Philatelist
U. S. PROOFS & ESSAYS
EXCLUSIVELY

Tel. Vanderbilt 6-1777
File Number

MEMBER
American Philatelic Society
Collectors Club—New York

415 Lexington Ave.
NEW YORK CITY

April 24, 39.

Dear Stanley

Thank you for return of my copy of the 1861 contract with your typed copy. My date files are in terrible shape and disorder and will have to be entirely refiled, so I have made a search for the copy of the 1861 adv. for proposals but have not been able to locate it, tho. I found a short extract from it which I published in Stamps, March 25, 1933 page 519, April 1, 1933 page 15. And April 8, 1933, page 51. On page 52 you will note at the end that I held ^{in 1833} all the premier gravures were essays, except the 10¢ and 24¢. Since then I have determined that the 24¢ + 30¢ essays were re-entered after completion, so only the 10¢ remains.

Cordially yours.

Clarence

P.S. I have obtained the loan of another ^{for} 1898 vignette and will have it photographed here. The other was returned long ago. C.W.B.
How do you like the article and cuts in the C.C.P.?

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

May 3, 1939.

Mr. Clarence W. Brazier,
415 Lexington Ave.,
New York, N.Y.

My dear Clarence:

Your article in the current C.C.P. is fine and the illustrations certainly do show up in grand shape. It was very thoughtful of you to give me so much credit, but I really did not expect this, and was only too glad to be of this little assistance on these magnificent articles you are publishing.

I have a complete file of "Stamps" and frequently refer to your "Premiere" articles back in 1933. If you locate the full text of the advertisement of March 1861, I certainly would appreciate seeing it, though of course I realize you published the important features it contained.

As I understand your present theory, you believe that the 24¢ and 30¢ "Premieres" came from the original states of these two plates, whereas the regularly issued stamps came from the second states of both plates, the difference being due entirely to re-entering. Is this correct?

I see no reason why this conflicts in any way with my present theory regarding the whole question of the Premieres.

With kindest regards,

Cordially yours,

CLARENCE W. BRAZER
Philatelist
U. S. PROOFS & ESSAYS
EXCLUSIVELY

Tel. VANDerbilt 6-1777
File Number

MEMBER
American Philatelic Society
Collectors Club—New York

415 Lexington Ave.
NEW YORK CITY

May 5, 1939.

Dear Stanley,

Many thanks for your kind words of appreciation
of my C.C.P. article on the Cuvier issue, which
would not have been so fine without your grand
photographs. Have had time your photo of 1.^{re} vignette.

Yes you are correct in your third paragraph
about the "premiere genre" 2x4 and 30x^{essays} 4. Am
enclosing four photos I had made some time ago
which are marked as to the additional engraving
done between the premiere and regular designs.

These do not show the differences as well as
your photography would, and the larger photos
I have are much better, but I have not yet had
time to draw the arrows on them, which I
intend to do as soon as I can get to the
re-writing of an article I have written on these
discoveries. I hope to complete it soon for early
publication. This 2x4 type II is not so complete
as another photo I have of the completed die 4x5.
Please return these "preview" photos as they are
all I have with study records.

Cordially yours, Clarence

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

May 18, 1939.

Mr. Clarence W. Brazier,
415 Lexington Ave.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Clarence:

I am returning herewith the four photographs as contained in yours of the 5th. As you will recall, I made a number of photographs several years ago from various proofs which you sent me, but due to recent improvement which I have made in my camera, I think I can produce finer negatives than those I made back in 1936. When you come to write the 1861 part of your article I will be only too glad to make new photographs for you and if you will give me a little time, I will take special pains and will get the results such as you would like to have.

I have noted carefully the differences you pointed out and no doubt your theory is correct. However here we are dealing solely with die proofs. I would like to make a careful comparison between proofs that I was positive came from the first state of the plate and proofs which I was positive came from the second state of the plate. I should have mentioned that I am particularly referring to the 30¢ value. I am wondering if you could not make your article stronger by including illustrations of the above actual plate proofs rather than illustrating die proofs. Of course you could use the latter to show your theory with plate proofs as suggested to proof same.

I would like to know what you think of this suggestion.

I enjoyed seeing you for even a short time at the Club and regretted that my trip to New York was so brief that I did not have the opportunity of spending more time with you. However sometime before very long, I hope to locate in or near New York, at which time I anticipate many little sessions with you.

With every good wish, believe me,

Sincerely yours,

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

June 12, 1939.

Mr. E. R. Jacobs,
1251 Asbury Ave.,
Evanston, Ills.

Dear Ernie:

I enclose check for \$65 which you advanced on the 5¢ 57 Imprint piece. I apologize for the delay in returning this, but it has been tough to get hold of any money in recent weeks.

I concluded a nice sale on a batch of the 3¢ 1851's but haven't received the cash as yet, but will get a check this week. Ireton was a big disappointment, as he only took seven copies, Sam none, and several others I had counted on only tossed in some chicken feed.

Herewith a 3¢ 1857 - 48 R 7 crack. I think this is a rather nice example of this variety. Please let me know if you can use it. It belongs to a "client", so please don't file it away and forget about it.

I am slated to accompany Cole to Chicago in September with the Steve Brown sale - all expenses paid.

How is S.N.? Give him my regards.

Yours etc.,

434 South Grand Ave.,
Port Thomas, Ky.

March 2, 1939.

Mr. E. R. Jacobs,
% Mrs. Harry Manchester,
320 Betty Lane,
Clearwater, Florida.

Dear Ernie:

Mildred had quite a sick spell after you left and is still feeling punk and just dragging around, so I will make this brief.

Was not able to get Ireton out to house until today. I did not offer to sell him as a whole, as I can do better by retail. I borrowed \$500 from him, which I enclose, and balance will follow as soon as I can finance. I didn't ask him for more. In view I am taking this myself, can you cut the price? If so, it will help a lot. Have a heart. I got \$300 in Kelleher sale and paid Dan cash, though I haven't sold a single item. As soon as some cash comes in on these lots (Emerson), I'll shoot it to you and see how quick I can clean this 3¢ 51-57 up.

Mildred was heart broken that the only sick spell in years had to come during your visit. We got Marie's thoughtful little letter and appreciated it.

I do think it was wise in deciding to drive in day light and I trust you reached Dalton before dark.

Mildred's sickness has prevented me from sending any stuff out this week but I will get as much out in next few days as possible.

We do hope you come back this way and have your visit out. I am afraid Marie had a rather dull time.

Our love to you both.

Yours,

P. S. Am sending this Air Special, so the check will reach you as soon as possible.

S.

E. R. JACOBS
1251 ASBURY AVE.
EVANSTON, ILL.

4/14/39

Dear Sam:-

Thanks for checks on sales - Gross
Costales would like the 50 state cover. Webster
wants strip of 10-3457. Barney wants several
books of cancellations. He advertised 3451 expecting
I was to furnish material I sold you. Did you
ever send him any items? A chap in N.Y. by name
Malcolm was going to write you about the
Gray & N.Y. Steamboat and other items. He tried
to buy some items out of collection when Jim
had it

How are you coming along with sales
If you want I'll send him any items
he had marked.

I took boat from Florida to New York
and bought quite a lot of stamps - some items
I intend to send you as soon as I get some

E. R. JACOBS

1251 ASBURY AVE.

EVANSTON, ILL.

time have been up to my ears since my return

I think I picked up the top stamp of spider crack early state have you got the middle stamp this one [H] I could borrow to check

Harry Lindquist going to be here the 24th
can't you run up too?

Stamp business nothing maybe you
could pick up enough to make trip pay
you would have no expense while here. Now
don't just say no but give this thought I think
you should come.

Mavis joins me in love to you all

Best
E.R.J.

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

April 22, 1939.

Dear Ernie:

It certainly was a long time between drinks, but nevertheless, I was glad to get yours of the 14th. I had not heard from you for so long a time, I had about concluded you had decided to stay either in Florida or New York.

Regarding the 3¢ collection. I have done practically nothing with it, because I have a chap who is quite interested and to whom I hope to sell sufficient to cover the cost. I have been working with him ever since you were here and he has been asking me to hold off. I am hoping he will give me permission next week to go thru the pages and select everything I think he should have. I almost had him up to this point when that damn war scare showed up and the stock market went sliding down. He asked me if I could hold off until the situation cleared, and I did so. I haven't even given Sam a chance to buy a single copy and have only let Ireton buy less than \$200. After he decides what he wants to do, I will let you know about the items you wanted for various ones.

I tore the whole collection to pieces, soaked the majority, pressed them, and remounted, hence the whole lot makes a very neat and attractive showing.

I hold no communication with Hardy, so of course I have not sent him a thing and besides I wouldn't try to sell him anything. I can find a dozen chaps who will top any price he bids.

Re - the Plate 3 crack. For God's sake don't call this the "Spider crack" as that S. B. Jefferys gave it that name and it is lousy. I call it the "Lightning crack" - forked lightning - not so hot I'll admit, but much better than the term "spider".

So you picked up the top stamp from the 3rd row. Was it the bottom stamp in a vert. strip? A chap down east sent me such a strip and I tried to buy it, but he wouldn't put a price on it. I am sorry but I do not possess a single one of these three cracks. I had one I believe when you were here, but I sold it without any trouble. Look up my illustration in Volume 1, but if this won't serve your purpose, send the stamp down to me or I will send you photographs of the three positions - top stamp is a "B" - two lower ones are "A".

I delayed writing you, thinking perhaps I could run up to Chicago and be with Harry and yourself on Monday, but I didn't dare leave as I am expecting a chap to turn up here most any day who has some real money. It would be too bad if he dropped in and I was out of town.

#2.

Mr. E. R. Jacobs - April 22, 1939.

I may have to go to New York around the 1st, quite a nice little job in sight and expenses guaranteed.

Mildred requests that you tell Marie that she received her letter and will write her soon. I have been keeping her awfully busy and she has never fully recovered from that illness. What she needs is a change and a rest, but I couldn't get along if she left me, so I may decide to drive to New York next month and take her with me.

Marjorie left the middle of March to reside in San Diego, Calif. with her Aunt, Edythe's oldest sister. She is located where they cannot take the boy away from her unless they go out there and get him, and take him back and I doubt if they will do this. I sure would love to run up and spend a day with you and I'll do so later on.

Ez Cole will be here sometime this summer with the Steve Brown collection and he wants me to go to Chicago and help him show it there. I have promised I would do so.

I had a long letter from Doc yesterday and he mentioned that when I went up to Chicago on my next trip to have Cabeen or you show me the stuff he sent over for safe keeping.

What is Gene willing to pay for the 3¢ cover with 1853 year-date? I may keep that strip of 10 of the 3¢ 1857 because it shows the complete distribution of the reliefs.

I didn't hear from anyone down East by the name of Malcolm, but I'll bet I would pay more for a 3¢ 1851 on cover with the Troy - New York, than he would.

I wonder who formed this collection originally. Do you know? He must have been a good friend of Doc's.

I know Marie and you must have had a dandy trip on the boat from Miami to New York.

Our love to you both,

Yours etc.,

Oct. 27, 1938.

Dr. Carroll Chase,
% The Chase Bank,
41 rue Cambon,
Paris, France.

Dear Doc:

I was very glad to receive yours of the 17th and to read the Luff letter. How very foolish it sounds at present in view of all we now know on this subject. I have warned Hugh to be careful what he publishes in his revision of the Luff book and pending the appearance of this work I intend to let the matter rest. If Hugh wants to go ahead and perpetuate a silly "fairy tale" it is O.K. with me, for I could kill that tale at any time I care to publish the evidence I have. However now that Luff has passed on, I do not think Hugh has any desire to do anything but what is right. I had a talk with him in New York in June and he told me then he thought he would publish Luff's version of the Augusts and also the results of other students to date. By this I suppose he meant the conclusions reached by Chase, Perry, and Ashbrook. If there is anyone else who knows a damn thing about these "sample labels" I do not know who it could be. Would you say Colson and Ward? Ward came out in Mekeels and stated he had read Luff's account and he had read mine and of the two he liked the Luff account best. You see, so far as he was concerned it was a mere matter of taste. Of course anyone who would differ from that lousy red head from Boston is a S.O.B. in his opinion. Would that he had passed on instead of Luff. He gets worse every year, but no one pays any attention to him any more.

I note Luff stated in his letter that you expressed suspicion that the "Augusts" were never regularly issued, and that you did not prove anything. With all due respect to Luff that statement really is a joke. Ye Gods how he did hate himself. He took it for granted that whatever Luff said was gospel and woe be unto him who differed with him. What evidence did he produce those labels were ever issued? He knew damn well they were children of his imagination and he did, never admitting for one second he was wrong. His whole story of these labels in his book is a positive joke.

I note - "We have made the rule that when we had evidence that stamps were not regularly issued we have dropped them from the catalog". Damned funny I would say. It takes evidence to get them out but no evidence to get them in.

That cancelled copy of the 3¢ August is laughable. But suppose for example one copy of the 3¢ was actually used thru the mails, then I suppose, "one swallow makes a summer". Well do I recall that you once stated that "One swallow did not make a summer" and so far as these two stories is concerned, I am like Ward, I like yours much the best.

I have a 3¢ 1861 card board proof on cover used in 1866. Perry has examined it and stated it is genuine, so who am I to dispute Perry's opinion? Therefore I abide by such opinion and no

#2.

Dr. Carroll Chase - Oct. 27, 1938.

doubt the thing is good. At any rate it cost me 2¢ in a large batch of 3¢ 1861 covers so if it was faked I got a "used" proof rather cheap. Now if this proof was actually on this cover and it passed thru the mails does that prove that 3¢ card board proofs were regularly issued? According to Luff it certainly does, and you and I are a couple of boobs and don't know a damn thing about early U. S.

Well at any rate Doc this letter is damn good and I am keeping a copy of it just for my own amusement. Rest assured I will use none of it. The old man was fine and I have no desire to say anything in print about him. I got balled out plenty for dubbing his August story a "fairy tale".

Re - New Orleans - Franklin Carrier etc. - See Perry's Chapter - page 169. We have no evidence that 1¢ 1851's were used to pay the carrier rate there in the early 1850's.

You ask why the 1¢ 1851 could not have been used to prepay the carrier fee, and I think the answer is really very simple. The use of 1¢ stamps to pay the carrier fee was surely not permitted before 1856 at any office. All monies derived from the sale of the Eagle and Franklin stamps went to the carriers. The P.M.G. Reports show this to be a fact. Money from 1¢ postage stamps went to the government. To have permitted the use of postage stamps to pay the carriers would have required a complicated system of accounting. It was for this same reason that the Registration fee had to be paid in cash in the fifties and the fee was not permitted to be prepaid by stamps. Luff said the 5¢ 1856 was issued to pay the Registration fee, when we now know it was issued to pay the 5¢ shore to ship on certain classes of foreign mail, such as letterst o France up to 1857.

There is no question special permission was granted certain offices - Philadelphia and New York - to use the 1¢ 1851 to prepay the carrier fee but this did not happen until 1856. I don't think anyone can show a cover with a 1¢ 1851 used to pay the fee in 1855 or any prior years. It is possible that such items might exist but such possible uses were contrary to the P.O.Regulations.

Carrier fees were paid in cash. Take the 1852 P.M.G.Report.
"Receipts from Letter Carriers \$104,355.92"
and
"Payments to LettersCarriers \$104,355.92"

We know full well that very few Franklins were sold to pay the fee.

I will shortly forward you deluxe copies of Volume 1 and Volume 2. If I was not so darned hard up I would present them to you but these cost plenty and I can not permit Lindquist to give me any free copies.

I will welcome critcism on Volume 2.

My best regards.

Yours etc.,

New York, N.Y.
Aug. 10, 1926.

Dr. Carroll Chase
P. O. Box 179
Meredith, N.H.

My dear Dr. Chase:-

As I am editor of Scott's Journal, your letter to Mr. Clark, together with the article for the special Exhibition number, has been handed to me to read.

From your note, I feel that you yourself do not think this article will be quite suitable for us and I regret to say that I agree with you. I had hoped for something really very good from a philatelist of your standing. I really do not think the article is what we want. To be very frank, it does not get anywhere. You express suspicion that the so-called "August" issue of 1861 U.S. were not regularly issued, but you do not prove anything.

We have made the rule that when we had evidence that stamps were not regularly issued, we have dropped them from the catalog or, at least, inserted a note telling their status. I really think it would be bad policy for us to publish in our own journal a slur about our catalog when there is no evidence to back it.

Permit me to refer to two or three things in the article. Stolen dies: Had anything of this kind happened, I feel very certain we would have heard of it, but I do not see how it could happen. Dies and plates are the property of the Government and are kept by the government's agent, not by the bank note company. The agent gives them out for use but they must be returned daily and all accounted for before the people using them are permitted to go home. I believe this care extends to paper and that even damaged sheets must be turned in. Under these circumstances, I cannot conceive that dies or plates could be stolen and if they were, how could private individuals get the stamps printed without rousing suspicion?

It is my opinion that the first types of the '61 issue were altered because they did not suit the bank note company. It was their first contract with the government and they were, naturally, anxious to have the work satisfy the government and themselves also.

You say: "No values of the "August" set are known postally used excepting the 10c and 24c". Dr. J.H. Stebbins was presented with a cancelled copy of the "August" 3c by two old ladies at Clayton, New York, who took it from family correspondence.

Again, you say the 3c exists in a large number of shades and speak of having seen a page of blocks of four in the

Dr. Carroll Chase
8/10/26

possession of a prominent New York dealer. I think I remember seeing something of the kind myself either in the Crawford collection, bought by the Nassau Stamp Company, or among the Mandel proofs, which J. W. Scott had, but I do not think any claim was made that they were regular stamps or anything but trial colors.

You also say that the 90c imperforate always look to you like another stamp that appeared thru irregular channels. I do not know just what this allusion is intended to suggest, but my experience has been that there are very few 90c imperforate. I think I have handled most of them. I bought the first pair in Boston at the time of an A.P.S. Convention there. It went to Gibbons with my collection and, I think, to Mr. Worthington. A second pair I bought from the J. M. Bartels Company, which was sold to a collector whose name I have forgotten. He lived in Kentucky or Tennessee, died suddenly and nothing has ever been heard of his very fine United States collection since then. I bought one or two single copies from the Bartels Company, one of which went to Ferrari, and I doubt if more than these that I can account for exist. So I fail to see why the 90c imperf should be the subject of much suspicion.

I hope you will not think that I am trying to find fault with your article. I am merely giving my reasons for my not being in full accord with it, and I think you will agree that it is not what we are looking for for the special number of our journal.

With kind personal regards, I remain

Yours very truly

(signed John N. Luff

JNL.TW

Letter to Chase

New York, N.Y.
Aug. 10, 1926.

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With kind personal regards, I remain

Yours very truly

(signed John N. Luff

JNL.TW

Care des Champs Elysées
41, rue Cambon Paris France.
Sept 19 1958

Dear Stan :- "Back to Paris a couple of days ago + sure enough the 14 books
was there waiting for me. Mightily kind of you to offer a deluxe edition, but
really the other will serve me just as well. I've gone over it as well as I
could in a limited time. I'm right glad to see you left Dofferys out in the end
on the Plate 3 chapter. I've nothing or practically nothing to criticize, except
that I think Brazer is dead wrong on page 67. I'm sure the 14 "partly finished
pieces" are "breached ones" + nothing else. The difference in the lettering etc is
due to two things - a double transfer (sure would be seen on an original engraving!)
and a grinding down of the surface to make it look less complete. I don't think
he was hard on Scherink's fakes + he should have roasted them plenty.
It was really a dirty trick - don't let collectors + sell trash at fancy prices.
He also failed to mention several 3c 1851 essays described in my book - or at
least he doesn't illustrate them. His chapter has some rather bad faults. I hope
Perry's + Hahn's will be better.

I see you took Perry's word for 71612 being a II + not a I. What "proof"
has he? I'd want to see it. I have a notion that it's a type I all the time.
But these are minor questions, Stan. Quite a book + I hope it
gets you a second Crawford medal. Sorry! I never saw so many cuts
in my life!

I'm looking forward with much pleasure to seeing Vol.
II. I almost wish you had added one line saying, that after the war,
when our two plates were compared, they checked. Of course you illustrated it at
that.

I wrote Simpson but haven't yet had an answer.

I haven't the faintest idea, Stan, whether I still have those
glass negatives for mention, but I very much doubt it. I may have the
prints, but Sam only knows where they are. Probably in a rear Hampden
garage in one of 30 or more boxes, and I'm really afraid it's not possible to
get at them.

I don't want to be too hard on Perry. Surely he does some good
work, but it's mixed up with trash that I can't spot it. On general
principles I'd check + check every statement he makes. He never
knows where he is going N on a tangent. As for the 14 stamp in letters
to New Orleans (with a 3¢). New Orleans surely had a carrier system
at that time, but you may be right about the 14 way fee.

Your \$50,000.00 (why not \$5,000,000?) 14 1861 makes me smile. I hope
you can see it.

I see Luff has finally passed on. Too bad. All in all I don't
suppose the U.S. has produced a better philatelist. He made some
mistakes (who doesn't?) but on the whole was revelably accurate.

I must show for a letter he sent me on the "Augusts". I think I still have
it somewhere. It's not as hot, really. He claims the 1st August was really
used at the time — just for me being — as it may have been the 3rd.

Did a long article in French to finish to night so must quit.

Keep up the good work, Stan. Why not do the 10th & the 12th the
same way?

Best to you both,

as ever

C. Q.

Please excuse the envelope. It's the only one I can put
my hands on.

Oct. 5, 1938.

Dr. Carroll Chase,
41 rue Cambon,
Paris, France.

Dear Doc:

Yours of the 19th received. Some very exciting days must have ensued in Paris after you wrote that letter. I was thinking about you when the news came in over the radio and wondering if real trouble came over there, that you wouldn't come back home, and get out of it. Times sure have changed since 1918 and it is sad to contemplate that Germany is again back in the position she was in 1914 and that all the blood spilled in four long years was for naught. In my opinion only one man is to blame - Woodrow Wilson - we should have had no armistice and peace should have been dictated in Berlin and Germany dismembered. England and France paid a big price at Munich but they have only put off for a time the fateful day. At least conditions over here are far different than in 1916 and 1917. At that time there was plenty of sympathy for Germany in this country - pro-Germanism was a problem. Today we have none, thanks to Hitler.

I note you got your copy of the One Cent book. My offer still is good so at any time you send your two volumes over I will exchange them for the DeLuxe copies, that is, provided I have any left. Volume 2 has been at the bindery for ten days and I am looking for my first bound copy most any day. This was due on Sept. 15th, but the delay in publishing was unavoidable. I am glad you especially noted I threw Jefferys out entirely on his Plate 3. Its a long story but in spite of the very nice way I acted he ran true to form right up to the last minute. Just a regular 18 karat S.B.

Regarding Brazor. He is a stubborn cuss and hates to admit that anyone knows more than he does. He just will not admit he is wrong. When he sent his copy in I personally changed his stuff on the 6¢ essay, and told the correct story, that is, that such a stamp was contemplated late in 1852 for the California rate, that the essay was prepared from the 1¢ die, but the decision to issue a 6¢ envelope made the essay unnecessary. All of which is most logical and unquestionably a fact. He wouldn't listen to me and insisted he could prove a 6¢ die was made first in 1851 before a 1¢ die, or something to that effect. It was O.K. with me, he was the author not me, and I didn't care to argue a question with him that seemed very silly. Some chaps don't like a simple and logical solution to a problem. They like to invent theories of their own and then stick to them.

Perry's guide relief is an example. To me it is a very simple story how the Toppan firm entered their plates, so why discard the simple logical way and invent some complicated silly theory that has no basis to prove such a method was used? But hells bells what is the use of arguing such points. I dare say 99 out of 100 will believe what Chase said in his 3¢ book and what Ashbrook said in his 1¢ book regarding the method used in entering the plates - as for the other 1 out of 100, Perry can have him for all I give a rap.

#2.

Dr. Carroll Chase - Oct. 5, 1938.

I agree with you thoroughly on Brazer's reference to the fake proofs and I would have treated this subject without any soft stuff. However bear this in mind - Brazer deals in proofs and such things have a sale. All one has to do is to find a fish. I may be all wrong on this, still it may account for the soft pedal. With these exceptions I thought his chapter was very good - in fact a damn sight better than I could have done because I never devoted any time to proofs and what I really know about them from my own personal study is nil. Brazer is the recognized authority so I considered myself fortunate in getting him to do this chapter for the book.

Regarding Perry and 71 L 12. He claimed to have a block of six - 61 - 62 - 63 etc. and that 71 L was surely a Type II. I never saw the block and I don't know where it is now. He had access to the large Ackerman block and with this could certainly spot 62 and 63. It so happens these are nice double transfers - so if his block plated with these two positions as he claimed they did what else could I do but take his word? I had no material to fit here and I have never seen any piece that tied in with 61 or 71. I figured there was more chance that I was wrong on 71 than he so I changed the record. If it ever turns out he is wrong I can throw the blame back on his shoulders and I thought this better than taking the chance of continuing the error, having it proved an error, and having him say, "I told you so".

Since the book was published I turned up two remarkable blocks - one of 14 and one of 29 and luckily they both come from the bottom part of the right pane. I now have seen all this part of the plate with the exception of 62 to 66 inclusive - 54 and 55 and 86. I also have no record of 20 R 12. This makes only 8 positions in the right pane I have not seen. The distribution of the types in the right pane are thus proved to be according to your original theory.

In writing both volumes I tried to keep constantly in mind to give credit where credit was due. I think I mentioned in a number of places that you were the first to discover this or that feature, but if I was derelict in this respect in any place it was certainly not intentional. I quite agree that I should have especially mentioned that our separate reconstructions of Plate One Late matched perfectly.

Mannell Hahn's chapter is not important and is practically a repetition of what I had already included in separate chapters. However I think he writes well, is a clever student, and his chapter is a nice resume of the period 1850 to 1860.

Regarding Perry's work. I think you will find that this is the best work Perry has ever done. I collaborated with him on this and suggested all the corrections I knew anything about. I think without question it is the first real story that has ever been told on "Carriers". Unless I miss my guess you will find a lot of stuff that will be new to you. This chapter delayed the book two months but I think it is well worth the delay. We were very careful not to permit it to go to press before we believed it was accurate.

I think without any question we have the New Orleans dope

#3.

Dr. Carroll Chase - Oct. 5, 1938.

absolutely correct and we corrected many wrong impressions and theories of the past. You suggested as I recall "Car 2" and "Car 1" meant Carrier #2 and Carrier #1. On the contrary Carrier #1 meant 1¢ due for carrier fee on local mail - and Car 2 meant carrier 2¢ due on out of town mail. I discovered this and we proved it to be true.

I am sure all covers in 1851 and 1852 with 3¢ plus 1¢ are prepaid "Way" fees. Not carriers. These by the way only occur in 1851 and 1852. I have the correct dope on "Way" and "Steam" and it will be new to you and of interest. New Orleans added the Way fee of 1¢ (when not prepaid) up to Jan. 1st, 1853, but not after that date. I also have new stuff on "Via Nicaragua" and the "Pony Express", and by the way, in mention of former, I am almost sure your former cover illustrated in your book - bisect 3¢ tied by grid and "Via Nicaragua Ahead of the Mails" is a fake.

I would like to see your letter from Luff on the Augusts. It must have been written many years ago because I know he changed his tune on these samples in recent years. You will recall Clark changed the heading year before last in the U. S. Catalogue from "First Issue" to "First Designs" and believe me he did not do this without Luff's consent. If old John ever thought the 1¢ was issued he was wrong and he had no proof - I think he probably referred to the 3¢, copies of which are known with "trial" target cancellations - gum on back - so hardly used. But even so a cancelled copy off cover wouldn't mean a damn thing. As you once said - "A swallow does not make a summer".

Now that Luff is dead, Hugh will write the new Luff book ala Hugh and its my guess he will soft pedal the August stuff. He would be foolish to do otherwise. Luff in good faith invented the theory, but it was after all only a fairy tale with no proof to substantiate it whatsoever.

I have little doubt you will have fault to find with Volume 2 - so when you receive it go over it carefully and point out all points on which you disagree - no matter how sharp your criticism, I will welcome it.

In this book I covered a lot of ground and naturally I may be wrong in many places. If so I have no apologies to offer because I did the best I could. I quoted your book extensively and I did this so as to avoid using any of your material and making it appear it was my own.

Besides your book is not available and by quoting so much from your book I have made much of your work available to present day students.

I understand that the Gibbons office experienced a severe loss thru theft and that the man involved was one Grulich who used the name of Robt. S. Diamond in his stamp business. As I recall he published some articles by you last winter. I thought at the time you were making a mistake to permit an unknown to publish articles from your pen.

Mildred joins me in best regards.

Yours etc.,

Dear Stan:-

Credit Union Bank

41, rue Cambon Paris France

Oct 17 1938

Your of the 5th received.

I hope to return to Paris shortly.

or rather how short a time we know.

I am in Brussels just now but the war scare is over, but for how long? If France would only get over her red tendencies and get a decent government things would be better. The reds are fairly howling with rage because war wasn't declared! They are the big losers up to this time.

Very complicated question. As you say Wilson, Lloyd George & Co. are the really responsible parties.

I'm waiting the second volume of the 10th book. It will come in time, as I see it is out. I'll write you again after we had time to read it.

I'm enclosing Suff's letter on the Augusts. I had written, at Clark's request, some notes on the 1st same 1861 for their monthly. They sent it back because I said the stamps (except for the 10th & 24th) were not regularly used etc. I gave several theories, as I remember. The best part of Suff's letter is the 3rd used "from a family correspondence". Oh yes - - - Please return the letter at your convenience.

I wrote some articles for "Deamond" & got paid for them - all except the last. They were nicely presented and I don't believe any harm was done. I had no way of knowing he was a crook.

Regarding the New Orleans carrier. We know that a few Hanklin's carriers were used there about the period "late 1851-1852", so obviously the carrier fee was ~~not~~ (sometimes at least) surely paid by a 1st stamp. Why couldn't the 1st 1851's have been used the same way? Note that I'm not saying it was, because I've not any data, but doesn't it sound possible?

I haven't yet seen your book, so haven't your story. Did you mention the Hanklin's carrier use in New Orleans?

If you will put aside the Deamond copies (the two volumes) I'll be glad to have them, but please keep them for the moment. I'll be glad to send you a check for them, rather than to return my two ordinary volumes as a friend here wants them. I'll be all right by you? (the ordinary)

I'm well & busy as the devil.

Best regards

most sincerely

C. C.

Dear Stan:-

One Dec. Place Bank
41, rue Cambon Paris, France

Nov 28, 1938

at Paris
Your 7 Nov. 1938 is just at hand. I received notice from the American Express Co. that the two volumes were en route, and we asked them to hold them until I make my next trip there - which I hope will be permanent. I enclose check for \$10.00 to cover and the add your forwarding charges if you will let me know what they were. Very kind of you to send them.

I'll be much surprised if Clark ever removes the premises from the Scott catalogue. They have sold too many for me thing & business is business with him.

Yes, Stan, thank God you didn't book up with Philip Dr. I think I am making a wise move to go to N.Y. if you consider going in for stamps. You will find some suburbs more agreeable than the city itself, but pick me with good transportation facilities, where you don't have to take a ferry. N.Y. itself is so damned full of Jews that it's impossible to live there - for me at any rate.

I guess the only chance of my returning to the U.S.A. would be a general war in Europe, and even then I might get a decent commission in the German army - if I thought I could stand it physically. War is mostly hard work & I have to admit I'm not so young as I used to be. I'm well & active though & that's the main thing. My home is Paris. I've a mass of friends and most of my interests are there. Why don't you come over here?

Perhaps someday we can do the 1847's to gether. It should be done. I course.

I'll send you the set of 1851 3^d shades for each year, in a few days. But at present I'm mounting my deluxe 3^d 1851-57's to send back to the egg. I'll feel a bit safer to have them there. I'm also sending my testimonials, express over the. It runs into a bit of money, & I'll have to sell them one I think day to get the money to live on. But we are going to break them up. I'd be sure of I did.

Here's wishing you luck in N.Y. By the way, don't forget that the Royal & London won't keep any one as a fellow or member who advertises to sell stamps. So if you want to advertise to sell, you had better resign. It's all more or less hypocrisy, as many of the prominent fellows do all the time - but they don't dare advertise to sell.

I return the check letters etc.

Best regards,

as ever

C.D.



Mr Elliott Perry
Box 333

Westfield N.J.

11/9-'38

Hess was sent me at camp & should have
been returned before. No other eye than mine has seen them.

The whole previous issue theory was an assumption by
Luff, based on the 10⁰ Type I. He had no proof then
and none has been produced since. But there is
proof that conclusions he drew from incorrect
assumptions were wrong. The Luff story simply
will not check with the facts.

E.P.

C O P Y

August 4, 1938.

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook,
434 So. Grand Avenue
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan:

Konwiser has just forwarded to me a portion of your letter of July 26th saying that you wanted him to pass it along to me.

I read through your Chapter 14 but still do not see that you have proven anything. You have advanced very plausible and probable theory but you have not yet answered the question of the 10¢ and 24¢ which went into use. The fact that they are in use does not gibe with your theory. Anyhow, the stamps remain in the Catalogue at least for another year.

I hope that before time for the next following edition I can go into the whole thing with you in complete detail.

With kindest regards, I remain

Very truly yours,

(signed) Hugh M. Clark

August 10, 1938.

Mr. Hugh Clark,
% Scott Publications,
1 W. 47th St.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Hugh:

Yours of the 4th recieved. I did not want you to overlook Chapter #14 in Volume One of the new book. I had no thought of suggesting you make any change in the catalogue at present. I am not at all worried about this because I do know you want the catalogue right and I do know that sooner or later the necessary changes will be made to make it right. All students of our Early Issues are in perfect accord on the "Augusts". Surely we cannot all be wrong.

Some day before many months have passed I'll submit to you my whole story but remember, it required no proof to have these samples listed as regular stamps in the catalogue, so why should it take positive proof to have them deleted from present catalogues and albums?

You mention the 24¢ with the 10¢. It is true the 10¢ Type I was issued but there is no relation between the 10¢ Type I and the 24¢ used Violet. The fact is there is no such a thing as a USED 24¢ Premiere. The Used 24¢ Violet is in the same class as the 3¢ Pink and the 5¢ Buff - simply a shade. There are no used 24¢ samples in any collection in this country or abroad. There are unused 24¢ Premieres - copies which are known to have come out of the original sample sets, but these do not match the used copies. Ask anyone who actually knows their stuff if I am right or wrong. Ask Colson to show you a used 24¢ Violet in the exact color of a known unused 24¢ sample from a sample set. Ask Caspary to show you a "used 24¢ Premiere". If no such a thing is known, then all I want to know is why things which do not exist are listed in the catalogue as existing? I really do not think this is unfair, but rather do I think it is unfair to mislead collectors by false listings.

It is possible for anyone to make an error and if Mr. Luff made a very serious error in thinking that these sample labels were actually "stamps", I do not see why anyone, such as myself, should be condemned for trying to straighten the dear old man out.

I have been told to produce documentary proof to prove I was right, but why should I? I would much prefer to prove my case by hard common sense. After I have rounded up all the die hards and severe critics, also those who have said I was crazy, then I'll produce the evidence and watch them scramble for cover. Phil Ward said he read Mr. Luff's account and then read mine and he liked Luff's much the best. Well coming from such a deep thinker as Phil that certainly was fine.

#2.

Mr. Hugh Clark-August 10, 1938.

Believe me Hugh I am not trying to start a darn thing, but I know I am right and it is perfectly O.K. with me if everyone thinks I am wrong, but strange to say, the majority think I am right, and when I state the majority, I mean those with enough brains to understand the subject.

My cordial good wishes.

Sincerely yours,

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

March 9, 1939.

Dr. Carroll Chase,
41 rue Cambon,
Paris, France.

My dear Doc:

Your two letters of Jan. 16 and Feb. 18 received. I have been quite busy for the past two months and have had to work nights to keep up with the large amount of mail that comes to my desk. Since the book came out it has been quite a burden to keep up with my correspondence and to have sufficient time left to make a few dollars.

Of course about 19 out of 20 letters are from pikers and it is a pity one has to waste time in replying. But one cannot ignore these chaps because anyone of them is liable to send in some good item at any time. I do think this large correspondence keeps me in touch with all serious collectors of early U. S. and it gives me quite an accurate picture of what class of material is in demand. I note very little demand for 1¢ plate varieties. Seems like no one is interested in plate reconstruction. Perhaps with the 3¢ it is different because the stamps are so much cheaper. I think the feeling is general that everything in the way of plating on the One Cent has been done and it is more or less useless to make up reconstructions. It is a pity because plating is positively the only way to study any stamp.

I know several chaps who are working on the 3¢ but none have any real money to spend. I'll bear your letter in mind and if I can dig up a good 3¢ prospect I'll have you send me some material.

You inquired about Sam. He is the same old Sam but of course like all of us, oldmen, he is not like he was fifteen years ago. I formerly could persuade him to go on philatelic trips with me, but he turns me down these days on each request I make. He says he can't stand the strain. He is quite nervous and has to watch his health very carefully.

Jacobs was down for a week-end recently and we went out and spent a Sunday afternoon with Sam. Jake had quite a nice 3¢ 51-57 collection of cancellations with him and I bought it for re-sale. I did not realize how rusty I was on the stamps but the fact is, I have scarcely looked at a 3¢ since 1921 or 1922. I intend to brush up because I do want to be able to identify the different plates, which I cannot do at present. Tracy Simpson is quite a good friend of mine and no doubt you have heard from him recently. Do you correspond with Al Rowell of Oakland? He is a prince and he loves the 3¢ 51-57. Do you correspond with Deloss Grant of Chicago? He is plating the 3¢ but I do not think he has a whole lot of money to spend. Perhaps Jake tries to keep Grant all to himself but if you do not

#2.

Dr. Carroll Chase - March 9, 1939.

know him, I'll be glad to put you in touch.

By the way, regarding the 3¢. Is that Claret shade of 1852 quite scarce? Seems to me that it is rather hard to tell from some of the late 1856 and 1857 clarets. Jake seems quite keen for all Plate 5 Late items. Why?

Again re - Sam Richey. His French collection is for sale and he has not added a thing to it for many years. In fact Sam complains about business and it is hard to get him to spend any money on stamps at present. I'll bet he didn't spend \$200 all of last year. He never bids at auction any more and his ideas of cover values are not in line with the prices that superb covers are bringing.

Condition craze is getting worse all the time. Jacobs is the one who has done more real harm in this direction than anyone I know of. I think his ideas of condition have killed Sam's interest in stamps. Would we now lived in the days when condition was not the whole show. Twenty years ago we took a stamp for the variety it showed, not for its condition. Today a collector won't touch a variety unless the condition is perfect. It burns me up. Personally I despise condition, and I love a rare variety even if it has a thin spot, is torn, cut into, etc. I have no money to buy stamps for "my collection" but I am sorely tempted many times to buy crumbs which show some rare feature. It is hard for me to resist bum condition, and I am glad I am that way.

Regarding the clipping you sent me from "Stamps". That outburst of Sloane's burned me up and I wrote Harry a long letter regarding it and told him how damnable it was for certain publicity seeking chaps to bust into print about some subject they knew nothing about. I try to like Sloane but down in my heart I think he is just a little know-it-all and a rather fresh smart Aleck. He glories in seeing his name in print and he tries to give the impression he has forgotten more about stamps than anyone else knows.

I didn't write him - what's the use.

That particular cover was sent to me by Godden several years ago and as I recall I sent you a photo of it at the time. I even sent the cover to Sloane and he and Hugh Clark both thought it was bad. What caused him to change his mind I don't know but perhaps he forgot I sent him the cover at one time. Frank Hollowbush was in London a year ago and Godden sold him the cover "as is". Frank wrote me about it when he returned and was much surprised that I knew the cover and had a photo of it. I wrote him it was surely a fake. Imagine my surprise when I saw the Sloane article. Frank and George are great friends. I can't imagine how it would be possible for a brick red to show up with a use six months earlier than any use you and I have seen. It don't make sense. I imagine Sloane has little respect for the thoroughness of our joint record. To go out and turn up an earlier date by six months than our record is just like going out and finding a 2¢ Columbian. That's what he thinks and it was this point that made me damn sore.

#3.

Dr. Carroll Chase - March 9, 1939.

Everything you noted about the cover is correct. Why 35¢ to France in 1858? And also note how the clerk had to stand on his head to put the N.O. Postmark on the 5¢ Brick. This postmark is a fake and it is not a duplicate of the genuine ones on the 10¢. But this is all nothing in Sloane's life. What the hell does he care about a 35¢ rate to France in 1858 so long as he can bust into print and discover a use of a brick red which is six months earlier than our lousy record.

I wish I could get so that such things would not get under my skin and itch so painfully. I try to like Sloane and forget how damn cocky he is, but I find the effort rather difficult.

I hope to move to New York before warm weather.

Old man Allen died and so did Billy Stone. Steve Brown's collection is to be sold by Harmer Rook & Co. That's the latest news.

Mildred joins me in best wishes.

Cordially,

THE QUEEN CITY SHOE CLUB, INC.

HOTEL NETHERLAND PLAZA

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March 25, 1939

Mr. Stanley Ashbrook
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

You may have noticed my last week's stamp column in the Enquirer, but to make certain I enclose a tear sheet so that you may read the paragraph regarding your research on the one cent stamp of 1851-57.

Some time at your convenience I would be pleased to have you submit to me an article of not to exceed three hundred words together with your photograph, which I would run in my column in the Enquirer.

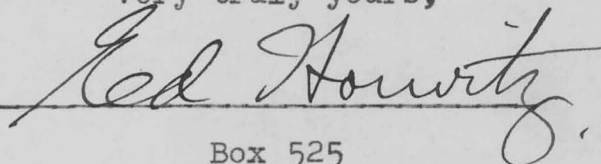
I am submitting for your inspection a copy of the one cent imperf. on which I would like your opinion. This was previously submitted to Stanley Gibbons of New York City, and I wrote him at the time that it looked like a cracked plate stamp with the crack in the upper left hand corner, but he said that it is a very faint blue cancellation.

As you undoubtedly know the location of the crack, you can very easily give me a definite opinion on the subject.

I enclose return postage so that you may return it to me by registered mail.

Thanking you in advance, I am, with kindest regards

Very truly yours,



Box 525

ESH:LB
REGISTERED MAIL

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

March 28, 1939.

Mr. Edward S. Horwitz,
Box 525,
Cincinnati, Ohio.

My dear Mr. Horwitz:

I read with much interest, your complimentary remarks in the Enquirer of March 19th and I intended to write you last week and thank you, but press of other matters prevented me from carrying out the resolution. It was quite nice of you to mention my new book and I want to know that I appreciated fully your kind remarks. I never fail to read with interest your column, which, may I add, is always interesting and I am sure you are adding many new converts to the avocation of philately.

I intended to write you several weeks ago regarding the item you ran on the so-called Chicago perforations of 1856. As I recall, you quoted Kent Stiles and I was mildly surprised that Mr. Stiles did not mention the source of his information. It was quite evident that he had before him my remarks on this subject in my new One Cent book. The conclusions he reached were not his own, but were opinions I had expressed in my book. The fact is, I do not think anyone ever made much of a study of these items with the exception of Dr. Carroll Chase and myself and I was, as stated above, rather mildly surprised at the sudden publicity on a subject which while perfectly familiar to us, for many years apparently never aroused any interest on the part of anyone else until a clerk in the office of Y. Souren & Co. ran across one of these varieties and called the attention of Mr. Stiles to it.

Chase mentioned these early perfs in his 3¢ 1851-1857 book as "Unofficial perforations" and stated, "It seems possible that the postmaster of Chicago may have had a part of his stock (of imperforate 1¢ and 3¢ - 1851) perforated for the convenience of the public" xxxxxxxx "Again it is possible that the firm making the stamps in Philadelphia perforated these stamps as a trial and sent the entire batch to Chicago where they were used."

Regarding the first statement made by Chase. I am quite sure he would not have made this guess, had he been more familiar with the facts.

No firm in the country outside of Toppan Carpenter & Co., had a machine at that time (1856), which was capable of perforating sheets of postage stamps, hence his second suggestion

Mr. Edward S. Horwitz - March 28, 1939.

that these varieties might have come from trial sheets perforated in the plant of Toppan Carpenter & Co. is no doubt an actual fact.

I do not think they should be called the "Chicago perforations" because there is no doubt whatsoever that they were not perforated in that city. They are not "unofficial perforations" but are actually sheets of stamps perforated in the plant of Toppan Carpenter & Co. in Philadelphia, and were official experimental sheets of perforated stamps, which were delivered to the stamp agent in New York and regularly issued through official sources to the Chicago Post Office. Similar sheets were no doubt issued to other offices thruout the country as "experimental sheets" but the number must have been very few as none are known except those used from Chicago.

If you have available a copy of my Volume 2 of my recent One Cent 1851-1857 work, you will find some additional information on this subject. You are at perfect liberty to quote my statements made in this letter if you wish. I do think the subject is interesting, because it places the actual issuance of our first perforated stamps from March of 1857 back to July of 1856. I recognize the fact that "perforated stamps" are very easily made by the faker, and I have made it a rule to refuse to express an opinion on off cover copies, which have been submitted to me for an opinion. In my book I illustrated the only known copy of a One Cent from Plate 2. I knew the source of this cover as it was found in some private correspondence at Chillicothe and the cover has never been out of the family who owns it.

I am returning herewith the One Cent 1851 which you sent me. I am sorry to state this is not a cracked plate variety, but that the marks you noted are in fact, a part of a blue cancellation. Perhaps I can use this stamp as a slight illustration of why, collectors like myself spend many years in the study of stamp problems. Few understand why we "plate stamps" or rather reconstruct the original plates. I have made quite a bit of this fascinating work, and experience has taught me that the only way to thoroughly study a stamp is to reconstruct the plates, that is, if such work is possible. When we get into this work, we find that we are not working with a single stamp, for example, a Type IV of the One Cent 1851, but we are in fact, working with 199 different Type IV stamps, for there were that many on the one plate from which this type was printed. Take your stamp for example. Only a glance tells me this is a Type II and that it came from Plate 2. Now there were four different plates which produced Type II stamps, approximately some 600 positions in all, but at a glance we recognize the slight difference in shades, impression, design, etc. that identify the different plates. We put this stamp under a strong glass and immediately note some very minute plating mark, which will identify the exact position on the plate from which this stamp was printed. Of course, we do not attempt to burden our memory with all the exact plate positions, as for example, I could not examine even 98% of all the

#3.

Mr. Edward S. Horvitz - March 28, 1939.

600 type II stamps and state that this or that copy was from a certain position on the plate. Rather we remember, in many positions or varieties, the pane, and the approximate location. Before referring to my reconstruction I am quite positive your copy comes from the 9th horizontal row of the right pane, and my guess would be it is either 82-83 or 84 R 2. The "R" is for Right and the "2" for the plate. In looking up the actual position, I find it is 86 R 2. Here I missed my guess by several positions, but the reason for this is that 82 to 86 are all quite similar. You can readily recognize the difference in opinions expressed on this copy.

It was the opinion of the Gibbons firm that this was not a cracked plate variety, but a blue cancellation, but that was merely their opinion. When I tell you for example, that this is 86 R 2 and that this position on the plate never showed a crack I am not stating my opinion, but rather a fact, which can be very easily demonstrated. This may appear as a rather broad statement, but it is not, because we not only study plating, but make a special study of "impressions". By this, I mean, we can tell in the great majority of One Cent stamps, the period of impression or printing.

One who is uninformed, might question my above statement that 86 R 2 never showed any crack, and that I might be wrong and that this stamp was a crack, but a variety I had never seen from this particular position. As an example, we will consider four impressions, "A", "B", "C" and "D". Copy "A" is very sharp and clear and is in a certain shade of ink. This we call a very early or of the earliest of printings. "B" is from a batch printed much later and "C" from even a later printing. "D" is a very late or from a last batch of printing, and it shows the worn and "dirty" condition of the plate. Now we will suppose your copy comes from a "B" period of printing, and we compare it with a "D". The latter shows no sign of a "crack" and we know positively that "D" was printed many months later than your "B", hence if a stamp printed in February of 1857 shows no crack, how could a copy from the same position, printed in March 1856, show such a variety.

I trust I have not bored you with these details, but rather that the little story I have unfolded will give you a clearer picture of a small bit of the work in which the advanced student of our early stamps is engaged.

Fine and superb items in early U. S. bring high prices and the European fakers are not unaware of this. They are working night and day turning out real "works of art" which they send over here and dispose of at high prices to collectors who think they can distinguish the good from the bad by the way the item looks. These fakers are experts in their line and it requires all the resources of the advanced student, in many instances, to detect fakes which the crooks spend countless hours in manufacturing.

The only way we can combat these crooks, is to keep many jumps ahead of them and that is really the impelling motive behind

#4.

Mr. Edward S. Horwitz - March 28, 1939.

concentrated stamp research work.

I thank you for the offer to publish my photograph, but realizing fully that I am far from handsome, I do not think such an illustration would help your column in the slightest degree. Further, I am quite sure you can write a much better article than myself, so if you can pick out a few thoughts from this letter and would care to use them in your column, I think it would be much better than any article I could write.

While I have written a number of books and articles on philatelic subjects, I would much prefer to be known as one who is intensely interested in philatelic research work, rather than any sort of a philatelic author.

Thanking you for your kind letter, I am

Cordially yours,



TENTH ANNUAL CONVENTION
American Airmail Society

HOTEL NETHERLAND PLAZA . . . CINCINNATI, OHIO . . . SEPTEMBER 1, 2, 3, 1939

EDWARD S. HORWITZ, *General Chairman*, P. O. Box 525
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BOURSE B. H. Terry
RECEPTION Robert M. Flinn
CACHET E. T. Warneford
BADGES Clifford Shafer

April 6, 1939

Mr. Stanley Ashbrook
Ft. Thomas
Kentucky

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

I received your recent interesting letter, and thank you for all the trouble ~~you~~ to which you have gone in giving me the information contained therein and in passing on the stamp I submitted.

While I do not specialize in any one field, I can very readily follow your reasoning which is not at all complicated, and our hobby should be very appreciative of such students of research as yourself.

In the near future I will write up something along the lines of your letter for the column and send you a copy.

If at any time you have any news of particular interest to the hobby which I may pass on to collectors in my column, I shall deem it a favor if you will let me have it.

With kindest regards, I am

Very truly yours,

Ed Horwitz

ESH:LB

UNIVERSITY



OF KENTUCKY

LEXINGTON

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
UNIVERSITY SCHOOL

April 1, 1939

Stanley B. Ashbrook
434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

Your recent letter in which you stated you would be unable to attend our annual dinner meeting this year was received with regret by each member of our society for they are all very anxious to meet you and hear you talk about stamps.

You did indicate that you might be able to visit us in the near future and I am leaving the exact date up to you. Our club meets the first and third Monday evenings of each month at the Phoenix Hotel so whenever you feel free to come just let me know. Until then, I am

Cordially yours,
J. L. Keffer

November 8, 1938.

Hon. Matthew Denver,
President Clinton County National Bank,
Wilmington, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Denver:

I desire to express to you appreciation of your cordial attitude to Mr. Ashbrook and myself on our brief visit to Wilmington last Friday.

We drove around to the Rombach homestead and then to Sugar Grove Cemetery, where Mr. Ashbrook took several exposures of your distinguished father's grave, his monument and markers of the family.

Our interest in your father's life story arises out of his public service from the Mexican war period down through the civil conflict of 1861-5. It was during this period of the country's history that its postal system was developed. Due to your father's active public career and the widely scattered localities in which he served, his correspondence would, most likely, contain examples of covers with stamps of the period, together with markings showing rates, cancellations and mail routes, which illustrated, published and entwined with the history of his public life would be highly interesting and very widely ready by many thousand persons fascinated with the subject of Philately.

Our visit to you therefore was solely for the purpose of securing such historical data concerning your father's public career as might be in or upon his correspondence, together with photographic reproductions of the covers and stamps which would enable Mr. Ashbrook to write up and publish the same.

In my humble judgment, Mr. Ashbrook is the outstanding philatelic writer and research enthusiast of our time. His work on the 10¢ green stamp of 1865 brought to him the rare honor of the Crawford gold medal award by the Royal Philatelic Society of London, England. He is also the author of other volumes of superior merit and an active contributor to the leading Philatelic Publications.

Page 2 M. D.

I wish to assure you that our visit has only features of research and that such accomplishment as may be made of the material contemplates neither pecuniary compensation from you nor financial reward to ourselves.

I would be very pleased therefore if you will indulge the interest of Mr. Ashbrook and myself and set a time wholly at your convenience when it will be suitable to you for us to visit you again concerning the subject matter.

Yours very truly,

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ARTHUR G. HALL ASSISTED IN AN ADVISORY WAY IN THE ORGANIZATION OF THE STAFF OF WRITERS.

F. W. LOSO
1057 EDGEWOOD RD.
ELIZABETH, N. J.



SINCE 1915

August 8, 1938

Dear Stanley,

Yours of the 5th. We expected to start for camp this afternoon but have put off going until tomorrow. Too many unfinished things to be attended to. And today is a good example of the kind of weather the damyankees mean when they say "muggy".

Yes, I certainly did try to find an announcement stating the One Cent stamps were acceptable for carrier fees but had no luck. The tough angle is that when I don't find what I expect to I can't tell whether it was printed or not. As nearly as I can recall I made a more careful search than is usually necessary in two papers in New York, one in Philadelphia, Baltimore and Boston, and one or two in Cincinnati. Also one in Washington. In several cases I began early in 1855 and continued through 1856 and well into 1857, concentrating around the end of 1855 and beginning of 1856.

I was reasonably certain there should have been such a notice and was disappointed not to pick it up. I could have missed it and another time might be lucky enough to catch it in 15 minutes. But I believe I could have spent ten times as much time in hunting without increasing the chance of finding an adv more than 10%. I could not spend a week on one year of one paper as Chrissie did when we were in Charleston in Feb. 1937.

If there are any records in Washington which list the special orders issued by the P.M.G. I do not know where they are, and do not think anyone there knows where to find them if they exist. Some records of this kind have been missing for many years. Every try I have made to find such information or find out if it exists has been fruitless. However, I still expect that someone will turn up a record of that 1c stamp good-for-carrier-fee notice. When I have an opportunity I shall try to find the New Orleans 1c Way fee notice around Jan 1853 that you want.

Chase lot #644 - my error. I referred to the black thing with the PAID left out.

Lot 646. - I doubt if I have seen more than perhaps half a dozen of the "U.S. CITY MAIL" pmk and mostly indistinct. Ackerman had a clear one and I think Hollowbush has a different clear one now. Never heard of one with pmk struck twice as on your photo.



Lot 647 - Yes, I wondered why Chase said the NEW YORK (only) was "often used as a carrier canc." but as I haven't checked all these things intensively I just ~~guessed~~ guessed he had run across more than I have. My total of three includes the Brooks cover, this one of Chase's and the Franklin carrier in the Miller collection. I suppose that came from Chase, so he had two of the pmks and having it on the Franklin may have assumed that it was often used as a carrier canc. What puzzles me is if this pmk is a carrier why is it so uncommon, and if it is not a carrier what in Sam Hill was the carrier service in New York using? New York had some kind of a service and must have carried some letters. All the evidence I have found places Swarts definitely out of the picture and none of the other local posts seem to fit in as U.S. carriers.

Granting that the locals and various private Post Offices of one name or another had most of the delivery business on which stamps would be used, the fact still remains that either the gov't service had nothing but delivery "from the mails" or else they had some of the local business and "to the post office". If all the Swarts and Boyd and similar businesses together there still seems to be a gap.
are added

I understand the Chase article on grills is a continuation of his U.S. articles in Diamond's magazine.

Philadelphia #1867; Laurie Mason assures me the impression was in black but the paper showed blue from the edge of the 1c 1851 sheet. He says the 1c were a strip of three and not three singles. Note of this cover has been inserted in the Phila. section of chap 46. I find record of handstamp C 31 in blue but do not recall ever having seen that color.

I checking over the items to be mentioned in the chapter two pages of items from the Jefferys material could not be found. They came to light afterward and were found to contain a few items that have been inserted in their proper place. For this reason they do not appear on Mildred's copy. I think you have been advised of other changes made in the corrected proof.

Photo and blue print returned herewith,

Some day I'll be glad to accept your offer to make a gentle raid on the records in the Univ. Of Cincy. The "Pacific Mail List" on pages 1076/1078 of Pats #36 probably came from there. I know it was not found in New York.

Sincerely,

(ms)

Elliott Perry

Card from Stern this morn says it is hot in Vt. What
a summer!

Century

(m)

SOCIETY OF PHILATELIC AMERICANS

Office of FRANK L. COES, *Secretary*

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CLAUDE D. MILLER, Treas.
2041 Calvin Cliff
Cincinnati, Ohio

Dear Mr Ashbrook:-

11-18-38

First off- thanks much. And don't bother about replying to this if it is an effort. Just to explain what I have found-or determined by negative parallel.

I told you that since my first shop work I have been a student of metals-especially irons and steels.

I have read the files in the N.Y. Library as of the known importers of steel during the 1840-50 period, and no where (note) is there any indication that prior to 47 anyone in N.Y. could furnish steel (hardening steel-carbon of course) that was of a size sufficient to make a stamp plate. The carbon steel products of that period, are by the available catalogues and data the steel men have (notably Jessops) the same as later called "general purpose" carbon, which was between .90 and .75 carbon. Jessops was lower than .90. And the only drill rod then on the market was Stubbs and Huntsmans' which were also low-but in some cases .95 carbon.

If the 10 cent '47 was on a steel plate-which I believe you are sure of- this plate was imported. It was not from stock here, and it could not have been.

While there is as I said a possibility that that first 10 cent plate was a "case hardening iron" it is unlikely unless that too was imported and the subject of special faggotting and ordering thru the few Yorkshire firms that were then making for railway work what was called (under various trade names) Yorkshire triple worked. This meant that the iron after the first puddling was cut and piled three times, and this "faggotting" process made it less fibrous and much less likely to expose seams, dirty spots and such defects. But- none of the 10 cent flaws seem to indicate seaminess-which would sort of rule out a case hardening iron, no matter how good. And as there was no semi steel or other steel type in plate size in the N.Y. market (this by catalogues and trade paper advertising and some columnar puff material) it would look to be imported. The grade-which I still think could not have been as high as .75 carbon, might well be the first plate effort of the type later styled "Greaves", which was used almost wholly for springs, but in some sheet work for "resistance or wear surface" material. Notably in England for their first cut steel gears. I cannot find-have not yet- any statements in English advertising of the period or stock lists that gives the carbon content of these plates, and as the sizes were equal to a stamp plate-that may have been a plainly hammer product.

It has always been my belief that the cracks in the 1 cent 51 plates were due to insufficient annealing, rather than quality.

The production of a steel sheet by hammering and rolling at that time was a hit or miss process. Strains caused by the original reduction from the ingot (which I understand were not "topped" until along in the '60s) might leave pipes and seams-but the reduction by either roll or hammer or both-would inevitably leave what we now call initial working strains. To remove these we would today do a "double" anneal. The old steel workers were bound by traditions and trade secret methods, and I don't feel that they knew that a double anneal (both heats below the hardening heat (or at least not above it) would get them a freedom from internal strain. This caused at that time many alternative processes. In our work-the making of machine knives, like the ones used in the Bureau to cut up "folding money"- the result

of this desire to avoid the internal stresses, and assure the ability to straighten the product, was overcome by welding the steel to a soft backing which could be peened into equalizing the warps that the steel cutting edge was likely to have from hardening. Understand, a cutting edge is hardened to what would now be "glass hard" (carbon steel about 62-65 Brinnell) and later tempered as little as possible for the use to which it was intended. Now-with alloy steels this is continued but while the result is the same-the resistance to wear is greater, due to alloys, heats and first preparation of the material.

So- if the 10 cent plate was steel-and we can assume the carbon could not have been OVER .90 very safely- the sheet or block must have been imported. And similarly the steel for the next issues-which may have been in part domestic material, was surely not wholly free from seams and strains prior to the plate making. If the plates were hardened-it would seem more likely that it was a surface hardening of the type the steel men used to call "injun meal hard" and really more like a case harden than a true hard. The old scratch test was a three cornered file, broken by a hammer. The corner being the "hardest trade implement" then available. Still is, altho more brittle due to less high grade material in the average file.

It would not seem unreasonable to believe that the 10 cent plate would have resisted only partially such a scratch test. And the 1 cent following may well have been even softer.

But when we turn to the 5 cent 47-the chances are about 100 to 1 that the plate must have been copper. Not because steel was not available but because the size was not in stock in N.Y. and likely the rush of the work allowed such use while a supply was on the water-if imported.

Such documentary evidence is of course negative, but it is also more positive than a mere guess.

I think I have read all your data on the material-but as this is coming at the matter from the market end-the stock sheets of current steel merchants and their advertising-it would seem that your determination of copper for the 5 cent was confirmed, very completely.

Yes-I have Volume 1 of your work-and while I skipped it-I believe I was just as enthusiastic about it when it appeared as about Vol II.

But-I thought the congratulations on the recent issue were more pertinent.

The real thing is that the "grille" thing is proved, or argued along the same lines. The Luff first book shows a patent office drawing of the grilling machine. Such a machine would be unworkable because most if not all of the driving mechanism is omitted. But-the further explanation of the methods assumes the existence of machinery that did not exist commonly until after the preparation for the Centennial-and surely was not common in 1867 in any shops unless it might be Colts-Corliss-Baldwin or the predecessors to Hoe.

Starting with these negative statements-the build up is merely parallel practice. What we now term "the state of the Art"- and this same is what assures your copper statement being so nearly unassailable as to be positive(unless someone could produce the plate or the order for it.)

Allowing all these things to be as stated by Luff-precludes our ever knowing the mechanical defects of the system, or the real methods of roller making and correction. And because of this the "family" or "sequence" theory may well be an assumption based on a fallacy.

I am re-writing the thing, and will send you a copy for your thought-even if you only check it thru as a possible extension of the

proving of old mechanical motions by the known "state of the art".

I was very interested in 1910 in going over Westminster Abbey in company with the "Master of the Works", and in their so called "private museum" I saw samples of faggoted and piled iron that had been taken from dated excavations, which indicated that the system went back to the early 1700 period. Later in Yorkshire, in the Lowmoor and Taylor iron works, I proved this from their samples. The system was first used here by Burden of Troy. And later by the Sable and other iron makers. But it is almost discontinued. And no amount of questioning could produce information either from the museum curator or the iron men regarding "plated material" (steel welded to a soft back) or "case hardening plates of iron". Yes—they made them, but to order. Never stocked. Jessops went further, but they too agreed on sizes. So if their 1840 stock did not carry such sizes except to order, the likelihood is that such plates as we finally got were ordered, and the grade a very low carbon steel.

Today we weld 1.20 points in plain carbon steel daily.

And alloys to very high content also, but in no case can we find data that indicates any carbon steel as high as .90 carbon in the plate(stocked) groups—anywhere in the '40s. That for the book.

Of course the Styrian Iron Works in Styria have produced higher grade steels longer and they too had higher grades than .90 in 1840. But again—no plates. All bars or drill rods. And their high grade records(which I also spent some time over) show no bar larger than 2 1/2 inch. Why? All made under water driven tilt hammers, from very small ingots that were rolled in two high mills driven by a water wheel on the end of the housing. They did not revert to steam driven rolls until the late '60s. Styrian iron made Caesar's swords, and they (being religious and rather prone to extension of family history) claim the nails of the Cross came from Styrian iron workers, and that they have parchments that show the crude methods.

These were in a book issued about 1900 by the Styrian Steel Co agency in N.Y.—printed in Vienna from plates owned by the firm. I think there is a copy in the Smithsonian file.

But you can eliminate Styria as a source of material here until after the Centennial. Their steel was shown there by a N.Y. agent.

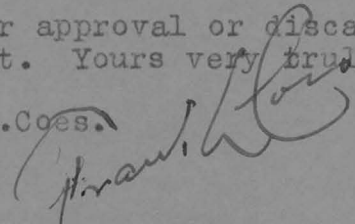
But too—it was not sold in England until after that date. They did not like the Austrians well enough to admit they made better or higher grade steel than was made in Yorkshire. I believe there is still a disagreement between Mushet's (the first producers of self hardening steel and the Styrian as to priority. Personally I believe Styria has the best end of it—altho the now owners of the old Mushet patents are pretty "insular" in their sticking to the traditional story.

All this just as I think of it, and maybe some of it is of interest as directional, or confirmative data.

Gladly submitted as such for your approval or discard.

Thanks a lot. Yours very truly..

F.L.Coes.



FRANK L. COES
2 COES SQUARE
WORCESTER, MASS., U. S. A.

11-29-38

Mr Ashbrook:-

That is a most interesting letter.
First I have the "Line engraved" volumes in my own shelves. And of course the interchange of an engraver and information was natural, especially as there was some hesitancy on committing new notions. At least I read that into the detailed explanations of the Perkins Bacon method explanations.

Now- since writing you-a new theory has come-and I believe that it will make some side light on "cracks" as well as on later plates. A Prof from Brown showed his 5 cent blue Jacksons (three books) at the Club last Tuesday.

He had a plate with an extended center crack which followed five down-one to the left and four more down-an almost perfect series of lines.

My first knowledge of making one big one out of two little ones- was in a dovetailed plate of iron, used as the end of a drum on a clock built in 1800. (rope winding drum for wright)

This was made of two plates "jump welded" together, edgewise, and as the so called "jump weld" was prevalent in Belgium in gun and other work (the damascene is a product of the system) it is not unreasonable to suppose that-if time were short-supply limited- or both, the artificer of that evolutionary period would not hesitate to apply a jump weld to two hunks of steel to get a sheet-flat plate or other shape-provided there was enough stock in the two to allow a bit of forging and hammer dressing.

I don't know what the Jackson plate was jump welded-but the line is surely too irregular to be anything but a dovetail weld. Note-a "pipe" so called-due to poor topping, and we have plenty of them in plate evidence on later issues- it a straight line when forged or rolled.

No pipe could make an irregular double angled line or crack. Two pipes side by side might break thru-but they would show to the edge of the plate one way or another. This starts and stops inside the plate edges. A weld without much question.

In our own knife work-we weld daily hundreds of feet of very high grade tool steel to a softer backing. A mis weld is pretty obvious. In fact it is traceable by the Brinnel test far beyond eyesight on the surface.

In this 5 cent 47 plate-we have no knowledge of source, but if it was made of two plates-that is something else-and if they made a good weld, no one could prove it. But it would have cost money. Hence the turn to a copper for the 10 cent. Or were they given unlimited funds and material scope? It is a thought and it won't down, especially since your letter.

If the 10 cent plate was copper I would agree, except as to the material used to plug the bad transfer. There may be other metals, but I would prefer to say "fluxed brass" to solder. I doubt their having a solder to stick to steel or copper without a flux that would expose itself in the surrounding area.

Still they did wonderful soldering using softer brass and several alloys. I would not know where to look for a sample, except in some armory (old armour) or on some old gun work. I have seen a sextant that had a new scale added by that method. I believe there is one in Annapolis, if not now in the Naval museum. That would seem to agree with your theory that metal (solder?-but yellow) could be added and

5c Jackson Crack in this form

re-engraved without danger.

Possibly too-if reachable- you could find similar proof in the old first issued bank notes by Toppan. There were many, and a vast number of proofs still exist. I have had some but they were given away as not of material interest. I know there were flaws in them. And the thought of course would be that the plates were corrected by this-a far cheaper method than burnishing out-or peening from the back and burnishing.

That I fully agree with. Proof? That would have to be documentary or visible (meaning you'd have to have the plate or something similar.)

Warren Colson is an etching expert-and I believe he would know if it is habitual for this cult to fill and re-work the marginal remarks. But that would n't prove Toppan's methods.

I agree that if they had a solder or alloy that would flow and stick-it would take the lines and work just as long as the copper. Maybe longer. The copper was not what we use now-electrolytically deposited- it had a decided grain lengthwise, and of course-while it was burnished, the fibers running parallel to the surface did not help wear. Endwise fibers-at right angles to the impression-would wear longer. But any alloy added to the surface would wear as long as the plate if applied with the skill they showed in gun work.

If the contract said ^{inspection} "steel plates" and the methods that pertained to much later, were used-it would have been easy enough to agree as to steel for die and roll, and to wink at copper for the final printing surface. They were sloppy enough in inspection, and lax in correctives long after 47. Even in 61 at Springfield Armory, my grandfather said the best of them kept a tot for the inspector and he would look the other way readily for a couple of good drams. The sire worked there from 61 to 63 and then took a contract at home till close. You have probably seen the tool-folding screw driver and nipple wrench for the first Springfield musket.

So inspection meant little-and if a plate was covered with ink and produced material that would pass-it would not matter much what the material. I would bet you are right, but I can't prove it.

Still-the edge welded plate may well be the solution of the 5 cent being on steel, and as the material could not have been of more than 75-80 carbon, it was not beyond the ordinary capabilities of many forges in the area-notably Baldwins in later years, and Burdens of Troy, maybe also the first forges of Watervliet.

I have been saying Toppan-it was Rawdon, Wright of course, and while they were rivals I think the methods of one were those of the other. Seems so if we look at some one copper plate work.

I don't quite get your theory of the "solder" being loosened by heat. What for? Why should they heat a plate afterward? The more likely theory would be "stretching" by use, and loosening of the added metal. That happens often, especially if the addition is not of the same consistency as the backing. It finally stretches enough to part, or lift at the edge. That was the real trouble with inlaying a wear resisting bit of German silver on the backs of spoon bowls and handles. The inlay fused on, but wear (especially on the bowl) stretched the silver till it parted company with the inlay-or the inlay shelled off.

But the roller pressure-if excessive- might do this, especially as rolling in the same direction would be really a peening or stretching motion "all one way". No chance for recovery.

I still feel that the plates-if of steel-were imported full size for later issues, but "cobbled up" for that first issue-and maybe the two piece theory is good-and abandoned for cost-or extra work required.

You can readily see that a jump welded edgewise plate would have a lot of strains in it- and that the after forging would also put in more- which only very perfect annealing would wholly remove. That would mean (by their methods) a wait of many days, and a final anneal between the planeing operation and final polishing. The strain question is something that they still have to consider- and any plate made of two parts -or three?- would have strains plenty.

I will read back carefully again to see if the Perkins book says anything about steel source. I thought I had covered that fully- but now seem to feel that somewhere there is a reference to makers for them- if not for the U.S. My guesses would be two old firms- Jessop- and Armstrong- with Huntsman and Jackman in the second group.

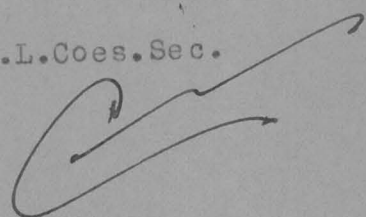
There was a firm also- still alive in 1914 (Joh. Wlhm. Billing) that made a re-worked Swedish pig "forging steel" that was really a tool steel with a general purpose carbon- about 85. That cost money. It was the best to be had and Jessop finally bought the plant, or the crumbly end of it. There was another in Liege, but the name escapes me now. They folded up in 1872 and their heads went to Schniders Creusot history goes in another direction and they did not make plates or slab steel. Rounds and gun billets only. They even buy flat plate today from England.

The copper solder theory is interesting I will see what I can check up on old copper work. Has Clarence Brazer got any old bank note proofs that would show any "corrections"??

Thanks for your letter- and I will send you the written over Grille item in due course. The real interest would be checking the parallel shop processes. Some of the ideas may impinge on this idea of yours. I think I see one that will interest. But I won't anticipate.

Yours very truly,

F.L.Coes.Sec.



Jan. 30, 1939.

Dear Ned:

I caught a bad cold in New York and was feeling quite miserable when I got off the train last Saturday morning. Have been in bed since, but up this afternoon and feeling much better.

The express package arrived safe, and I will have a copy made of your notes, as these will be invaluable to me. I will take good care of the original and return to you in next few days.

The subscription book is indeed a gem and will be a wonderful opening card.

So far as Sam is concerned I know the interest would not be lacking, it would be merely a question as to whether he felt he could afford such a sum in one collection. I'll have lunch with him as soon as I am able to get out.

My thanks, Ned, for three very enjoyable evenings.

Cordially,

Feb. 1st, 1939.

Mr. Edward S. Knapp,
300 Park Ave.,
New York, N.Y.

My dear Ned:

I had a long talk with Chris Dull in Philadelphia last Friday and when I reached home I found the enclosed letter which he had previously written me. You will note the four covers are the four he sold to Hardy last Spring. He told me he charged Hardy \$50 a piece for the two with regular stamps and gave him gratis the two that had no stamps.

You will note by his letter some additional light is thrown on the cover with the New York "bar postmark". For your own information I have not advised Wiltsee that Barney sent me the four covers. In fact I have not written him a single word regarding them in any particular. This I will leave to you unless by any chance you wish me to verify any of your statements.

Upon my return I found a very nasty letter from him, but it pertained to the Denver cover. I think without question he is trying to force me to explain that cover to him, and he thinks by getting me mad, I will come back and tell him the truth, about it. I am sure it has him guessing and I have an idea he is beginning to realize he may have made quite a foolish blunder.

Regarding some conversation we had about "Pony" covers from Denver, Colo. I think further thought should be given this matter. I cannot convince myself all such were carried by Pony. I note Perry makes mention of the subject in his "Pats" #37, out ten days ago. See last paragraph, page 1120.

Note Lot #1 - Laurence sale - "Denver Jan. 22" - St. Joseph Jan. 31 - nine days. This is a little longer than usual but even so, nine days, eight days, or even seven days was too long via Pony. Note Lot #2. This is May 16 to May 23 - seven days.

See Harlow's "Old Waybills" - page 212 - in mention of the C. O. C. & P. P. Ex. Co., - "When the first coach reached the banks of the Missouri after a ten day trip, the Leavenworth Tribune reported etc."

If the first trip, Denver to Leavenworth was made in ten days surely the time was later greatly cut down when the route was changed to the old emigrant route to the Platte.

Surely a stage coach could make from 8 to 10 miles an

#2.

Mr. Edward S. Knapp - Feb. 1st, 1939.

hour, but at 8 miles - 24 hours a day is 192 miles and six days would run up 1152 miles.

Without doubt some mail did go from Denver to St. Joe by Pony - that is - part way at least by Pony. Perhaps covers which show six days traveled this way, but note this - 24 hrs. a day - 10 miles an hour - 240 miles and six days is 1440 miles. This it seems entirely possible to cover the distance - Denver to St. Joseph by stage coach in six days.

What is your opinion? Have you ever discussed this subject with A. L.?

Yours etc.,

Feb. 6th, 1939.

Mr. Edward S. Knapp,
330 Park Ave.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Ned:

Herewith the 42¢ rate cover to France - a double 21¢
"Amer Packet" rate.

The whole bottom of two stamps to right have been added and the designs painted in. Cancellations also painted on the added parts. I enclose diagrams to show original cuts. Wonder is that the louse did not add a piece to stamp to left. I'd like to get my hands on the crook who does this sort of work. I'd sure smash him in the face. It is lousy. I see so much of this sort of thing and no one ever does anything about it. Never a word of warning in the philatelic press. This cover should be put back in its original shape regardless of the fact the strip was badly cut below the two right stamps.

A 21¢ rate cover to France is a scarce item. A double 21¢ rate is better. I made special mention of this rate in Volume 2. If you can buy this cover at its real value - a damaged strip - I would like to put it back in its original shape for you. It would be nice to have, just to show this rare rate. This is 1856 - before our postal treaty with France.

No chance of a 3rd 10¢ plate, and little very little chance of two conditions of Plate One.

Confidential. Had I known as much about fakes and paintings in 1934 as I do now I would never have pronounced that Steve Brown copy as genuine. My personal opinion now is that it is unquestionably a painting. If I could get my hands on it I could prove it one way or the other. Someone, some day is going to have the laugh on me for stating it was genuine. Not a word please to anyone on this subject.

I won't do a thing on the Hardy matter but I intend to force the issue and make someone show him up for the dirty crook he is. For years I have had my suspicions but I could not get the actual goods on him. What a slimy louse.

Henceforth it will be 330.

Best regards.

Yours etc.,

330 Park Ave Feb 4.
New York City '39

Dear Stan;

Here's either
a great rarity or
a fake —

B. Relief Strip of 4-
2 right stamps recut
bottom — not any
recut that is
known, and does
not look screwy.
Percy Doane looked

it over and says
he can see no
reason to say
it's not genuine.
I bought it in an
auction and will
ask that you re-
turn it at your earliest
convenience, if bad,
as I will return
it, of course, under
those conditions -
Is there a chance
of another plate
of these 10¢ stamps?

2.) I have in mind
that "shift" of Steve
Brown's and many
stamps that seem
impossible to locate?
Or does this fit
in with the stamps,
painted? Percy is
so very positive, I
have hopes it
may be something
worth while —

I am moved to
330 Park Ave — So

address mail "330"
instead of "300-".

Very mixed up
with moving, when
I'm unscrambled,
I'll answer your
letters - Looks
like your Sweetheart
Jim Hardy had
"struck his nupt
out", doesn't it?
I hope so -

Hastily

Cash enclosed Red -
for registering returns
I have no stamps here. - E+815(1)

P.S. I shall write
Wiltsee in a day
or so, and condole
with him on having
spent much money
for ~~that~~ lousy advice.
I have not even had
time to do that
yet — Take your
time with the
Morgan lot — It's a
fine chance to pick
up some cash, I
hope, and the man
who gets it, will

be getting a great
bargain — I hope
you can place it.

E. B. C.,

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Feb. 13, 1939.

Mr. Edward S. Knapp,
330 Park Ave.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Ned:

Yours of the 8th received. I had an air mail from Jessup, stating Wiltsee was "drawing up a long statement" regarding the Gibbons covers. Rather than have the old man make a fool of himself I wrote him a long letter giving him the high points, but not too much information. I told him I had made a trip East and had interviewed the man who sold two of the covers to Hardy and had given him the other two gratis. I did not mention Dull's name nor did I tell him where he resided. I gave him just enough information to convince him he was wrong but not all the facts in the case. If you want to see a copy of the letter I wrote him, I will be glad to send it. Inasmuch as Lindquist is much interested in this matter, I sent a copy of the letter to Harry to read with permission to divulge any of the contents to the members of the A.P.S. Committee.

I told E. A. W. that his friend Heinrich had gyped him and that he should demand the return of the fee. As gently as I could I balled the old man out from A to Z and told him when he got information from others he should give them credit and not make it appear it was his own research work. I told him in effect that such a practice was hardly honorable. Then to prove my point I quoted his statements on the N.Y. bar branch post offices, etc.

I am glad you wrote him and backed up the statements I made in my letter. In spite of his six feet four inches, he should feel pretty small after he gets our two letters.

I am glad you have not returned the two fake Hardy covers because what I think we should do, is to place them in the safe keeping of Carter Glass, President of the A.P.S., pending the filing of charges against Hardy. If you wish you can write Voorhees you are turning these over to me at my request, and I'll send them to Carter. I have had some correspondence with him on this subject but have refrained from mentioning any names. Hardy is a crook and he should be expelled and his expulsion publicised. I have no earthly use for the crooks who tamper with covers or stamps in any way whatsoever.

I do not think we should put Hardy wise to what is going on. No doubt he has heard there is some trouble brewing and

#2.

Mr. Edward S. Knapp - Feb. 13, 1939.

naturally he must be worried.

Recently he sent some covers to Sam and in returning them Sam wrote him a very short and curt letter, copy of which he sent me.

You and I were wondering to whom Mason sold a lot of his covers. Don't you suppose he sold a lot to Hardy. They both winter at Clearwater and no doubt see quite a lot of each other.

Have been too ill since my return home to get in touch with Brooks but intend to do so this week. Will advise you immediately if anything favorable develops.

Best regards.

Yours etc.,

Feb 14. '39

330 Park Ave
New York City

Dear Stan,

I am returning
here the "Strawberry Valley"
records from your files.
Yes, this checks up
cancel I had, that
I wasn't sure of -
Thanks.

Note what you
say about Sam Keeby
& the Morgan lot.
I rather thought it
might be more than

he wanted to
Tackle — Incidentally,
Keep in mind
that it needn't
all be paid at
once — Half down
and the other half
in a year's time
would probably be
O.K. with me —

Of course, cash is
the ideal way
to sell, but some-
times it's not so
easy —

Well, I suppose
you gathered from

2) "notes" on envelope
of my last letter
that I wrote Miltsee
I gave him "the works"
on those Rebecca
Gibbons covers.

I sent him photostat
of the Dull letter
and expressed deep
sorrow at his paying
for incorrect expert
advice - Maybe
he'll sue me for
slander or his
great expert will -
I rather think he
will be hysterical when
he reads the letter -
It's possibly the most

in ~~scolding~~ letter I
even wrote to any
Self-styled expert;
I didn't mince
words at all—

I still have the
two covers, on which
Hardy added stamps.
What shall I do
with them? If I
do return to Voorhees,
I will send another
photostat of the Wall
letter with them—
you said you might
write Newbury on
this— Did you?

3) Thanks for copy
of the Second Dull
Letter - I'm putting
it with the photostats.
Good old Miltsee;
he will be sunk
when he hears all
this; used to think
that he paid his
"Greatest of all experts"
a lot of money for
his "specimen" -

No - I have never
discussed the time
of the Pony with
any one - I do believe
that the Central Overland
Covers "Denver City" were

by Pony Express -
Nine or ten day (or
even more days) trips
in Winter, with snow
to contend with, were
probably damned fast.

(You question a Lawrence
Sale cover "Denver Jan 22 -
St Joseph Jan 31"
Right in the middle
of Winter - 9 days
And compare it
with a seven day
one of May 16 - 23, in
fast travelling weather.)
Keep in mind the
"roads" and trails
werent built for
speed - 10 miles an

4) hour with a
horse was hardly
possible — if the
horse was hooked
to a stage —
at least that's
my opinion —

I am getting a
bit settled in my
new quarters. When
I finally am settled
I'll be answering
many of your questions.
This is a beginning
any way —
Best
Fred —

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

April 20, 1939.

Mr. Edward S. Knapp,
330 Park Ave.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Ned:

I wrote Voorhees suggesting to him that Hardy turn those two covers over to either you or myself - that I remove the pair of 3¢ 1851 and the 10¢ 1855 and return the stamps to him. That we mark on the covers in indelible ink - "Original stamps missing". I will advise you of his reply.

Today I am sending you via Express the Morgan book, and also a typed copy of your notes. The original I returned to you some weeks ago. I am sorry I was unable to do anything on this. If I was located in New York, I am quite sure it would have been different.

Under separate cover, I am mailing you the 1853 - 1854 and 1855 Sailings. You will note these ran 35 mimeograph pages and the copying and run was quite some job.

Re - the S. F. Sailings of the Via Nicaragua ships. Rowell had a friend of his compile these and she did a fine job, but thru a misunderstanding she started in July 1852 and ran thru 1855. I am requesting Rowell to have her compile from July 1st, 1851 to July 1, 1852 and also the year 1856. When I get this additional information, I will put it all together and run it off on the mimeograph.

In comparing her sailing dates with various ones given in the Wiltsee book, I note quite a few errors in the book.

The person who copied for him was evidently quite careless. Invariably he gives the date of the appearance of a news item in the Alta, as the sailing date. Our record shows actual sailing date and the date the item appeared in the Alta. Where Wiltsee states a ship sailed on a certain date, you can be quite safe in assuming it actually sailed the day before.

After Miss Neumann finishes 1856, (on which she is now working), she is going to compile a record of arrivals of Nicaragua ships at New York. With such data, combined with the Rowell lists, I think we can compile quite an accurate bit of data on the mail carried by the "Via N" line.

#2.

Mr. Edward S. Knapp - April 20, 1939.

If you have any suggestions, please advise me.

With best wishes,

Yours etc.,

P. S. Re - that 3¢ 1857 cover - "N.Y. Steamship"
with the split Phillipine. What do you consider a fair
price? You know I am not hard.

Stan.

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

April 20, 1939.

Mr. B. L. Voorhees,
7 So. Dearborn St.,
Chicago, Ills.

My dear Barney:

Knapp wrote me some days ago that you would like to have the return of Hardy's two covers with the substituted pair of 3¢ 1851 and the 10¢ 1855. I apologize for not attending to this before this time.

Before returning these items I would like to make a request. I would like to see these two items in safe hands where they will cease to be a menace in the future. Hardy laid himself wide open to serious consequences and it is extremely lucky for him that no charges have been brought against him. I made a special trip to Philadelphia and had a long interview with Christian Dull and I have a written statement from him that he gave these two covers to Hardy for nothing and that when he turned them over to him, they contained no stamps.

If charges had been brought against Hardy this evidence would have been very damaging and while you were perfectly innocent I am sure you would have been drawn into the case and the publicity would have done you no good. Hardy certainly had little regard for you in making you a party to such a rotten piece of business.

Because of your association with the case I have not brought it to the attention of the Board of Vice Presidents of the A. P. S., and further, I doubt if Wiltsee will do so because without my co-operation he would place himself in a position of making a fool of himself. I sincerely trust if no publicity is given this incident that it will serve as a lesson to Hardy, and that he will carefully watch his step in the future.

I suggest that he present these two covers to either Knapp or myself with the understanding that I remove the pair of 3¢ 1851 and the 10¢ 1855 and return these stamps to him. I think these covers should be either destroyed or stamped in indelible ink, "Original stamps removed and missing, cancellations genuine."

I trust your ankle is improving and that you are now able to get around without much inconvenience.

Cordially yours,



APPROVAL SELECTIONS - STAMP AUCTION SALES -

- COLLECTIONS OR SINGLE STAMPS BOUGHT FOR CASH

B · L · VOORHEES

SEVEN SOUTH DEARBORN STREET - TELEPHONE CENTRAL 1988

CHICAGO
ILLINOIS

4-21-39

Dear Sam -

I thanks for yours 20th - I thought the best way to get the matter cleaned up was to send a copy of your letter to Rudy, which I have done, and asked him to tell me what to reply to you. Will advise you as soon as I hear from him - or he may possibly write you direct.

Sincerely
B. L. Voorhees

COPY

April 27, 1939.

Mr. B. L. Voorhees,
#7 South Dearborn St.,
Chicago, Ills.

Dear Barney:

Please have Ashbrook typewrite or stamp on the back of the two covers that they bear no stamps and remove the stamps from them. I then suggest that the covers be given to some Auction Dealer to be sold for my or your account. The pair of 3¢ stamps and the 10¢ stamp may then be given to any other auction dealer to be sold for my or your account. They are my property. Kindly let me know how the matter is being handled and have the dealers report on them when they are sold. I do not care to know who is handling this matter.

Trusting this will prove a satisfactory solution of this matter, I am with best wishes,

Very truly yours,

(signed) J. Hardy.

434 South Grand Ave.,

Fort Thomas, Ky.

May 4, 1939.

Mr. Edward S. Knapp,

330 Park Ave.,

New York, N.Y.

My dear Ned:

I enclose herewith letter just received from Voorhees together with copy of my reply and copy of the Hardy to Voorhees letter.

I also enclose the two covers with the substituted stamps removed, and if you care to acquire these I suggest you send Voorhees a check for whatever amount you consider they are worth and I have little doubt that Voorhees will see that Hardy accepts.

Best regards.

Yours etc.,

W. C. PHILLIPS & CO. INC.,

HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT

March 4, 1939

Mr. Stanley P. Ashbrook
434 So. Grand Avenue
Et. Thomas, Kentucky

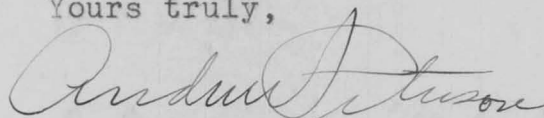
99R2

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

I duly received the photographs of the 1¢ #51 for which I thank you. I do not know exactly where to place this stamp and realizing the important part that your study holds in placing these rarities to advantage, I am writing to inquire if you could sell this stamp for me. If you can, I would give you a commission of \$100 if you can place it for \$600 and 25% of all that you get over \$600.

I shall be glad to hear from you regarding the above.

Yours truly,



W. C. Phillips & Co., Inc.

AP/al

434 South Grand Ave.,

Fort Thomas, Ky.

March 9, 1939.

Mr. Andrew Peterson,

% W. C. Phillips & Co. Inc.,

Hartford, Conn.

My dear Mr. Peterson:

I wish to thank you for your kind letter of the
4th.

At present I have no inquiry for a 99 R 2 but it
is possible one may show up at any time.

I call your attention to "Stamps" current issue,
an advertisement I am running which may bring an inquiry.

Sincerely yours,



AMERICAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

CARTER GLASS, JR.

P. O. BOX 131

LYNCHBURG, VA.

January 22, 1939

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook,
434 S. Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ken.

Dear Stanley:

Your letter of January 20 at hand. It is both my personal and official opinion that any member of the APS proven guilty of faking covers, as you explain, should be expelled from the Society. I think it is unquestionably conduct unbecoming a member.

As you know, the Vice Presidents are charged with responsibility for disciplinary action against members, and complaints or charges of misconduct must be referred to them. I think if the APS would take action in the case of members who engage in discreditable transactions, there would not be so much fake stuff being sold.

I want to take this opportunity to congratulate you on the fine contribution you have made to philately in your two recently published books.

Cordially yours,

Carter Glass, Jr.
Carter Glass, Jr.

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ark.

Feb. 11, 1939.

Mr. Carter Glass, Jr.,
P. O. Box 132,
Lynchburg, Va.

My dear Carter:

A two weeks attack of the grippe has prevented me from acknowledging receipt of your kind letter of the 22nd.

For several months I have been carefully gathering evidence on the case I referred to in my letter and I have little doubt that at an early date the whole matter will be laid before the Board. The evidence I have is conclusive and the case against the guilty party can be proved, in my opinion, beyond a question of a doubt. I think this party should be expelled from the Society and publicity given to his expulsion so that he may not be able to prey on unsuspecting collectors in the future. Further I think the matter should be called to the attention of the Federal authorities for surely in his case he used the mails to defraud. If we could obtain a conviction of a well known individual like this one I think it would prevent others from taking such risks.

The faked items were not sent to me, hence I prefer not to bring the charges but to have the party to whom they were sent make the complaint. However if he refuses I will be delighted to present all the evidence I have to the Board.

My sincere thanks for your kind words of appreciation of my One Cent 1851-1857 book.

Cordially yours,



AMERICAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

CARTER GLASS, JR.

P. O. BOX 131

LYNCHBURG, VA.

February 13, 1939

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook,
434 S. Grand ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stanley:-

Your letter of February 11 at hand. Under the revised by-laws of the Society, the Vice Presidents themselves can prefer charges against a member. Therefore, if the party to whom the faked items were sent is unwilling to make the complaint, the matter can be handled through the Board of Vice Presidents. However, it would be preferable if the party in question would bring the charges.

I think the evidence ought also be presented to the Postoffice Department for any possible action the federal authorities might care to take. The only way to break up the abuses to which the hobby is being subjected is to prosecute all who are guilty of fraudulent impositions upon collectors.

Cordially yours,

Carter Glass, Jr.
Carter Glass, jr.

CG:CY

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

March 9, 1939.

Mr. Carter Glass, Jr.,
P. O. Box 131,
Lynchburg, Va.

My dear Carter:

I have delayed replying to yours of the 13th because I have been waiting to hear from the party who should bring the charges against the A.P.S. member. I understand my friend has been ill. As soon as I have some definite word, I will advise you.

Now for another matter. There is a chap in the stamp business in Cincinnati by the name of B. H. Terry. It seems that Terry made application for membership in the Society and his application was rejected. I have known Terry for some five or six years and I like him personally. I never have had any business dealings with him, so consequently I know nothing of his integrity. I am told he has several enemies in the business and that they used their influence to have his application rejected. In January I wrote Dr. Davis regarding this matter and I enclose herewith his reply.

One of my closest friends is Mr. Louis A. Ireton, a prominent attorney in Cincinnati, and quite an enthusiastic collector. Ireton swears by Terry and feels quite sure an injustice has been done him in refusing him membership in the Society. Ireton has had quite a lot of dealings with Terry and feels confident the man is honest. I enclose you a letter which Terry wrote to Ireton. I must admit it is rather rambling and reads sort of nutty, but attached to it is a copy of a letter which Mr. Edward S. Horwitz (A.P.S. 14522) of Cincinnati recently wrote to Dr. Davis. Horwitz edits quite a good stamp column in the Cincinnati Enquirer every Sunday. I rather doubt if Horwitz would indorse Terry if the latter was dishonest.

Sometimes a chap who has pulled some queer stuff goes straight after he joins a respectable organization.

I would appreciate it very much if the Board would give further consideration to Mr. Terry's application.

With kindest regards,

Cordially yours,

H. L. LINDQUIST

PUBLICATIONS

2 WEST 46TH STREET NEW YORK, N. Y.

November 29, 1938.

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
434 S. Grand Ave.
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan:

Wiltsee is apparently on the warpath against everyone, for James Hardy was in here the other day to tell me of his scrap with him and he also told me that Ed Knapp is having quite an argument with him. In addition to that, he is trying to have the Expert Committee of the APS fired, and now is starting to pick on you.

The trouble is, the old boy is very set in his convictions, and undoubtedly thinks he is right, and then goes ahead like a bull in a china shop.

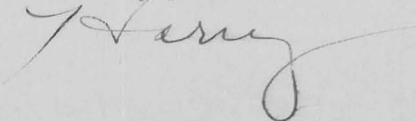
Frankly, I think the best way to handle him is just jolly him along and not dignify the whole thing by even giving it the publicity that an explanation in STAMPS would entail. At present all of his arguments are confined to a very small circle and the world at large knows very little about him or his ideas. In the old days he had many a bitter argument with Dr. Berthold and he is just belligerent by nature.

So I'd squelch the whole thing if I were you, unless he actually breaks into print.

Lieut. Chapel, who sent you the clipping, is one of the editors of AVOCATIONS, and I have already told him how much you would appreciate his thoughtfulness in sending on the clipping.

I've got another argument on my hands right now which I hope won't develop very far, but Elliott Perry is very anxious to have me enter into this Needham fight and feels quite hurt when I refuse to do so. He pointed out how hard he worked on the Carrier chapter for the book and says that this was only done as an aid to me and he thinks I ought to reciprocate now by helping him fight Needham. However, it is one of those things that I simply can't consistently do and I hope Elliott won't make too much of an issue over it for I like him too well to have a scrap with him.

Sincerely yours,



HLL:B

Jan. 9, 1939.

Mr. Christian L. Dull,

5119 Chestnut St.,

Philadelphia, Pa.

My dear Mr. Dull:

I would appreciate very much if can give me some information on a subject in which I am very much interested.

May I inquire if you have any knowledge of the "Rebecca Gibbons - Wilmington Del." batch of covers? Many of these bear the "Via Nicaragua markings", and I have been informed rather indirectly that you were the original discoverer and that you disposed of some of these covers to J. S. Hardy of Chicago.

Sincerely yours,

CHRISTIAN L. DULL

Postage Stamps for Collectors

1210 Locust Street

Philadelphia, Penna.

January 16, 1939

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
434 S. Grand Ave.
Ft. Thomas, Ky.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

Thank you for yours of Jan. 9th. Our mutual friend Mr. William West has been in to get some information about this material. I gave him the story as I recalled the various details, which go back some four or five years.

At a meeting of the Y Stamp Club of Wilmington, Del., a Mr Bush showed me a book of 19th century U.S. which he had to sell. I selected from it a pair of the 3c 1851 cancelled STEAM SHIP in two straight lined, and struck twice. Mr. Bush asked if I were interested in early covers, especially stampless and as a result went to his home the following Sunday and selected a number of covers from a large carton full of the Rebecca Gibbons correspondence which he had inherited from a member of the family. If you are interested in the family connection I am sure that Mr. Walter D. Bush, $\frac{1}{2}$ Diamond Ice & Coal Co., Market St., Wilmington, Del., will be pleased to co-operate and give you whatever information you desire in that connection.

Among the covers I selected were a number of "Via Nicaragua, Ahead of the Mails" postmarks. I do not know the exact number but there must have been 12 or 15. Every one of these covers had the stamp or stamps removed. Mr. Bush said that he did not remove them, but with the inheritance had come a quantity of stamps, many of which had been sold to Mr. Fred Liebeck in Phila. when he first got them, others had gone to local collectors and some were among the material from which I had bought the pair of 3c 1851's. None of the stamps had been soaked off, all had been pulled off and there was evidence that a few had been badly damaged in the process. However, there were bits of cover stuck to the back of my pair and these checked exactly with bits that had been pulled off one of the covers in removing the stamps. This could not be co-incidence, the clean spot from which the stamps had been removed and every possible indication showed that my pair belonged on that one cover so I replaced it. The stamps were not tied.

Another cover, the only "Noisy Carrier" in the lot was lacking a 10 cent stamp and this I traced to Liebeck who still had it and replaced this. It was well tied with "San Francisco" cancellation. Although the indications were that many of the missing stamps should be in or near Philadelphia, I held the covers for about two years and was unable to trace or find any other stamp belonging to the covers.

Meanwhile I had supplied tracings to Stephen Rich for Postal Markings and Mr. Hardy had contacted me and made several attempts to buy the covers. I explained the situation to him and he said he had a client who would rather have the covers with stamps supplied than not to have them at all. I kept for my own collection three different "Via Nicaragua" covers and the "Noisy Carrier", and as further search for the stamps seemed futile, sold Hardy the rest. From his correspondence I naturally expected him to sell them as "Stamps supplied" covers, but according to Mr. West, he has not done so.

Last April I had to have an operation and needed some extra money and at that time sold him (Hardy) the last four of the covers, those which I described above as having saved for my own collection.

Concerning the two covers on which I traced and replaced the stamps, I will stand back of them unconditionally. Though all the circumstances were known to Hardy at the time of sale, I consider those two covers genuine in every respect. The balance of the covers, I can guarantee only that the "Nicaragua" pmks. are good and that they were supplied to Hardy without stamps.

I hope this will clear up all details of the situation for you. I am sorry now that I sold the ones with stamps removed but it is too late for that. I certainly did not expect the results that have come of it.

With best regards, I am

Very truly yours

Christian B. Duff

Jan. 19, 1939.

Mr. Christian Dull,
1210 Locust St.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

My dear Mr. Dull:

I wish to express my sincere appreciation for your kind letter of the 16th, because it sheds some very interesting light on a subject in which I am very much interested.

There seems to be little doubt that Mr. Hardy very foolishly attempted to enhance the value of certain of the Gibbons covers by adding stamps in the place of those which had previously been removed. However so far as Hardy is concerned I am not interested, as I am not the owner of any of the covers, hence have not been defrauded.

My interest lies in a difference of opinion between Mr. Wiltsee and myself, inasmuch as I pronounced the "Via Nicaragua" markings on these covers as genuine, whereas he has expressed a very definite and positive opinion they are fraudulent. Naturally I am somewhat interested in proving my side of the argument.

So far I have traced the whereabouts of eight of these Rebecca Gibbons covers, and while I am not posted on how many Hardy sent to Wiltsee, I do know that he returned four of them. These were sent to me last week by Mr. Voorhees, who had originally forwarded them to Wiltsee for Hardy.

I made photographs of these four and I am enclosing herewith the prints with my compliments, with the hope that you can furnish me with some additional information respecting each of these four items.

In your letter you mention the first cover you purchased - a pair of 3¢ 1851, struck twice with "Steam Ship" (two lines). Perhaps the photo enclosed is of this particular item. May I ask if this is correct?

Note the "Noisy Carrier's" with the San Francisco postmark. Is this the one you referred to in your letter? I note you state there was only one "Noisy Carrier's" in the lot, however in a California collection is one that is almost a duplicate of this particular cover, but the 10¢ stamp which was on it is still missing. Perhaps the owner obtained this item from somebody other than Hardy and perhaps it was not in the lot you acquired.

You mentioned in your letter that last April you sold Hardy four covers and it was very soon after that time that four covers were sent to Mr. Wiltsee. Is it possible the four photographs I am sending you are the same items? Of course the replaced 10¢ with May 27 is very crude and would not fool anyone, but the "New York, two bar - Jan 15" is rather good. This is only

#2.

Mr. Christian Dull - Jan. 19, 1939.

a white face and is the exact size of the photo. Do you recall if this face was larger and showed a portion of the original postmark. I examined this pair and the "tie on" under my lamp and did not detect anything wrong with it, so was disposed to give it the benefit of the doubt. I have made a study of New York postmarks and the latest use I have seen of any of these bar types was May 1853. The only year of use this could have been if genuine was Jan. 15, 1855, but I could hardly believe this hand-stamp was used so late. Still such a thing could have been possible. I am hoping that you can accurately recall how this item was when you sold it to Hardy.

Evidently Mr. Bush had quite a lot of the Rebecca Gibbons covers and I wonder if you can tell me what he did with them. The reason is this. If some of these covers fell into the hands of some crook, he might be able to use them for the purpose of placing fake cancellations, and "Via Nicaragua" markings on them. Would you mind making inquiry of Mr. Bush or would you prefer I communicate with him direct?

Perhaps Mr. West showed you his cover. I suppose I have seen this in the past but I do not recall what it contained. If there are stamps on it now are you convinced they were not used originally on the cover?

Again many thanks for your very courteous letter.

With kindest regards, believe me

Vordially yours,

CHRISTIAN L. DULL

Postage Stamps for Collectors

1210 Locust Street

Philadelphia, Penna.

January 22, 1939

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook,

Thank you for yours of January 19th, and the photographs. These are the last four covers that I sold to Mr. Hardy. The Noisy Carrier and the cover with the straight line STEAM SHIP struck twice are the covers on which I replaced the stamps. In both cases I feel certain that I used the correct stamps that originally had been removed from the covers as previously explained.

The other two covers were sold to Hardy without stamps, but the pair of 3c 1851's with the ~~str~~ two bar NEW YORK I had hinged to the cover in place but not stuck on, for the sake of appearance in my album. In this way it could be obviously seen that the stamps did not belong. I do not recall whether the cancellation on the cover went under the stamps or not but there was sufficient of the circle on the cover to show that the cancellation on the cover and that on the stamps are not quite the same size, I do not know the dates of use of these various types as you do but would suppose that this type of cancellation in connection with "Nicaragua" would immediately suggest something wrong.

Mr. West showed me his cover and it looks good to me. I was unable to get to Wilmington on the 16th and the next meeting will be February 2nd. However, I am sure that quite a bit of material was sold, both stamps and covers, before I saw the lot as my encounter was some two or three years after Mr. Bush came into possession of it. Undoubtedly these covers lasted till I came along only because the stamps had been removed.

I have made other finds in just that way. In one lot to which many collectors had access but shunned the stampless I found several letters by Stephen F. Austin which I exchanged with the University of Texas and got the earliest known pmk. of the Republic of Texas.

With best regards, I am

Very truly yours

Christian L. Dull

Jan 22, 1939

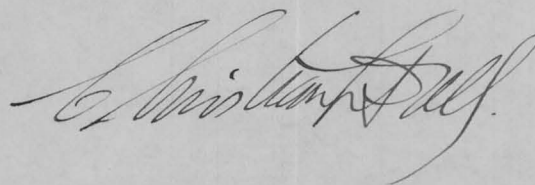
It just occurred to me that possibly we are approaching this from different angles. If it is simply the genuineness of the "Nicaragua" postmarks that concerns you, I would say they are genuine.

My understanding from Mr. West was that Hardy was selling these covers not as "stamps supplied" but as though they bore the stamps actually used on them. As you say, the "New York May 27" would not fool any one. Can it be then that he is offering them as such?

If he is selling or has sold them as "stamps supplied" covers, then there is no deceit involved and the most objectionable feature is that they may turn up indefinitely in the future to plague other collectors unless they are marked in some way to identify them for what they are.

All this has given me an idea. I shall be glad to use it and offer it to you as possibly a good suggestion for general practice. When a cover, worth while for its postmark, is offered with stamp or stamps removed or supplied, I will punch a small hole in the cover in the spot where the stamp belongs. A stamp may then be supplied to fit the cancellation and make the cover attractive, ~~but the~~ without disfiguring it in any way, but the presence of the hole behind the stamp will conclusively show that the stamp does not belong. Like a damaged stamp, I feel that these covers always have some slight value for those who cannot afford any better, and there always were and always will be more poor collectors than wealthy ones.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Christopher Duff". The signature is fluid and elegant, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Roslyn. L.I. August 6. '38.

Dear Stan;

Don't worry
about Voorhees. Its
O.K. with me —
What we want to
find out is ⁽¹⁾ are
those last Rebecca
Gibbons covers good
or not & also ⁽²⁾
whether Hardy put
the pair on the
cover postmarked
"San Francisco." I think

The answer is "Yes",
in both cases -

I'd like to know
if Dull didn't
sell Hardy a "Via
Nicaragua" cover, with
the Company handstamp
from which stamps
had dropped off.

How shall we try
to find this out?
I would say that
either you or I,
but not both, should
write Dull & ask

2) him how many
of the Via R +
Horsy Carrier covers
he sold Hardy
and if there ~~was~~
one cover from which
stamp had become
detached—

I'll do it or
you can, just let
me know what
you think—
The "answer" is right
there—hastily
(over) Used—

Just had a
letter from Voorhes.
He says the same
as he said to
you - Miltare
Steel has the
covers -

Roslyn, L.I.

Aug 7, 1938.

Dear Stan;

It is not my
idea to butt into your
affairs, but I have a
suggestion I'd like to
make -

Harold Carhart, who
lives near me here,
and who, incidentally
is about as nice as
they come, has asked
me to write you.

As you know, he's
very interested in

The W.S. 104-1855-57-

I think he told me
he had some 160 positions
plated and maybe 100
or more still unplated.

In the ones plated,
he is not certain
of many of the po-
sitions, and he wants
some one to check them
carefully, who knows
how to do it, and
that means you -

Also he wants to
pay for the job,
in fact, if he can't
pay he won't do it

2.) at all -

Will you do the
job, and leave it
to me what you
get for it?

There is no hurry
as to when you
start, but any time
you're ready to have
the Stamps sent on
and can give them
your attention, they
could be shipped to
you.

As Carhart says, it
would be of very decided

value to his lot, if
you checked the
plating & there would
also be a good chance
that you would be
able to add some
new positions, from
his now-unplated
material -

I feel very self, that, in
the examination of a
lot of this kind, you,
yourself, will surely
learn something -
What I learned about
Confederates, from plating

3.) And working on
Walcotts stamps was
plenty. It helped me
both by the money I
got from it and the
knowledge derived. Also
it helped his collection
as possibly nothing
else could have -

So, will you do
this job for Carhart
and leave it to
me what value to
put on your work?
I'll be fair to you

both, so that you'll
both be pleased -

I think you should
look at this ~~and~~
a very ^{pleasant} way of picking
up some change -
He will look at
it, as a kindly act
on your part - And
you'll both be right.

Beat
Hed -

Roslyn. L.I.

Aug 8. '38.

Dear Stan;

The Chase item
with SOUTH. (NOT SOUTH.)
was sold to Emerson.

I sold it to him, out
of Chases Collection.

Now that you've
jogged my memory,
I seem to remember that
the type was different.

I haven't noticed this
item being sold in
the Judge's things. It
may still be in his

possession or maybe
Percy's, for future sale.

I have one of those
Dead Letter Office
covers with "SOUTH N"
that I think is in
my closet ~~in~~ town.
I'll look it up
when this heat
abates a bit.

I don't think it's same type as the "Fouville".

I doubt that there
are any fakes of
"Via Nicaragua" marks.
Miltsee thinks these
covers are fakes because
they came from the

2.) Rebecca Gibbons Est.
Two years ago, he
knew no more about
Via Nicaragua covers
than a child of one.
He's merely one
of those over suspicious
people, who thinks
he knows it all—
You watch & see
if I'm not right—

Best

Fred.

It's quite possible that I have the
negative of the Chase cover, in the
hunch of plates I have — I'll look
but it will have to be after I get back to town.

Roslyn.

Aug 19. 38.

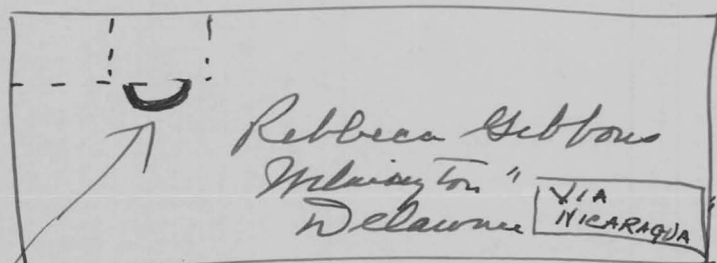
Dear Stan;

Miltson wrote a
lot of stuff on backs
of the Dull - Hardy
photographs - Blue, indellible
pencil - they can't be
sent to Dull -

We can write Dull &
ask him how many
~~Stettins~~ Rebecca Gibbons &
Covers he sold Hardy
and if he did happen
to sell him one that
had a red "Via Nicaragua"

box type marking, from
which stamps had
fallen off, although
it still had part of

The black circle
of the cancel at
upper left -



part of black
circle of cancel

↑
red
VIA N.

I haven't a picture
of this - I saw a photostat
but Miltsee insisted I send
it back & just refuses
to send me another -

Do just as you like, I'll
do nothing - Let me know
if you do anything
hastily
red

2.)

Also ~~let~~ let
me know any time
you'll take Carhart's
stuff - I told him
of your letter &
he's delighted &
says - "Any time, is
the not - too distant
future, suits him -

E. H. C.

Birmingham Philatelic Society

Birmingham, Alabama



April 26, 1939.

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook,
434 So. Grand Avenue,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

It is with pleasure that we learn through one of our fellow stamp collectors, Mr. Emerson C. Krug, that you plan a visit to Birmingham, in the near future.

The Birmingham Philatelic Society at their last meeting voted unaminously the pleasure of extending to you a cordial invitation to meet with them at a dinner and be their Guest of Honor. The meeting is subject to your visit and convenience.

The Birmingham Philatelic Society has an active membership of approximately 50 members. We meet bi-monthly at one of the leading hotels.

Again, it is with pleasure we extend to you an invitation to be the Guest of Honor at a meeting suitable to your visit. May we hear from you?

Sincerely,

William C. Darden
William C. Darden, Secy.

419 No. 19th Street.

WCD/bhs.

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

May 3, 1939.

Mr. Wm. C. Darden,
419 No. 19th St.,
Birmingham, Ala.

Dear Mr. Darden:

Your kind letter of the 28th received and I appreciate very much the cordial invitation of the Birmingham Philatelic Society.

Several weeks ago I wrote my good friend Emmerson Krug that I might run down to your City some week-end and spend a few hours with him, as Mrs. Ashbrook and I were considering at that time a little trip south by car. Unforeseen circumstances prevented the contemplated trip, but yesterday I had the pleasure of spending the day with Mr. Krug and before his departure I promised him I would repay his enjoyable visit to Cincinnati and Fort Thomas sometime this summer.

I can assure you that it would indeed be a pleasure to meet you, and the other members of your Society, and on my first trip South I will gladly accept the kind invitation you extended to me.

Sincerely yours,



APPROVAL SELECTIONS - STAMP AUCTION SALES -

COLLECTIONS OR SINGLE STAMPS BOUGHT FOR CASH

B · L · VOORHEES

SEVEN SOUTH DEARBORN STREET - TELEPHONE CENTRAL 1988

CHICAGO
ILLINOIS

9-17-38

Dear Stan -

Have written Wilkes twice
in the past six weeks trying to have him
return the covers - no reply to either letter.

I'm writing again today a rather short
letter which I hope will produce some result.
Will let you know as soon as I hear from him.
Sincerely,
BKV



APPROVAL SELECTIONS - STAMP AUCTION SALES -

- COLLECTIONS OR SINGLE STAMPS BOUGHT FOR CASH

B. L. VOORHEES

SEVEN SOUTH DEARBORN STREET - TELEPHONE CENTRAL 1988

CHICAGO
ILLINOIS

7-28-38

Dear Stan -

The "Via Nicaragua" covers from the "Rebecca Gibbons" correspondence you mention, come from Jim Hardy. I submitted them to Wiltse, in San Francisco, a couple of months ago and he still has them. He wrote me. He wanted to send them "east" for an opinion and I told him that would be O.K. but he's had plenty of time

by now, so I'm writing him today
to make returns. 'when, as & if' I
get them back from him, I'll be glad
to send them on to you, before giving
any report to Hardy.

Hardy's story is that he purchased
the covers from Christian Hull of Phila.
who had them in his personal collection
for some years, and obtained them in
Wilmington Del. from the nephew of the
party to whom they are addressed. Sincerely
BHV

300 Park Ave Jan 11.
New York City 1939

Dear Stan;

I feel that
the covers are
good, but here I
am "effusing" from
your friend Will see
that may interest
you. Return it,
please. I suffer
he wrote Vookes
as he did me -
I don't know about.

this "greatest of
all experts" (Heinrich)
but I believe he
just "yesed" Mittee
and that he's
incorrect — I'd
like to have chance
to go over them,
myself, and I'll
ask Voorhees to
send them on, if
they don't come on
in a few days.

Don't make any
mistake, we'll know
whether they're good
or bad pretty soon.
hastily. Ned —

Dec. 28/38.

Dear Knapp:

Just a line to let you know that Dr. E. O. Heinrich has pronounced all four of the Via N. covers fraudulent. It has taken some time because he was called away three times on out of town business, wills documents forgeries & etc. He is the leading authority on the Coast and employed by all the banks. Of course he has a great advantage because he can tell whether the inks used are modern or of the period of the handstamp. One cover proved that it was built up and faked in every way and that the entire correspondence was used for this work. His photographing and enlargements are splendid -

Yours sincerely

(signed) E. A. Wiltsee

I am glad that I was vindicated. It cost me a lot of money but I don't gridge it as long as we can protect these interesting items from forgeries and forgers.

Jan. 13, 1939.

Dear Ned:

I return herewith Wiltsee's letter and there is little question but what Wiltsee convinced the great Heinrich in advance that the covers were fakes, hence Heinrich could not take a chance and pronounce them good. At any rate I don't care what Heinrich or Wiltsee either one thinks about these covers, I am convinced they are good. This is not merely my opinion but an accumulation of various factors which I know cannot be wrong.

For example I have certain information which would be vital to the faker making one of these covers. By no possible chance in the world could he have had this particular information, yet he would have to have had it to make this particular item.

It is rather unfortunate that Wiltsee persuaded Heinrich to give a false opinion because he is highly regarded out on the coast. He has assisted in some prominent criminal cases and has quite a reputation. It will be rather difficult to convince some people he is wrong. However this is one case where he attempted something he knew nothing about. I do not take any stock in Wiltsee's crack about modern inks. I think he originated this. It is my guess Heinrich asked Wiltsee to furnish him with genuine examples of the "Via N" handstamps for comparison with those on the Gibbons covers under the ultra-violet lamp. I think Heinrich formed his conclusion because some of these did not match. There is really no reason why they should, which is a point Wiltsee does not know, hence Heinrich did not either and he expected a result which naturally he did not obtain.

I hope Barney has sent you the four covers by this time.

More later.

Yours etc.,

Jan. 16, 1939.

Dear Ned:

I had a letter from Barney this A.M. and he stated he had sent you the four Gibbons covers. That is fine and I am glad you are going to own them. I enclose you prints of the negatives I made, also a print of that Frame Line copy which I call #540. You can have the fun of doping this out yourself. What a lucky find this really was. Sort of like finding a needle in a haystack.

Barney stated in his letter that Hardy claims he got all his Rebecca Gibbons covers from Christian Dull of Philadelphia and that Dull informed Hardy he made the original find and had the covers for some years before he sold them to Hardy.

I wrote Dull last week if he made the original find of these covers and if he would be kind enough to give me some information regarding them.

Yours etc.,

H. L. LINDQUIST
PUBLICATIONS

2 WEST 46TH STREET NEW YORK, N. Y.

January 11, 1939.

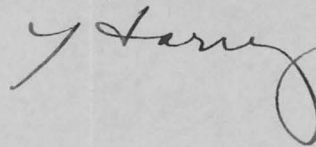
Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
434 S. Grand Ave.
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan:

I was interested in what you say about those covers passed upon by Wiltsee. When I was out on the Coast this summer, he went into great detail about these covers, and I think one of the reasons he wanted to go to New Orleans was to show up Hardy, as well as the A.P.S. Committee in connection with them.

When Hardy was in the city recently, he told me the source of the covers, and said that he had passed this information on to the Expert Committee, which influenced them in declaring them genuine.

Sincerely yours,



HLL:B



APPROVAL SELECTIONS - STAMP AUCTION SALES -

COLLECTIONS OR SINGLE STAMPS BOUGHT FOR CASH

B. L. VOORHEES

SEVEN SOUTH DEARBORN STREET - TELEPHONE CENTRAL 1988

CHICAGO
ILLINOIS

1 - 4 - 39

Dear Stan..

Some time ago we had some correspondence re some "western covers" I had submitted to Ed Wiltse in San Francisco, and I have just been able to secure their return from him.

I am submitting the 4 covers herewith for your inspection, along with the notes from Wiltse as to why he considers each one a fake.

I should appreciate your own opinion, after you examine them, in view of his remarks. As you probably know, all of these were pronounced genuine by the expert committee of the A.P.S.

Will you please return Wiltse's "opinions" when returning the covers?

Sincerely
Barney L. Voorhees

Jan. 9, 1939.

Mr. B. L. Voorhees,
7 So. Dearborn St.,
Chicago, Ills.

My dear Barney:

I was extremely glad to see these four Gibbons covers as there has been quite a lot of controversy concerning them. I am well aware of the fact that they were submitted to the A.P.S. Expert Committee and that their opinion has been assailed by Wiltsee.

I have examined these items very carefully and there is no question in my mind that all four are genuine with the following exceptions.

The 10¢ stamp on the cover - "May 27" is a substitution, otherwise the cover is genuine. Regardless of what Wiltsee states there was a 10¢ 1855 on this cover originally and it was tied by a New York postmark. Further I can prove the exact type of postmark that was used. Evidently when this cover was found the original 10¢ stamp was missing. Later the present stamp was substituted. To do this and to make the marking conform to parts of the original postmark on the envelope, parts of the original marking were removed. This was done by scratching with a sharp knife or razor blade and as a consequence, the paper was badly thinned. The removal of the present 10¢ stamp will show this evidence quite plain; in fact it can be seen by holding the cover to a strong light.

Wiltsee makes himself perfectly absurd by stating the "Via Nicaragua" marking on this cover is fraudulent.

The Noisy Carrier cover is perfectly good beyond any question of a doubt and so is the cover with the "Steamship" on the pair of 3¢ 1851. Wiltsee states the "Via N" marking is in a dull black, but anyone who is not color blind can see that this marking is in a faded out dark greenish blue.

Regarding the fourth cover, Wiltsee had a lot to say about this item, but all of his remarks were absurd. Suffice it to state that the Sierra Nevada handstamp is perfectly genuine. There is a bare possibility that the pair was not used on this cover originally, but I am satisfied in my own mind that it was. I could tell Wiltsee all about this cover, when it left S.F., on which ship it traveled, when it reached New York, etc., but what's the use, he is so damn smug in his self-conceit that he refuses to listen to any facts that conflict with fixed theories he has in his mind.

Don't pay any attention to his comments on this item. I

#2.

Mr. B. L. Voorhees - Jan. 9, 1939.

have made a study of the N.Y. bar postmarks and its a cinch they were used at the New York post office and not at any branches or sub-stations. I gave him this idea about sub-stations several months ago, so it is not original with him because all he knows about N.Y. postmarks could be written on the back of a postage stamp.

This letter to you is confidential and I request that you do not show it to anyone, especially Hardy, if he is still the owner of these items. It is of no concern to me, but I think Wiltsee's attack on these items is outrageous and if I owned them I would institute suit for defamation of character and property damage. Pseudo experts like Wiltsee who air their ignorance are as harmful to philately as the fakers who manufacture false covers.

I had a tilt with him last month. He picked out a cover I illustrated in Volume 2 of my One Cent book and balled me out unmercifully for publishing an illustration of a fake. It was all very laughable because the cover in question came from a private find and was never in the hands of anyone who could possibly know anything about faking it. I happen to know the family well and would stake my life no one ever did a single thing to the envelope. Yet the great expert Wiltsee told me forty ways the cover was a fake, displaying his total ignorance in a most absurd manner.

What I would like to know is, who substituted that 10¢ Green with the "May 27". Hardy should be made to explain this if he can. It is for this reason that I request you to keep all the contents of this letter absolutely confidential. If there was no faking on this cover I would not make this request.

I have made a copy of Wiltsee's opinion which I will treat as confidential.

I return herewith the four items with my sincere thanks to you for your kindness.

I understood there were several more items in the lot, in fact Wiltsee sent me photostats of them. These he claimed were extremely bad. May I inquire if he kept these?

Cordially yours,

P. S.--Knapp expressed the wish to buy these Gibbons covers if they were found to be genuine. If you could do Knapp a favor I would appreciate it.

S.



APPROVAL SELECTIONS - STAMP AUCTION SALES -

COLLECTIONS OR SINGLE STAMPS BOUGHT FOR CASH

B · L · VOORHEES

SEVEN SOUTH DEARBORN STREET - TELEPHONE CENTRAL 1988

CHICAGO
ILLINOIS

1-14-39

Dear Stan

Thanks very much for your letter of the 9th on the "Rebecca Gibbons" covers.

I have sent the covers on to Knapp telling him you considered all perfectly genuine, with the exception of the substituted 10¢ stamp. There was only one other cover in the lot (it was not of the Gibbons correspondence) - a "Pony Express" cover which Wilton called a fake. I sent it to Knapp

some time ago and he said it was perfectly
o.k. - but the 'Pony Express' postmark had
been torn so that part of it was missing and
Jim's price of \$50.00 seemed way out of line
considering the condition of the cover. I returned
this to Jim Kirby some time ago. He still
owns these other covers. Right now he is
on a cruise to the W. I. and due back
about March, at. When I first got the
covers from Jim he told me he had purchased
them from Christian Hull of Phila. and Hull
was supposed to have had them in his personal
collection for some 15 years, getting them originally
from a relative of Rebecca Gibbons.

Sincerely
B. H. Woodhess

Jan. 19, 1939.

Mr. B. L. Voorhees,
7 S. Dearborn St.,
Chicago, Ills.

My dear Barney:

Thanks for your letter of the 14th. Of the four covers, the one with the S.F. postmark is undoubtedly good, this also applies to the steamship. Of course the other 10¢ is a lousy job of substitution but two of the four being good, I was rather disposed not to question the pair of the 3¢ 1851 with the N.Y. of "Jan. 15". It now develops that this cover apparently went to Hardy with no stamps. I was a little suspicious of the pair originating on this cover as I have never seen a use of a New York "bar" postmark later than May 1853, and the only date mail via Nicaragua could have been deposited in the N.Y. Post Office on "Jan. 15" was 1855. This was mighty late for a "bar" marking but still I figured such a use was not impossible. If this pair of 3¢ 1851 was substituted it was rather a clever job so far as it appears on the face without removing the pair to examine what is underneath.

If Hardy did this fixing, I am surprised at his foolishness in laying himself so wide open.

My best regards.

Cordially,



1
15
1939

Dear Stan:

Bromidic, but its a small WORLD-the afternoon before receiving your last letter in which you asked me if I could find out anything about C.A. Dull, I was with him and the reason for seeing him was to have him copy for me that canc that ran sideways that you sent me "61" on its side do you recall it? In my ^{case} I had a number of other pages from my albums, some to show to Klein and Ward. Amongst them I had the Gibbons cover bought from Robbie and which Edgar criticized when he saw it on account of the Wiltse contention. I told Dull the Wiltse suspicions of these covers and he said "Well maybe I can help you clear this matter up." And then he told me that about 4 years ago he bought a number of items from Walter Bush a descendent of Rebecca Gibbons who inherited all the stamp things from Rebecca-Bush was a collector but not of U.S. There were evidently many covers in the lot-~~and~~ from which he removed the stamps except the cheaper common ones-with these he did not bother-but he did take the stamps off at least some of the "A head of the mails" and sold them or traded the stamps for other stamps that he was collecting. Dull bought ~~some~~ of his collection and amongst them a number of ahead of the mails without stamps and one Noisy, for this latter he found the stamps that had been on the cover in Liebecks possession and he bought them from L. and put them back on the cover. This cover is absolutely good. He finally sold it to Hardy, ⁱⁿ within a year. But about 4 years ago he sold Hardy 5-6 or 7 Ahead of the Mails covers all without stamps, he thinks actually 6 but is not sure-these Hardy said he would put stamps on, at least on some, for a collector to whom he was going to sell a few had his own stamps and would fix up his own envelopes. This sale was by letter in answer to Hardys Ads and Dull has thrown the letters away-but he tells me that Hardy made no bones about his proposed doctoring and Dull was much surprised when I told him how Hardy was being criticized. Because he thought Hardy would tell his buyers that he had added the stamps. Bush is still alive and active in the Wilmington Stamp Club, he is in his 70ties. So far as Chris Dull is concerned he is absolutely honest and trustworthy, he is a small dealer and holds auctions several times a year. I bought that pretty OLD STAMPS NOT RECOGNIZED that you illustrated from him and several other nice items. I trust him entirely. So boiled down the Hardy covers are good, but other stamps have been added-and maybe a cancelation has been improved with the wrong ink, and thats where Wiltse Ink Expert comes in. At least this is my solution. What do you think of it? A letter from Ned: I sent Beverly a pepper basket and said a WORD TO THE WISE IS SUFFICIENT she has a deal with her Father that for every sneeze he makes he pays her a quarter, Spent Christmas in the Hospital as the result of an over dose of Insulin. Only there 3 days. Really my second home, could I afford it would likely live there. Comfortable and no worries. I trust I have made myself clear, if not let me know specifically what you want to know and Dull can find the answers from Bush. He will be seeing him tomorrow, I think; they have a meetind and Dull attends. Klein also says the Gibbons Cover you passed on is good. And now down stairs with Peter for a run around and then I hope to bed-went to a night club last P. Mand bedded about 4 A.M. Too old; but do these fool things every so often. E.P. has a cover that I should like to buy if I have any thing left after taxes, if I do will ship it to you to fix up for ^{me} like the one you did for Jessup. A 547-biggest I ever saw on cover-bigger than Saul-Emerson or Sams. So what do you think of that for a statement that at the moment I cannot verify. Gosh I had a good time last night. WOW.

Best ever,

Bill

If this clears up the Hardy-Adams little mess send copy of the post featuring to Edgar, who can decide if to write, and if you own copy if clear.

What about coming east? Are you still considering it?

Jan. 9, 1939.

Mr. John A. Kleemann,
70 Nassau St.,
New York, N.Y.

My dear John:

I understand that several months ago some "Via Nicaragua" covers were submitted to the A. P. S. Expert Committee by Wiltsee for an opinion and that your Committee pronounced the items genuine with certain reservations. I am aware that Wiltsee took violent exception to your findings and considered appearing at the New Orleans Convention for the purpose of bringing charges against the Committee.

I have recently had the opportunity of making a very careful examination of four of the covers in question and I am absolutely positive that the opinions expressed by Wiltsee as to why these four items are bad, are utterly absurd. One cover in question has a 10¢ 1855 which did not originate on the cover. I think the dealer who owns these items should be asked for an explanation regarding what knowledge he has regarding how this particular stamp got on this envelope. As he is a member of the A. P. S. may I inquire if any demand has been made of him for an explanation?

I would like very much to see a copy of the opinions the Committee furnished Wiltsee on each of the covers. Can you furnish me this information?

Wiltsee has freely expressed his opinion of the Expert Committee and also his opinions on the covers, and no one has made any attempt to call his hand so far as I am aware.

I think pseudo experts of the Wiltsee type are about as harmful to Philately as the fakirs in Paris who make spurious covers to sell to unsuspecting collectors in this country. Yet it seems that nothing is ever done about either.

With best regards to Jake and yourself, I am

Cordially yours,



January 12, 1939.

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
434 S. Grand Avenue
Ft. Thomas, Kentucky.

Dear Ashbrook,

I have your letter of January 9th in reference to the Wiltsee covers and all that I know about them is that the following dealers know something or were involved in some way in regard to these covers:- Ezra Cole, Eugene Klein, B. L. Voorhees, James H. Hardy, Sidney Barrett and Earl Hamilton.

Mr. Wiltsee sent them to Sid Barrett and when they were first shown to me by him, I examined them carefully and was in favor of giving an opinion only, without issuing a certificate. Barrett talked me out of it and certificates were given, as follows:-

Certificate #684 - U.S. 1851, 3c red, pair, cancelled
Jan. 15, on piece of cover, pmk "Stmr. Sierra
x Nevada, Via Nicaragua, Advance of the Mails.

Certificate #685 - U.S. 1851, 3c red, pair, cancelled
x "Steamship" on cover, cancelled "Via Nicaragua Ahead
of the Mails."

f Certificate #686 - U.S. 1851, 10c green, type II, tied
black San Francisco, Cal. on cover, pmk. "From Noisy
Carriers Mail - Long Wharf, S.F. Cal.

Certificate #687 - U.S. envelope, 1861, 10c green on
buff, Knife 9, red Paid Wells Fargo & Co. through
our California & Atlantic Express frank; pmk U.S.
Ship (black), Wells Fargo Express, blue.

x Certificate #688 - Cover pmk'd "Via Nicaragua in ad-
vance of the Mails - genuine but the 10c not on
cover when mailed; it has been put on afterwards.

Certificate #689 - Red Wells Fargo & Co. frank on U.S.
envelope, 1857, 10c green on buff, repaired; it is
genuine. The removed portion probably had a \$2. red
Wells Fargo adhesive on it.

NASSAU STAMP CO.
POSTAGE AND REVENUE STAMPS
FOR COLLECTORS
68 NASSAU ST., NEW YORK



JOHN A. KLEMAN, PRES.
J. J. KLEMAN, JR., SEC'Y & TREAS.
TELEPHONE JOHN 4-0979
CABLE ADDRESS--PHILATELIC

- 2 -

In mentioning the fakers in Paris, it may interest you to know that the 5c red brown cover I sent you which you questioned, although I firmly believe the cover was genuine but the stamps taken off and badly replaced, has been destroyed. I took the stamps off and sold them separately, getting more money than I asked you for the entire cover.

Kindest regards.

Very truly yours,

John A. Klemann

Jan. 17th, 1939.

Mr. John A. Kleemann,
70 Nassau St.,
New York, N.Y.

My dear John:

Thanks very much for your kind letter of the 12th. It is possible I may get into an argument with Wiltsee, hence want all the information I can obtain on the Rebecca Gibbons covers.

copy
I note your reference to a 5¢ red-brown cover - the item in question was a 5¢ orange-brown plus a 10¢ 1857 Type V. Since the incident I have made quite a study of foreign rate covers, foreign rate markings, etc. etc. and there is no question in my mind that this was originally an unpaid stampless item to which some "artist" added the stamps on the reverse. It was suggested that the N.Y. Exchange Office did not note the stamps on the reverse and rated the cover as totally unpaid but a knowledge of the markings shows positively this was not the case. I recall that we traced the source of this cover to Zareski.

As I recall John I paid you \$100.00 for the cover. I am convinced the black grid was fraudulent (I have seen cleverer work by Zareski), so if you obtained more for this stamp as a used copy, than I paid you originally for the cover, I think it would be rather discreet to forget the sale.

With every good wish, believe me

Cordially yours,

Re - Premiere Gravures -

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

April 7, 1939.

Mr. Elliott Perry,
Box 333,
Westfield, N.J.

My dear Elliott:

Several days ago Michael Miller of Baltimore, sent me a cover with a horizontal strip of three of the One Cent 1851 - Type IV - used from Washington, D. C. in Nov 1856. In the upper left corner a stamp had been removed. This cover had in black "City Despatch" "Nov 1 - 8 A.M. - 1856".

He asked me if I had any idea what stamp had been removed. I wrote him that I thought there was little question the stamp removed was an Eagle Carrier, and also that never before had I seen that "City Despatch" handstamp. I asked him to kindly send the cover to you for your opinion, but in case he does not, here is a photo (natural size) which you may keep for your files.

It may interest you to know that I have been doing quite a bit of experimental work with my Hanovia Lamp in conjunction with photography. (I have a very clever faked n. strip of three 10¢ 1855. I enclose you some photographs herewith.

Exhibit "A" (marked on back) is a regular photograph made with a red filter. This shows little trace of the paint job.

Exhibit "B" is the same print with a black line drawn in showing the repair. All above the line is painted.

Exhibit "C" is a photograph made with the lamp. The exposure was forty-five minutes in a dark room.

Copy
"B"
I do not know why the faker had to paint in the tops of two of the stamps. For some time I thought he had added a piece of paper at the top, but I now believe this strip had a very bad crease and that the artist skinned off the top of the paper and painted in the designs. My strongest glass shows no evidence that a piece of paper was added but it does show the paper under the painted part is thinner than the balance. You probably won't notice a great deal of difference between prints "A" and "C". Print "A" shows the line of the repair, but no indication of any difference in the surface of the paper above and below the line of repair. Print "C" does show a difference in the surface of the paper. In examining the strip under the lamp, the eye does not register this difference. This makes me believe when I improve on my present methods, I will be able to record on a photographic print, many things I cannot see with my eyes.

#2.

Mr. Elliott Perry - April 7, 1939.

I think the print "C" is quite a fine bit of work, don't you? Will you please return these three prints after you have finished examining them.

Regarding your letter of the 30th. You mentioned a use of a 24¢ 1861 Violet from New London on Aug. 20th, 1861. By any chance could you be in error on the town? Harold Brooks has a very fine one used from Lowell, Mass., on Aug. 20th, 1861. This to England, also.

Regarding the 1867 Grills. Just make a note of the early use (?) Feby 1867, about which I wrote you in my last. I do not say it is good nor do I say it is bad. The man who found it, claims it came to him in an original find, (cover to Germany) and that the family from whom he obtained it, didn't know a thing about stamps. So far as I know the man is reliable but one can never tell. At least I do know that if he made the item himself, he got no premium for his work. I recognize the fact he could have substituted the stamps. I think he didn't even know the cover in the shape he sold it was an early use of a grill. The cover itself will never prove a thing, because it shows nothing definite.

Regarding the Chicago Perfs. I'll admit it seems strange the only ones known are from Chicago. It could be possible the P.M. at Chicago was familiar with what T.C. & Co. were doing and made a special request for a supply. We know those that exist were used by different firms which proves the Chicago office had a supply and sold them to whoever wanted them. I think it is unusual that as many as 20 copies have been discovered. This would indicate (?) quite a number of sheets were sent to that office. Rather than theorize that these were made privately and not by T.C. & Co. seems rather illogical. Surely they used regular imperf sheets on which to try their experiments and I see no reason why these might have been destroyed rather than regularly issued. The whole batch might have been shipped to Chicago, just to get rid of them and really not for experimental purposes. I am not aware that any search has ever been made in Chicago for some data bearing on them. Chicago was not much of a city in 1856, and if a supply of perforated stamps was sent there in June or July of 1856 perhaps no notice of them would have appeared in the newspapers. At any rate I will write to some of the boys up there and see if they can dig up any dope. Chase mentioned a use in July 1856 and I have a cover with 3¢ used in Feby 1857. Looks as though small supplies might have been issued at various times in the last six months of 1856.

Regarding the "Augusts". I note with interest your closing remark, "If we could only find a record in some European P.O. Dept., showing they received the premieres as samples etc."

Some day such a thing will show up. For example, a funny thing happened a year ago. I gave Hollowbush a letter to Waterhouse and Frank went out to his home. In April 1938 after his return, he wrote me regarding his visit and commented on some of

Mr. Elliott Perry - April 7, 1939.

the Waterhouse items. In his letter, he stated, "There is a set of Augusts mounted on a Post Office form. I greatly regret I did not study it more carefully." Here I thought I had the key. I immediately wrote Waterhouse and imagine my surprise when he wrote me he had no such an item and couldn't imagine what Hollowbush referred to. Can you beat that? Is it possible Frank was right or wrong? I don't know what to think, but I am rather suspicious. Since then I have not been able to get a chirp out of Frank on the subject.

Colson was here shortly after I received Frank's letter and we got into an argument over the Premieres. You know the same old stuff. Did I own any Premieres? If not what was I trying to do? Why didn't I mind my own business, and why publish stuff I knew nothing about. I asked him if he knew of the existence of "A set of Augusts mounted on a Post Office form" and which proved these were "Samples of the designs we intended to issue"?

He never batted an eye, but he asked did I have such a thing. I told him "no" but that I had photographs of a lot of things I was not able to own. He said he would like to see a photo and I told him he would be the last damn person in the world I'd show it to.

It is my idea my remarks made quite some impression on Mr. Colson. I am positive that if Colson knew of the existence of such a thing he would do everything in his power to keep it from being published. I am not so sure Waterhouse would not do the same thing.

I cannot imagine why Frank should claim he paid so little attention to the item he claims he saw in the Waterhouse collection! Surely he knows August stamps when he sees them and I know darn well he is familiar with all you have written on the subject. If the answer was before his eyes why did he pay so little attention to it? Did Waterhouse swear him to secrecy?

I have been working on my new article, but I don't know whether I'll publish it in the near future or not. When I do, I am not going to mince any words and I am not going to make any statements I cannot prove. I have been positive right along that the answer to all the problems of the Premieres was a very simple one. I think there is not a number of answers but just one and that it is entirely logical and very simple. When we solve a problem and find a simple answer instead of a very complicated one, we generally ask ourselves why we didn't think of that before.

I think the answer to these labels will be found not only in the 1861 contract but also in the 1857 and 1851 contracts. I think this simple answer tells us why no premieres of the values of 1¢ - 3¢ - 5¢ - 12¢ and 90¢ were ever issued. I think the answer tells us plainly why stamps from the following plates were issued:

10¢ Type I
24¢ In Violet

#4.

Mr. Elliott Perry - April 7, 1939.

Now here is the simple little answer -

Government supervision

Think it over - there is nothing silly about it.

No stamps were issued from sample plates made before the contract was awarded. These plates were,

The One Cent "August"
The Three Cent "August"
The Five Cent "August"
The Twelve Cent "August"
The Ninety Cent "August"

After the contract was awarded and Government inspectors were put in the plant, plates were then made for the regular stamps under Government supervision. These plates were -

One Cent #9 etc.
Three Cent #11 etc.
Five Cent #17 etc.
Ten Cent #4 - 15 etc.
Twelve Cent #16
24¢ #6
30¢ #7
90¢ #18

The 10¢ Type I was not a Premiere plate, that is, not a sample plate. Had it been, it would have been made privately, and one thing is certain, no stamps were regularly issued which were made from the privately made Premiere plates.

The numbers on the plates do not mean a single thing. Just because the Type I plate was given the number "4", is no positive evidence it was a sample plate and made before or even at the time of the sample plate for the 12¢ "#5" or the sample plate of the 90¢, #8.

We have no direct evidence that the sample sets sent to Europe contained all the values. The sets may have only included labels from the privately made plates, that is, the 1¢ - 3¢ - 5¢ - 12¢ and 90¢, but the chances are that these sets were made up immediately after the following contract plates were made,

10¢ - 24¢ and 30¢.

Trial colors were run off, hence the so-called 24¢ - Unused Premiere, and the 30¢ Premiere and nothing more than color trials which were used to make up complete sets to send foreign post offices.

I think this theory can be made to fit all the known facts, and there is no flaw in it, if we disregard the plate numbers. And why not do this? Because they run in sequence does not prove they were made in this order.

By this theory we can separate the unofficial from the

#5.

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official, and divide the entire August set into two classes,

- (A) Privately made plates
1¢ - 3¢ - 5¢ - 12¢ - 90¢.
- (B) Color Trials from officially made plates
10¢ (Type I) - 24¢ - 30¢

I believe there must be a slight difference between the shades of the 10¢ Type I. These I would divide Type I - Color Trial - the Printing used for the European sets. Type I - Regular color as adopted for the Regularly Issued stamps.

The difference in these two shades is the same as the difference between the 24¢ Trial color and the "Violet" of the regularly issued stamp.

Can a flaw be found in the above theory?

Cepm
"A"

Regarding Government supervision. Suppose for example, the Government would have permitted the N.B. N. Co. to use their privately made 90¢ Premiere plate, and suppose for example, the Company had previously made several of these plates and printed thousands and thousands of sheets of stamps. Had the Government made this private plate an official one, all of the thousands of privately printed sheets would have become Government obligations. We know they did not make this 90¢ plate official and it would have been an insane thing to do had they done so. If they did not do so in the case of the 90¢, or of the other private plates (1¢ - 3¢ - 5¢ - 12¢) then why in the devil should we believe they did it in the case of the 10¢ Type I plate? Does it make sense to even consider the 10¢ Type I as a Premiere or privately made plate?

I think you will agree that there is far less difference to the eye between the 10¢ Type I and II, and the two (Premiere and regular), 90¢, values, hence it does not make sense that they would have used a 10¢ privately made plate for some of the regularly issued stamps, and have refused to have used the 90¢ privately made plate.

I have little doubt that as soon after the contract was awarded, the sample plates and all printings were turned over to the Government and the plates were destroyed.

In order to keep their records straight, the N.B.N.Co., numbered all the plates they had made giving the eight values the first eight numbers regardless of whether some were unofficial and others official.

The above is the theory on which I am basing my entire article.

My best regards.

Yours,



SINCE 1915

April 17, 1939

Dear Stanley,

Yours of the 14th. Mike Miller sent the Washington cover with Wiley postmark as you suggested. There is evidence that Wiley also used the same type of pmk on or with his Baltimore stamp (#6698). This pmk is illustration #1 on page 480 of Pats #20 and probably was an enlargement and imitation of a contemporary pmk of Blood's - illus. #7 Pats #16, page 375.

I ran across an idea that Wiley had been a government carrier while his stamps were in use and investigated far enough to convince me that his post was purely a private enterprise - hence his postmark was not mentioned in the carrier chapter of your 1c book.

1861; Luff saw proof blocks of the premier types and either directly or by inference stated that he obtained his plate numbers from them. I am sure I have a memo of this somewhere, and am satisfied the Type I 10c was No. 4. If, as you believe, a considerable printing of the 10c Type I was made when the printing for the sample sets occurred, then it would seem reasonable to me that similar printings of the 24c and 30c would also have been made. Apparently the latter two values were not so printed, and this is one reason why I incline to the belief that the issued 10c Type I stamps came from a later printing. If No. 4 plate was accepted and became a government plate it is easier for me to believe that it was used around September 1st - by accident or intent - than if it had not become a government plate. Of course I admit the contractors may have had plenty of the green ink and only small quantities of that used for the 3c, 24c and 30c samples, not to mention the 5c.

24c August New London Aug 20 and Boston Aug 23, both arriving London Sept 5, 1861; I was first advised of these two covers more than a year ago and find the memo then made agrees exactly with the data obtained recently. An effort will be made to locate them.

Clark-Luff 1861; if ~~it~~ I thought Clark had any real ammunition that would blow up your article I would advise you to wait and let him shoot first. But I don't believe Clark has any more now than Luff did when his book was written, except what you and I and others have published. If he had convincing proof that you were wrong why should he think of presenting "both sides of the question"? The fact that he has such an idea in mind ~~is~~ satisfies me that he has no real proof the Luff story is correct.



SINCE 1915

When the section of the "August 1861 Delusion" that was printed on page 1112 of Pats #37 was written I knew it was not necessarily 100% correct but for my purposes it made little difference whether the NBN Co. prepared all eight sample plates in advance, or only had five finished and part of the sixth (No.4). Sticking my neck out that way doesn't worry me a bit and if Clark wants to attack whatever inaccuracy may be proven to contain, let him. If the article as a whole is 95% correct it will be far nearer the truth than Luff's was.

So far as I know all the Scott outfit ever did was to stand pat on the Luff story and ignore the very serious questions that arose regarding its reliability during the past 40 years. If they ever went further than Luff's attempt to find the truth it would be news to me. The reliable evidence as to what actually happened in 1861 has been found and published by others, with no assistance or even encouragement from the Scott concern, in my opinion.

If they have had evidence which contradicted the Luff story it is rather late in the day for them to spring it now. Don't worry about that Stan, they haven't got any.

What I am cagey about is accepting a working hypothesis or theory just because it seems to agree with the facts. It can do that and still be wrong. But it is more likely to be correct than any theory with which the facts do not agree. My own theories are just as likely to be wrong as are the other fellows - even when they seem to be correct.

Your assumption that the NBN Co had five sample plates completed BEFORE the contract was awarded and that the 24c and 30c plates were made afterward, in my opinion, fits the facts better than does any other. If my suggestion that the 10c No. 4 plate became a government plate because it had not been completed when the contract was awarded overcomes the difficulty in explaining why there were two different 10c plates made at about the same date I am glad to have helped get around that difficulty. Certainly there was just as much reason - originally - to make eight sample plates as five of them, and that being so, if all eight were not completed before the contract was awarded it is not strange that ~~the 10c plate was only partly done at that date~~ one of them was only partly done at that date. There seems to be no obvious reason why the 90c plate was finished ahead of the 10c, but there may have been reasons unknown to us. The first 10c plate may have been spoiled in transferring so that Plate No. 4 was actually the second plate of Type I. Who knows?

Sincerely,

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.
April 25, 1939.

Mr. Elliott Perry,
Box 333,
Westfield, N.J.

Dear Elliott:

Yours of the 17th received. Re - the 10¢ 1861 Types I and II. Here are a few thoughts I have jotted down: (A) The Type I is generally found in a rich dark green and on a thin paper. Of course this is the color known as the "August shade". I do not think this is exactly the same paper which Luff describes as opaque - very thin and "brittle". I don't recall ever seeing a Type I on a paper I would call "brittle". Have you? And further I do not recall ever seeing the Type I on the "thicker paper" of the September stamps, for example, the paper we find used in Oct., Nov., and Dec. of 1861.

We know the "Buff" was awfully early shade - A copy used Aug. 19th, 1861. The Buffs or rather a certain shade of the Buffs come on a thin paper, and it is this paper which is exactly the same as the Type I stamps. The pinks I have noted used in Aug. 1861 are not all Pigeon Bloeds in fact, some are just Rosy Pinks but I think these earliest of Pinks and Roses found on covers used in Aug. 1861 are generally on the thin paper.

My guess would be that the first 10¢ stamps printed were Type I and in that dark shade and on the thin paper. Perhaps the majority (?) of these early printings were sent to California because we find quite a number of Type I from out there. Perhaps this is the reason we do not find any early dates of use on the Type I. Perhaps a big batch of the first printings (Type I) were immediately sent to California - suppose we say, shipped via Panama on Aug. 21st, 1861 (sailings were then 1st - 11th and 21st). Count at least 25 days and we find them in S.F. on Sep. 15th. Perhaps S.F. still had a liberal supply of the 10¢ 1857 so the shipment (of 10¢) was not issued to the public before October.

After the Type II plate was made it was immediately put to press and the first runs used up the "August shade" of ink they had used on the Type I plate. Here I believe are a sequence of events which could have happened. A recent letter from Hugh stated he wanted to talk to me before he started work on the 1939 U. S. Catalogue.

I think I may be able to influence him to delist the 24¢ - 30¢ and 90¢, Imperforates of 1860 and the "Premieres". Hugh never has before this time been in a position such as he is now when he could do this. I stated I may be able to get him to do this, but perhaps I should state I hope to be able to persuade him to do this. Before I have a talk with him I want the three of us (Perry, Chase and Ashbrook) to be in complete accord on these subjects.

#2.

Mr. Elliott Perry - April 25, 1939.

Luff was a very peculiar man and if he ever admitted he was wrong on any point I am not aware of a particular case.

Chase recently sent me some letters he received years ago. They were quite haughty and were to the effect - "Who are you to question any statement made by Luff"?

Had Luff been of a broad mind he would have welcomed the truth no matter if the truth made statements he made 40 years ago look ridiculous. The trouble has been that everybody put Luff upon a pedestal and worshiped him. Damn lot of foolishness, is my opinion. I never looked upon him as a God, and I certainly think he had his nerve to put into his book the rank fairy tale of the "Premieres".

I think we now have a story which is puncture proof. Never before could we answer some questions satisfactorily. Now we can and we can give a plausible answer to every question propounded about the Premieres. With this ammunition in our hands, and all three of us in accord, we certainly should be able to delist the Premieres from the Catalogues and albums, and when they slid out, they should take with them the 1860 Imperforates, the 3¢ 1861 Scarlet and others. I am going to bring some stiff pressure to bear because I want to see the catalogue right, and I know you are 100% with me in this desire.

I have an ideathat when the "delisting" occurs some interesting facts will come to light, mark what I state.

Best regards.

Yours etc.,



April 10, 1939

Dear Stanley,

John and I have been discussing your letter and I would like to offer the following suggestion:

Suppose you divide the first 18 plates of 1861 into three groups instead of two.

First, sample plates, viz; 1c, 3c, 5c, 12c, 90c (N.B.N. Co.)

Government Plates

Second group, viz; 10c Type I, 24c, 30c

Third group, viz; 1c (Nos. 9, 10), 3c (Nos. 11/14), 10c II (No. 15), 12c (No. 16), and finally the least used plates, viz; 5c (No. 17) and 90c (No. 18).

Numbers 1 to 8 having been assigned to the first eight plates, the three plates of the second group completed that set, and therefore were given the numbers previously assigned. The samples for foreign P.O.s were printed as soon as that set of eight plates was completed, or original samples from the first set of five plates were used and sets completed by prints from the three plates of the second group.

10c plate No. 4 may have been partially entered at the ~~in~~ date the contract became effective, ~~and~~ and entering could have been completed and the plate finished under the contract, thus making it acceptable as a government plate. It was finished in order to complete the first eight plates so complete sets of samples could be printed. This does not mean that the design was 100% acceptable - merely acceptable enough until the plate of Type II (No. 15) was ready.

Later use of Plate No. 4 for postage stamps may have been intentional, or by error.

We know the new stamps were expected to be ready by August 1st and were not issued to post offices until the 16th. The time element therefore was of importance and may account for doing this or that which wasn't exactly what would have been done if the time had not been short. The weak point in your theory seems to us to be making two different plates of 10c at the same time. Perhaps the above will strengthen that place in your argument.

Sincerely,

Elliott Perry

Re-numbering of the 1861 plates.

Three groups of Plates

First Group - Sample Plates - Unofficial,
and not made under Government

Supervision

1¢	-	Plate # 1	-	Premiere Design
		# 2	-	" "
3¢	-	"		" "
5¢	-	" # 3	-	" "
12¢	-	" # 5	-	" "
90¢	-	" # 8	-	" "

Second Group - Official Plates - made
under Government supervision.

10¢	-	Plate # 4	-	Type I
24¢		" # 6		
30¢		" # 7		

From the above plates, "Trial Color
Stamps" were made up into sets
and forwarded to Europe as samples
of the new issue the Government
was about to issue.

Third Group -

1¢	-	Plate 9
1¢		" 10

3¢	-	Plate	11	
3¢	-	"	12	
3¢	-	"	13	
3¢	-	"	14	
10¢	-	"	15	- Type II
12¢	-	"	16	
5¢	-	"	17	
90¢	-	"	18	

Perrey's

Memo of

My theory

Assumed Facts

(1) - Only five sample plates were made before the 1861 contract was awarded, viz; "August" types of the 1c, 3c, 5c, 12c, 90c.

(2) - After the 1861 contract was awarded a set of plates - probably thirteen in all - was made from which to print postage stamps for regular issue, viz; one each of 5c, 24c, 30c and 90c; four of 3c; two of 1c and 10c, one 10c plate being Type I and the other Type II.

(3) - Sample sets were made up to send to foreign governments, which sets consisted of (a) the 1c, 3c, 5c, 12c, 90c from the first plates, or (b) were made up after the second set of plates was made and consisted of the five values from the first set of plates plus the 24c and 30c from the second set of plates, and Type I of the 10c.

(4) - The second set of plates contained two plates of 10c - one of Type I and the other of Type II. The Type I plate (No. 4) was not made for sample use but both this plate and the Type II plate (No. 15) were intended to be used and were used for issued stamps.

(5) - The first set of plates was numbered 1 for the 1c, 2 for the 3c, 3 for the 5c, 5 for the 12c and 8 for the 90c when those plates were made, or after the second set of plates was made all eighteen plates were numbered as follows;

No. 1 - First 1c
No. 2 - " 3c
No. 3 - " 5c
No. 4 - Type I, 10c
No. 5 - First 12c
No. 6 - Only 24c
No. 7 - " 30c
No. 8 - First 90c

(Are not these seven statements
a fair presentation of what
happened and what you can
prove?)

E.P.³ 4/9-'39

No. 9 - Second 1c
No. 10 - " 1c
No. 11 - " 3c
No. 12 - " 3c
No. 13 - " 3c
No. 14 - " 3c

No. 15 - Type II, 10c
No. 16 - Second 12c
No. 17 - " 5c
No. 18 - " 90c

(6) - This numbering of the eighteen plates had no connection with the sequence in which they (individually) were made or the purpose for which they were intended. If there had been a reason to number them all in two sequences by values the second 5c would have been numbered 15, Type II of the 10c would have been numbered 16, and the second 12c plate would have been numbered 17.

(7) - The Post Office Department used only stamps from plates made under its own supervision and printed under its supervision; hence Plate No. 4 of the 10c was used intentionally and not by error in printing postage stamps.

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

April 12, 1939.

Mr. Hugh Clark,
% The Scott Publications, Inc.,
2 W. 47th St.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Hugh:

I enclose herewith a copy of a letter I have today written Chase. No doubt the subject mentioned will be of interest to you, and if you care to make any comment or suggestions, I will be pleased to receive them.

One of the boys wrote me you had returned to New York from California. I trust you had a very pleasant trip and that you are in the best of health.

With best wishes,

Cordially yours,

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

April 11, 1939.

Dr. Carroll Chase,
41 rue Cambon,
% The Chase Bank,
Paris, France.

My dear Doc:

I thought you might be interested in some new discoveries I have recently made on the so-called "Augusts of 1861". As you well know, one stumbling block which has been in the way of a plausible solution of the mystery created by the Luff fairy tale of the "Premieres", has been the 10¢ value.

Here we had an August 10¢, a Type I, issued as a regular stamp. I have walways believed that to get at the truth of this Luff mystery, we had to first discard entirely the whole Luff tale. In other words, one who had never read a word of what Luff wrote, could make a better solution than one whose mind was all confused by the imaginary tale recited by Luff.

I doubt if you have ever seen a copy of the contract made with the National Bank Note Co. in 1861. Am I right? I believe if you had ever read this, that you would have found in this contract the answer to many problems which confronted us years ago.

We know that the Government advertised for bids in March 1861. We have copies of this advertisement and know the terms set forth. We have facts to prove that the N.B.N.Co. was determined to obtain this contract and had secretly obtained a new perforating machine. You will recall that this fact was evidently unknown to T.C. & Co., and firm in their believe no other firm could furnish perforated stamps but themselves, had little fear they would not obtain the new contract.

In requesting bids, the P.O.D. specified that "samples" of work must be submitted with the bids. And further the P.O.D. specified the new designs must contain the values in numerals. We know the kind of "samples", T.C. & Co. submitted. They were Die proofs of the 1857-60 stamps with numerals inserted.

We also know what kind of "samples of work" the National B.N. Co. submitted with their bids. They were finished "samples" in sheets, on a fine thin paper (you recall how Luff described this thin opaque paper) the sheets gummed and perforated. I might add the paper, which Luff intimated was hardly suitable for regular stamps, was especially adapted to proof printings.

I think you will agree with me fully that a very simple answer frequently proves to be the correct solution to a problem

#2.

Dr. Carroll Chase - April 11, 1939.

which at first appeared to be very complicated.

When we solve a difficult problem and find the correct answer was extremely simple, we generally wonder why we didn't think of the simple answer before.

In carefully reading the 1861 contract, I discovered the simple answer to the mystery of the "Premieres" which was fabricated by Luff. Others have read this contract and no doubt studied it, but they failed to realize the importance of certain very strict provisions in this document. These provisions related to "Government supervision" in the custody of the dies and plates and in the printing, gumming and perforating. Here lies the very simple solution as I will explain.

In making "samples of work" to be submitted with their bid the N.B.N.Co. made new dies, transfer rolls, and plates for certain values. All of this work was at their own expense, hence, the sample dies, rolls, and plates were their own private property. You must remember these were made before the contract was awarded.

After the contract was awarded, Government inspectors were placed in the plant of the National Bank Note Co., and under their supervision, the changes in the sample Dies were made, new transfer rolls and plates were made and from these the "regular stamps" were issued. Herein we have the answer as to which plates were "sample plates" and which were "official plates".

We know no "Premieres" were issued of the following values:

1¢ - 3¢ - 5¢ - 12¢ and 90¢,

hence there remains little question but what these labels came from the "unofficial" (made privately) or "sample plates". Of the remaining values of the set, we have the -

10¢ Type I, the 24¢ and 30¢.

Inasmuch as "regular stamps" were all issued from these three plates, it is quite evident these three plates were "official" and were surely made under Government supervision, that is, after the contract had been awarded and actual manufacture of regular stamps had been started.

Here is positively the true story of this great mystery and I have unpublished facts to prove this assertion, but unfortunately I have not been able to publish them because the evidence was given me in confidence and I am bound not to divulge it to anyone.

Several students have searched in vain at Washington for records of the "Premiere plates". Why should any evidence be found there? The sample plates were the private property of the N.B.N.Co.

#3.

Dr. Carroll Chase - April 11, 1939.

Students of this great mystery have been confused by certain statements in the Luff tale. For example, the plate numbers. Anyone reading the Luff tale would surmise that because certain plates were numbered from 1 to 8, that the plates were made in this order. We haven't a scrap of evidence to prove that they were, though this numbering evidently confused Luff. Just because the 90¢ "sample plate" was given the number "8", is no proof whatsoever that it was made at the same time or even subsequently to the "Official plates", numbers 6 and 7. It was immaterial to the Government how the N.B.N.Co. numbered their plates. After all the numbers were purely for their own records.

When they submitted their samples with their bids, the following plates had not been made:

Plate #4 - the 10¢ Type I
Plate #6 - " 24¢
Plate #7 - " 30¢.

To add to the confusion of this mystery, colors and papers were added to design differences. In the forepart of this letter, I made mention of the "Premiere paper", described by Luff as "thin, hard and extremely brittle". In other words a fine grade for sample purposes but hardly adapted to the requirements of stamps to be issued to the public.

Regarding colors. What about the "Violet" of the 24¢ (unused) and the "Red-orange" of the 30¢. The answer is very simple. It is "color trials". When sets of the whole issue were made up and sent to Europe prior to August 16th, 1861, labels from the "sample sheets" were included together with color trials of the official 10¢ Type I, the 24¢ in a very dark "Violet", and the 30¢ Red-orange.

For example, let us consider copies of the 24¢ in unused condition, which we know came from these special sets. This color is in a very dark "Violet". It was a special printing, or literally a "trial color". No 24¢ stamps were issued to the public in this particular color so far as is known. The reason is perhaps regularly issued 24¢ stamps came from official printings and were from an entirely different batch of ink than the 24¢ color trials. The 30¢ red-orange is in the same class and I see no reason to get excited about these two unused colors values which were never issued. They are in exactly the same class as the 3¢ 1861 Scarletts etc.

Regarding Government supervision. Suppose for example, the Government would have permitted the N.B.N. Co. to use their privately made 90¢ Premiere plate, and suppose for example, the Company had previously made several of these plates and printed thousands and thousands of sheets of stamps. Had the Government made this private plate an official one, all of the thousands of privately printed sheets would have become Government obligations. We know they did not make this 90¢ plate official and it would have been an insane thing to do had they done so. If they did not do so in the case of the 90¢, or of the other private plates (1¢ - 3¢ - 5¢ - 12¢) then why in the devil should we be-

Dr. Carroll Chase - April 11, 1939.

lieve they did it in the case of the 10¢ Type I plate? Does it make sense to even consider the 10¢ Type I as a Premiere or privately made plate?

I think you will agree that there is far less difference to the eye between the 10¢ Type I and II, and the two (Premiere and regular), 90¢, values, hence it does not make sense that they would have used a 10¢ privately made plate for some of the regularly issued stamps, and have refused to have used the 90¢ privately made plate.

Again regarding the numbering of the plates. In order to keep their records straight, the N.B.N. Co., numbered all the plates they had made, giving the eight values the first eight numbers, and this regardless of the fact some were privately made. Sample plates and others were official plates made under Government supervision.

I doubt if you receive copies of Perry's publication "Pat Paragraphs". Sometime ago Elliott offered prizes for the correct answers to numerous queries he propounded. As I recall, one was, "What was the first U. S. Error". His answer was the 10¢ 1861, Type I. In other words, this was a Premiere or sample plate and stamps from it, should not have been issued, but in some mysterious manner, right under the eyes of Government inspectors, this sample plate got mixed up with the regular ones and printings made from it and the stamps (Type I) were regularly issued. Of course we can easily picture how this happened. Sample plates and official plates were all lying around together, so it was naturally quite easy to pick up an unofficial plate and slap it into the press. Had he read the 1861 contract and all of its stringent conditions, I doubt if he would have published such an hallucination.

I have heard it stated that the sample plates were actually in existence at a period subsequent to 1890. I have also been told that actual facts regarding the full history of the "samples" were in the possession of certain people, but that the facts had been suppressed.

In no manner was it indicated that either Luff or Hugh Clark had these facts.

I have been told that one of the original blanks on which were mounted the "samples" which were sent to Europe, was in existence. I have been trying to borrow this to photograph but have been unable to get hold of it. Naturally if it is in the hands of someone who has some prejudice in the subject, I would be the last one who would be allowed to see it, because I am given credit for an attempt to destroy the value of these "rare stamps".

In some quarters I have heard Clark severely criticised for continuing the listing in the catalogue of these sample labels. I have gone on the theory that inasmuch as it took no proof other than Luff's imaginary tale to get them listed, that it should not require documentary proof to delist them. Personally I think

Dr. Carroll Chase - April 11, 1939.

Clark should drop them until it could be proved that they were actually postage stamps, which of course will never be possible. This should be done regardless of values, which have been placed upon them in the past.

I think Hugh has tried to be very fair and I think he made a fine step in the right direction when he dropped the heading, "First Issue" and headed these sample labels as, "The First Design", with the year 1861. He does not state in the catalogue these "First Designs" were ever issued. Following the listing is the heading "Regular Issue", and the notation, "Designs modified (except 24¢ and 30¢)."

Surely anyone with any brains could figure out that the catalogue means that the only stamps regularly issued in 1861 were those listed under "Regular Issue". I fail to see where Hugh can be accused of trying to mislead the uninformed that numbers 55 - 56 - 57 - 59 - 61 and 62 A were ever issued as U. S. postage stamps.

I have no idea how he intends to handle this subject in the new Luff book. I think I recall that at one time he told me he thought he would present both sides of the story. I cannot help but believe this would be ill-advised. I think if Mr. Luff made a mistake in supposing these labels were ever actually issued, that the error was made in perfect good faith, but even so, a story which is not true, one which has no facts to support it, should not be perpetuated to confuse the future collector.

I think Hugh has a high regard for the fine work you have accomplished and I think he is not unmindful of what modest contributions I have made to the cause. With this in mind, I think he would not be adverse to giving consideration to the results of our joint opinions on the subject of the "Premieres". I doubt if he would pay much attention to anything Perry would suggest though I am quite sure he is well aware that Elliott has done some fine research work on the 1861 Issue. This is not an opinion but a fact. However the matter of giving credit is entirely outside of the whole question. I am quite sure you wish for no credit for your pioneer work on the 1861 Issue, I am sure I wish none for my discoveries. I think what we both would like to see would be a correct catalogue listing of the issue, and a renumbering of the entire series, as for example #55 to 62 A should be entirely deleted. Where Hugh chooses to put the actual samples is entirely immaterial to me, so long as they are not included among stamps which were "regularly issued for postal service" by our Government. Nothing could be more fair and above board.

#66 should be deleted. The 10¢ should be listed as Type I and Type II. The first 24¢ should be the 24¢ Violet, with a separate and distinct listing of the Steel Blue. These two colors were unquestionably the first colors. Following should be the 24¢ Red Lilac. The #74 - 3¢ Scarlet should be deleted. These are the major changes I would suggest with minor ones later, if Hugh would like to have them for consideration.

#6.

Dr. Carroll Chase - April 11, 1939.

It seems hardly fair to give separate listings to the 3¢ Rose and Pink and to deny a major listing to such an outstanding stamp as the 24¢ Steel Blue. Surely the difference between a Rose and a Pink is not as great as between a Steel Blue and other 24¢ colors.

In the past year I have prepared several articles on the "Premieres" and the "24¢ - 30¢ and 90¢ Imperfs of 1860", but I have not published these because I had no wish to drag out in public print what I considered were errors in the catalogue. Surely if Hugh cannot see the justice of our claims, we cannot force him by articles in the philatelic press to change his course.

This is quite a lengthy letter, but I have gone into much detail with the idea in mind that if perhaps we can make a joint appeal to Hugh, we can get some place.

On second thought, I am going to send him a copy of this letter, and in replying, I trust I may have your permission to send him your letter.

My best regards.

As ever,
Yours,

Re
Premieres

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

March 29, 1939.

Mr. Philip Ward, Jr.,
1616 Walnut St.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

My dear Phil:

Your letter of the 24th received, and I return herewith Dr. Fernald's letter. It would appear that the source of the cover is perfectly O.K. and there seems to be a possibility that this cover might have contained some stamps which had been "experimentally grilled" and issued months before the date of Steele's patent.

No doubt you have read the recent publicity given the "Chicago Perfs". I suggest you read Chase's comments on these and then read my remarks in Volume 2. I suppose it never occurred to Doc that it would have been impossible for the P.M. at Chicago to have had some of his stock of 1¢ and 3¢ 1851, imperforates "perforated" in 1856. It is impossible to believe that any firm in the country aside from Toppan Carpenter & Co. had a machine capable of perforating sheets of stamps in the Spring of 1856.

I firmly believe that the "Chicago's" are not unofficial Perfs, but are in fact, stamps from "experimental sheets" which were unquestionably perforated in the plant of Toppan Carpenter & Co. in Philadelphia in the early part of 1856. Some of these experimental sheets were sent to the P.O.D. as samples and were issued as Trials to the Chicago office and no doubt to other offices thruout the country.

Perhaps there is a similarity between these official experimental perfs and a possible experimental Grill. Perhaps all the "Z" Grills were originally from experimental sheets made in the fall (?) of 1866, and later "regularly issued".

Perhaps the catalogue should list the Perf 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ - 12 $\frac{3}{4}$ and 13, and give the date as prior to the regular 15, that is, July 1856.

Regarding the "Augusts". When I refer to the "Premieres" I refer to the "sample labels" and these include the following values:

The One Cent #55
The Three Cent #56
The Five Cent #57

#2.

Mr. Philip Ward, Jr. - March 29, 1939.

The Twelve Cent #59
The Ninety Cent #62.

These were the plates which were not made under Government supervision, hence no stamps were issued from these plates.

Regarding the 10 Cent #58, 24 Cent #60, and 30 Cent #61. These plates were made after the contract was awarded to the National Bank Note Co., hence under Government supervision and stamps from these plates were regularly issued, but in the case of the 24¢ and 30¢ not in the actual "trial" colors listed as #60 and #61.

To foreign countries with whom we had postal conventions or postal "arrangements", sets of the new stamps were made up and forwarded to show the "new designs and colors" we were adopting. We have evidence which shows that all these "sets" were not exactly alike but in most cases the sets included the following:

1¢ #55 Sample Plate
3¢ #56 " "
5¢ #57 " "
10¢ #58 Regular plate, Type I
12¢ #59 Sample Plate
24¢ #60 Regular plate
A Trial Color
90¢ #62 Sample plate.

There exists, of course, no question but what the 10¢ Type I, Scott's design A 27 A was regularly issued, and there is also no proof whatsoever that either the 24¢ or 30¢ Trial colors (known only unused) were ever "regularly issued" in these "trial colors".

Regarding the 24¢ "Violets", we have two distinct colors, (a) the "Trial colors", which are the so-called "Premieres" and of which no used copies are known to exist, (just the same as no known copies exist of the 30¢ Red Orange), and (b) the regularly issued 24¢ Violets of which plenty of used examples exist.

In order to get a proper picture of what actually happened, one must entirely disregard the Luff story, which was purely imaginary.

If we had genuinely used copies of any of the "sample labels", then it would be possible to believe that some of them might have gotten mixed up with the regular stock and have been issued to Post Offices. But even with the common 3¢ value, such an error did not occur. If you will read the contracts of that period, you will realize how carefully they were drawn up regarding Government supervision, in the manufacture of our stamps.

In any consideration of this subject, whether you believe the Luff tale or not, you must recognize that the key to the whole

#3.

Mr. Philip Ward, Jr. - March 29, 1939.

story is that of "Government supervision in manufacture". I suggest you read page 48 Volume One of my One Cent book. This is the Toppan Contract of 1851 and the one with the N.B.N.Co. was much more stringent.

Someday, mark what I tell you, you will consider Luff's fairy tale the biggest philatelic joke you had ever read.

My best regards.

Cordially,

PAUL MACGUFFIN

ATTORNEY AT LAW

503 N. MILWAUKEE AVE.

LIBERTYVILLE, ILL.

OFFICE PHONE 33

RES. PHONE 83

January 9, 1939

Stanley B. Ashbrook
434 S. Grand Avenue
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

My dear Stanley:

Yours of December 30th at hand, also, your package--for which accept my thanks.

I wish you to retain the photo of Plate III pane in sections; it will be helpful as to the conjecture as to Plate II; I may need it later, but I am quite sure that Jeffries' original can be inspected through the kind offices of my brother; I have never seen it, but he told me that he kept it in a vault in Philadelphia.

Tracey tried to plat, Plate III, but said it could not be done, that there were more than 200 distinctive positions of Plate III, he then pointed out several stamps in my collection that contain very distinctive markings. He said he was quite sure that they did not come from Plate III, anyway, he had never seen them before. Until this conversation, I did not know that he had seriously worked on Plate III.

I do not know whether the Plate III photo you have is of Jeffries' pane or not, but assume that it is, because I do not know of the existence of another pane.

Thanks very much for the offer of assistance, as I am quite sure I will need the same greatly. I doubt whether I have made myself clear that the 10th vertical and horizontal rows, with two exceptions, cannot be plated by position dots, but must be identified by the variance in the exterior lines. I am going to try photographing them and have touched out most of the portions that do not show this variance. This may be difficult and it may be that you are the only person that can do it satisfactorily.

Outside of this I think the illustrations can be limited to the principal shifts and recuts, together with the cuts showing the position dots in the small diagram, however, Kimball will have to be consulted, of course.

January 9, 1939

I have the whole thing worked out on the Cabeen dies, mounted in miniature albums, which one can carry in a side coat pocket for reference, these are classified according to Tracey's article. I let John Klemann use the same for a couple of years.

For some time certain New York auctions described their 12 cent by the plating. While I was working with the 12 cent it was astonishing how quickly one could recognize the positions. Enough for the 12 cent.

In re the 1847 handbook I have the 10 cent 1847 written up by Perry, and have about ten duplicates of the 10 cent, in fact, I have only sold one, would be glad to lend it to you at any time that you care to use it, in fact, I regret that the more abundant life has me down so that I can not fill the sheet, otherwise, I would buy 10 cents and let you use it as a reference collection.

As to the 5 cent I probably have left about 100 copies. I let a dealer take it for sale without pricing, when I discovered he was junking it I picked it up; however, he sold a block of 4, a strip of 3, numeral cancellations and the big shift of exterior lines (I have an enlarged photo of this somewhere). However, there are over 100 stamps left.

I was not as big a fool as the above would indicate because I let the same dealer buy for me without specific instructions, and his work was satisfactory, but he certainly gave me the bum's rush when it came to selling.

If, by any chance, you are coming to Chicago, let me know as soon as possible as over half of my time is dated a month in advance.

Yours very truly,

Paul MacGuffin

PM:fm

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

March 9, 1939.

Mr. Paul MacGuffin,
503 N. Milwaukee Ave.,
Libertyville, Ills.

My dear Mac:

I find I failed to acknowledge receipt of your letter of January 9th. It was kind of you to offer to loan me your 10¢ 1847 collection and sometime in the future when I have more time, I may avail myself of your offer. I would like to have good clear photos of all the 200 positions on the plate.

Mention of the 1847's reminds me of the photos you had several years ago of some covers owned by a friend of yours in Canada. I would like very much to obtain photographs of these items. Is there any way you can persuade the owner to loan them to me? I am collecting material to illustrate in an 1847 hand book which I intend to publish at some future time.

Regarding the 12¢ Plate 3. I am quite sure the photograph you loaned me is of the Jeffery's pane. I am sure there is only one in existence. It hardly seems possible that there were two plates like Plate 3 of the 12¢ instead of one. When we consider one plate supplied all the 12¢ stamps from 1851 to 1860 it does not make sense that they needed two in 1860. I think they actually made two however and that perhaps some printings were made from a Plate 2, then something happened to it and they had to make a new one, which they number "3".

If there were not three plates made, they would not have used "3" on a second plate. My guess is that very very few stamps were actually issued from Plate 2. If I had the time and could borrow plenty of material and make fine photographs I could solve the problem I am sure.

Have you made any more plans on the A. P. article? There is very little interest at present in plate varieties. I have noted no reaction in this direction from my One Cent book.

With best regards,

Cordially,

Cincinnati June 27th 1831.

A. A. Bliss Esq.

Treas. of State.

Dr. Sir.

Yours of 26th rec^d.

As requested, I have called on the agent of R. W. Mearns
(Mr. Jones) - who has shown the samples of paper referred to.
I also saw the communication from Mr. Stanton, Cash. of
"City Bk of Cleveland".

Mr. Jones and myself, have like samples from the
Manufacturers (Willetts & Co. of Phila^{da}) We have also
in quantity, what purports to be the same, received from
Willetts & Co.

We are aware of the "complaints" so universal
against the houses - for furnishing Bad paper - to the Banks
of the West, especially - and, that, by a sewing explanation,
in comparing the notes of the Eastern Banks - we are under
disparagement.

So far as that house is "interested" - I can assure you that,
for the notes furnished the "Independent Bk. of Ohio" - no
 pains has been spared, in endeavor to procure the best
paper - from the best makers - and, that during the past
two years - we have used for these - what was considered
the best, from the Manufacturers, whose samples are now
forwarded, for consideration, &c.

In the same connection, we use paper, portions of
large lots, which are forward^d. from the principal house at
Phila^{da} - which in quality - is identical with the
notes of Eastern Banks - which is pronounced superior, by,

thus objects - to that furnished for "Western" Bands.

The salient difference, so obvious - by use - is not from defective paper, furnished Western Bds - in our judgment.

As you are aware after organization - these Bands demand their "paper" for circulation "at the earliest practicable date" they have fulfilled the requirement, &c!

The plates are engraved, the notes printed - and forwarded to your office - with all possible haste, - and are despatched forthwith for use and wear - the results complained of, are as plainly attributable to hasty and injudicious use, as using unseasoned timber, for fine furniture, - or rough handling fresh paint - and, the fact could be as easily proved, by comparison, between Eastern and Western modes of use - in this particular regard.

Further than this - the "Eastern" paper has not so extensive service - in respect of time and distance, &c, aside from the fact, of most of these Bands, ordering large amounts printed - which are retained, seasoned - for seasonable use.

Very Respectfully,
C. A. Jewett, agt.
Tappan, Carpenter, Casbar & Co.

John Charles
27.10.57

New York 9th Oct 1857.
Hon. A. A. Phelps
Treas^r of Columbus Ohio

Dear Sir

We have this day forwarded for
American Express Company a box containing
impressions of the note plates of the Canal Bank
Cleveland - printed in accordance with your
orders of 26th Aug^t last; viz.

2500 impressions plate 1. 1.

1000 Do Do 2. 3.

1500 Do Do 5. 5.

1250 Do Do 10. 10.

In reference to sending the plates to Cin^{ty}
we remark, that we have no arrangements
made for printing there, and have here
all the dies necessary for repairing ^{injuries} that the
plates are subject to in printing, & for keeping
them in order, by restoring the weaker parts
when needed — We presume that in view
of these facts & considering you will desire
to retain the plates here, subject as hertofore
to your order — Waiting the same ~~will~~
remain

Very Resp^{tly} Yours
Dana & Baldwin & Co

Danforth, Bald & Co
N. Y.

Oct. 9. 1851



SINCE 1915

November 18, 1938

Dear Stanley,

What news! But Chrissie says you will not care to live on Staten Island. I rarely go there and there are some nice places on the Island, but there are features which you probably would not like. Half an hour by ferry from the Battery in New York to St. George and you would still be several miles from where you wished to live. And I do not think anyone has to tell a Staten Islander what mosquitos are. Westerly winds blow directly from favorite breeding places in New Jersey to Staten Island.

10c 1857 I block. I do not know of a good block of four that can be bought for \$200 and think \$300 reasonable for so fine a block of six. But I have made no restriction on what you should sell it for or what you should charge me for the service, and whatever trade you will make will be accepted. What does rile me a bit is to have folks kick at my prices and after I meet their wishes, to go around bragging of what a bargain they got. When I buy anything I like to get good value for my money and when I sell anything I like to feel that the other fellow is getting good value for his money.

Doc Hennan is just back from Rio de Janeiro with the U.S. exhibits and this has been a heavy week for me, or I would have written you about S.I. sooner.

Sincerely,

Elliott Perry

PITTSBURGH PLATE GLASS COMPANY

GENERAL OFFICES ~ GRANT BUILDING

R. A. MILLER
TECHNICAL SALES ENGINEER

PITTSBURGH, PA.

March 21, 1939

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
434 South Grand Avenue
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

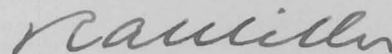
Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

This will acknowledge with many thanks the courtesy of your letter of March 9 and I appreciate deeply your information that our "Crystalex Glass" was used in making up all of the photographs used in your recently published two volume book. I appreciate that it would require a great deal of space to explain in full the results of your experiments with stamp photography, but I am particularly glad to note that you feel so positive that the use of Crystalex has improved much of your work to an appreciable degree.

Were we to recommend a glass for use in connection with the exhibit of valuable prints, etc., we would prefer to recommend the use of our Document Glass which is especially designed to absorb ultra-violet and prevent its penetration to the paper and other objects displayed below the glass, rather than the use of Crystalex, which is so very highly transparent. If the object is to protect the prints against deterioration, then certainly Document Glass should be used. On the other hand, if the purpose is to show the prints in all of their beauty, then the use of Crystalex certainly should be recommended.

I trust that this answers the question in the second paragraph of your letter, and of course if it does not I shall be very glad to hear from you further in connection therewith.

Very truly yours,



Technical Sales Engineer

RAM:EER

September 18, 1939.

Mr. Erik Heyl
338 East Hazeltine Avenue
Kenmore, New York

My dear Mr. Heyl:

Your letter of August 12, 1939, concerning certain steamships which operated during the middle of the last century, has been referred to this office by the Bureau of Marine Inspection and Navigation, Department of Commerce.

The enclosed sheets contain information relating to these vessels, found in records in the custody of the Archivist of the United States. It is regretted that in several cases it has not been possible to give all the data desired by you, since that information does not appear in the records.

If we can be of assistance to you in the future, please do not hesitate to call upon us.

Very truly yours,

(signed) P. M. Hamer, Chief
Division of Reference

OHIO. Record of the OHIO is found in three documents subsequent to March, 1854. A certificate of registration issued at New York on July 5, 1854, gives the owners as Marshall O. Roberts, Moses Taylor, and Bowes N. McIlvaine, all of New York City, "trustees". A certificate of registration issued at New York on August 28, 1854, gives as owners the names of Roberts and McIlvaine, and James Van Nostrande, "trustees". A contemporary copy of a certificate of registration issued at New York on December 17, 1855, gives the owner as the United States Mail Steamship Company, of which Marshall O. Roberts was president, and Elwood Fisher and James Van Nostrande, "trustees for said company". As this last document is only a copy, no mention is made of what ultimately happened to the vessel, nor is there any trace of the vessel in the Record Books for the immediately following years. The vessel is described as a steamship with a round stern, a round tuck, and a flying serpent head. She had three decks and four masts. The last document gives the dimensions of the vessel as follows: length, 246 feet; breadth, 46 feet; depth, 32 feet and 9 inches; tonnage, 2432 75/95ths.

NEW YORK. A certificate of registration issued at New York on October 25, 1865, was presumably the last document issued for the vessel, and this document has not been found; a contemporary entry in a Record Book of Registers indicates that the vessel was sold on August 13, 1874, in Japan, to a foreign purchaser.

NORTH AMERICA. Apart from the NORTH AMERICA owned by the Vanderbilt line and lost in 1852, there was a ship of this name, home port Philadelphia, for which there has been found a contemporary copy of a certificate of registration issued at New York on September 12, 1864. The owners are given as Alexander Heron, of Philadelphia, President of the Ocean Steam Navigation Company of the same place, and "different persons stock holders of said company". The vessel was built at Philadelphia in 1864 by John W. Lyon, master builder. She had three decks and two masts. Her length was 231 7/10 feet; breadth, 38 feet; depth, -----; and she measured 1651 30/95 tons. The vessel is described as a steamship with a round stern and a scroll head. The document contains no indication of what ultimately happened to the vessel, nor is there further mention of her in the Record Books.

BROTHER JONATHAN. The steamship BROTHER JONATHAN was built in New York City by Messrs. Perine, Patterson, and Black, master builders, in the year 1851. The first owner was Edward Mills, of New York City. The vessel is described as a steamship with a round stern, round tuck, and a billet head. She had two decks and two masts. Her length was 220 feet and 11 inches; breadth, 36 feet; depth, 13 feet and 10 inches; and she measured 1359 52/95tons.

CORTES. The CORTES was built at New York in the year 1852 by Messrs. Westervelt and Mackey, master builders. The vessel was owned by Charles A. Davis, Sidney ----- (illegible), and Theodore Dehon, copartners, of New York City. She is described as a steamship with a round stern, a round tuck, a billet head, two decks, and two masts. Her length was 220 feet and 6 inches; breadth, 22 feet and 6 inches; depth, 16 feet and 10 inches; and she measured 1117 and 38/95 tons.

FORT JACKSON. No trace of the steamship FORT JACKSON has been found in the records of the Bureau of Marine Inspection and Navigation prior to the date of the sale of the vessel by the United States Navy. The first owner mentioned in the records after the sale was Samuel G. Wheeler, Jr., of New York City, whose title was recorded on October 11, 1865. This vessel was sold at auction by the Navy department on September 27, 1865, to D. B. Allen, apparently acting as agent, for his name does not appear on the Register. The vessel was rechristened the NORTH AMERICA. She is described as a wooden steamship with side wheels, a round stern and round tuck, and no figure head. She had three decks and three masts. Her length was 252 feet; breadth, 37 5/10 feet; depth, 27 8/10 feet; and she measured 2085 9/100 tons. On January 5, 1866, the owner was given as The United States and Brazil Mail Steam Ship Company. The last document issued for the vessel, surrendered at Boston on June 11, 1879, bears the notation; "Vessel broken up and burned for her old iron." The official number of the NORTH AMERICA was 18,303; the signal letters were H. P. D. K.

HENRY CHAUNCEY. The steamship HENRY CHAUNCEY was built at New York in the year 1865 by William H. Webb, master builder. The vessel was owned by the Pacific Mail Steam Ship Company until she was broken up in 1882. Her last document was surrendered on July 1, 1882. The HENRY CHAUNCEY has a round stern, a plain head, three decks, and two masts. Her length was 319 45/100 feet; breadth, 43 feet; depth, 20 8/100 feet; height, 7 3/100 feet. She measured, under tonnage deck, 1614 54/100 tons; between decks above tonnage deck, 754 3/100 tons; in enclosures on upper deck, 288 10/100 tons; total, 2656 67/100 tons. The official number of the vessel was 11,482; the signal letters were H. K. D. F.

ILLINOIS. The ILLINOIS was built by Smith and Dimon, master builders, at New York in the year 1851. The owners were Samuel W. Comstock, John S. Aspinwall, and William Edgar Howland, all of New York. The vessel is described as a steamship with a round stern, a round tuck, no figure head, two decks, and three masts. Her length was 266 feet and 6 inches; breadth, 40 feet and 10 inches; depth, 22 feet; and she measured 2123 65/95 tons. A Record Book states that the vessel was sold on January 27, 1865, to the United States Quartermaster's Department.

JOHN L. STEPHENS. The JOHN L. STEPHENS was built at New York in 1852. A register issued at San Francisco on January 31, 1865, describes the vessel as a steamship with a round stern, three decks, and two masts. Her length was 274 5/10 feet; breadth, 41 feet; depth, 17 3/10 feet. She measured 1101 50/100 tons under tonnage deck; 602 27/100 tons between decks above tonnage deck; 291 67/100 tons in enclosures on upper deck; a total of 1995 44/100 tons. The official number of the vessel was 13,772; the signal letters were J. C. B. W.

QUAKER CITY. The name of the builder of the steamship QUAKER CITY would appear on a certificate of enrolment issued at Philadelphia on September 11, 1854; but many of the original ships' documents for Philadelphia for this period have been badly damaged or lost, and the document issued for the QUAKER CITY has not been found. The Record Books state merely that the vessel was built in Philadelphia in 1854 and sold on January 21, 1862, to the United States Navy.

SIERRA NEVADA. The SIERRA NEVADA was built at New York in the year 1851 by William Coyle, master builder. The names of the first

owners appearing in the records are Jonathan D. Wilson and Charles Morgan, of New York. The vessel is described as a steamship with a round stern, a round tuck, a flying eagle head, two decks, and three masts. Her length was 223 feet and 5 inches; breadth, 34 feet and 2 inches; depth, 17 feet and 1 inch; and she measured 1246 70/95 tons. A Record Book states that the vessel was lost on October 17, 1869, at Point Piedras Blancas. The official number of the vessel was 23,396; the signal letters were J. C. B. P.

S. S. LEWIS. The S. S. LEWIS was built at Philadelphia in the year 1851. The name of the builder is not given. The first owners mentioned are Richard F. Loper, E. Lincoln, and Samuel W. Reynolds, all of Philadelphia. The vessel is described as a steamship with a square stern, a billet head, three decks, and three masts. Her length was 216 9/10 feet; breadth, 32 6/10 feet; depth, 16 3/10 feet; and she measured 1103 77/95 tons.

TENNESSEE. The TENNESSEE was built at New York in the year 1849 by W. H. Webb. The first owner on record is The New York and Savannah Steam Navigation Company, of which Samuel L. Mitchell was president. The vessel is described as a round-sterned steamship with a sharp tuck and a billet head, two decks, and three masts. Her length was 211 feet and 10 inches; breadth, 35 feet and 8 inches; depth, 22 feet; and she measured 1275 1/95 tons.

UNITED STATES. A vessel named the UNITED STATES was built at Brooklyn in the year 1851-1852 by Thomas Colyer. The first owners mentioned are Henry W. Johnson (1/2), Walter R. Jones (3/40), Thomas Colyer (1/8), Adrian B. Holmes (1/10), D. Randolph Martin and James C. Neilson comprising the firm of Martin and Neilson (1/20), Samuel B. Ashley, James D. Fish, and Uriah Dudley comprising the firm of Ashley, Fish and Co. (1/20), and Joseph Hoxie (1/20), all of New York, and Charles C. Berry (1/20), of Brooklyn. The vessel was a steamship with a round stern, a round tuck, a billet head, two decks, and three masts. Her length was 230 feet; breadth, 33 feet and 2 inches; depth, 19 feet and 8 inches; and she measured 1216 37/95 tons. The vessel was sold to Spanish purchasers at Havana on October 10, 1855, by John Graham, of New York, sole owner and master at the time.

UNITED STATES. A steamship named the UNITED STATES was built in the year 1848 at New York by H. Webb, master builder. The vessel was first owned by Charles H. Marshall and others. On May 24, 1849, the vessel was sold to Conrad M. Faber and Theodore Victor, of New York, and that same day resold to the Prussian Government. The UNITED STATES is described as having a round stern, no galleries, a round tuck, a billet head, three decks, and three masts. Her length was 244 feet and 7 inches; breadth, 40 feet; depth, 35 feet and 10 inches; and she measured 1857 52/95 tons.

WINFIELD SCOTT. The Steamship WINFIELD SCOTT was built at New York during the latter part of the year 1850 and the first part of the year 1851 by Westervelt and Mackey, master builders. The owners were Charles Augustus Davis, Sidney Brooks, and Theodore Dehan, copartners (23/36), Jacob A. Westervelt (4/36), Philip Woodhouse (4/36), William Skiddy (4/36), and William Skiddy as trustee for Francis Skiddy (1/36), all of New York City. The vessel is described as having a round stern and round tuck, a figure head of the bust of a man, three decks, and three

masts. Her length was 225 feet; breadth, 34 feet and 8 inches; depth, 29 feet and 2 inches; and she measured 1291 56/95 tons. The last document of the WINFIELD SCOTT, surrendered at San Francisco on December 28, 1853, bears the notation: "Vessel total loss". The vessel was owned at the time by the Pacific Mail Steamship Company; Lewis F. Blunt was master.

UNCOWAH. No trace of a vessel of this name has been found among the registers issued at San Francisco, 1865-1866.

Apparently all of these vessels were built of wood. Only vessels in service after July 28, 1866, had official numbers and official signal letters.

COPY

August 31, 1939.

Mr. Erik Heyl,
338 East Hazeltine Ave.,
Kenmore, New York.

Sir:

I refer to your letter, undated, acknowledgment of which was made by Card 316 on the 18th instant, requesting information regarding the ownership, build and operation of the steamships "ATLANTIC", "BALTIC" and "ADRIATIC", and also the Steamer "NEW YORK" supposed to have been built in 1864.

In reply, I have to inform you that a search of the available records of this office indicates the following:

That the Steamship "ATLANTIC" was built at New York, N.Y., in 1849-1850 by Jacob Bell, Master Carpenter, for the New York Liverpool U. S. Mail Steamship Company and received its first document on November 15, 1850; that the boat was thereafter sold by J. C. Willet, Sheriff, to D. B. Fuller on August 17, 1859, and by him transferred to the North Atlantic Steamship Co. on September 20, 1859; that the North American Lloyds on February 21, 1866, which company transferred the vessel to Isaac Taylor on February 1, 1867, who transferred the boat to the New York & Bremen Steamship Company on February 4, 1867. The last document issued to the vessel on February 4, 1867 was in the ownership of the New York & Bremen Steamship Co. This document was surrendered at this port on May 31, 1879 - vessel broken up.

That the Steamship "BALTIC" was built at New York, N.Y., in 1849-1850 by Jacob Bell, Master Carpenter, for the New York Liverpool U. S. Mail Steamship Company and received its first document on November 15, 1850; that the boat was thereafter sold by J. C. Willet, Sheriff, to D. B. Fuller on August 17, 1859, and by him transferred to the North Atlantic Steamship Co. on September 20, 1859; that the North Atlantic Steamship Co. transferred the vessel to North American Lloyds on February 21, 1866, which company transferred the vessel to Isaac Taylor on February 1, 1867, who transferred the boat to the New York & Bremen Steamship Company on February 4, 1867. The last document issued to the vessel on February 4, 1867 was in the ownership of the New York & Bremen Steamship Co.

That the Steamship "ADRIATIC" was built at New York, N.Y., in 1856, was owned by the New York Liverpool U. S. Mail Steamship Company and received its first document on April 1, 1856; that she was thereafter sold by J. C. Willet, Sheriff, to Dudley B. Fuller on August 18, 1859, and by bill of sale from Mr. Fuller transferred to the North Atlantic Steamship Company on September 21, 1859. This is the only record we have on this vessel.

That the Steamship "NEW YORK" was built in 1864 by I. Simms, Master Builder, was owned by Cornelius Vanderbilt and first documented on January 25, 1865; that she was thereafter sold to the Atlantic Mail Steamship Company on July 17, 1865, which company transferred the boat to the Pacific Mail Steamship Company on October 24, 1865. The marine document was surrendered on August 13, 1874 at Kanagawa, Japan - vessel transferred foreign.

#2.

This office is unable to furnish you any information regarding the charterers of vessels.

The final disposition of the "ADRIATIC" and "BALTIC" does not appear in the records of this office.

Respectfully,

(signed) G.W. O'Keefe,
Assistant Collector.

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Sept. 29, 1939.

Mr. Ray G. Fitzgerald, Sr.,
U. B. Building,
Dayton, Ohio.

My dear Mr. Fitzgerald:

Several months ago I was showing Will Aull some of the items in my collection, among which was a Baltimore Provisional, which I remarked was for sale, and he suggested that you would no doubt be interested in seeing it, and possibly might be interested in acquiring it.

This item is Scott's #11, which is unpriced in the catalogue. There are only two of these known to exist, the one which I own and the one in the collection of Mr. A. H. Caspary of New York. I might mention that the world famous collector, the Count Ferrary, who had a magnificent lot of U. S. Provisionals, never owned a #11. My friend, the late Arthur Hind, the owner of the famous British Guiana also never owned a #11. Prior to the Exhibition in New York in 1936, I was negotiating with Lapham of Boston, thru Kelleher, for the sale to the famous Lapham collection of this item, a copy of which he did not possess, and at that time I had the cover submitted to the Expert Committee of the American Philatelic Society thru Stanley Gibbons, Inc. of New York, for a certification. In envelope "A" herewith you will find this certification and also a photograph of the cover which I made and which is more distinct than the one accompanying the certificate.

Regarding the Scott #11, the Baltimore Provisional envelope, 10¢ blue on buff, Mr. Luff in his authoritative work on U. S. stamps, page 19, listed a 10¢ red on white, and a 10¢ red on buff, but he did not list a 10¢ blue on buff, the reason being, he had never heard of such an item. On page 18, he stated,

"All the Baltimore envelopes are of a high degree of rarity and I believe only one specimen of each variety of the ten cents red has been discovered."

In the revised edition of the Luff book, "Part One - Postmasters Provisional Stamps" (1937), the #11 - 10¢ blue on buff is listed and the statement is made, "All the Baltimore envelopes are of a high degree of rarity and it is believed only one or two specimens of each variety of the ten cents have been discovered."

In this revised edition is an illustration of a 10¢ red on buff, Scott's 10 A, but no illustration is given of either Mr. Caspary's #11 or of my cover.

I have never seen the Caspary cover but I am reliably informed

#2.

Mr. Ray G. Fitzgerald, Sr. - Sept. 29, 1939.

by several who have seen both of these rarities that mine is much the finest of the two.

You will note my cover is addressed to "Thomas B. Cooper, Cedar Bluff, Cherokee County, Alabama". Cooper was an attorney-at-law and quite a prominent politician in his day in Alabama.

Cherokee County is located in Northeastern Alabama, and Cedar Bluff is a short distance from Gadsden, not a great distance from Chattanooga.

There was quite a lot of covers in the original find of the "Cooper Correspondence", but I did not make the original discovery, but acquired what I was informed, was the major portion of it. Only two items of real value were discovered, so far as I am aware, the #11, Baltimore 10¢ Blue on Buff, and a very fine example of the #10 A, the 10¢ red on buff. In envelope "B", I am enclosing you a photograph of this item. I might mention that my photographs are not original size but somewhat larger.

At the time the find was made I had plenty of cash and I acquired the whole batch which I was assured was all there was.

This lot included stampless covers addressed to Cooper, from about 1834 up to the period of 1848 to 1850, a stretch of years when he was more active than in the years to follow. Covers with stamps did not include any 5¢ or 10¢ 1847, but I did acquire quite a lot with the 3¢ 1851 and 3¢ 1857 and a very few with the 1¢ 1851. The correspondence of the latter years ran up to about 1859 or 1860, as I recall. I am inclined to believe that I actually acquired all of the discovery as I have never seen any "Cooper" covers in other collections, nor have any ever been offered to me by dealers thruout the country.

What impressed me greatly at the time I made my purchase was the fact the two rare Baltimores were accompanied by corroborating evidence of genuiness. Here was a batch of covers all addressed to the same man and in the lot of covers were the two rare Baltimores. I believed that the lot should be kept intact and never broken up because herew was positive evidence for future comparison as to the genuineness of 10¢ Baltimore envelopes.

Cooper evidently had a large correspondence in the late thirties and early forties. No doubt he was past middle age at that time and that the volume of his correspondence dwindled in the late forties and fifties which would account for the scarcity of covers with stamps of the 1847 - 1851 issues.

I am enclosing for your examination some very interesting covers from this find.

Envelope "C" - Letter franked by John C. Calhoun - Dated Jan. 10, 1839.

Envelope "D" - Letter franked by Henry Clay - dated Washington, Dec. 7, 1841. This has the imprint of "Brown's Hotel", quite an interesting and rare marking.

Envelope "E" - An early "Cooper" cover - Free - C. E. Haynes M.C., dated Washington, Jan. 5, 1835.

#3.

Mr. Ray G. Fitzgerald, Sr. - Sept. 29, 1939.

Envelope "F" - Free. R. Chapman.
Dated Washington Feby 1843.

Envelope "G" - Quite a nice item - From an Alabama soldier in the Mexican War - to "Major Thos. B. Cooper" - dated Oct. 8th, 1846, with map of the battle of Monterey. Postmark on face, "Oc 20" and "10".

Envelope "H" - Examples of covers with stamps - eight items.

In 1936, before the Tipex show I was approached by Dan Kelleher who inquired if I would consider selling my two Baltimores to Lapham as Lapham was exhibiting at the N.Y. show and did not own a #11. I gave Dan a thirty day option on the two covers and the other Cooper covers in my collection. The price was \$7500. The deal fell thru, as Lapham, so I was informed had some sort of a stroke and was unable to attend the exhibition. As you will no doubt recall his exhibit was awarded the Grand Prize.

At various times since 1936 I was in correspondence with Reggio, a relative of Lapham's, and manager of his real estate and stamp collection, and I was given the impression that Lapham wanted my Cooper covers but would do nothing until he recovered his health. Last Spring, Reggio died. I have never made any other attempt to sell these interesting covers because I have always considered them to be an excellent nest egg. I think they are a most interesting little lot and while I entertain little thought that you might be interested in acquiring them, still I thought, as Will suggested, that you might derive some pleasure in looking them over and reading the little account regarding them as outlined above.

If perchance you would like to see the two originals, the #10 A and #11, I will be only too glad to send them to you.

I forgot to add that while the find included a number of folded letters from New York at the time the 5/ New York Postmasters stamp was current, not a one of the Cooper letters had any 5/ New Yorks on them. They were all handstamped "10" and "Paid".

I am enclosing postage for the return of the enclosed items.

With kindest regards, I am

Cordially yours,

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Sept. 29, 1939.

Mr. Wm. J. Aull,
48 Grafton Ave.,
Dayton, Ohio.

My dear Will:

I am enclosing copy of letter I have today written to Mr. Fitzgerald. I trust you will approve of same. You will note I mentioned no price other than that the only time I had ever offered these items it was to Lapham and the price named was \$7500.

If you have any conversation with Mr. F. on this subject you might mention that if he is really interested you feel positive that because of our friendship you think you could negotiate a sale at a price which would be entirely satisfactory to both of us. I'll leave this up to you.

As a Provisional - one from a large city like Baltimore is surely more desirable than one from a small burg like Boscawan. He has no proof his Boscawan is genuine. There is plenty of proof the Cooper covers are genuine. They require no A.P.S. certificate, as the balance of the correspondence proves the fact.

I intend to go down to the Brown sale and I could therefore use the cash I have tied up in these Baltimores to excellent advantage, so I hope something might result before that time.

With Mildred's mother gone, it is quite a problem what to do with Stan Jr. if we run up in the near future, we may have to bring him with us but he will not be any trouble and we can put him to sleep early. We both trust Mrs. Aull is all O.K. again and that you are feeling much better.

Our kindest regards to you both.

Cordially,

434 South Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Oct. 6, 1939.

Mr. Roy G. Fitzgerald,
U. B. Building,
Dayton, Ohio.

My Dear Mr. Fitzgerald:

Yours of the 30th with enclosures received. I am glad that you derived some pleasure from looking over the various items I sent you.

Regarding your mention of the Raleigh. I think it is a well accepted fact that the Raleigh Provisionals listed by Scott, page 364, numbers 115 to 118 C, inclusive are in fact actual Provisionals and not handstamped "Paid". These are envelopes which were in all probability prepared in advance and sold over the counter as "Postage Paid" in advance.

If you bid on a "Red on white", Scott's #115, catalogue \$40 and a folded letter sheet was sent you, you did not receive what you bid on but instead simply a "handstamped Paid".

I doubt seriously if the existence of such an item as you hold would prove that the accepted Raleighs are not actually Provisionals, but handstamped Paid. I think there is evidence that the Raleighs are actually Provisionals and originated in the way as stated above. No doubt the evidence in part, as to the size, paper, and colors of the envelopes.

Evidently your folded letter sheet shows the same markings as the accepted Provisionals, and I must admit it raises quite a nice point. In the case of this item the writer simply took his folded letter to the post office, paid his 5¢, and the letter was handstamped "Paid" with the Provisional marking and in addition postmarked. Naturally this is just a Confed stampless item, a handstamped, postmarked Paid. But suppose someone had an envelope which was identical in quality, paper, color and size as those supposed to have been used by the Postmaster, and that he took a letter enclosed in such an envelope to the post office, paid his 5cts, and the postmaster handstamped it in the same manner as your foled letter sheet, could any authority on Confederates distinguish between the real Provisional and the handstamped Paid at time of mailing? I am quite sure I do not know. It is possible the dates of use might have some bearing, but I doubt if such evidence would carry very much weight.

I repeat that I think your cover has raised a nice little question and I intend to investigate the matter further. In the meantime I would like to see your cover and also to make a photograph of it, so I will appreciate the favor if you will forward it to me with the assurance I will return it by the next mail.

#2.

Mr. Roy G. Fitzgerald - Oct. 6, 1939.

I recall that I had three or four Raleighs when I was working on Confeds some twenty years ago and only recently I noted three very fine examples in the coming Brown sale.

I note in the Ward sale to be held on Oct. 18th, four examples, 115, 116, 117, and 118, two of which were originally from the George Walcott collection, these bear dates of August and November.

Regarding the letter I sent you describing the Battle of Monterey. I note you refer to this as the John B. Coffin letter. This letter is headed,

"Camargo Mexico
Oct 8, 1846

Major Cooper

Dear Sir

Mr. Dawson(?) Drum Major, and Peter Farnay, high Private, to your honorable self greeting. Whereas we have no doubt you have heard of the great battle at Monterey on the 21st, 22nd Sep. and being a man particularly desirous of giving all the information in relation to it, we have concluded (as you were so kind as to forward us some papers) etc."

On the back is stated "Direct your letter to the care of Col. John B. Coffee (or Coffin) 1st Regt. Ala. Vols. Army of Occupation, Mexico."

The letter is rather hard to decipher and I thought perhaps you might be interested in the above.

Thanks very much for the notes you gave me regarding the two congressman, and this reminds me that perhaps you can give me some information which you may have handy.

I enclose a photograph of a cover belonging to my friend Larry B. Mason. This folded letter is dated San Francisco Sep. 30, 1849. It was carried privately to New York and placed in the Post Office there. The frank was not recognized and it was rated "40¢" due on delivery. The frank appears to be "Free - Thos Hinley - M C". California was not a state at this time, hence this member of Congress was from some eastern state and at that time must have been in San Francisco either on official business or private. The frank was not recognized at the New York Post Office because at that time the law extended the franking privilege to congressman, only during a session of congress, also 30 days before and 30 days after.

What I would like to know is what state did Mr. Hinley(?) represent in Congress.

I stated above the letter was carried privately from S.F. to N.Y. I should have stated, "out of the regular mail". The chances are this is a "Dock letter" - written too late to deposit in the S.F. Post Office but placed on board the regular mail ship before she sailed. The regular mail ship departed on Oct. 1, 1849.

The N.Y. marking in black "40" in circle is quite rare, as it was soon superseded by new handstamps especially made for the California

#3.

Mr. Roy G. Fitzgerald - Oct. 6, 1939.

Mail. This is the only example I have ever seen on a letter
from S.F.

I apologize sincerely for the length of this letter.

Cordially yours,

ROY G. FITZGERALD
THOMAS H. FORD
WAYNE F. LEE
JAMES D. HERRMAN
ROY G. FITZGERALD, JR.

LAW OFFICES
ROY G. FITZGERALD
U. B. BUILDING, FLOOR 9
DAYTON, OHIO

TELEPHONE
ADAMS 1522

September 30, 1939.

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook,
434 S. Grand Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

I was delighted to receive your registered letter with a bunch of covers on approval. I shall examine them tomorrow, especially if this rain keeps up and I have to forego my Sunday tennis.

Of course, possessing a few P.M. provisionals, I'm interested in all. I have a lot of N. Y. on covers, singles, twos and pairs, one St. Louis 5¢ (all the 5¢, 10¢ and 20¢ off cover), one 5¢ Baltimore, and two 5¢ Providence (just acquired at H. C. Barr auction).

Incidentally at Paul Ashburn's recent auction, I was awarded about nine lots and among them several Raleigh, N.C., P.M. provisional covers. Of these one was described as red on white, cat. \$45., but I am sent a folded letter on blue lined paper bearing the so-called provisional imprint in red and the usual Raleigh postmark in blue. I am retaining it until, if possible, some plausible explanation may be given. How can such be a P.M. provisional? Does it not throw suspicion on what has been generally accepted that there is any real Raleigh P.M. provisional. Apparently the red imprint is an acknowledgement that the postage was paid and, like the postmark, affixed after mailing.

I shall write again next week after I've had time to digest your letter and look over the enclosures.

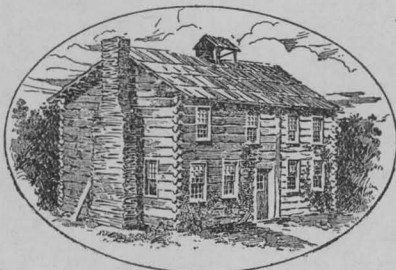
Cordially yours,

Roy G. Fitzgerald
October 2, 1939.

RGF y

P. S.:

I have examined the enclosures with pleasure and find myself in accord with your deductions and opinions of value, policy, et cetera. Of course, I would enjoy looking at those



NEWCOM TAVERN
1796

Dayton Historical Association

ROY G. FITZGERALD, President, 910 U. B. Building
EUGENE G. KENNEDY, Vice-Pres., 814 Gas & Electric Bldg.
MRS. JEANNETTE S. METZER, Secretary, 146 Ridge Ave.
E. G. PUMPHREY, Treasurer, 328 Richmond Avenue



DAYTON, OHIO,

wonderful Baltimore covers, but not enough to warrant sending them here.

While much interested in early stamps and P. M. provisionals, I cannot help but be influenced by the turn against envelope stamps years ago. In my beloved Scott Album, a Christmas gift in 1885, there were places for envelope stamps. Then they were discredited as stamps and no places provided. For years I've been gradually filling the spaces in that old album and one of the worst features has been the difficulty of getting the old envelope stamps, especially foreign, which seem to be considered trash and beneath notice.

As to franked covers, I have a few which partake of the autograph category (my autograph collection being really something), such as:

Lord Chancellor Eldon, on folded letter
to his brother, Lord Stowell
James Madison
H(enry) Clay
Thos. A. Benton
Jas. W. Henry
A. J. Dallas
Daniel Webster
F(isher) Ames
B(enj.) F. Wade
J(ohn) C. Calhoun
Rufus Choate

Your John B. Coffin letter from Mexico (Envelope G) is interesting. According to Heitman he did not hold a commission in the regular U. S. Army.

I have ventured to add some identifying notes to your franked covers from the Georgia and Alabama Congressman.

I am returning herewith the file. The value of the two rare covers are beyond my hopes and I hope that you will always keep them as distinctively unique and personally precious. I have a prejudice against the commercial side of collecting. I have accumulated many stamps during about a half century of collecting and have given many away and traded often, but can't remember having sold any.

Cordially yours,

R. G. F.



October 28, 1938

Dear Stanley,

Your airmail letter and also the one from Hahn are here and I will answer the latter direct.

I know of only two quartz lamps (violet ray machines). The Hanovia is made in Newark and I will get in touch with them for you. The latest model I have seen is about two feet long a foot deep and perhaps 18/20 inches high. I know the "field" is large enough to take at least one oriel album page, but am not sure it will accommodate two pages. I think it costs about \$180 and if a converter has to be attached to use A/C instead of ~~220~~ D/C current that costs \$30 to \$50 extra. The figures are from recollection of a few years ago.

on rec. record

There is another type that I think is made in Syracuse. It is like a flash light with hand grip attached, perhaps as large as an old fashioned horse-pistol and looks something like that, with modern streamlining. It is portable, with a cord, so you can plug it into a socket anywhere. The only one I have seen was in the Police Dept in Cleveland. I doubt if the field was large enough to shine on more than perhaps 4 to 8 stamps. I suppose the thing might cost \$50 or less but really don't know.

Experience has shown that the violet ray is not a cure-all for philatelic ailments. The results are likely to depend say 30% on the machine and 70% on the knowledge and experience of the operator. By continued use you become familiar with what it will do and what it cannot do. Generally speaking, it will show up pen cancels, paint jobs, and repairs like a house on fire and I have long been convinced that philately needs someone who will do enough work with it to get a far better idea of its capabilities and limitations than I think anyone now has. My own knowledge is extremely limited but I am confident that you could make the machine tell us much that has not been dreamed of. We were just getting started on this work when we lost Johnny Andrews wonderful scientific training and ability through his death. He could usually tell us WHY we obtained certain results and WHY we didn't get others.